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We are in the second half of 2013 and looking back to 2012, a lot has happened. Although 2012 saw the profession at possibly its lowest ebb, we are seeing positive signs of recovery this year with many architects experiencing an upturn in work and taking on new staff. The sentiment survey showed that about 16% of Architects in 2012 expected work levels to increase and in 2013 that has doubled. Admittedly a 16% increase in an historically low level is not a cause for celebration but with the increase this year it seems to indicate a trend upwards which is hopeful.

We are facing a shortage of housing, schools, community buildings, healthcare buildings and facing it in an economically and environmentally difficult time. It seems that if credit becomes more available and we have a bit more certainty in the economy at large, activity for architects is set improve. There is increased demand for building private domestic extensions and houses and this is an area where Irish Architects have excelled. The standard of design and construction is very high as is evident in the RIAI Annual Awards in 2012 and again in 2013.

The Department of Education and Skills’ schools building programme was a focus of the RIAI, in particular in working with them to improve their procurement system in terms of efficiency and accessibility to architects, in particular small practices. Many improvements were achieved including reduced paperwork, reasonable PII and turnover levels. However, although there is activity in the school building sector, it is not at a level that would be expected to achieve the numbers as outlined by the Minister. Work is ongoing.

The most significant work of the RIAI in 2012 has been directed towards the new Building Control (Amendment) Regulations. 2012 saw the publication of the draft regulations which were given a qualified welcome by the RIAI as we had been campaigning for improved standards and self-certification for many years. The draft regulations were a cause of concern in particular in relation to the apparent increase in liability and also increased work load for Architects. Much work was done to analyse the draft text and to develop an approach for discussions with the department. Discussions were had and submissions made outlining the concerns, and proposing solutions to the
Department of the Environment. The final regulations were published in March 2013 and work continues until they come into force on the 1st of March 2014.

The RIAI also had made the decision to upgrade the members and practice data base to bring it in line with the requirements of Registration. This necessary investment took a lot of man hours and the first phase was launched recently this year.

Although activity was low the standing of Irish Architecture on the world stage was at a high at the 2012 Venice Architecture Biennale with five Irish practices invited to participate. The Grafton Architects, won a Silver Lion, and O’Donnell and Toomey Architects were invited by the Director of the Biennale David Chipperfield to participate. “Shifting Ground” by Heneghan Peng Architects, curated by John McLoughlin and commissioned by Elizabeth Francis, represented Ireland. Boyd Cody Architects participated in the Greek Exhibition and Clancy Moore Architects at the Backstage Architecture event.

RIAI held an Architectural Expo, part funded by the Government Policy in Architecture, in Shanghai in September 2012 and which was very well received by our Chinese colleagues in the profession and in education. The work of Irish architects was impressive and we have had a reciprocal visit in April of 2013. There is now a programme in place to exchange students and professors with TongJi University in Shanghai which will lead positive connections with the profession in China in the long term.

2012 was an intense year of work and achievement in the RIAI which will bring fruit in the coming years. I would like to thank the RIAI Officers, Members of Council and the Executive who provided so much support and gave so much to the Institute in 2012.

MICHELLE FAGAN
President
2012 - 2013
DIRECTOR’S REPORT 2012

IMPLEMENTING REGISTRATION
2012 was an important year for the implementation of the Registration System with Minister Hogan nominating the non-architect members to the Statutory Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board in November. Following induction and training this allowed for all the Statutory elements of Registration to be in operation for early 2013.

March 2012, saw the first elections for the Architect Members of the Admission and Technical Assessment Boards with the first three year terms having been completed. In July the RIAI made a presentation on Registration to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment. A video of the Hearing and also the transcript is available online.

Video
www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=21524&CatID=127&StartDate=0

Transcript
debates.oireachtas.ie/ENJ/2012/07/03/00003.asp.

2012 ISSUES
Implementing Registration
Building Control (Amendment) Regulations
Making Architecture Relevant
Communication
The Economy
Support
Education and Procurement
2012 was an active year in relation to prescription of courses and notification of courses to the European Union. The Architects Register Admission Examination (ARAE) was prescribed in accordance with procedures in the Building Control Act 2007. The Architecture Courses in University of Limerick and Waterford Institute of Technology, having been prescribed, were notified to the European Union for listing in the Professional Qualifications Directive.

Architects admitted to the Register, almost one fifth came through Routes designed for the recognition of practical experience.

93

new members were admitted to the RIAI including 89 Architects, 5 Architectural Graduates and 7 Architectural Technologists.

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Full detail on Registration and of the work of the Admissions Board, Technical Assessment Board and the Support Services provided to these boards by the RIAI can be found in the Registration Section of this report. Full detail on Registration and of the work of the

REGISTRATION - OVERSIGHT - NATIONAL

The role of the RIAI as the Registration Body for Architects does not exist in a vacuum. In addition to the provisions set out in the Building Control Act 2007, the RIAI is responsible to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, the Dáil, the Department of Education and Science, for the Professional Qualifications Directive, the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government for the operation of Building Control Act 2007, and the Courts.

REGISTRATION - OVERSIGHT - EUROPEAN UNION

At EU level the RIAI, as registration body, is responsible to DG Market, DG Competition, the EU Code of Practice for the operation of Professional Qualifications Directive and to the European Court of Justice. These responsibilities require careful administration and legal advice.
BUILDING CONTROL (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2011 - 2012

In the conclusion of the 2011 Report on the Building Control (Amendment) Regulations it was noted:

“It is clear to the RIAI Council and Executive that Building Regulations would be a major issue in 2012 and in the medium to long term”. This certainly was the case in 2012.

2011 STAKEHOLDERS COLLOQUIUM

Although many Architects regarded the April 2012 publication of the BC(A)R as being a new initiative and something as a surprise, this had already been raised in 2011. For example, in January of 2011 the DECLG held a Stakeholders Colloquium on proposals to Strengthen the Enforcement of the Building Regulations and outlined a scheme which included:

- Lodgement of drawings showing compliance with Building Regulations at commencement
- Oversight but no specific approval of lodgement drawings at commencement stage by the Building Control Authorities
- The mandatory provision of Design Certificates
- The mandatory provision of Completion Certificates

2011 STATEMENT BY MINISTER PHIL HOGAN

In November 2011 the Minister gave a further indication of his intentions in an answer to Parliamentary Questions where he stated:

“In July 2011, I announced several measures to be advanced by my Department and local authorities with a view to improving compliance with the oversight of the requirements of the building Regulations. In broad terms the measures, which include the streamlining of inspection arrangements on a regional basis, will involve the introduction of mandatory certificates of compliance by builders and designers of buildings confirming that the statutory requirements of the Building Regulations have been met; more efficient pooling of building control staff and resources throughout the local authority sector to ensure an effective and meaningful oversight of building activity; standardised approaches and common protocols to ensure nationwide consistency in the administration of building control functions; and better support and further development of the building control function nationally. The mandatory certification and improved inspection arrangements outlined above are key reforms which, I believe, will have the capacity to improve the quality of
buildings and will lead to further strengthening of the regulatory regime”. In this context it would be worth looking back to a 2004 Report: “Strengthening and Enforcement the Building Regulations” prepared by a Working Party of the ACEI (The Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland), IEI (Institution of Engineers of Ireland), RIAI (The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland) and SCS (Society of Chartered Surveyors). The Executive Summary made the point that the Opinions on Compliance System had delivered a reasonable level of compliance where responsible clients, builders and professionals were concerned, but “the reality is that a person with no knowledge or interest in the Regulations, who wishes to evade the system, can do so, with all the potential consequences for Building Standards, Safety and Consumer Protection”.

The report recommended mandatory self-certification but with a range of mechanisms to provide a statutory basis for the system, with effective sanctions to minimise the risk of evasion.

PUBLICIATION OF THE BUILDING CONTROL (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS (MARCH 2012)
The Regulations were published in March 2012. It would be reasonable to say that the Regulations caused a considerable degree of controversy. The RIAI response was, in summary, that the proposed system, in its present form, was unworkable and would confuse and blur responsibilities.

In addition it was noted that the proposals were uninsurable under Professional Indemnity Insurance.

The RIAI Executive Summary dealt with the matter in detail:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
1. The RIAI welcomes the initiative taken by the Minister and his Department in the first serious move to strengthen the building control system in 20 years, and fully supports the introduction of mandatory certification at design and completion stages by registered professionals, and at completion stage by registered building contractors. However, the proposed system is, in the present
form, unworkable; and will confuse and blur responsibilities.

2. Although the Minister has referred to “certification by builders’” in answers to Parliamentary Questions, the absence of builders’ certification in the Draft Regulations has further strengthened the perception, hopefully mistaken, that the intent of the Draft Regulations is to fix one individual professional with the entire responsibility for building standards, thus relieving other design professionals, builders, sub-contractors, specialists and suppliers of their responsibilities under the Building Control Act.

3. The absence of the Code of Practice at this stage of public consultation makes definitive comment almost impossible, as there is no information available on defined standards of inspection, commissioning or testing.

4. Although it is recognised that primary legislation would be required, along with intensive work with insurers and other stakeholders, urgent consideration should be given to the introduction – in conjunction with the Regulations – of mandatory Latent Defects Insurance for all buildings. The RIAI considers that, unless there is a robust system offering redress to victims of failures of Building Regulations, there will be no public ‘buy-in’ to the system, and that there will be less public vigilance to ensure that past failures and scandals are not repeated.

5. Registration of contractors and sub-contractors was proposed in the 1998 Strategic Review of the Construction Industry. A voluntary system of registration (as the DECLG proposes) may have a degree of merit but will not bring about the necessary improvement in standards.

6. The present proposals are uninsurable under Professional Indemnity Insurance. The two underwriters, who together provide Professional Indemnity Insurance for 83% of RIAI registered practices, have confirmed that such cover will not be available for the system proposed in the Draft Regulations. The RIAI believes the Professional
Indemnity Insurance problem could be resolved by consultation, and by development of appropriate wordings in the Regulations, without which the key objective of having inspection and certification oversight by defined professionals will not be achieved and there will be no redress for consumers.

7. The commitment to e-Government should be strengthened by requiring in the Regulations the use of an online system (such as bReg) for issue of notices and other documents to and from Building Control Authorities. This will enable and facilitate local authorities to provide a more effective service in this area by offering a repository for information on the technical information, specification and testing requirements on which the design is based, and on actual construction to meet the requirements of the Regulations. It will also help towards local authority inspections targeted through online risk analysis.

8. More effective deployment of local authority building control resources can be achieved through measures such as regionalization to ensure a defined level of oversight and audit. Informed and risk analysis based local authority inspections must be an integral part of the system, must be done on a defined basis, and must be recorded as a matter of public information.

9. Certification should be required by all the parties to the project at the design and construction stages to ensure a clear chain of responsibility and an audit trail. This must be supported by a defined minimum of inspections to be carried out for different building types. These tests and inspections should form the basis of the terms of reference for builders, sub-contractors, engineers and local authority Building Control Inspectors.

10. Architects have no difficulty in certifying/signing off on their work but such certification must be reliant on responsible certification and testing by others. The involvement of Architects in the design and construction phases is of critical importance in preventing or minimizing problems.
The full RIAI Submission can be downloaded from the following link: http://www.riai.ie/news/article/riai_submission_strengthening_the_building_control_system/

THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS
From June to September 2012 there was a series of intensive Stakeholders Meetings where the Professional Bodies together with the Construction Industry Federation and the Homebuilders worked to produce and agree a realistic process where responsibilities were properly identified and assigned. A separate Work Group, with a representative from each organisation worked on the Code of Practice, for the Inspection and Certification of Building. A first draft was completed in July 2012.

RIAI OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this process in September a number of key RIAI objectives had been achieved or had been recognised as being an integral part of the system as follows:

1. Provision for Design to be carried out and certified by one of the three classes of professionals ie: Registered Architect, Chartered Engineer or Registered Building Surveyor.
2. Builders to sign the Completion Certificate with the Assigned Certifier.
3. Use of the terms ‘skill, care and diligence’ in relation to the responsibilities of Designers and Certifiers.
4. The first draft of the Code of Practice certifying and inspecting buildings was completed.
5. Proposals to rationalise and regionalise building control authorities were advanced.
6. Registration of Builders advanced.

RIAI POSITION AT END OF 2012 PROCESS
At the year’s end the final Regulations had not yet been published.

Although the work to the Code of Practice and Regulations had been completed by the Stakeholders Group and the Code of Practice Work Group in September, the Council decided it would be important to put the RIAI’s position on record given the future work that would be required in 2013.

In summary the RIAI acknowledged and welcomed the significant Stakeholder involvement in discussion on the Regulations and the progress made in recent months through continuing constructive engagement with the Department or the Stakeholders.

The introduction of Design and Completion Certificates by Designers and Builders and of Inspection, Construction by Registered Professionals represented a significant step in improving construction standards but the RIAI believed there were key elements missing which were critical to the shared objectives of achieving better building standards, appropriate consumer redress and protection. There were major gaps in the Regulations in that they did not provide for:

1. Web based systems for Uploading and Disseminating Notices and Submissions on every project.
2. Inspection and Information requests by Building Control Authorities, which would be informed by Risk Analysis and deployed at the earliest stage of the project.
3. Appropriate consumer redress in the event of significant building failures in the future.

The two critical elements were therefore:

1. Latent Defects Insurance
2. Role and Duties of Building Control Authorities

1. **LATENT DEFECTS INSURANCE**

The RIAI’s view was that Latent Defects Insurance (LDI) had to be an essential part of Consumer Protection under the proposed BC(A)R. Insurance of this type was the only realistic mechanism to deliver consumer redress when there were significant building failures. The RIAI submitted a detailed Report and Memorandum to the Department on this issue.

