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NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

PRESIDENTS REPORT

22 FEBRUARY 1981

I do not intend in this my final report as President to cover all aspects of Institute affairs as many of these will be discussed in more detail later in the meeting. My intention is simply to outline where I feel that the Institute has got to over the last year, to comment on one or two areas of concern and to look just briefly at future needs.

1980 began with a continuation of the house keeping programme which commenced in 1979 and in many respects the results of this are just becoming obvious. The revised Constitution, Statement of Philosophy, standard format for documentation, and the new look 'Cuttings' are cases in point. As time and finance permits this list will no doubt be added to. Amongst the priorities are Professional Conduct, the Strategy Plan and day to day operating policies.

The period of self examination which began at Nelson Lakes and was extended to Christchurch last year was I believe an important phase in our development. Since then the current Conference Committee have been working towards our first public platform for a number of years. Surely one of the most important objectives for 1981 must be to build on the opportunities which now present themselves as a result of this effort. In many respects we have gone full circle since our last public conference but I feel that the benefits that accrue from self education of this nature are important to the growth of the profession and the public alike.

As always, election time even within the Institute heightens interest and provides the opportunity for an injection of new ideas. The diversity of age and experience in the new Executive, plus the fact that it is now composed predominately of those from the private sector, is to me an indication of growth. It should concern members however that some regions have not been able to establish or maintain a presence on Exec inspite of the travel assistance that is now built into the operating structure.

Institute membership generally continues to expand but there are aspects of it which continue to cause dismay. While the matter of a broadened membership will again be discussed today I would like to dwell briefly on the matter of graduate members and the apallingly slow response to achieving Associate status. I am not sure if this points to a lack of post academic training, professional insecurity, disenchantment, financial difficulties, or pure apathy. The point is that too many are being carried financially and morally by other members at a time when they are in fact working as full professionals in both the public and private sectors. This is surely a question to which the new Executive must address itself.

A breakdown of current membership is as follows:

Honorary Fellow	1
Retired Fellow	1
Fellow	4
Associates	37
Affiliates	21
Graduates	33
Students	7
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	104
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All is not disappointment however and I am sure that I am joined by the outgoing committee in thanking many members from all categories who have contributed to Institute running in many different ways. While I recognise that it is important to maintain some committees ie The Landscape and Examinations, there is clearly much to be gained by encouraging the spontaneous help of members. This in preference to developing a plethora of centrally based efforts which, under even the best of circumstances can tend to become insular and relatively ineffective.

During the year Tony Jackman departed for the U.S.A. and Helmut Einhorn for an extended visit overseas. Both tendered their resignations. Thanks are due to them for the service they gave, and to Peter Rough who picked up the Examination tabs, also to Hedley Evans for accepting the Treasurers role. The adoption of the new constitution in 1980 enabled these Exec changes to take place with a minimum of fuss and without the need for expensive and time consuming elections.

In terms of legislation it has been a relatively quiet year. Submissions were however made to the controversial National Parks and Reserves Bill. The Institute adopted a constructive approach and saw considerable benefits in the new opportunities to manage protected natural landscapes more effectively. An interesting legal problem also arose during the year when a firm of consultants acting without NZILA approval nominated the President or his nominee as an Arbitrator on landscape matters to a large industrial project in South Canterbury. This was not only morally but legally irregular and has been resolved in conjunction with the Council concerned.

In a personal sense the year has been a very full one with an emphasis on the September early October period when I was overseas, principally to act as Delegate to I.F.L.A. and present a paper at the Congress. If the lead up to this was busy the months since have been equally so. To date I have been unable to pass on the full benefits of my experience to members but intend to do so in the coming year as time becomes available. I would like to record my special appreciation to Neil Aitken who was acting President and to Exec as a whole for their help over this period.

To all members and to my colleagues on the Committee your loyal support over the last two and a half years has been greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Robin Gay
President

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2017.04.17.03

REPORT TO N.Z.I.L.A. EXECUTIVE.

SUBJECT: ASSOCIATESHIP CRITERIA-SPECTRUM OF ELECTIVES.

