



MINUTES OF MEETING FOR 76th EC MEETING

Date: 15th December 2018

Time: 2.40pm

Venue: Chennai

Executive Council Members Present

Sridevi Rao	Hon. Vice President
Nidhi Madan	Hon. Secretary
Jitendra Pawgi	Hon. Treasurer
Avadhoot Kumthekar	Fellow Member
Asok Kumar	Associate Member
Dwaipayan Bhattacharya	Associate Member
Maithily Velangi	Co-opted Member

Chapter Representatives

Anju Bareja	Mumbai
Jasleen Waraich	Delhi NCR
K. Senthil Kumar	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry
Narasimham.V.V.L.	Hyderabad
Rohini Prasad	Kerala
Vikas Bhosekar	Maharashtra

Special Invites

Sebastian Jose	Kerala Conference Convenor
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Executive Council Members Not Present

Sujata Kohli	Hon. President
Rohit Marol	Past President
Swati Sahasrabudhe	Fellow Member
Bobby Sujansingani	Gujarat Chapter Representative
Nina Chandawarkar	Bangalore Chapter Representative

Hon. Vice President Sridevi Rao presided over the meeting.

1 EDUCATION BOARD

- a. Approval of recommended PG courses in LA by EB
 - I. L.S. Raheja College of Architecture, Mumbai
 - II. VIT's PVP College of Architecture, Pune
 - III. Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute, Chennai

The EC unanimously approved the recommendations for recognition of all three institutions, and agreed to the stipulation of the EB to host a teachers training program with ISOLA for its post graduate faculty/ research symposium.

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Since LSRCoA is a three year program, the membership portal is being updated to accommodate this change, since all other programs are of a two year duration and the system is set up accordingly. It was agreed that since LSR students had registered for the conference as non-ISOLA student members, they will be given a refund and their registration changed to ISOLA student member if they become members by the end of January.

Maithily Velangi inquired about the pending recognition of MSRIT, Bangalore. So far, no documentation has been received. Nidhi Madan to verify with EB.

Maithily also inquired about the options open to landscape architects, who graduated from post graduate programs that no longer exist, such as UVCE, Bangalore. Since typically individual members cannot apply for membership if their college where they completed their post-graduation in landscape architecture, the issue will have to be reviewed by the EB.

Fifteen Colleges offer LA. Eight are recognized by ISOLA.

Jasleen Waraich and Jitendra Pawgi suggested the possibility of an exam for those graduating as landscape architects. She highlighted the need for more colleges to teach landscape architecture.

Documentation submitted for the EC review and approval, sent by email to all members, had not been studied yet, and there were no comments. Chapter representatives requested more time to review the documents with their local EB members to better understand the process and recommendations. It was agreed that all comments be submitted by January 15th, so that these long pending recommendations can be accepted by the next EC meeting in February.

b. Definition of Landscape Architect¹

ISOLA's India centric Landscape Architecture Definition to be visible on ISOLA website. EC members to revert with suggestions.

c. Eligibility standards and procedures²

EC members to revert with suggestions.

d. Teaching LA in B. Arch.³

Anju Bareja proposed that these guidelines be reviewed with colleges who teach landscape architecture, and to start with they be optional not mandatory. EB ISOLA website can offer modules for 8 topics of importance or those with commonalities with our profession. Teaching needs to be standardized.

e. EB Workshop Final Report⁴ & it's recommendations

- I. Resource Centre
- II. Workshops for LA teaching faculty

Standardization of workshops and content was one suggestion, along with modules of teaching being set up. CoA TTP focus may be different. Jasleen Waraich highlighted the acute shortage of landscape architects in the field and its inherent problems in practice.

- III. EB needs to do
- IV. ISOLA- Resource Centre
- V. ISOLA- Students' Forum

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f. Contributions to Resource Centre⁵

Recommendations were commended and encouraged.

K. Senthil Kumar informed the EC that the Corporation of Chennai has issued a notification wherein landscape architecture fees will be 7.5% of costs for all their projects. This was a positive move, and it was suggested that other chapters take it up in their respective states. Notification in Tamil, and a translation to be shared with the EC.

2 MoUs

Next steps -JNFAU

Proposed – Institutional (BNCA/ CEPT/ SPAD/ SPAB)

Organizations- IGBC/ AP/ CoA

The EC was informed that a MoU has been signed with JNFAU, Hyderabad. This is the first institutional MoU signed, and others should follow, particularly with those that have shown interest, including BNCA and MGR.