The Institute pointed to the great and legitimate public disquiet which would occur if it emerged
that the new BC(A)R’s were introduced without provision for adequate consumer redress in the event of significant building failures.

2. ROLE AND DUTIES OF BUILDING CONTROL AUTHORITIES

In the letter the RIAI welcomed the proposals to rationalise and regionalise local authorities but was concerned at the lack of detail. The RIAI accepted in good faith all those involved in this new process but the experiences of Design Professionals, Consumers and of the industry over the last 20 years was inadequate Building Control inspection and enforcement of the Building Control system which confirmed the need for a step change in order to create confidence in a new system.

BUILDING CONTROL (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2012

While significant progress was made in 2012, as the letter to the DECLG indicates substantial work remained to be done on 2013 so as to ensure better building standards, consumer protection and a system where responsibilities and liabilities were properly allocated to the various parties and where the liability of Architects and Engineers would be such as to be reasonable and insurable.

MAKING ARCHITECTURE RELEVANT

In 2012 the RIAI’s architecture and promotional activities were refocused under three objectives:

1. Developing platforms for the public and architects to meet.
2. Breaking barriers between the public and the profession.
3. Engaging with people who do not plan to work with architects on their projects.
4. Developing new opportunities for RIAI Members nationally and internationally.

These objectives are informed by two concepts:

1. “A Building Designed by an Architect is a Better Building” and
2. Architects + Public = architecture.

SIMON OPEN DOOR

The RIAI/Simon Open Door initiative generated direct media value in nationwide coverage of €2m and over 1,100 consultations were arranged between Architects and potential clients.
NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS
A new initiative in public outreach in 2012 was the RIAI at the National Ploughing Championships. The show attracts an attendance of 180,000 and Architects were able to show the public what they contribute. The show was supported by the Irish Farmers Journal which has a readership of 150,000 a week, and the Chair of the Irish Countrywomen’s Association (ICA) who wrote to notify all their members of RIAI’s attendance at the show. The Institute produced a publication and exhibition on areas of particular relevance for the rural communities including:

1. Leader funding
2. Registration of septic tanks
3. Single development and use of vacant buildings
4. REP Scheme

ARCHITECTURE IRELAND
As with other print media Architecture Ireland had a difficult year but with the support of the RIAI 6 issues were published including special issues on Health Care Design; New Schools and Campus Designs and the International issues. The Architecture Section of this report provides detailed coverage of these initiatives and other initiatives such as the Ideal Homes Show, Design Reviews, the RIAI Annual Review and Architecture Tours Ireland Limited.

INTERNATIONALISATION
Details of the RIAI Expo in Shanghai, supported by the Government Policy for Architecture are shown in the Architecture Section. This initiative was a continuation of the RIAI Internationalisation Programme and resulted in exchange programmes with Tongji University in Shanghai, as well as improving a visibility of Irish Architecture in China.

COMMUNICATION
RIAII NEWSLETTERS
The RIAI Online Newsletter to Members was circulated on a regular basis to Members on practice related issues, topical news and events CPD and business opportunities.

The opening rate at 48% - 52% were higher than industry norms at 16%. Practices also received a monthly Practice Newsletter with an opening rate of
55% which is also higher than the industry average. The new Public Newsletter received a significant response.

THE ECONOMY
There was little encouraging news in terms of construction and the economy although the early 2012 Workload Survey showed 16% of practices expecting an increase. The number of unwaged Architects reduced from 421 in 2011 to 363 in 2012. The number of unwaged Architectural Technologists raised from 36 in 2011 to 42 in 2012. There is an increasing number of Architects claiming reduced rates in 2012 from 347 to 406 but this may have been due, in part, to the introduction of new salary bands for financial hardship.

2010 - 342 Architects | 56 Architectural Technicians | Unwaged

2011 - 421 Architects | 36 Architectural Technicians (6,660) | Unwaged

2010 - 39 Architects | 32 Architectural Technicians | Financial Hardship


2012 - 363 Architects | 47 Architectural Technologists | Unwaged

2012 - 406 Architects | 36 Architectural Technologists | Financial Hardship

EDUCATION
Accreditation of courses is an area of RIAI work that is not immediately obvious but plays a critical part in maintaining and developing standards in education. RIAI Visiting Boards carried out 7 Accreditation Visits during the year 2012:

- DIT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- WIT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- CCAE Architecture (M.Arch)
- LyIT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- Carlow IT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- Galway/Mayo IT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- DIT Diploma in Professional Practice
FINANCE
Despite the reduction in income across many areas of activity, as shown in the Financial Section of this Annual Report and the subvention annual charges at €250,000, there was a relatively modest deficit of €104,840 at year end. This is due to two exceptional items:

1. The repayment of tax due to the RIAI Charitable Status.
2. The continuation of rental income from Corrigan House.

RIAI NON-STATUTORY APPEALS POLICY
The RIAI Non-Statutory Appeals Policy was ratified by Council. The Policy covers RIAI Examinations, RIAI Assessments and decisions of the BAE Admissions Committee. The Architectural Technologists, the title of ‘Architectural Technologist’, the Membership Title ‘Architectural Technologists’ was introduced in all RIAI documentation. Draft Rules for a New Architectural Technologist Admission Routes and traditional arrangements were further developed.

PROCUREMENT
Procurement problems continued in 2012. RIAI intervened in a number of cases where inappropriate procurement systems were proposed, often as a result of ‘cut and paste’ processes being used.

There was significant engagement with the Department of Education and Skills (DES) leading to some improvements but with more to be done at year end.

The Post Primary School’s Competition (see the report in the Architecture and Communications report) was a significant initiative with commissions to be awarded to the winner and joint second place practices. It was interesting to note that the timescale of the competition was less than standard procurement. Minister Quinn also committed to a Primary School Competition in 2013. There was useful liaison with DES and a series colloquia took place, informing new briefs for schools.

At political and senior official levels there was a realisation that the low fees being tendered was not sustainable. RIAI work on procurement has the potential to lead to a reasonable re-balancing of the price/quality issue.
SUPPORT
Providing support for Architects and Architectural Technologists is a key area of activity for the RIAI. The visible element of this report is the range of standard documentation, contracts, practice aids ie: Client Architect Agreements and the Good Practice Guide; providing a framework for practice. The list of documentation provided by the RIAI is included in the Practice Section of this Report.

The less visible element of support provided by the RIAI is the one to one advice provided by Director, Practice Director, Assistant Director and other RIAI staff members. In 2012 the Practice Director, Joe Miller, provided advice and information on 1,200 occasions to Architects and Technologists who were experiencing difficulties with the Planning System, Building Regulations, Health and Safety Contracts, Construction issues etc.

The Practice Director also provided advice to clients who were of the view that they were experiencing difficulties in relation to the professional they had employed. The Assistant Director gave substantial amount of advice on Business Administration, Employment Law, financial issues etc.

The RIAI also employs a Practice Advisor who provides detailed advice when particularly difficult and complex issues related to Contact and Construction Law are involved.

THE EUROPEAN UNION
Although the European Union issues may appear to be removed from the day to day practice, as we have learned from the Troika, the EU plays an important role in all our lives. RIAI Members were actively involved in the Architects Council of Europe (ACE), an organisation representing 500,000 architects in Europe. The RIAI was centrally involved in discussions about the new Professional Qualifications Directive and meetings with the ACE and Commission Officials. The result was that in October 2012 the minimum standard for architecture education changed from the four years in the previous Directive to an alternative of four years plus two years professional experience or five years fulltime education. It is important to realise these are minimum standards and that the majority of EU Member States
have provisions for defined periods of professional experience as well as Professional Examinations/ Evaluation.

RIAI Members were also involved on ACE issues such as the Procurement Directive, the Services Directive, Regulatory Questions/Issues, Sustainability and Professional Standards. RIAI also played a role in the discussions with the Commission on the proposed Procurement Directive with particular focus on enlarging participation of SMEs and Micro Enterprises but at year end a great deal more was due to be debated and settled.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS (UIA)
RIAI Members are active in the UIA Architecture for All Programme and in the Heritage Programmes.

RIAI DATABASE
The RIAI existing database was 15 years old in 2012 and had been causing concern for quite some time. A new database was essential in order to ensure that the RIAI’s Membership, Practice, Registration data was reliable and secure and also to integrate the various RIAI online products.

A detailed request for tender was prepared and Capita IB Solutions were commissioned to provide the new database which is hoped will go live in mid-2013.

e-ELECTIONS
2012 saw the first online election for the architect members of the Appeals and Technical Assessment Boards as well as for Council. The voting for Council tripled when compared to previous years.

VOLUNTARY INPUT
Despite the many pressures in 2012, the RIAI benefited from a significant range of voluntary input from Council, Officers, Committees and Work Groups. A listing of those on the various RIAI Committees Boards, Juries etc is included in this Report.

The generosity of those providing voluntary input is essential for the wellbeing of the RIAI.

RIAI STAFF
As Director I have benefitted from the dedicated input of RIAI staff, but more importantly Architects and Technologists have benefitted in many ways.
REGISTRATION AND ADMISSION

INTRODUCTION (REGISTRAR)

All members of the RIAI executive are involved to a greater or lesser degree with the work of registration, so to list a ‘registration team’ would be misleading. However, the staff undertaking core registration activities are as follows:

Admissions: Antje Baeger
Appeals: Fiona Ní Cheallaigh
Continuing Professional Development:
Sandra Campbell, Teresa Harte
Education: Sandra Campbell, Carol Curran
Misuse of Title: Fiona Ní Cheallaigh, Angela Cunningham, Brona King
Professional Conduct: Fiona Ní Cheallaigh
Register/Membership: Sharon Maguire
Finance: Noelle Blanker, Finuala Hurley
Register Publication: Sandra O’Connell
Technical Assessment: Antje Baeger
Communication: Adele Fitz.Patrick

Registrar/Director: John Graby
Assistant Director: Kathryn Meghen
Admissions Director: Margaret Hynds O’Flanagan

Where the RIAI as Registration Body has to make decisions, for example regarding nominations, appointments, establishment of Statutory Boards, procedural developments, policy developments, establishment of Rules and so on, they are made by RIAI Council. Council will often consider an issue in the context of advice from relevant committees, most notably the Board of Architectural Education (e.g. re Programme Accreditation, CPD, Assessment Procedures etc.) and its sub-committees and the Board of Architectural Education Admissions Committee. Development of policy options and analysis is generally carried out by senior members of the Executive subject to the approval of Council. Where legal advice is required it is generally provided by Hayes Solicitors or Counsel identified by Hayes as having outstanding expertise in the subject to be clarified.

2012 was busy year which saw the conclusion of the first term of the Statutory Boards established in 2009 (Admissions and Technical Assessment) and the RIAI’s first ‘online’ elections which ran to select the RIAI nominees for the second term of the two boards. Work relating to the recognition qualifications in architecture
at national level, finally bore fruit while work at EU level in relation to the Professional Qualifications Directive continued throughout the year. Following the hearing of the Joint Oireachtas Committee in July 2012 on Registration, the RIAI was asked to support the work of the Committee in providing information on the technical assessment system and its operation. On this basis, the RIAI hosted a number of visits from those involved including an individual review visit by Deputy Luke ‘Ming’ Flanagan, a visit by the full Joint Committee subgroup looking at technical assessment, and by the Clerk of the Committee Eugene O’Crualadhlaioch and Oireachtas Library and Research Service researcher Maedhbh MacNamara.

The RIAI appointed, Fiona Ni Cheallaigh, a solicitor with six years experience in the Regulation Department of the Law Society to the post of Compliance Officer in October 2012. In addition to handling complaints relating to misuse of title, this new post includes responsibility for dealing with the Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board. Establishment of the post preceded the appointment of the two Boards by two months.

EDUCATION

PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION
The Visiting Board process, defined in the “RIAI Prescription Procedures V.1.0 2011”, leads to programme accreditation and the making of recommendations for prescription, or withdrawal of prescription, to the Minister by the RIAI. The calendar for 2012 included visits to Dublin Institute of Technology’s Professional Diploma in Architectural Practice (Level 9) the Cork Centre for Architectural Education Masters in Architecture (M.Arch, level 9). Both concluded with the formal accreditation of the programmes visited.

PRESCRIBED QUALIFICATIONS IN ARCHITECTURE
This brings the number of educational bodies prescribed to deliver qualifications in architecture, in accordance with the RIAI Prescription Procedures 2011, to four.

The Cork Centre for Architectural Education, being a relatively new provider of architectural education is not yet prescribed, accreditation of the programme will be followed by a recommendation for prescription being made to the Minister who will seek the advice of the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland and the Higher Education Training and Awards Council before making a decision on prescription.

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE QUALIFICATIONS**

In December 2012 the DIT “Professional Diploma in Architectural Practice (Level 9)” was confirmed as fully accredited by RIAI Council. As DIT is already a prescribed body in accordance with Section 14 of the Act, and the programme is now fully accredited it qualifies for recognition as a prescribed professional practice examination for the purposes of registration. With the imminent suspension of the RIAI’s own professional practice examination, so that the Institute may focus more effectively on standards, this means there will be two prescribed professional practice qualifications available, albeit both in Dublin.