- (a) Stimulated by a concern that most graduate members were unable to meet the full criteria listed in the 'Requirements for Associateship' manual Tony Jackman circulated a questionnaire (in Sept 1979) to prospective Associateship applicants asking for their comments on training, breadth of their work and associateship exams.
- (b) Following responses from 6 of the 10 members canvassed, Tony prepared a comprehensive analysis of the range of work collectively undertaken by landscape architects.
- (c) Landscape architectural work was divided into 11 categories ranging from Landscape Planning through to Contracts and Supervision.
- (d) Electives were listed under each category - those reflecting the nature and scale of work within each category, from broadscale to detailed work. A total of 36 electives were proposed.
- (e) Tony placed a range of commonly appreciated objectives or strategies and goals for the Institute within the Associateship criteria, which he contended would serve as a strategy for the future and give more meaning to commonly shared intentions.
- (f) At the 1980 A.G.M. held in Christchurch, a workshop session was held and discussions on Tony's proposed format covered the subject fairly thoroughly, and it was agreed that work on further refining the proposals should be carried out before final Executive approval and use of the criteria.
- (g) Following the A.G.M. workshop session Tony "condensed as suggested at A.G.M." the Spectrum of Electives and "inserted skill factors as sought by the N.Z.I.L.A. Inc."
- (h) Earl Bennett, Charlie Challenger and George Malcolm, as members of the N.Z.I.L.A. Education sub-committee were invited to comment on the amended document.
- (i) Little further work has been achieved since then and if the Spectrum of Electives is to be operative this year it is important that the document and procedure for its use be finalised as soon as possible. I suggest that the next Executive Committee meeting be set as a target for completion and final executive approval before printing and announcement in "Cuttings".
- (j) The following is a list of tasks and/or points to be resolved before the Spectrum of Electives can be utilised. Many of the points listed were noted by Earl in his written comments to Tony.

SPECTRUM OF ELECTIVES DOCUMENT

- 1. Order of the categories. Is the present order the most logical? Could perhaps be re-ordered as Planning, Design, followed by Administration / Promotion / Research, etc.

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2. Institute 'strategy or objective' statements. Decide whether 'strategy' or 'objective' and relate to Strategy Plan. Check wording of these.
3. Wording of electives - need fine-checking.
4. Institute Goal statements - relate to Strategy Plan proposals? Are they appropriately contained within this document?

SPECTRUM OF ELECTIVES CHART

In relation to this need to decide:

5. Number of electives required. Tony suggested a minimum of 20, to be chosen by the individual relative to his/her own work circumstance.
6. Should Institute prescribe any particular electives and/or mix thereof?
7. Would all electives have equal weighting / value? If not would need to resolve.
8. Tony specified that a maximum of three case studies or works would be submitted for each elective. Presumably each A, B, C would count as one elective - if not what is relevance of "a maximum of 3 ..."? .
9. How would chart work in relation to "Interpretation", "Innovation" and "Implementation"? Tony suggested that the matrix needs reducing. If the 3 columns were left in, would a mix of these factors be required?

ORAL EXAMINATION FOR ASSOCIATESHIP

10. Tony suggested that we retain the minimum period in Graduate Class of Membership at two years.
11. There seemed to be general agreement (at the 1980 A.G.M. workshop) that we should aim towards a requirement that graduates have at least one year of their training under the guidance of an Associate Landscape Architect ("Cuttings" No. 16).
12. Tony suggested that candidates could present as for the structure of the original (Jan. 1976) Standards of Academic Training Manual through the Preliminary Vetting Committee as before.
13. A further suggestion of Tony's was that candidates could aim to present at least one high quality production or document as evidence of doing the same, for 20 of the stated electives for Preliminary Vetting in August of year chosen for December Oral Presentation. This to include full documentation of time in practice and breakdown of time spent in each facet as before.
14. The nature of the Oral Examination needs, I consider, to be re-assessed and guidelines for and/or by the examiners set. If the Examiners' questions are to relate to case studies or works submitted as for the electives this would suggest perusal of the submissions by the Examiners prior to the examination.

CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

15. A precise explanation or manual will need to be prepared to explain the system and procedure to candidates.

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16. A timetable will need to be set for the operation of the system, especially if Examining Panel members are to preview submissions.

FINAL DOCUMENTATION

17. Submission of final draft document and chart of Executive for approval.
18. Announcement in "Cuttings" of the newly operative Spectrum of Electives.
19. Printing of documents.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Peter Rough'.

