

CTBUH Update – January 2007

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Council, I would like to wish all our members, supporters and contributors a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We have some great plans and ambitions for the year and we are looking for your support and assistance to help us achieve them.

We plan to start the year with an exciting new format for our News Bulletin. Our web site redevelopment is also well under way and we expect to go live this spring. We are currently loading past papers, extracts from the Monographs and Journal articles etc. We are looking for electronic content from our members; so if you have an extensive in-house intranet that you would be prepared to share, on any aspect of tall building design, then we would be very interested in discussing this with you in more detail. Please contact Geri Kery at gkery@ctbuh.org in the first instance.

This year we are planning to continue to improve the layout of the CTBUH Review and are planning to produce three issues. We are also producing a special multidisciplinary issue of the peer reviewed journal The Structural Design of Tall and Special Buildings that will be produced by John Wiley and Sons. These journals give an opportunity for our members to promote their ideas and encourage debate on all aspects of tall building and urban habitat. If you are interested in contributing to these journals then please contact Geri Kery at gkery@ctbuh.org.

Our working groups continue to be the focus of our effort in dealing with current and controversial issues that effect tall building design, and we expect the first report and findings to come from our Seismic Working Group who plan to produce their first report in the first half of the year.

We are very pleased to announce that Mr. Sadhu Johnson will be co-chairing our Sustainable Working Group. Mr. Johnson is head of the City of Chicago's Department of Environment, and is a Commissioner for the city. There is considerable logic and some opportunity for tall buildings to be at the forefront of the world-wide effort to achieve sustainable buildings and we expect that our working group will be at the center of this debate.

Further plans include a Council meeting to discuss height criteria, which will review the definitions of height, completion and the effect of spires and towers. A separate email has gone out on this subject. We also plan to formalize our contact with the Chinese Tall Building Society, in much the same way that we have a memorandum of understanding with the Korean Tall Building Institute.

We have many building professionals working to for the Council to disseminate knowledge about tall building design and construction. I hope that you will look to see how you can participate in these efforts and initiatives, and perhaps bring other ideas and suggestions on how we can improve the Council and the way we work.

*** CTBUH NEWS ***

“Out of the Box” is in the box. We are in production for a 10 DVD box set of all the talks and presentations from our very successful CTBUH 2006 conference, “Thinking Outside The Box - Tapered, Tilted, Twisted Towers”. This 10 set is expected to be available on Feb 1st, and we are now taking pre-orders from members. Cost for the set is US\$200. As with all Council publications, members are entitled to receive a 25% discount off of the listed price. These DVD's make excellent training and educational material, and are appropriate for firms designing and building these unusual buildings. To place your order contact Geri Kery at gkery@ctbuh.org.

New Member Rate for Academics. For 2007 the Council is pleased to announce a new category of Individual Membership, for our academic-based colleagues. Academics can now 'join up' for an annual membership fee of US\$75. The purpose of this category is to encourage a widespread international academic involvement in the Council.

Book Donors Acknowledged. The Council's new resource library is off to a good start thanks to those firms and organizations who responded to our request for donated publications. 16 individual respondents kindly donated 31 publications (listed below). Others interested in donating books to the library should contact Antony Wood at awood@ctbuh.org.

Alastair Collins	Davis Langdon	<i>Tall Buildings: A strategic design guide.</i>
A. Marie-Luise Klein	IMB	<i>Hochhauser – entwerfen planen konstruieren</i>
Antony Wood	CTBUH	<i>Tall Buildings. Architect's Journal Special edition.</i>
Helen Castle	Wiley	<i>The Structural design of tall and special buildings. Vol. 15.</i>
IABSE	IABSE	<i>2 separate IABSE publications</i>
James Rossberg	SEI / ASCE	<i>3 separate SEI / ASCE Publications</i>
Jane Ellis	Illinois Institute of Technology	<i>The Vision of Fazlur R. Khan</i>
Karel Vollers	Delft University	<i>Twist & Build: creating non-orthogonal architecture.</i>
Ken Yeang	Llewelyn Davies Yeang	<i>Ecodesign: a manual for ecological design.</i>
Kim Barlund	KONE	<i>Buildings: Kone book of solutions.</i>
NIST	NIST	<i>Final Report on the Collapse of the WTC Towers.</i>
Peter Pran	NBBJ	<i>Peter Pran and Asia Now: Architecture in Asia</i>
Robert Solomon	NFPA	<i>11 separate NFPA Publications</i>
Roger Wildt	RW Consulting Group	<i>High-performance Steel products for Building Construction.</i>
Stephan Reinke	Woods Bagot	<i>Public #1: Spatial Tactics and Pollination</i>
Tim Johnson	NBBJ	<i>Change Design</i>