**REGISTER ADMISSION EXAMINATION**

The Architects Register Admission Examination provided by ARAE Ltd. a campus company of UCD, was also prescribed by S.I. 341 of 2012. The examination responds to the Act’s provision for an assessment designed to allow those with seven years performance of duties commensurate with those of an architect to demonstrate they have met they required standard to be registered. On the direction of RIAI Council, for the period between initial RIAI accreditation of the Register Admission Examination and prescription by the Minister, those who passed the examination were admitted to RIAI Membership and, on the basis of Membership, were eligible to register so as to provide timely access to the register for those who met the criteria. The Admissions Board and Department of the Environment Community and Local Government were apprised of this approach.
CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

Registered architects must meet annual CPD obligations. To facilitate this the RIAI moved to an online CPD system in 2009. The system allows for planning of CPD activities as well as online access to CPD events and monitoring of compliance with the regulations. Through CPDEngage (the RIAI’s online service) the Institute continued to provide members with access to a range of online CPD including access to over 100 hours of free online structured CPD. The system provides details of upcoming courses by the RIAI and other training providers. It provides links to free and low-cost online structured CPD and links to useful documentation on a wide range of subject matters. CPD Engage allows members to plan, find, undertake, record and reflect on their CPD activities regardless of geographic location or time of day. The RIAI continue to work with Aurion Learning Ltd., the developers of RIAI CPDEngage, to improve the user interface for the product based on member feedback.

RIAI CPD COURSES

The RIAI’s own CPD delivery expanded again in 2012 with some courses, particularly those relating to new legislation, delivered around the country in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Limerick. The 21 course topics delivered in 2012 related to changes to legislation, design of specific building typologies, environmental and sustainability topics, health and safety, legal and building contract issues, BIM and quality management. A full list of the courses delivered in 2012 is available in the Education Section of this report.

MISUSE OF THE TITLE ARCHITECT

INDIVIDUAL

The Act provides that anyone who uses the title “architect” and who is not registered can be prosecuted and if found guilty of this offence, can be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €5000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 12 months or both. Following on the mailing exercise to advise those who may have been misusing the title in 2011, the appointment of the Compliance Officer will mean that activity in this important area of regulation can proceed without delay.
PRACTICE
On 20 April 2012 RIAI Council established “Rules for Practice Titles made in accordance with section 18(6) of the Building Control Act 2007”. Section 18(6) of the Act specifically provides that the RIAI may make rules to ensure that a “body corporate, firm or partnership” wishing to carry on business under a name style or title containing the word “architect” must first provide evidence to the RIAI to confirm its right to do so (i.e. the business, so far as it relates to architecture, is under the control and management of a registered professional and in all premises where its business relating to architecture is carried on, it is by or under the supervision of a registered professional). These rules form part of the RIAI’s function with regard to use and misuse of the title architect. These rules facilitate the RIAI’s function in ensuring that practices, as well as individuals, comply with the law when it comes to use of the title architect.

NATIONAL REGULATORS/OMBUDSMAN ACT 2012
In September 2012 the RIAI was invited to join a recently formed informal network of Statutory Regulators. Existing network members included: Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland; An Bord Altranais; Dental Council of Ireland; Medical Council of Ireland; Teaching Council; Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council; CORU and the Veterinary Council of Ireland. The RIAI was represented at the network’s November meeting by the Admissions Director. At that meeting the Ombudsman (Amendment) Act 2012 was discussed and the Regulators agreed to engage as a group with the Ombudsman to seek advice on how to prepare for the new provisions which would bring all of the Regulators within the remit of the Ombudsman from 1 May 2013. It was agreed that the RIAI would undertake to develop contact with the Ombudsman’s Office including organising a meeting between the Ombudsman’s office and the Regulators at the RIAI’s offices on Merrion Square.

STATUTORY BOARDS
COMPOSITION
The Building Control Act 2007, in addition to establishing the RIAI as Registration Body and Competent Authority, provides for four Statutory Boards to be established by the Registration Body. Board Composition is defined in the Act as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Admissions</strong></th>
<th><strong>Technical Assessment</strong></th>
<th><strong>Appeals</strong></th>
<th><strong>Professional Conduct Committee</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Established by</strong></td>
<td>RIAI (Council)</td>
<td>RIAI (Council)</td>
<td>RIAI (Council)</td>
<td>RIAI (Council)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chairperson</strong></td>
<td>Solicitor/ Barrister/ former Judge appointed by the Minister</td>
<td>Solicitor/ Barrister/ former Judge appointed by the Minister</td>
<td>Solicitor/ Barrister/ former Judge appointed by the Minister</td>
<td>Solicitor/ Barrister/ former Judge appointed by the Minister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non architect members</strong></td>
<td>4 nominated by the Minister and appointed by the RIAI</td>
<td>4 nominated by the Minister and appointed by the RIAI</td>
<td>2 nominated by the Minister, 1 nominated by the Minister, with consent of the Minister for Enterprise Jobs and Innovation, all appointed by the RIAI</td>
<td>5 nominated by the Minister, 1 nominated by the Minister, with the consent of the Minister for Enterprise Jobs and Innovation, all appointed by the RIAI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Architects (currently on the Register)</strong></td>
<td>3 nominated and appointed by the RIAI</td>
<td>3 nominated and appointed by the RIAI</td>
<td>2 nominated and appointed by the RIAI</td>
<td>5 nominated and appointed by the RIAI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>N Members incl Chair</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quorum</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quorum Rules</strong></td>
<td>Majority of Minister’s nominees (may include Chair)</td>
<td>Majority of Minister’s nominees (may include Chair)</td>
<td>Majority of Minister’s nominees (may include Chair)</td>
<td>Majority of Minister’s nominees (may include Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date Established (1st Term)</strong></td>
<td>1st May 2009</td>
<td>1st May 2009</td>
<td>Decision of 14th December 2012 to establish on 7th</td>
<td>Decision of 14th December 2012 to establish on 7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date Established (2nd Term)</strong></td>
<td>14th September 2012</td>
<td>14th September 2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>End of 2nd term</strong></td>
<td>13th September 2015 (Elections July/August 2015)</td>
<td>13th September 2015 (Elections July/August 2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOARDS ELECTIONS
When a Statutory Board is first established RIAI Council selects the architect nominees. For each subsequent term an election must be held to select the nominees. An EGM was held on 12 March 2012 and at that meeting, in accordance with Section 69 of the Act, the Members agreed to amend the By-Laws to establish procedures for holding elections for RIAI nominees to the Statutory Boards. The two elections were then held using an online ballot system which facilitated speedy and accurate processing of votes while also reducing election costs dramatically.

MEMBERSHIP AND ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTORY BOARDS
Although the RIAI had undertaken elections in accordance with the Act to identify the RIAI nominees to the Admissions and Technical Assessment Boards before the end of the first term, the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government did not proceed to appoint new chairpersons or reappoint the existing Chairpersons whose terms concludes on 30 April 2012. The RIAI was advised of the Minister’s appointment of the two new chairpersons in September 2012. The two Boards were then established by the RIAI without further delay (14 September 2012), however, the initial delay meant that no applications for Technical Assessment or Admissions could be decided upon between 30 April and 14 September 2012. While the RIAI was in a position to process applications and prepare cases for the consideration of each Board, significant delays and in some cases serious inconvenience, were experienced by a number of applicants.

At the November 2012 Council meeting, Council was advised that the Minister had appointed Chairpersons to the Appeals Board and Professional Conduct Committee. Council was also advised of the Minister’s nomination of ordinary members to the Admissions Board, Technical Assessment Board, Appeals Board and Professional Conduct Committee. Council appointed all nominees noting that the architect nominees to the two new Boards would be presented for appointment at the December 2012 meeting.

The composition of the four Statutory Boards (two established, two with an establishment date set for January) as of December 2012 was as follows:
ADMISSIONS BOARD 14 SEPTEMBER 2012 - 13 SEPTEMBER 2015
Chairperson Mr Garrett Fennell, Solicitor, Minister’s appointee 2012
Ms Paula Butler, Minister’s nominee 2009, 2012
Ms Mairead Hughes, Minister’s nominee 2009, 2012
Mr Denis Cregan, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr William Quinn, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr Eoin O’Cofaigh, RIAI nominee 2009, 2012
Ms Eithne Moran, RIAI nominee 2012
Ms Laura Bowen, RIAI nominee 2012

TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT BOARD 14 SEPTEMBER 2012 - 13 SEPTEMBER 2015
Chairperson Ms Frances Meenan, Barrister, Minister’s appointee 2012
Mr Sean Balfe, Minister’s nominee 2009, 2012
Ms Geraldine Walsh, Minister’s nominee 2009, 2012
Mr Henk van der Kamp, Minister’s nominee 2009, 2012
Mr Gerry Farrell, Minister’s nominee 2012
Ms Orla Fitz.Gerald, RIAI nominee 2009, 2012
Ms Carole Pollard, RIAI nominee 2012
Mr Niall Meagher, RIAI nominee 2012

APPEALS BOARD 7TH JAN 2013 TO 6TH JAN 2016
Chairperson Mr. Michael Condon, Solicitor, Minister’s Appointee 2012
Mr. Martin Lawlor, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr. Charlie O’Connor, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr. Sarah Carey, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr. Vincent Traynor, RIAI nominee 2012
Ms. Sadhbhanna ni Fhlionn, RIAI nominee 2012

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE 7TH JAN 2013 TO 6TH JAN 2016
Chairperson Mr. John K O’Connell - Barrister, Minister’s Appointee 2012
Mr. Noel Carroll, Minister’s nominee 2012
Ms. Helen O’Donnell, Minister’s nominee 2012
Ms. Nicola Hogan, Minister’s nominee 2012
Ms. Anne Forde, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr. Peadar O’Maoileain, Minister’s nominee 2012
Mr. Paddy Malone, Minister’s nominee 2012
Ms. Anne Kiernan, RIAI nominee 2012
Mr. Brian O’Connell, RIAI nominee 2012
Mr. Liam Tuite, RIAI nominee 2012
Mr. Robin Mandal, RIAI nominee 2012
Mr. Niall Rowan, RIAI nominee 2012
RETIRING CHAIRPERSONS AND BOARD MEMBERS:
The Chairperson of the first Technical Assessment Board, Cliona Kimber, concluded her term in 2012. Mr Bernard Lennon (Minister’s Nominee), Loughlin Kealy (RIAI nominee) and Joan O’Connor (RIAI nominee) also concluded their terms as Board Members in 2012. The RIAI is grateful to all for their dedication and hard work as which was essential to the development and implementation of Technical Assessment.

The Chairperson of the first Admissions Board, Richard Humphries, concluded his term in 2012. Mr Brian Cunningham (Minister’s Nominee), Grainne Shaffrey (RIAI nominee) and Toal Ó Muiré (RIAI nominee) also concluded their terms as Board Members in 2012. The RIAI is grateful to all for their dedication and hard work which was essential to the refinement and implementation of the various Admissions processes provided for under the Act.

TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS
In response to enquiries from potential technical assessment applicants, and comments from some who found it difficult to restart work on their submissions having suspended work when the Building Control Amendment Bill 2010 came before the Dáil, the Admissions Director delivered two training sessions for prospective applicants. Fifty people signed up and ultimately 47 attended the half day training sessions which ran at the end of January 2012. The presentations from the day and notes of outcomes of interest were posted on the RIAI website in the Technical Assessment information section.

The new architect members to be nominated by the RIAI to the Statutory Admissions and Technical Assessment Boards received their training on the functions and procedures of the Boards 30 May 2012. The training session included admission routes, the roles of assessors, the rules established with regard to the functioning of the Boards and the provisions set down in the Act describing the functions and functioning of the Boards.

ADMISSIONS BOARD
The Admissions Board met 7 times in 2012. The term of the first Board established concluded on 30 April 2012 and the Board could not meet again until the Minister appointed a new Chairperson and advised the RIAI.
The first meeting of the Board’s second term was on 1 October 2012. The Board continued to experience difficulty in achieving the required quorum as a result of resignations, the Minister nominated two new ordinary Board members after the Board was established and they took up office as soon as their appointment was made by RIAI Council.

The Admissions board considered 93 candidates eligible for admission, ab initio, to the register on the following basis:
### Subsection: RIAI Route descriptor (see www.riai.ie)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subsection</th>
<th>RIAI Route descriptor (see <a href="http://www.riai.ie">www.riai.ie</a>)</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14(2)(a)(I)</td>
<td>Route A1: Prescribed Qualifications (14(2)(a)(I))</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(2)(b)</td>
<td>Route A1/2: Prescribed/Recognised Qualifications plus RIAI Professional Practice Examination</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(2)(b)</td>
<td>Route B: Addresses extra-EEA qualifications and combinations of qualifications acquired across States including those: · prescribed under Irish law; and/or · recognised within the EU in accordance with Directive 2005/36/EC; and/or · recognised and awarded outside the EU but demonstrably equivalent to a prescribed qualification.</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(2)(a)(II)</td>
<td>Route C: Prescribed Qualification, and experience based assessment of professional level standard</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(2)(h)</td>
<td>Route E: Technical Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(2)(f)</td>
<td>Route F: Prescribed Register Admissions Examination</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60(1)</td>
<td>Route D3: Registration for provision of services on a temporary and occasional basis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** | 93 | 100% |

Routes E and F are those established to assess individuals in practice without recognised qualifications but who have attained the necessary standard through practical experience. In 2012, 11 architects, that is 12% of new entrants, came through these routes.