IGBC too has shown interest in setting up a MoU with ISOLA, following the successful seminar hosted by them in collaboration with ISOLA in Hyderabad the previous month. They are willing to host and support events with ISOLA inputs in the future too.

At the same event, the M.D. of A.P. Urban Greening & Beautification Corporation Ltd, Vijayawada had also showed interest in ISOLA becoming advisory partner to the corporation for their ongoing landscape/ site development works in Amravati through a MoU.

ISOLA will need to develop three different MoUs for institutions (done), organisations and agencies accordingly.

3 KERALA CONFERENCE

- a. Updates
- b. Parallel Meetings
- c. Budget

The Kerala Institute of Local Administration contacted the chapter to support the Kecheri river development through expert advice and support. IIA and ISOLA are also working on the Rebuild Kerala after the flood initiative, with 2 ISOLA members nominated - Rajesh George and Ganga Krishnan. Survey has been done.

Benjamin Thotayal will host a workshop in January. He may be considered as a speaker too, since a speaker has dropped out.

Prior to the conference, a press meet will be organised in the first week of February. Another press conference will be held at 10.30am or thereabouts on the 14th of February. The same day the EC meeting will be held along with EB members from 2.00-4.00pm followed by another with chapter managing committees from 4.00-7.00. This will be followed by a members' meeting and the pre-conference dinner.

So far, there are 339 registrations. Restricting registrations was discussed, as more than 400 registrations would require a hike in expenses. Further, the inclusion of dinner for students

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and the expenses related to it were discussed, as were complaints from vendors at Pune of too many students. This needs to be addressed in the next conference. It was agreed to stop online registrations on 30th January.

The post conference tours have been rescheduled to earlier in the day from 7.00-3.30pm, to accommodate delegates leaving that night.

4 ISOLA AWARDS

a. Award process

Avadhoot Kumthekar and Asokkumar talked about the award process. The overlap of dates – with the registration, payment window and submission window open currently, went well with no major glitches. As in previous years, most registrations and entry uploads happened at the last minute, a number in the last 6 minutes.

Usually there is a drop in numbers of entries (after registrations), but this year was less so. There were 40 entries received, none in the medal and landmark categories. Three entries were received by email due to upload issues. Joy to be informed to ensure a seamless upload in the future, if it is system related, and not due to slow internet connectivity i.e.

b. Travel and accommodation reimbursement for Jury

After extensive discussion, it was agreed by all present that no travel reimbursement be made to awardees or jury members. As ISOLA members, awardees will register themselves, but will be provided accommodation during the conference.

Jurors will be offered complimentary registration and accommodation. For the Kerala conference the dates will be 14th-16th February 2019.

5 NASA

a. Zonal NASA Workshops

The zonal NASA workshops set up by ISOLA were conducted by Shishir Raval (Kerala), TM Chengappa (Tumkur, Karnataka) and Sachin Jain (Chandigarh) at short notice for one or two days. They were all set up by the moderator and coordinated by Maithily Velangi. They were all well received.

Feedback received from NASA included a request for more hands-on workshops, and less lectures in the future. Maithily will set up a standard template to review for future workshops.

6 FINANCIAL ISSUES PENDING

a. Transfer of funds

b. Accounting workshop

A brief discussion on financial issues revolved around how much to get donors to pay, possibility of a Delhi chapter newsletter funded by donors and shared issues of chapters regarding vendors/ donors who don't pay or act up. These will be discussed further in the chapter meeting at the Kochi conference.

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7 CHAPTER EVENTS

Maharashtra conducted their first chapter event- Walk Talk and Watch the previous weekend, and Delhi chapter an event on Cultural Landscapes.

8 NEWSLETTER

- a. Kolkata (2018 second half)

Dwaipayan to prepare the next newsletter.

9 NEXT EC MEETING

The next EC meeting is scheduled for 14th February 2018 at Kochi from 2-7pm.

Documents sent for review prior to the meeting

1. *Definition of Landscape Architects*
2. *Eligibility Standards and Procedures for Post Graduate Programs In Landscape Architecture*
3. *Teaching LA in B. Arch*
4. *EB Workshop Final Report*
5. *Contributions to Resource Centre*
6. *Suggestions for Social Media*

Prepared by:

Nidhi Madan

Honorary Secretary