Peter Rough

N.Z.I.L.A. Examination Co-ordinator

18th February, 1981

Laid on table Feb 19

2017.04.17.05

NZILA 1981 AGM

NZILA Corporate Membership

Recently I put a paper to the Executive suggesting that we broaden the basis on which persons might be accepted as corporate members. In essence the proposal sought to recognise an "understanding of and experience in" landscape architecture. The proposal was received and discussed at several Executive meetings. While no decisions were made it was felt that the membership should discuss the proposition at the 1981 AGM.

The topic of membership expansion is not new and in the past it has invariably led to intense debate and a certain amount of confusion. In my view, there are two levels of expansion -

1. Expansion at the top which implies a broadening of the pre-requisite academic background thus permitting related academic qualifications to become accepted i.e., resource management, regional planning, applied ecology etc.
2. Expansion at the bottom which would not rely on academic pre-requisites as much as experience in landscape be it at the design level or planning level.

While my recent paper to the Executive focused on expansion at the bottom I can not help but feel one must consider both levels in any discussion of membership expansion.

The NZ Planning Institute recently polled its members on the proposition -

"that candidates should be assessed on their understanding of and experience in planning - both training and experience together would be accepted as education for this purpose. This would dispense with only the recognised full or part-time courses being the sole educational pre-requisite to membership, and this would mean that candidates could come from a wider academic background."

The proposal noted that

"Whilst this may appear to be opening the door for candidates outside; it must be pointed out that this is meant as a special avenue for membership for those who do not meet the "normal" educational requirements, and as such is not considered as the normal means of obtaining entry. It would be limited to those actively involved in planning and thus would not automatically let in those merely associated with it."

I believe the poll was overwhelmingly in favour of the proposition.

- 2 -

I would not like to see us broaden our base without clearly defined objectives and criteria. We should also be fully aware of the implications and opportunities of such a move.

For example, failure to consider expansion at the bottom might deny us good experienced, practical and proven designers (to a lesser extent planners). Failure to consider expansion at the top could loose us existing and potential members who might find that their professional interest is better served by being a member of the Planning Institute rather than the NZILA.

For your information, the following were the criteria suggested, for expansion at the bottom - in my original memo to the Executive -

That a person with 10 years experience in a recognised area of landscape architecture be eligible for membership as a Corporate Member of the NZILA.

The pre-requisites to this might be:

1. Dip Landscape Tech or equivalent
2. Five years experience directly in association with a landscape architect who would supply a written testimonial to that effect.
3. Three years prior to application the person must present themselves for an interview. If accepted then the person to become a Graduate Member and must keep a diary or equivalent and be closely observed during the three year period.
4. An interview and oral examination (as at present) would be required as a final pre-requisite.

Why shouldn't we have a system whereby a person may advance from a technical or sub-professional background to professional recognition without having to go back to school? I do not believe expansion at the bottom would compromise the profession or the Institute. With regard to timing I believe expansion at the bottom to have a higher priority than expansion at the top.

Finally I do not expect a decision from this AGM, however, I believe some firm indication as to how members feel about expansion should be canvassed and that the Executive and/or the Education Sub-committee take the appropriate ongoing actions.

FRANK BOFFA

22/2/81

2017.04.170.02

I.F.L.A. REPORT

Members will be aware of our earlier concerns regarding I.F.L.A., namely the cost of membership and the doubtful benefits of being attached to a body which seemed to be fraught with problems. Over the last two or three years however the situations has been gradually changing. Not only have we been contributing more to I.F.L.A. affairs ourselves but the Federation has been tidied up to the stage where I personally feel that there is much to be gained by retaining membership. Like our own Institute we will get out of it what we are prepared to put in, but of course this must be seen in proportion to our own internal needs.

I considered myself fortunate in being able to attend the I.F.L.A. Congress at Switzerland last year. Although the NZILA has been represented before it is the first time that the President as official Delegate has done so. I was able to include this as part of the Congress Programme and other overseas travel, even so, it would not have been possible without the financial assistance from the Institute. I would like to comment now on some of the specific aspects.

Grand Council Meeting

This was held in the conference room of the P.T.T. building in Berne. The relatively new building and its facilities being a superb venue. The two days of 6/7 September were extremely intensive as it was necessary to fit in Regional meeting and Committee meeting whenever there was time. The major problem with I.F.L.A. negotiations is clearly one of language and its interpretation, this alone was a difficult task for the Chairman and interpreters alike. The first problem arose when the Treasurer could not be located. It took a day to find that he was hospitalized and could not attend. By the end of the meeting a new treasurer had been appointed and the financial affairs tidied up. At the present time I.F.L.A. has 31 member Associations with 60% of these being in the Central Region. The Eastern Region including New Zealand is regarded as being in a development stage with the Phillipines, Indonesia, Korea and Singapore being the latest areas for consideration.