The RIAI thanks all Admissions Board members for their continued dedication to the important task of considering applications for registration.
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT BOARD
The Technical Assessment Board met 7 times in 2012. The term of the first Board established concluded on 30 April 2012 and the Board could not meet again until the Minister appointed a new Chairperson and advised the RIAI. The first meeting of the Board’s second term was on 25 September 2012. The Minister subsequently nominated one new ordinary Board member after the Board was established and he took up office as soon as the required appointment was made by RIAI Council.

The Board decided on two applications in the course of the year, one applicant was deemed eligible for registration and one was deemed ineligible.

APPEALS BOARD
A person adversely affected by a decision of the Admissions Board, the Technical Assessment Board or the Professional Conduct Committee may appeal the decision to the Appeals Board within 3 months after the date of the decision being made. An appeal may be based on either procedural or substantive grounds. At the end of 2012 three appeals against decisions of the Technical Assessment Board had been lodged within the timeframe required and were awaiting establishment of the Board to be heard. Work on reviewing the draft rules of the Appeals Board was underway in 2012 in anticipation of the Board being established.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE
Any person may make a complaint to the Professional Conduct Committee concerning a registered architect which is alleged to amount to professional misconduct or poor professional performance. Work on reviewing the draft code of conduct together with the draft rules for the Professional Conduct Committee was underway in 2012 in anticipation of the Committee being established.

THE REGISTER

NUMBERS
In 2012 the number of architects registered in the State was 2,613.

Membership of the Register of Architects 2012  N
Registrant (Register Only)  7
Registrant (and RIAI Member)  2606
Total  2613
ARCHITECT MOBILITY: RIAI ENGAGEMENT IN EUROPE

The RIAI continued to provide services to Irish architectural graduates and architects moving abroad in 2012. Services provided include the confirmation of recognition of qualifications and letters confirming eligibility to register/actual registration for those seeking registration abroad, especially in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2005/36/EC. Advice was also given to architects living or qualified abroad seeking to work in Ireland and to be included on the Register of Architects.

The process of developing a proposal for modernising the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC) continued through 2012. The RIAI was involved through its involvement with the European Network of Architects Competent Authorities and the Architects Council or Europe. The RIAI’s Admissions Director participated in meetings of both organisations as well as two of the meetings between the Architects Council of Europe and the European Commission in August and November 2012. By the end of 2012 the draft text of the proposal had progressed significantly and was being closely considered by the European Parliament’s ‘IMCO’ Committee and the ‘Council Working Party (European Council).

The RIAI participated in the three European Network of Architects Competent Authorities meetings held in 2012, the first of which was held in Dublin in January. This was the first meeting to take place following Toal Ó Muiré’s retirement from the position of Chairperson of the Network. Olga Mihalikova of the Slovak Chamber of Architects took over as Chairperson beginning with the Dublin 2012 meeting.
BEST CULTURAL WINNER 2012
LYRIC THEATRE
O’DONNELL + TUOMEY ARCHITECTS
MAKING ARCHITECTURE RELEVANT
Throughout 2012 the RIAI has strengthened its focus on architecture and promotion and developed a number of new initiatives. These public initiatives arise from a simple premise – a building designed by an architect is a better building – and work to make architecture relevant to a wider audience. They include:

- Provide platforms for public and architects to meet
- Communicating and breaking down perceived barriers in order to engage with people who do not plan to work with architects on their projects
- Promoting architecture internationally and nationally through awards, competitions & events.
- Develop new opportunities for RIAI Members both nationally and internationally

RIAI Members have raised €24,000 for the Simon Communities in 2012 and over €350,000 since the event started

Over 5,000 meetings between architects and public since the start of Simon Open Door

Over 1,100 public meetings between architects and potential clients in 2012

Over 400 attendees at RIAI Annual Conference in 2012

THE RIAI IN FIGURES IN 2012

180,000 attend the National Ploughing Championships and

40,000 the Ideal Homes Show, where the RIAI has Architects’ Advice Clinics

12,500 people voted in the RIAI Public Choice Award

RIAi - PROVIDING PLATFORMS
Throughout 2012 the RIAI has expanded its presence at large consumer events to provide multiple platforms for meetings between architects and the public. Our presence at events such as the Ideal Homes Show and the National Ploughing Championship breaks down perceived barriers.
SIMON OPEN DOOR 2012
The RIAI Simon Open Door weekend took place on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th May 2012. 452 consultations were booked, raising a total of €23,140. The number of participating practices was up from 2011 (197 in 2012; 174 in 2011).

The event again achieved excellent media coverage both at local and at national level. A week of radio adverts was run on Newstalk and local architects publicised the event on the local radio stations. A particular interest item was the “Sleep out for Simon” on 19 April 2012 when RIAI Members, staff and representatives of the Simon Community slept out in Dublin City to create awareness of the plight of homeless people and to gain an understanding of the hardship facing those we are trying to help.

IDEAL HOME SHOW - SPRING AND AUTUMN 2012
The Ideal Homes Show is the largest house and an interior show in Ireland. Held twice a year, it has an attendance of around 20,000 at each show. The RIAI has partnered with the event’s promoter to provide an Architects’ Advice Centre at each show – where the public can get free advice on a project they are planning. On average there have been 300 consultations at each show – over 600 in total in 2012. It is a great opportunity to create awareness of the benefits an architect can bring to a project and the wide range of services they provide - not just design but also the technical, legal, and sustainability expertise.

NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS, 25 - 27 SEPTEMBER
The National Ploughing Championships is the biggest agriculture show in the world with an audience of 180,000 each year and not traditionally an event associated with architecture. The people attending this event are not just engaged in housing projects they are in agri-tourism, conservation projects and manufacturing business.

The RIAI participated for the first time with a stand and Architects’ Advice Centre at the National Ploughing Championship, which took place from 25 to 27 September in Co. Wexford. Members of the public could book a free 30min consultation with a registered architect. The RIAI presented a small exhibition of award winning houses in the rural locations and produced special literature to highlight areas of
1. SIMON OPEN DOOR LAUNCH
2. ARCHITECT DAVID CHIPPERFIELD AND SCULPTOR MICHAEL WARREN WERE PRESENTED WITH HONORARY FELLOWSHIPS
3. THE RIAI ANNUAL REVIEW, IRISH ARCHITECTURE
4. YAO NIANGQUING, VICE-SECRETARY GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY OF SHANGHAI IS PRESENTED WITH COPIES OF THE RIAI ANNUAL REVIEW
1. MINISTER JIMMY DEENIHAN LAUNCHING ARCHITECTURE TOURS IRELAND
2. DUBLIN LORD MAYOR ANDREW MONTAGUE VISITS THE SIMON SLEEP OUT
3. FREE ARCHITECTURE ADVICE CLINICS AT THE IDEAL HOMES EXHIBITION
4. RIAI ARCHITECTS AT THE PLOUGHLING CHAMPIONSHIPS
particular relevance for the rural community including advice on:

- LEADER funding
- Registration of septic tanks
- Sustainable development and reuse of vacant buildings
- REPS Scheme

Architects also provided advice on more universal issues:

- Improving energy efficiency and reducing utility bills
- Building a new home or extending
- Planning applications and planning issues
- Conservation issues – including appropriate methods and materials

The presence of the RIAI at the National Ploughing Championships was a hugely successful event in building new platforms, breaking down barriers and raising awareness of the value a registered architect can bring to a project. We had media support from the Irish Farmer’s Journal which has a readership of 250,000 per week and from the Irish Country Women’s Association, who advised their members of the RIAI presence at the show. These were excellent new opportunities for us to explain and illustrate they work of architects in a relevant way.

ARCHITECTURE TOURS IRELAND

Architecture Tours Ireland was conceived in 2011 as a partnership with the Irish Architecture Foundation. Tours are aimed at the general public - both local and visitors to Dublin. Failte Ireland provided training for the architect guides to ensure that they were communicating in an accessible way. The tours are continuing to grow in reputation below is some feedback received:

“I can honestly say that having lived in Dublin for over a decade, this tour was still insightful and eye opening. I am delighted to have gone on it, as are my two colleagues. Carol Ryan was an exceptional guide, very flexible, knowledgeable, and personable. It may have been one of the most enjoyable days out I have had in the city, rekindling my love for a place I have spent so much time in, and for my visitors, it gave a unique and personal touch to getting to know the city”.

ARCHITECTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS
PROMOTING ARCHITECTURE BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

A positive development in Irish architecture is the growing internationalisation. RIAI practices of all sizes and throughout Ireland are winning international work or receiving international accolades – such as a prestigious ‘Silver Lion’ at the 2012 Venice Architecture Biennale for Grafton Architects. The Institute has been actively supporting the profession in this endeavour. With funding from Enterprise Ireland, the RIAI commissioned a ground-breaking research study – Exporting Irish Architecture – to support Irish practices, who wish to internationalise their service. The study has examined countries and regions that have successfully communicated their architectural services internationally and recommended a “coordinated and strategic plan for internationalisation”. This plan was being rolled out in 2012:

- To create international awareness of the achievements, skills, education and expertise of Irish architects
- To build a positive image of Ireland internationally through its quality architecture and built environment culture
- To build job opportunities for RIAI members by growing awareness and an international client community for Irish architecture

This included a range of initiatives – including a showcase of Irish architecture, comprising lectures and exhibitions at the Irish Centre Shanghai and at Tongji University. These events significantly highlighted awareness for Irish architecture internationally.

The RIAI has also worked with online communications strategists Elucidate in 2012 to develop a dedicated online marketing strategy for gaining access for its members to international markets. Following a survey and workshop involving some RIAI Practices engaged in international projects, the study identified three key markets for RIAI architects:

Tier 1 – China/Shanghai – coinciding with the RIAI event in Shanghai, 15-19 October

Tier 2 – UK with a well-developed and active network of Irish Diaspora

Tier 3 – Libya, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar – in particular the RIAI’s connections with the Libyan Architects’ Institute
The study was finalised in early 2013 and Elucidate have provided a series of technical recommendations relating to RIAI presence internationally including a dedicated Chinese Microsite.

EXHIBITION, LECTURES AND EVENTS SHANGHAI

From 15 – 19 October 2012, with the support of the Government Policy on Architecture, the RIAI presented an events programme on Irish architecture at the Irish Centre in Shanghai and at TongJi University. Key objectives for this event were:

- To create awareness of the quality, skill and expertise of contemporary Irish architecture among stakeholders in Chinese architecture, construction and business communities who are engaging the services of European architects
- To build contacts with TongJi University, one of the top architecture and design universities in China, looking to develop a programme of student exchange and visiting lecturers
- To build contacts though the IDA in Shanghai with Chinese businesses looking to open European offices

Event partners included the Irish Centre Shanghai, the Irish Consulate Shanghai, Enterprise Ireland Shanghai and TongJi University. The support of the Government Policy on Architecture was crucial to this event.

The event programme comprised a number of different strands - outputs:

EXHIBITION: IRISH ARCHITECTURE - A HISTORY OF CULTURE AND A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The exhibition - Irish Architecture - A History of Culture and A Sustainable Future - was specially developed by the RIAI to situate Irish architecture in its cultural and historic context, discuss international relationships - from James Hoban who designed the White House in 1792 to current global projects - and provide an understanding of the key areas of expertise in Irish architecture: education, healthcare, urban design, housing, sustainability and conservation. The exhibition comprised a series of free-standing panels with a time-line chronology and images of Irish architecture, past and present. The exhibition was bilingual in format and accompanied by a DVD on the work of Irish practices working globally as well as information folders on the RIAI and Irish architecture.
ARCHITECTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. ‘SHIFTING GROUND’ BY HENEGHEN PENG AT THE VENICE ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE
2. SHELLEY McNAMARA AND YVONNE FARRELL OF GRAFTON ARCHITECTS RECEIVING A SILVER LION AT THE VENICE ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE
3. THE RIAI PRESENTED A PROGRAMME OF EXHIBITIONS AND LECTURES IN THE IRISH CENTRE SHANGHAI AND AT TONGJI UNIVERSITY
A second edition of the exhibition was shown at TongJi University in Shanghai - one of China’s most prestigious architecture universities.

LECTURE PROGRAMME: IRISH ARCHITECTURE
The RIAI presented keynote lectures in Shanghai on the wider context of Irish architecture and topical issues such as sustainability. Merritt Bucholz, a practising architect and Professor of Architecture at the School of Architecture, University of Limerick and partner in Bucholz McEvoy Architects, presented a lecture on sustainability in Irish architecture. John Graby delivered a keynote on the historic context of Irish architecture.

In addition to the keynote lectures, the RIAI and the Irish Centre invited the Head of the School of Architecture at TongJi University to deliver a lecture and hold a workshop meeting with Professor Bucholz.

WORKSHOPS, BUSINESS BREAKFASTS AND NETWORKING MEETINGS
In addition to the keynote lectures, the RIAI hosted together with the Irish Centre Shanghai a series of smaller network events such as workshops and business breakfasts. These were tailored to specific interests, such as urban design, sustainability etc. RIAI practices were invited to join the event programme.

DESIGN WEEK LECTURES, NOVEMBER 2012
Coinciding with Design Week, the RIAI hosted free lunchtime lectures presented by the winner of the 2012 Irish Architecture Awards. Participating architects included: Steve Larkin (Best Emerging), Mary Laheen Architects, Paul Keogh Architects, McCullough Mulvin, O’Donnell + Tuomey Architects, Taylor Architects, Robin Lee Architects, Sean Moylan (OPW), Bob Hanan (DLR CoCo Architects), and Heneghen Peng Architects. The lectures were popular with members and the public and attracted over 300 attendees during the week.

COMMUNICATION
The RIAI communicates with its diverse audiences on different platforms – both online and in print.

IN PRINT

IRISH ARCHITECTURE - THE RIAI ANNUAL REVIEW, 2013
Conceived in 2010 to mark the achievements of Irish architects, both at home and abroad, the RIAI Annual
Review plays an important role in the creation of a positive image for Irish architecture and is widely circulated internationally, including to Irish Embassies and Ambassadors; the overseas offices of Enterprise Ireland and Universities and Media abroad. The RIBA Bookshop in London has also stocked copies of the Annual Review.

With the assistance of the Government Policy on Architecture, we have published in 2012 the third volume Irish Architecture, 2012-13 (Vol.3). Edited by Dr. Sandra O’Connell, the featured projects are set in context through essays and reviews by many of Ireland’s leading architectural critics and writers. Competitions and the work of emerging practices complete the content. The third volume of the RIAI’s Annual Review, Irish Architecture 2012/13 was launched by Jimmy Deenihan, Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and RIAI President Michelle Fagan at the RIAI. Speaking at the launch Minister Deenihan said:

“This publication illustrates the talent and commitment to high quality architecture in Ireland. It also serves to show how important it is to promote integrated working between all the relevant professions, most notably the architectural profession. Such collaborative working practices will stand us in good stead for the challenges of ensuring a future of high quality built environment.”

ARCHITECTURE IRELAND

Despite difficult economic conditions – and with support from the RIAI – Architecture Ireland published six issues in 2012 (AI 261-266). Three special issues published in 2012 – ‘Health Care Design’; ‘The International Issue’; and ‘New Schools and Campus Buildings’ – reflect areas of particular activity and expertise in Irish architecture. The special issue on ‘Health Care Design’ was developed in close collaboration with the RIAI Taskforce on Health Care Design. AI 261 featured an interview with newly elected RIAI President Michelle Fagan; AI 263 included coverage on the 2013 RIAI Irish Architecture Awards and AI 264 extensive coverage on the work of Irish architects abroad. Architecture Ireland devised with evolve design a new look and feel for the magazine which was launched in early 2013.

The Editorial Board of Architecture Ireland in 2012 were: Michelle Fagan (RIAI President), Stephen Best, Dermot Boyd, Peter Carroll, Miriam Dunn, Sinead Hughes, Gary Mongey, Ruth O’Herlihy, Jason O’Shaughnessy, Grainne Shaffrey, Liam Tuite; RIAI Director John Graby, RIAI Assistant Director Kathryn Meghen and Editor Dr. Sandra O’Connell.

ASK THE ARCHITECT - NEW ARTICLE SERIES IN THE INDEPENDENT

The article series ‘Ask the Architect’ on consumer-related architecture and construction issues was initiated by Past President Paul Keogh with The Independent and has been running in the Property Supplement throughout 2012 and continued well into 2013. RIAI Members who have contributed articles to-date include Eva Byrne, Paul Keogh, John Graby, Bill Scott, Paul Kelly, Stephen Manning, Robin Mandal to name but a few. The published articles can be viewed on the RIAI website under the newsfeed ‘In the News’ and will receive its own dedicated area on a revised RIAI Homepage in 2013.

ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS

Online Communication has become – alongside the traditional in-print publications – an important means for the RIAI to communicate with its members and the public. The RIAI has developed its online reach through dedicated e-zine campaigns aimed at Members and Practices. Content on the RIAI website was also updated and expanded including a topical news section.

The RIAI website has been receiving high visitor levels in 2012. There were over 144,000 unique visitors in 2012. The average ‘pages per visit’ figure was at 4.38 pages per visit in 2012, showing an engaged audience. Visitors spend an average of 3.13 minutes on the site. New visits to the RIAI website was up by 49%. Most visitors reach the RIAI website through web searches of ‘riai’, showing a very strong brand recognition. Top content in searches on the RIAI website are the RIAI homepage; the Practice Directory; the Register of Architects; the Members Site; CPD; Job search and the News section – these are in the top ten of content.
This upwards trend can be linked with traffic coming from RIAI Online, the fortnightly Members RIAI Online newsletter and the Practice Newsletter. In 2012, the RIAI has issued over 40 Members and Practice newsletters in 2012. In March 2012, the RIAI started a dedicated public newsletter. There were 10 editions of the RIAI public newsletter in 2012.

The RIAI Online Newsletter to Members has been circulated throughout on a weekly to fortnightly basis in 2012 informing members on practice-related issues, topical news and events, CPD and business opportunities. The opening rate has remained consistently high on average between 48-52%, which is 33% above industry norm (16%). The newsletter has generated considerable traffic to the RIAI website. Top geographic locations for opening of newsletter are Ireland (2,372); UK (315); USA (34); Australia (17) and France (14).

RIAI Practices have received a monthly Practice Newsletter referring them to legislative and practice specific information. A selection of these practice items features also in a new combined CPD and Practice page in Architecture Ireland. The opening rate is particularly high (56%) – 40% higher than industry average. The RIAI new Public Newsletter is also receiving a very positive response with over 750 people signed up since the newsletter commenced in March 2013. The opening rate is high between 52 and 56%. The geographic profile is as follows: 345 (Ireland); 100 (UK); 21 USA; others include China, Australia, Libya, Africa, France and Cayman Islands.

**RIAI COMMUNICATIONS TASKFORCE**

The RIAI Communications Task Force has met throughout 2012 to develop the RIAI’s Communications Strategy with Members and with its other diverse audiences (i.e. Public, Domestic and Larger Clients; Stakeholders and other Built Environment Professions; Architecture Students and Graduates; Prospective Members; Media, etc.). The Communications Task Force includes: Orla Fitz.Gerald (Chair), Michelle Fagan, Ali Grehan, Emma Curley, Declan O’Donnell, Hanna Loughnane and Mike Morris. From the RIAI are involved: Kathryn Meghen, John Graby, Sandra O’Connell and Sonila Papa.
The Task Force developed in 2012 briefs and strategic recommendations for different areas of the RIAI website – Members and Public – to further develop reaching these target audiences. These include an expanded Members Website with a range of e-commerce solutions and access to practice-related information. A refreshed RIAI Homepage (Public Site), which channels more clearly the diverse users of the RIAI website into relevant areas on the RIAI site.

**RIAI/Office of Public Works Graduate Training Scheme 2012**

The Office of Public Works employs in association with the RIAI, 30 architectural graduates, who have completed their Part 2 training in a school of architecture. Each year 10 graduates are employed under the scheme for a three year contract. The purpose of the contract is to enable the graduates to obtain sufficient experience through their work in the OPW and to prepare them for the Part 3 examinations, when successfully complete, entitles them to apply for membership of the RIAI and the Architect’s Register under the Building Control Act 2007.

There were 97 applications for the 13 places on offer in 2012; 37 of the applicants were interviewed by a panel, which included the State Architect and the RIAI Practice Director, over a period of a week, and 13 were offered and accepted positions on a three year contract.

**RIAI/Department of Education and Skills Graduate Training Scheme**

In 2012 DES commenced a graduate training scheme with 2 places on offer for a three year contract period. There were 40 applications for the positions and 12 were interviewed by 2 Architects from DES and the RIAI Practice Director, over a period of three days. Two candidates were offered and accepted a three year contract.

**Irish Architecture Awards 2012**

120 entries were received for the 2012 RIAI Annual Awards with 34 projects short-listed. The Public Choice Award was announced on RTE’s Morning Ireland programme and was won by Taylor Architects for NUIG Engineering Building Galway; voting exceed the previous year with 12,500 votes received. There was a very active publicity campaign which was built on with Face Book and Twitter campaigns.
Designed for ultimate performance, simplicity and sustainability, Humanscale’s market-leading products, manufactured in our Dublin facility since 1993, create a healthier, more comfortable place to work. Dublin showroom opens 17 May. info@humanscale.ie www.humanscale.com
The presentation of the Awards, by Minister for Education & Skills Ruiari Quinn, took place on Thursday 21 June 2012 at Woodquay Venue, Civic Offices. The Exhibition was on display at the Atrium at Dublin City Council for the month of August.


The results for the 2012 Awards were:

**Best Emerging and Best House**  
Steve Larkin Architects

**Best Conservation/Restoration**  
Monaghan Courthouse  
OPW Architects

**Best Cultural Building**  
Lyric Theatre Belfast  
O’Donnell + Tuomey Architects

**Best Educational Building**  
New Extension to Girls Primary School  
Mary Laheen Architects

**Best Health**  
Dublin Dental Hospital  
McCullough Mulvin Architects

**Best Housing**  
Sean Treacy House  
Paul Keogh Architects

**Best House Extension**  
Butterfly House  
LID Architects

**Best International**  
Central Park Bridge, London Olympics  
Heneghan Peng Architects

**Best Public**  
Wexford County Council HQ  
Robin Lee Architects with Arthur Gibney Partners

**Best Public Space**  
The Metals Project, Phase 1  
DLR County Architects
Best Sustainable
Engineering Building, NUI Galway
Taylor Architects

Best Leisure
Tropical Biome, Leipzig
Henchion + Reuter Architects

COMPETITIONS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS (DES) POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS COMPETITION

The RIAI, on behalf of the DES, ran an architectural competition for the design of a new post primary school at Kingswood School in Tallaght. 154 competition entries were received at stage one and the competition jury evaluated all entries over a two-day period and shortlisted 6 entries to progress to stage two.

The competition was won by ARPL Architects from Scotland with joint second place is shared by Dublin-based de Blacam and Meagher Architects and Coady Partnership Architects. Other practices that were shortlisted for Stage two were, Grafton Architects, Michael Kelly Architect and BDP. Commended in the first stage were de Paor Architects, Gilroy McMahon and KMD. There were 154 submissions – including 43 international entries from 14 countries.

THE JURY MEMBERS WERE:
Mr. Eddie Conroy, Architect (Chair of Jury) - County Architect, South Dublin County Council, Ireland

Mr. Peter Clegg
Architect - Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios, UK.

Prof. Owen Lewis
Director, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

Mr. Tony Sheppard
Architect, Chair OECD Centre for Effective Learning Environments & Technical Manager, Department of Education & Skills, Ireland

Mr. Eamonn Greville Architect (liaison contact)
Senior Architect, Department of Education & Skills, Ireland
Mr. Seamus Ryan  
Education Officer County Meath VEC

Ms. Maree O’Rourke  
Principal of Maryfield College, Drumcondra, Dublin

Mrs. Maedhbh Ui Chiagain  
Retired Principal, Colaiste Iosagain, Booterstown, Co. Dublin

John Hammond  
Deputy CEO, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment

DCU MAIN ENTRANCE DESIGN COMPETITION

Dublin City University engaged the RIAI to run a one stage competition for the design of a new entrance to the University campus. 44 entries were received for the one stage competition which was won by ZaP Architecture, an Irish practice based in London. 2nd Place went to de Blacam and Meagher Architects and 3rd Place to Maguire McBrien.

The objective of the competition was to the reinvigorate the appearance and functionality of the campus as well bring DCU’s vision and brand expression of Ireland’s University of Enterprise to life.

The judges praised the winning entry as a scheme that had “fulfilled all the aspirations of the design brief, creating an exciting, memorable and timeless new main entrance for the University.

DCU have communicated to the RIAI how pleased they were with the competition process and how impressed they were with the Chairperson and architects contribution and guidance.

THE JURY MEMBERS

RIAI  Séan Harrington, MRIAI Chair  
Steve Larkin, MRIAI

DCU  Prof Brian MacCraith, DCU President  
Dr Declan Raftery, DCU Chief Operating Officer  
Ms Teresa Murray, DCU Head of Communications and Marketing  
Michael Kelly, Estates Manager for DCU  
Tony Reddy, DCU masterplanning architect
COMPETITIONS, AWARDS AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

RIAI ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

Returning to Dublin for the first time in 21 years, the RIAI Annual Conference took place on 23 and 24 September 2012 at the RDS with a record attendance of over 400 delegates. The theme this year was Architecture – Ethical Practise: The Role of the Architect in a Constantly Changing World. In her keynote speech on Sunday, RIAI President Michelle Fagan called on Irish architects to engage with their local communities and contribute in a meaningful way to their local built environment: “I believe architects have an ethical role to embed themselves in their community, represent the needs of communities and add their voice and expertise for the collective benefit of Irish society.”

Keynote speakers included the internationally renowned architect, David Chipperfield who related his experience as Director of the Venice Biennale and spoke of the meaning behind Common Ground as “a place where different people met and agree they share something.”

David Chipperfield and the sculptor Michael Warren were both presented with Honorary Fellowships by RIAI President Michelle Fagan.

Architect Peter Buchanan presented a compelling lecture on ‘Architecture and Ethics’ and called on architecture to “become part of the leading edge of thought in 21st century”. Laura Lee, Professor of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University, referred to Ireland’s Government Policy on Architecture as one of the best in the world. Other speakers included economists Constantin Gurdiev and Dr Kieran Allen, with many RIAI architects and technologists offering insights into alternative practice.

The six shortlisted practices presented their entries for the Post-Primary School Competition at Kingswood, Tallaght and Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn announced a joint RIAI/Department of Education colloquium on post-primary school design, scheduled for late November. Speaking at the conference, Minister Quinn said: “Our education system is facing a massive
rise in the number of children who all will need a school place. This presents challenges for the Department. Over the next five years, we will be building more than 100 new school buildings. As an architect I see this as a real opportunity to seek innovation in the design of these new schools.” The entries for the competition were exhibited at the Architecture Expo show which ran alongside the RIAI Conference.