A highlight of the meeting was the unanimous proposal to establish a permanent Secretariat at Versailles. This will be in the historic garden area near UNESCO with the French Govt offering a subsidy to help defray expenses. Of particular interest to us - but even more so to larger groups, was the matter of membership fees. This prompted fierce and often bitter debate particularly from ASLA representatives with its 20,000 members who were being called to pay 49½% of the I.F.L.A. budget. I believe ours will remain much as they are.

Other issues dealt with New members, Constitution and Byelaws, Charter for I.F.L.A., Committee Reports, Rotation of Congresses, Education, I.F.L.A. News, Budget and many other operational needs.

The Congress, Berne

Approximately 300 persons attended the Congress dealing with River and Lake Landscapes. In typical Swiss style this was superbly organised. Apart from an almost excessive amount of German academia in the early stages the balance between formal sessions and field excursions was ideal for the brilliant summer weather and showed much of Switzerland at its best. My paper on the Lakes of New Zealand was well received and prompted some interesting discussions from younger and developing countries such as ours. Unfortunately I have just heard from the organisers that the proceeding will not be printed due to costs which have proved excessive. A technical session arranged as a follow up enabled speakers to meet with persons interested in their particular subject. A display which I took was most useful in talking to my large group - on problems in New Zealand.

World Coastline Committee

Being Chairman of this new I.F.L.A. Committee is an interesting - but sobering experience. The task is enormous and I have agreed to continue with this for 2 years. Members of the Committee are located in Australia, Japan, U.K., France, Germany, U.S.A., Norway. Being an Island Nation I believe we have something to offer and much to gain from this involvement. It appears also that I have been included on the Constitution and Byelaws Committee following my questioning of certain procedures at the Grand Council Meeting.

Future Congresses

While receiving a specific invitation from the organisers to attend the Vancouver Congress this has not yet been finalised. Of specific interest to New Zealand is the Australian Congress in 1982. This could involve us in considerable work organising pre or Post Congress tours to New Zealand. The Australians have not been particularly forthcoming with information to date. I did have extensive discussions with them while in Berne and gained the impression that they had quite serious internal problems to resolve. If we decide to go ahead, it will be necessary to prepare a draft 'package' before the Vancouver Congress and front up with a representative to sell New Zealand. I have commenced preliminary enquiries and see the need to now organise the proposed Committee to advance such a scheme.

Regional Council Conference Singapore

An Eastern Region Conference dealing with Landscape Education was held in Singapore in November last. New Zealand was under considerable pressure to attend but it was not possible to finance this from the Institute or Lincoln. A comprehensive report was however prepared by Peter Rough in conjunction with Lincoln Staff and this was forwarded. I have had advice that the report was well received and appreciated by the Conference. It will be included in the proceedings.

Robin Gay
I.F.L.A. Delegate

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Laid on table
at Feb 19 meeting
2017.04.170.04INSTITUTE STRATEGY PLANFUTURE INITIATIVES AND DIRECTIONS

Presented to the 1981 Annual General Meeting

by Neil Aitken

1. Background

The need for the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects to have a Strategy Plan or agreed course(s) of action was recognised by Robin Gay in his presidential address at the 1980 Annual General Meeting.

Following this, a discussion paper was presented by Diane Lucas and Boyden Evans (sparked by their attendance at the 1978 I.F.L.A. World Congress in Brazil).

At the April 1980 Executive Committee Meeting, a more refined and researched version, prepared by Boyden, Barry Knox and Claire Findlay, was discussed and subsequently distributed to the six regional group representatives as nominated at the 1980 Annual General Meeting - and interested individuals as well - for feed-back at the end of June - as notified in "Cuttings 17". This paper established the hierarchy of philosophy, objectives and strategies and suggested that the Strategy Plan be categorised as follows:-

- Professional Administration
 - Planning and Policy
 - Advocacy
 - Research
 - Technical
- the format (or classification) being based on Tony Jackman's "Spectrum of Electives for Associate Membership" as presented at the 1980 Annual General Meeting.