Conference delegates enjoyed the stunning city views from the rooftop restaurant at Busaras during the opening reception on Sunday evening. This was a rare occasion to see Michael Scott’s masterpiece from 1946 featuring beautiful rooftop mosaics by Pat Scott.

2012 saw the first truly digital RIAI Conference with the RIAI (@RIAlonline), President Michelle Fagan (@RIAIPresident) and Architecture Ireland (@archireland) tweeting the event live and much of the debate and conversation taking place with the online community.

CONCLUSION
We know that architecture is exciting, interesting and relevant and hope that we can use the platforms and initiatives we have developed to continue to grow the numbers understanding the value and contribution of architects.
EDUCATION

101 new members admitted (Members/Arch. Tech./Arch. Grads)

Issue of RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Graduates of Level 8 Programmes in Architectural Technology and

20 candidates successfully completed the RIAI Examination in Professional Practice

RIAi Visiting Boards carried out 7 accreditation visits

Expanded CPD delivery, 21 courses titles provided

The Board of Architectural Education and the Education division of the RIAI completed considerable work in 2012 on the development of the RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Graduates of Level 8 Programmes in Architectural Technology and the RIAI Non Statutory Appeals Policy, both of which were published in 2012. RIAI Accreditation visits continued throughout 2012 and RIAI CPD delivery expanded relative to 2011. 2012 saw a further reduction/subvention in the price of RIAI CPD courses and the continuation of the RIAI CPD unwaged and hardship lotteries.

The Education Division of the RIAI is responsible for the development, with the BAE and Council, of RIAI Education and CPD Policy, development and delivery of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme at national and regional levels, implementation and development of the RIAI CPDEngage, monitoring and responding to the changing education needs of members, CPD funding, coordinating and delivering a comprehensive calendar of educational events.

The Board of Architectural Education exercises responsibility for all educational matters and for assessment of applicants for RIAI membership. The voluntary input of RIAI members, in terms of time, quality and intensity to the BAE, examinations, visiting boards and other educational activities is enormously valuable. Without it the Institute could not provide the services and support that it does to members and potential members alike.
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION
The Board of Architectural Education held seven Ordinary meetings in 2012.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE EXAMINATION
In the 2011/2012 cycle 41 candidates sat one or more stages of the RIAI Examination in Professional Practice. There were 26 candidates undertaking the final stage and 20 were successful. Briefing sessions for Examination Candidates and their Mentors and advisory sessions for final year students on examination and registration requirements, practical experience and career planning, were delivered as usual.

The Repeat Programme was started in 2009 for candidates who had failed their Case Study and Oral examination by a narrow margin. Only 1 candidate was eligible for the Repeat Programme in 2012 and the candidate was successful.

The RIAI Examination in Professional Practice has been in suspension since 1 March 2012. No further applications will be accepted after this date. Candidates wishing to apply to complete a Professional Practice Examination after 1 March 2012 should contact UCD or DIT. Further information is available in the Education section of the RIAI website.

EXEMPTION FROM THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE EXAMINATION
The Building Control Act 2007 provides a mechanism whereby those with ‘prescribed degrees’ i.e. provided and recognised in the Irish State, can seek an exemption from the professional practice examination on the basis of seven years professional experience and demonstration of the knowledge, skill and competence required.

Restriction of access to this exemption to those with Irish degrees alone, especially in the context of the high level of immigration of architectural graduates in the past ten to fifteen years and the fact that for years many Irish school leavers travelled to the UK to study architecture, seemed illogical and unfair. To ensure that the system is used by those working in the State, as opposed to becoming an opportunity to avoid assessment systems in the UK and beyond, those seeking exemption from the professional practice examination who did not qualify in Ireland must have undertaken four of the required seven years professional experience within the Irish State.
SCHOOLS OF ARCHITECTURE - SEVEN ACCREDITATION VISITS

RIAI Visiting Boards carried out seven accreditation visits during 2012:

- DIT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- WIT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- CCAE Architecture (M.Arch)
- LyIT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- Carlow IT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- Galway/Mayo IT Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- DIT Diploma in Professional Practice

TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP 2012

The theme of the Travelling Scholarship Competition for 2011-2012 was ‘Urban 2012’. The presentation and opening of exhibition took place on the 22nd November 2012 in Darc Space. A total of 90 entries were received from four schools of architecture. There was one winner and five commended entries. 19 other entries were selected for exhibition. The exhibition ran until the 30th November 2012. The brief for the 2012-2013 Travelling Scholarship Competition ‘Site at Grangegorman’ was also announced at the event on 22nd November. Forbo Ireland sponsored the competition.

REGISTRATION

The education division continued to contribute to the development and implementation of the RIAI admission procedures under the Building Control Act 2007 and Directive 2005/36/EC on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications. See the registration for more detail.

RIA STANDARD OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILL AND COMPETENCE FOR GRADUATES OF LEVEL 8 PROGRAMMES IN ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY

The Board of Architectural Education and the Education division of the RIAI completed considerable work on the development of the RIAI Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Graduates of Level 8 Programmes in Architectural Technology. The policy was issued to the schools of architectural technology for comment in early 2012 and following ratification by RIAI Council the standard was published on 18 September 2012.

RIA NON STATUTORY APPEALS POLICY

The Building Control Act 2007 provides for Appeals against the decisions of the Statutory Boards established under the Act. Statutory Appeals can be on procedural or substantive (disagreeing with the decision) grounds. The RIAI’s existing appeals procedures were in the traditional mould of relying on procedural grounds alone.
1. TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP
2. CPD ENGAGE / NETWROK CPD
3. CPD LINKS / CPD
4. CPD COURSE IN RIAI
To bring appeals procedures for RIAI decisions, in the Institute’s capacity as a Professional Body, into line with the statutory appeals process, a new RIAI Non-Statutory Appeals policy was developed and brought into effect by Council in July 2012. The policy covers:

1. RIAI examinations and assessments leading to membership of the RIAI (of any type);
2. RIAI assessments, including assessments involving partner organisations, leading to specialist accreditation;
3. Decisions of the Board of Architectural Education Admissions Committee as they relate to the membership application of an individual.

An Appeal may be made on the following grounds:

1. That there is evidence of irregularity in the conduct of the assessment which led to the Result.
2. That, on stated grounds, other than those provided for in Ground 1, the candidate believes the Result to be unreasonable.

The RIAI Non Statutory Appeals Guidance and Application Form is available to download from the RIAI website at http://www.riai.ie/education/riai_examinations/.

ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS
A Special Resolution passed at the RIAI AGM held on Thursday 27th September 2012 provided for a new class of member: Architectural Technologist Graduate. This resolution required extensive changes to the Articles of Association and the By-Laws. The Architectural Technologist graduate membership title was introduced in all RIAI documentation. Draft proposals for new Architectural Technologist Admission Routes and transitional arrangements were further developed.

CONSERVATION ACCREDITATION
The bi-annual call for applications for RIAI Conservation Architect Grade I and Grade II was issued in November 2011, with a submission deadline of February 2012.

The Conservation Accreditation Board received 17 applications for Conservation Accreditation at Grade 1 or Grade 2. Of these four applicants were awarded at
Conservation Accreditation at Grade 1 and six at Grade 2. Two applicants submitted an appeal to Conservation Accreditation Appeal Panel for consideration. The Conservation Accreditation Appeal Panel recommended to Council that one application for Conservation Accreditation at Grade 1 and one application for Conservations Accreditation at Grade 2 be accepted on appeal.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACCREDITATION
The RIAI Environmental CPD Accreditation was formally launched at the Annual Conference September 2012. Any MRIAI, FRIA, MRIAI IRL or RIAI (Arch.Tech) may apply for RIAI Environmental Accreditation. To achieve RIAI Environmental Accreditation a member must successfully complete two mandatory and one optional course from the suite of Environmental training courses offered by the RIAI. Accreditation can also be achieved via recognition of prior learning.

Members who achieve accreditation are issued with an RIAI Environmental CPD Accreditation Certificate and a soft copy of the RIAI Environmental CPD Accreditation mark which they can display on their emails, etc. An RIAI Practice may apply to display the accreditation symbol on their publicity materials, website etc. on the basis of the accreditation of at least one principal currently employed by the practice.

CPD
Architects on the Register of Architects and members of the RIAI of all categories continued to record and reflect on their CPD activities on RIAI CPDEngage throughout 2012.

A number of CPD guidance documents were updated on the basis of feedback from members and are available to view and/or download from the RIAI website:

- RIAI CPD FAQs
- A sample member’s CPD record
- Guidance on Evidence Items for Structured CPD

Over 40 members and practice newsletters were issued to all members and registered RIAI practices during 2012. These newsletters included information to members on CPD activities provided both by the
RIAI and third parties together with CPD support and updates on RIAI CPD Policy.

‘CPD ENGAGE’
RIAI CPDEngage continued to provide members with access to a range of online CPD including access to over 100 hours of free online structured CPD. The system provides details of upcoming courses by the RIAI and other training providers. It provides links to free and low-cost online structured CPD and links to useful documentation on a wide range of subject matters. CPD Engage allows members to plan, find, undertake, record and reflect on their CPD activities regardless of geographic location or time of day.

The RIAI continue to work with Aurion Learning Ltd., the developers of RIAI CPDEngage, to improve the user interface for the product based on member feedback.

RIAI COURSES
CPD delivery expanded in 2012 with some courses, particularly those relating to new legislation, delivered around the country in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Limerick.

PART L 2011 ROADSHOW
The final presentations on the implications for Members with the imminent introduction of TGD Part L 2011 continue in early 2012. Over 500 RIAI members attended the Roadshow presentations nationwide, and the RIAI acknowledged the contributions of the presenters whose expertise was much appreciated by the audiences. Presentations were researched by RIAI Members, Bill Scott, Bernard Gilna, Sinead Burke, Donal O’Donoghue and Frank Cooney. It was clearly identified at the Roadshows that there was a desire by Members to receive training on the use of DEAP, resulting in the development of a CPD programme by the RIAI.

CPD COURSES DELIVERED IN 2012 INCLUDED:
RIAI Good Practice Guide Quality Management Certification Scheme Pilot Training course
January 2012

RIAI Skillnet Part L Roadshow
December 2011 to February 2012
EDUCATION

RIAI Designing Low-Energy Domestic Refurbs
bi-monthly throughout 2012

RIAI Skillnet Technical Series 2012
10 fortnightly seminars

RIAI/DoES Primary School Design Series
6 seminars over six months

RIAI Healthcare Committee 5x10 Event
February 2-12

RIAI Building Fabric Design
bi-monthly throughout 2012

RIAI Expert Witness
April 2012

RIAI Safety By Design
bi-monthly throughout 2012

RIAI PSDP Accreditation
bi-monthly throughout 2012

RIAI DEAP Training
bi-monthly from July 2012

RIAI/DoES Post-Primary School Colloquium
December 2012

The Concept of fact-finding by Bruno Herbots
September 2012

Steven Ehrlich - Multicultural Modernism
September 2012

Information Session for Registered Architects, Cork
September 2012

RIAI Annual Conference, RDS, Dublin
September 2012

James L. Salmon BIM talk
October 2012

Western Region Technical Series
November 2012

Design Week Lectures
November 2012
‘Design for Mental Health’ Seminar
November 2012

RIAI Sustainable Fundamentals Reviewed
delivered online from December 2012

FREE AND LOW-COST CPD
The prices of RIAI courses were further reduced across the board and the RIAI ‘CPD Lottery’ continued to offer one free place to an unemployed member and one place at a fifty per cent discount to a member experiencing financial hardship on each RIAI CPD course held in 2012.

RIAI Newsletters continued to inform members of free or low-cost CPD opportunities and the over 100 hours of free online CPD activities were listed on CPD Engage.

RIAI CPD NETWORK
More companies and presentations were added to the ‘RIAi CPD Network’. RIAI Regional Representatives supported local practices in arranging group sessions for presentation on topics of particular interest.
The RIAI accredited eight new presentations, with 103 presentations available now to architects and architectural technologists free of charge. A full listing is available at: http://www.riai.ie/cpd/network-courses/

RIAI CPD LINKS
A number of new programmes were added to the RIAI CPD Links listing. The listing on the RIAI website is designed to provide RIAI members with better information on the range of CPD offered by other educational, professional and training organisations. To contact any of the training organisations below see http://www.riai.ie/cpd/links-courses/
COMPLIANCE


The RIAI appointed Fiona Ni Cheallaigh Solicitor as its new Compliance officer in October 2012. Ms Ni Cheallaigh comes to the RIAI with considerable experience in the area of professional regulation having worked in the Regulation Department of the Law Society of Ireland for the previous 6 years investigating complaints against Solicitors. Ms Ni Cheallaigh has responsibility for dealing with the Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board together with allegations relating to the misuse of title. Section 18 of the Act prohibits the use of the term “architect” unless the person using the title is registered with the RIAI. Anyone who uses the title “architect” and who is not registered can be prosecuted and if found guilty of this offence, can be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding €5000 or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 12 months or both.

From the beginning of her appointment, Ms Ni Cheallaigh commenced work on reviewing the draft code of conduct together with the draft rules for the Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board as provided for in section 61(3) of the Act, which work is still ongoing. Work has also begun in relation to dealing with complaints and allegations that have been made to the RIAI about the misuse of the title “architect”.

On 20 April 2012 RIAI Council established “Rules for Practice Titles made in accordance with section 18(6) of the Building Control Act 2007”. Section 18(6) of the Act specifically provides that the RIAI may make rules to ensure that a “body corporate, firm or partnership” wishing to “carry on business under a name style or title containing the word architect” must first provide evidence to the RIAI to confirm its right to do so (i.e. the business, so far as it relates to architecture, is under the control and management of a registered professional and in all premises where its business relating to architecture is carried on, it is by or under the supervision of a registered professional). These rules form part of the RIAI’s function with regard to use and
misuse of the title architect. These rules facilitate the RIAI’s function in ensuring that practices, as well as individuals, comply with the law when it comes to use of the title architect.

The Minister for the Environment Community and Local Government made his nominations in relation to both the Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board in October 2012. The RIAI Council formally appointed those members to the Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board at its meeting on 9th November 2012. Council of the RIAI made its nominations and those nominated were formally appointed on 14th December 2012.

The Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board therefore came into existence on 7th January 2013.

THE PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE consists of a chairperson and 11 ordinary members, the latter who are appointed as follows:

- 5 Architects nominated for appointment by the Registration Body.
- 6 who are not architects – 5 of whom are nominated for appointment by the Minister for the Environment Community and Local Government and 1 of whom is nominated for appointment by the Minister with the consent of the Minister for Enterprise Trade and Employment.
- The Act stipulates that the chairperson is a legally qualified person.

THE APPEALS BOARD consists of a chairperson and 5 ordinary members, the latter who appointed as follows:

- 2 Architects nominated for appointment by the Registration Body, neither of whom shall be a member of any other Board or Committee established under Part 3 of the Act.
- 3 person who are not architects – 2 of whom are nominated for appointment by the Minister for the Environment Community and Local Government and one of whom is nominated for appointment by the Minister with the consent of the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and again cannot be a member of any other Board or Committee established under Part 3 of the Act.
- The Act stipulated that the chairperson is a legally qualified person.

After the first term of the office of the Professional Conduct Committee and the Appeals Board, the persons nominated by the RIAI shall be chosen for the purposes of the nomination by means of an election in accordance with the terms of the bye – laws made by the RIAI.

Any person may make a complaint to the Professional Conduct Committee concerning a registered architect which is alleged to amount to professional misconduct or poor professional performance.

A person adversely affected by a decision of the Admissions Board, the Technical Assessment Board or the Professional Conduct Committee may appeal to the Appeals Board against the decision which appeal must be lodged within 3 months after the date of the decision being appealed against was made. An appeal may be based on either procedural or substantive grounds.
BESt PUBLIC BUILDING WINNER 2012
WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL, WEXFORD
ROBIN LEE ARCHITECTURE IN ASSOCIATION WITH ARTHUR GIBNEY PARTNERS
COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS AND PRACTICES

By seeking early advice from the RIAI, many of the Member’s difficulties can be resolved, or a procedure can be established to mitigate risks of serious contractual difficulties with clients, local authorities and building contracts. There is a considerable body of knowledge from the RIAI Director, Practice Director, the Practice Committee, the Historic Building Committee, Accessibility Task Force, and Sustainability Task Force, available to the Membership: prevention is the best medicine.

Although Members’ problems and difficulties will vary from year to year, there are common underlying issues, mostly during the administration of building contracts, difficulties with contractors, determining a contract, certification and opinions on compliance.

Members’ problems tend to more acute in a recession as a number of factors relating to procedures and decision making, need careful consideration. Casual decision making combined with non-standard procedures can create allegations of negligence and incompetence, resulting in notifications to the Professional Indemnity Insurers.

Contractual difficulties prominently featured in requests for advice, in particular relating to interim certification, over certification, non-payment of certificates, practical completion, disputed defects lists, client interference, cost overrun, contract time overrun, and application of liquidated and ascertained damages. Members’ advice is frequently sought on planning and building regulation, appropriate use of building contracts and warranties, the vetting of letters on behalf of Members, to clients, client’s legal advisors, and contractors. Advice on obtaining Professional Indemnity Insurance, insurance levels, notifications, wording of bespoke conditions of engagement and warranties and risk management based on analysis of current claim trends. Throughout the year the RIAI has obtained legal advice for benefit of Members and the general Membership.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH CLIENTS

Confidential advice is frequently sought by clients regarding perceived difficulties they have with their Architect; normally it is the inexperienced client who seeks advice on the detail of their agreement with the Member, contractual obligations under the building contract and general procedures during the construction stage. Generally clients are satisfied when issues are discussed confidentially, which can
be regarded as a form of mediation and is greatly appreciated by clients. Occasionally complaints are made against Members, however early discussions by clients with the RIAI have prevented complaints being made, complaints of which the Member would not have been aware.

**CHANGES AND UPDATES TO RIAI DOCUMENTS**

There were no changes in 2012 to the five RIAI Client/Architect Agreements, however there were changes to three RIAI building contracts. The RIAI building contracts, the Articles of Agreement with quantities (yellow) and without quantities (blue) were up-dated in 2012. The changes to the contract were made in consultation with the Liaison Committee to the Construction Industry. The principle changes and omissions are described on the RIAI and Liaison Committee web sites.

The small RIAI building works contract SF88 was revised by Practice sub-committee C and the contract is now dated 2012. The advice note on the application of the form is contained within loose leaf Appendix 1.

**GCCS AND CONTRACT PERFORMANCE BONDS**

Irish Contractors in 2012 had difficulty in obtaining contract performance bonds of 25% of the value of the building contract sum. Bondmen were unwilling to underwrite such bonds because of the recession in the Irish construction industry and the number of bonds which were called in when contractors went into liquidation. Furthermore, on GCCC building project, the requirement for re-tendering when a contractor goes into liquidation during a project placed increased financial burdens on underwriters.

The matter was resolved by the issue by the GCCC with a reduced requirement in the value of the bond from 25% to 12.5%.

**WATERFORD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION**

The RIAI Practice and Education Director made a presentation to the Architectural Technologists Educators Forum at Waterford Institute of Technology on the future role for Technologists, when the Building Control (Amendment) Regulations 2013 come into force. The presentation focused on the particular skill set of Technologists in providing a service to Assigned
Certifiers as sub-certifiers, testers and inspectors under the BC(A)R 2013.

**SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE DIT PRESENTATION**

The RIAI Assistant Director and the Practice Director, at the request of the School of Architecture in DIT, made a presentation to graduate students who were preparing for their Professional Practice Examination. These were the first DIT students to sit these exams in DIT, which is a similar procedure to the School of Architecture in UCD. Graduate architectural students passing these examinations qualify for their Professional Practice Examination, Membership of the RIAI and the Register of Architects set up under the Building Control Act 2007.

**LIAISON COMMITTEE TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

The Liaison Committee comprises the RIAI, SCSI, Engineers Ireland, ACEI and the CIF. The committee was formed to agree changes to the RIAI Articles of agreement and the Code of Practice for Tendering and Contractual Matters, published in 2006. In 2012, the committee through consultation, agreed changes and omissions to the RIAI Articles of Agreement –Yellow, and also similar changes to the –Blue form. Explanatory notes on the changes and omissions were also prepared by the RIAI and these notes are available both on the RIAI and Liaison web sites.

**CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COUNCIL**

The Construction Industry Council was formed to consolidate the views of the construction professionals, including the RIAI, the Building Materials Federation and the CIF, and to present a common voice to the Irish Government on matters relating to the construction industry.

In 2012 the CIC published a report called “Construction Industry Council – Building Our Future Together” which made 5 important recommendations to Government. The report is an up-dated submission based on the 2009 CIC report called ”Jobs and Infrastructure – A Plan for National Recovery” which made proposals to save 70,000 jobs in the construction industry.

Three years on, this report sets out in summary the developments that have taken place in the construction industry over that period of time.
A copy of the report and previous CIC reports can be viewed on www.constructionindustry.ie

**PROCUREMENT – CORRESPONDENCE WITH PROCURERS FOR PUBLIC WORKS**

Some RIAI Practices and Members contact the RIAI about public procurement requirements set out in tender documents for architectural services. For the most part, they regard themselves as small medium enterprises and believe they are excluded, or cannot qualify, because of onerous or restrictive conditions of the tender.

When the assistance of the RIAI is requested the RIAI will write to the procurer to bring forward, albeit anonymously the complaint. The RIAI seek the removal of these onerous or restrictive conditions and in many cases they were successful. In other instances, tenders were withdrawn and new tenders sought with modified conditions and requirements.

**FORFÁS IRELAND**

Forfás Ireland were requested to prepare a report on “Ireland’s Construction Sector: Outlook and Strategy Plan to 2015.” The main “stakeholders” in the construction industry were invited to participate in “round table” discussions and the RIAI participated in the process. The topics on the agenda were far ranging, the main headings included:

- Availability of Finance; Confidence; Industry Oversight/Governance; Government Contracts (introduced in 2007) & Procurement Process; Costs/Competitiveness
- Planning Process; Development of the Sector (capability & capacity to deliver); Internationalisation Opportunities

The “stakeholders” were very frank in their discussions and each topic was well expanded covering the general, and the particular. A follow up meeting is to be held in the New Year, prior to the presentation of the report to the Minister and the Cabinet.

**CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS BILL**

A Bill supported by Senator Fergal Quinn called “The Construction Contracts Bill” was being drafted in 2012. The purpose of the Bill is to provide a mechanism for payment of disputed amounts of money in building contracts, or any other form of contract related to
the construction industry, including disputes between Client and Architects. The Bill in its simplest form is similar to legislation in the UK which has operated for more than a decade. A dispute between two parties is referred to an Adjudicator, appointed from a panel, who within a 28 day period, extendable to 40 days in some circumstances, makes a judgement and an award to one of the parties in the dispute. It is felt that this Adjudication process will speed up the payment process under building contracts, in particular between main contractors and sub-contractors. How this form of dispute resolution will affect the administration and workings of building contracts remains to be seen, and how it will affect interim and final certification of monies.

Two master classes were held including site visits with participation by Merrit Bucholz in UCC, Denis Brereton on Diageo and Denis Byrne on the new Bord Gais Networks.

IGBC is a joint organiser of the “Better Building Conference” now an annual event. Major contributions to the 2012 were made by RIAI President Michelle Fagan, Ger Carthy, Joseph Little, Dermot Boyd, Brian Kavanagh, Vivienne Brophy, Bill Scott and James Walsh.

THE RIAI COMMITTEES WITHIN THE PRACTICE DIVISION

THE RIAI PRACTICE COMMITTEE
The structure of the Practice Committee continued to be implemented as initiated in 2011. The Practice Committee now comprises 9 subcommittees, each with their list of specific tasks and deadlines. Sub-Committee A: deals with Planning. Sub-Committee B: deals with Building Regulations. Sub-Committee C: deals with Contracts, Certification and Dispute Resolution. Sub-Committee D: deals with the Good Practice Guide. Sub-Committee E: deals with Communications with
the Membership. Sub-Committee F: deals with CPD Technical and Business. Sub-Committee G: deals with RIAI Agreements and Documentation. Sub-Committee H: deals with Procurement. Sub-Committee I: deals with Building Information Modelling.

Topics for the Committee during 2012 include: RIAI Planning survey; New Part B of the Building Regulations; revised RIAI building contract SF88; RIAI Survey of Practices on the GCCC re change orders; Disability Access Certificates and DCC; RIAI Good Practice Guide 5th edition on-line; re-commencement of the RIAI Technical and Business series; Public Procurement difficulties; BIM workshops with CITA and a BIM stimulus package; The Building Control(Amendment) Regulations 2012; RIAI Quality Management System and Contract Performance Bonds.

RIAI SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE
The STF considered and discussed, the “Green Deal”, Building Regulations and Planning reform, the Part L Roadshow, ventilation and TGD Part F and health and safety issues, Building Regulations Part B, material alteration re Part L- advice from DECLG, Framework for Sustainability Development for Ireland, STF and DCC Heritage work group, participation in the SEAI Energy Show and the IGBC “Better Building Conference”, DNGB (German environmental labelling) “participation in “See the Light” conference, RIAI Sustainability Accreditation, paper on “Rights to Light” for renewables, Post Occupancy Evaluation, Working with your Architect- sustainable issues, Bream, LEED, Fit Out ratings, OPW and Green Procurement, publication of articles for Architecture Ireland.

In December 2012 the STF held an “open” meeting, with presentations on the role of the STF; CPD; Planning/Settlements; Knowledge/Education and future work of the RIAI STF.

RIAI HOUSING COMMITTEE
Various matters were discussed and papers were prepared for the benefit of the RIAI Membership including; RIAI Policy Statement on Housing; the joint DECLG/RIAI Housing Conference; DCC and the RIAI Pre 63 proposal; the Building Regulations Advisory Board of which Paul Kelly is a representative; Housing standards for rented accommodation; RIAI Part L Roadshow;
Passive House presentation by John Morehead; Pyrite; DECLG and Local Area Plans; Irish Manual for Streets; Dublin Transport Policy; Fingal LAPS for Villages; MUDs Owner’s Manual and the Law Society; RIAI Submission on TGD Part B; Housing Standards for Storage and Utility Spaces; Swedish report on external wall insulation failures; Dublin City Council and DACs; S. Manning’s paper on additional cost of complying with Part L 2010 for domestic dwellings.

The RIAI Housing Committee “open” meeting was held in May 2012, and was attended by 25 Members. Five presentations were made by the Housing Committee; RIAI Policy on Housing; RIAI Initiative on a Pre 63 Study of areas in Dublin City Council; Sustainability and Housing; Urban Regeneration Projects by DCC, and Current Standards relating to Housing. Three of the attendees subsequently joined the Housing Committee.