The response from groups and individuals was truly heartening and contributed immeasurably to the subsequent work done by Boyden. Unquestionably, a lot of deep and considered thinking was done by many people - and to all those who contributed - be assured, your efforts have not been in vain. In fact, tying the wealth of material together was a daunting task and the Executive Committee, after discussing the matter at some length at its August 1980 meeting, referred it back to Boyden (in consultation with Robin Gay, Neil Aitken and Frank Boffa) to come up with a redraft.

2.

At that meeting also, Claire Findlay presented a draft Statement of Philosophy which was accepted in principle and published in "Cuttings 19".

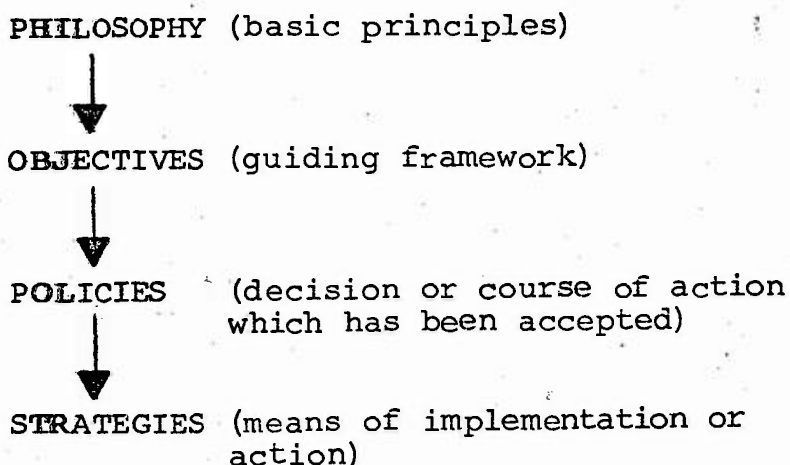
And, finally, due to the concerted efforts of Boyden Evans, a very comprehensive paper was prepared in draft form, which spelt out in some detail, suggested objectives and policies (within the five categories already referred to) and related these to and cross-referenced them with a proposed Strategy Plan. In sifting this out, the Canterbury Landscape Group's second submission was invaluable because it provided direction in restructuring and stressed the importance of clarifying terminology.

Boyden's paper was not distributed to members because we felt that they had made their contribution and it was really up to the Executive Committee to decide on the next move.

2. Current Situation

We now have our Statement of Philosophy, which I regard as inspiring - and which succinctly sums up the whole purpose for our being as an Institute. And to be consistent, our activities and statements should always be weighed against this benchmark or datum. We also have our existing Objectives (or "Objects" in the Constitution) which although not accepted unanimously by all members, do, I consider, provide the scope and flexibility for us to operate effectively.

So, to recap, the Institute has adopted the following progressional structure:-



We have, of course, already formulated various policies over the years on an ad hoc basis, designed to meet needs as they arise - these are attached as an appendix to this paper.

3.

3. Where To From Here

Over the intervening year since the 1980 Annual General Meeting, certain broad areas of common concern have emerged and these are (not in any order of priority):

- * education - courses, options, continuing education, etc
- * general awareness and acceptance - essentially effective communication and publicity
- * career opportunities - public and private
- * design implementation - getting things built/planted the way we would like
- * the New Zealand landscape - our concern has, of course, been articulated by this Conference.

Although these number only five, they represent a very wide range of concerns indeed. On the other hand, you will note that our existing policies are predominantly "in-house" and we therefore need to look at formulating appropriate public policies - perhaps along the lines of those produced by A.S.L.A.

But, first, what we need to do is establish some priorities or emphases, selected from these five broad areas of concern, bearing in mind that, hopefully, something quite major may yet flow from Monday's workshop, arising from the Conference. It is, therefore, perhaps premature to make a firm decision (or decisions) now, but, understandably, we do need some indication from this meeting.

And, of course, in response to this, the Executive Committee will need to weigh resources (human ones); look at some time scales and likely targets realistically; and decide which groups or individual members are prepared or are able to undertake various tasks.

Obviously, we will need to follow up any decisions made now and rationalise these in terms of priorities and allocation of resources. We are very mindful of the fact that we are small in number and can be all too easily over-extended.

But, we now have our agreed progression or basic framework and it will, therefore, be relatively uncomplicated to formulate new policies and slot activities into this structure.

Hopefully, we will have been given the impetus of a marvellous and stimulating Conference, and we must sustain this stimulation with the right sort of action.