**RIA I ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE**

The “open” meeting of the RIAI ATF was held early in the year in February, which facilitated a change in the Membership by the introduction of new Members, who attended the “open” meeting.

Presentations in February were on: The International Perspective; Disability Access Certificates; Access in Domestic Work; Access to Historic Public Buildings. The ATF workload for 2012 included: The RIAI Award for the Best Accessible Building, The Schindler Award for European Schools of Architecture Competition, Local Government Management Services Board Committee on DACs, Review of Part B of the Building Regulations, Framework for Sustainable Development for Ireland, NDA Conference on the World report on Disability, Kevin Comiskey working on the UIA web site, Review of the DES Primary School Brief, issues relating to DACs, The Irish Building Control Officer’s Conference and the presentation by Michael Mohan, Research into Accessible Sporting Facilities and Institutional Building Category in the Building Regulations.

**RIA I DESIGN FOR EDUCATION GROUP**

The Committee has been very active in preparing advice, not just to Members and Practice, but also to the Department of Education and Skills. Topics and Seminars include; a Primary School Seminar with special guests, invited from outside the RIAI; the RIAI Travelling Scholarship; a Colloquium for 2012 focused on the
Post Primary School; PPPs; Procurement of Architectural Services; Seminars in February, March, April, May and June on varying school topics. Negotiations with DES on procurement issues continued in 2012.

**RIAI HISTORIC BUILDING COMMITTEE**

The Committee discussed the following during the year: RIAI Conservation Guidelines; Conservation Accredited Induction Module; CPD programme for 2012; Review of the HBC views on the RIAI Silver Medal for Conservation/Restoration; proposed changes to the Building Regulations; the merits of Accoya wood for historic window repairs; Client/Architect Agreement for Conservation/Restoration Work; Conservation Accreditation; vacant posts for Conservation Officers; HBC Committee and Membership.

**RIAI HEALTHCARE DESIGN COMMITTEE**

The Committee in 2012 discussed: Membership of the Committee, Publication in Architecture Ireland; a future Healthcare Seminar – Mental Health and Primary Care; an “Open” Healthcare Design Committee meeting for 2012. The “Open” meeting took place in September 2012 and presentations and discussions revolved around the role and purpose of the Healthcare Design Committee; a review of recent typical events; proposed Seminar on Design for Mental Health and suggested future events.

**RIAI URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE**

The committee discussed the proposed RIAI Urban Design Colloquium and the RIAI Urban Design CPD programme and Urban Design Accreditation.

**RIAI SUBMISSIONS ON VARIOUS CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

- Submission by the RIAI on the Draft Local Area Plan Guidelines Consultation Document June 2012.


- RIAI Submission to the Public Consultation on Framework for Sustainable Development February 2012 published by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.
- RIAI Submission on Proposed Changes to Part B of the Building Regulations.


THE PRACTICE COMMITTEE CONSULTED WITH OUTSIDE BODIES INCLUDING:

FINANCIAL REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

€273,000
subvention for Annual Charges

€104,840
operating deficit

33%
of turnover from Annual and Practice Charges

2012 was the third year in over a decade that the RIAI operated at a loss; €104,840 being deducted from reserves (€131,248 loss in 2011). The difficult economic climate continues to impact on all areas of the RIAI.

The RIAI Council has approved the executives’ strategy of using the reserves

- To subvent the annual charges for registrants and members

- To invest in long term initiatives to further the objectives of the organisation

- To support the development of the systems and supports required to implement the organisations responsibilities under the Building Control Act 2007

RIAI turnover deceased by 3.3% with reductions in income from Annual Charges, the OPW Graduate Scheme, Seminars, Insurance Commission, and the Professional Practice Exam. It should be noted that this decrease was somewhat offset by a once-off Corporation Tax Refund and an increase in Competition turnover. Focus continued on reducing overall expenditure, which decreased by 4.0% this was mainly due to reduced expenditure on Seminars, Professional Tax Advice, the Annual Review publication, and on Architecture Ireland. In addition, the RIAI achieved a large number of smaller cost reductions across various other activities.

Investment continued in the promotion of Architecture through RIAI’s participation in and funding of the Simon Open Door, the RDS Ideal Homes Exhibition, the
National Ploughing Championship, and the Biennale Venice. Resources were invested in developing stronger lines of communication to ensure that Architects and Technologists are provided with timely relevant information, and that the RIAI can communicate with its stakeholders and the general public in a more effective manner. The second phase of the redevelopment of the RIAI database was a substantial expenditure item in 2012. This sizeable investment is required to meet registration responsibilities. The RIAI’s visit to Shanghai to promote Irish architecture internationally, partly funded by the Department of Arts, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht, was a significant part of the RIAI’s internationalisation programme.

Focus also continued on expanding the educational supports for Architects and Technologists and on developing new low cost accessible CPD courses.

The RIAI policy of maintaining a broad range of funding activities, with Annual Charges, Member Charges and Practice Registration Charges contributing to 33% of turnover, continues to be pursued. The overall financial position of the RIAI remains strong, despite the loss in 2012, with the retention of a more than adequate level of reserves and unencumbered assets. Strict monitoring of the financial aspects of all activities will continue to be pursued by the Executive, together with strategic guidance from the RIAI Council.

The Directors of the company for 2013 are:

The Directors of the company for 2012 were:
**THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF IRELAND**
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE WITHOUT SHARE CAPITAL)**

**REVENUE ACCOUNT**
For the year ended 31 December 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual charges and other operating income</td>
<td>3,177,297</td>
<td>3,286,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td>(3,282,137)</td>
<td>(3,417,870)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deficit for the year before taxation</strong></td>
<td>(104,840)</td>
<td>(131,248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deficit for the year after taxation</strong></td>
<td>(104,840)</td>
<td>(131,248)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements were approved by our auditors BDO, and subsequently authorised and approved for issue by the Council Members on 17 June 2013.

*Fionnuala Rogerson*  
Council Member

*Orla Fitz Gerald*  
Council Member and Honorary Treasurer
THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF IRELAND
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE WITHOUT SHARE CAPITAL)

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 December 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
<td>2,120,828</td>
<td>2,137,470</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>67,545</td>
<td>65,493</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>359,602</td>
<td>153,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>1,840,905</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>1,178,305</td>
<td>3,352,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)</td>
<td>(635,430)</td>
<td>(672,427)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,446,357</td>
<td>3,571,552</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,931,755</td>
<td>5,036,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital and Reserves</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Account</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revaluation Reserve</td>
<td>3,710,512</td>
<td>3,815,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Reserves</td>
<td>1,195,333</td>
<td>1,195,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25,910</td>
<td>25,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,931,755</td>
<td>5,036,595</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements were approved by our auditors BDO, and subsequently authorised and approved for issue by the Council Members on 17 June 2013.

Fionnuala Rogerson
Council Member

Orla Fitz Gerald
Council Member and Honorary Treasurer
TASK FORCES AND COMMITTEES

PRACTICE COMMITTEE
John Mitchell
Brian Kavanagh
Rob McCauley
Shane Santry
Jude O’Loughlin
Michael Grace
Dan Daye
Ralph Montague
Joe Miller

HOUSING COMMITTEE
Mick McDonagh
Ailbhe Cullen
Darragh Lynch
David Byrne
Derry Solon
Joe Miller
Kieran Gallagher
Michael Crowe
Michael Landers
Michelle Fagan
John Morehead
Paul Kelly

ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE
Helge Koester, Chair
Ruth C. O’Reilly
Mark Costello
Isoilde Dillon
Maol Íosa Molloy
John Sugars
Aoife Ferris
Joe Miller, Practice Director
Michael Mohan
Fionnuala Rogerson
Catriona Shaffrey
Rebecca Ryan
Angela Rolfe

SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE
Bernard Gilna, Chair
William Scott
Paddy de Roe
Sally Starbuck
Frank Cooney
Marcus Donaghy
Pierce Fahy
Susan Cogan
Sinead Burke
Pat Kirwan
Darragh Lynch

>>>
HISTORIC BUILDINGS COMMITTEE
Jimmy O’ Connor  James A O’ Connor Associates
Mark Costello  Conservation Architect
Susan Roundtree  Dublin City Council
David Young  Hamilton Young Architects
Grainne Shaffrey  RIAI Council Representative
Nicki Matthews  Dublin City Council
Kevin Blackwood  Blackwood Associates
John Redmill  John Redmill Architects
Cathal Crimmins  Cathal Crimmins Architects
Jacqui Donnelly  Conservation Architect DoE
Alastair Lindsay  Conservation Architect
Bernard Gilna  Sustainability Task Force RIAI
Susan Cogan  Sustainability Task Force RIAI
Padraig Murray  Conservation Architect
Fionnuala May  Fingal County Council

URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE
Martin Colreavy
Alan Mee
David Dwyer
Derbile McDonagh
Grainne Shaffrey
Jim Pike
Paul Altman

DESIGN FOR EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Michael Mullen
Michael Grace
Paddy Fletcher
Jim Coady
Tom O’Connor
Paul Keogh
Joe Miller
David O’Connor
Ralph Bingham
Michael Williams
Sheila O’Donnell
Martin Donnelly
Mary Duggan
Michelle Fagan
Eamonn Greville
Michael Mullen
Siobhán Ní Eanaigh
DESIGN FOR HEALTH COMMITTEE
Sean Mahon (Chair)
Donal Blake
Hugh Campbell
Lizette Connolly
Brian Cullen
Paul de Freine
Aidan Healy
Eleanor Masterson
Esmonde O’Brien
Fionnuala Rogerson

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Sean Fogarty, Chair
Eoin O’Cofaigh
Fionnuala Rogerson
Grainne Shaffrey
John Graby
Margaret O’Flanagan
Owen Lewis
Padraig Murray
Selma Harrington
Toal Ó Muiré
Peter Hanna

ARCHITECTURE IRELAND EDITORIAL BOARD
Michelle Fagan, President
Stephen Best
Dermot Boyd
Peter Carroll
Miriam Dunn
John Graby
Sinead Hughes
Kathryn Meghen
Gary Mongey
Sandra O’Connell
Ruth O’Herlihy
Jason O’Shaughnessy
Gráinne Shaffrey
Liam Tuite

RIAI ANNUAL REVIEW BOARD
Michelle Fagan, President
Dermot Boyd
John Graby
Paul Keogh
Kathryn Meghen
Sandra O’Connell
RIAI VISITING BOARDS 2012

WIT
BSC(ORDINARY) ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY (LEVEL 7)
Bernadette Solon (Chair)
Jack Coughlan
Deirdre Lennon
Deirdre Kelly
Joe Byrne
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)

DIT
BSC(ORDINARY) ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY (LEVEL 7)
John Mitchell (Chair)
Matt Carroll
Martin Haren
John Kennedy
Patricia Brady
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)

CARLOW IT
BSC(ORDINARY) ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY (LEVEL 7)
Eddie Conroy (Chair)
Angela Rolfe
David Smyth
Niall Kerney
Conor Finnegan
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)

DIT
PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA IN ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE (LEVEL 9)
Liam Egan (Chair)
Grainne Shaffrey
Anne Fletcher
Robin Mandal
Martin Donnelly
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)

CCAE - M. ARCH (LEVEL 8)
Patrick Flynn (Chair)
Jack Coughlan
Eddie Conroy
Grainne Shaffrey
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)

GMIT
B.SC(ORDINARY) ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY (LEVEL 7)
John Mitchell (Chair)
Bernadette Solon
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)

LETTERKENNY IT
B.SC(ORDINARY) ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY (LEVEL 7)
Jack Coughlan (Chair)
John Kennedy
Richard Rice (RIAI Accreditation Process Advisor)
As well as RIAI Committees and Work Groups, members provided a voice and advocacy for architecture in a wide range of areas, including nationally, at EU level and internationally.

**ARCHITECTURE, URBANISM AND DESIGN**
- Irish Architectural Archive
- Irish Architecture Foundation
- Design Ireland
- DEHLG/RIAI Sustainable Communities and Housing Committee
- Urban Forum
- Government Policy on Architecture
- Green Building Council

**INDUSTRY AND PROFESSIONAL**
- Building Regulations Advisory Board
- Construction Industry Council
- Construction Advisory Committee
- Construction Safety Partnership
- Construction Industry Standards Committee
- Irish Agrement Board
- Inter-Professional Group
- Liaison Committee of the Construction Industry
- Local Government Management Services Board
- National Construction and Demolition Waste Council
- National Disease Surveillance Centre
- RIAI Insurances Limited
- Timber Consultative Committee
- Construction Industry Technology Alliance

**REGIONAL GROUPS**
- London Group
- Eastern Region
- Limerick Forum
- Dublin Forum
- Southern Region
- Western Region

**REGISTRATION**
- Regulators Forum
- Fitness to Practice Forum
EU
Architects Council of Europe Work Groups
Cost Information Systems
Environment and Sustainable Architecture
Procurement
Professional Experience
Trade Services
Finance
Regulatory Questions and Issues
Professional Qualifications Directive
European Forum for Architectural Policies (EFAP)
European Network of Architectural Competent Authorities

INTERNATIONAL
International Union of Architects (UIA)
Architecture for All/Accessibility (UIA)
Work Programme for Heritage (UIA)
International Council for Monuments and Sites

LOCAL AUTHORITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES
Dublin City Council
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
Fingal County Council
Kilkenny County Council
Leitrim County Council
Limerick County Council
Mayo County Council
Monaghan County Council
Waterford County Council