* * * * *

CTBUH Height Criteria to be Reviewed. The world of tall building design has changed much in the past decade, making it timely to discuss and debate the criteria on which tall building height is measured – and thus also the 'world's tallest' determination. Certainly the distinction between 'spire' and 'antennae' in the classifications seem less distinct in many of today's proposals, as well as situations at the ground plane and elements such as parapets and roof-mounted features. Should the highest occupied floor now take more dominance in determining the world's tallest building?

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, together with the College of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology, will be holding an international meeting in Chicago to discuss / debate the issues and perhaps redefine the criteria for the next decade or more. The meeting will take place on Thursday, 24 May 2007, at the Illinois Institute of Technology. The intention is to reach a consensus on these issues. A new height committee will also be formed out of selected attendees from the meeting, to rule on possible future contentious cases. For additional information about the meeting please contact Antony Wood at awood@ctbuh.org.

* * * * *

New Members. The Council welcomes Cook + Fox Architects as a new member at the Contributor level. Created in 2003 by Rick Cook and Bob Fox, Cook + Fox is an architectural practice with a very strong sustainable design focus. Current projects include the 55-story Bank of America tower in New York City that is projected to be a LEED platinum building. <http://www.cookplusfox.com>

A special thank you goes to The Blume Foundation for increasing their support to the Sustaining Contributor level. The Blume Foundation was founded by the late Mr. John A. Blume, whose interest in seismological matters and earthquake engineering earned him the title of "The Father of Earthquake Engineering".

* * * * *

Noted Architects to Speak in Skyscraper Museum Series. The Skyscraper Museum in New York has announced a new lecture series on "Mixed Greens: Sustainable Skyscrapers Go Global". Presented in conjunction with The New York Academy of Sciences, the lectures will take place at the new NYAS headquarters on the 40th floor of 7 World Trade Center. The series will open on January 25th with a presentation by Ross Wimer, design partner at Skidmore Owings & Merrill, Chicago. Entitled "Environmental Contextualism: Strategies for a Dynamic Sustainable Architecture", Mr. Wimer will discuss his twisting Infinity Tower, a 75-story helix-shaped residential structure under construction in Dubai, as well as other projects. Tickets are free for members of The Skyscraper Museum or NYAS, \$10 for adults, and \$5 for students and seniors. For additional information, or to register, visit <http://www.nyas.org/mixedgreens> or call 212-945-6324.

*** * * PLAN TO ATTEND * * ***

- The Skyscraper Museum 2007 Lecture Series on "Mixed Greens: Sustainable Skyscrapers Go Global" – **January 25:** "Environmental Contextualism: Strategies for a Dynamic Sustainable Architecture" presented by Ross Wimer of Skidmore Owings & Merrill, Chicago. **February 22:** Brandon Haw of London-based Foster + Partners, will discuss Foster's international portfolio including Frankfurt's Commerzbank and London's "Gherkin". All lectures will be held at the NYAS headquarters on the 40th floor of 7 World Trade Center, New York City. Tickets are free for members of The Skyscraper Museum or NYAS, \$10 for adults, and \$5 for students and seniors. For additional information, or to register, visit <http://www.nyas.org/mixedgreens> or call 212-945-6324.

- January 31, 2007. "Envisioning Architecture: Drawings by Martin Wolf" (of Solomon Cordwell Buenz), will be at the I Space Gallery, Chicago. Opening January 31st, 5-8 pm.

- Spring 2007 Fazlur Khan Lecture Series – **February 9:** "Khan's Vision" presented by Mark Sarkisian, Partner of Skidmore Owings & Merrill, San Francisco. All lectures will be held in Lehigh University's Sinclair Lab Auditorium, Bethlehem, PA, beginning at 4:10 pm. For additional information go to <http://www.lehigh.edu/frkseries>, or contact Leslie Ladick ljl2@lehigh.edu (610-758-6123).

- February 24, 2007. Engineer's Week Open House Expo at the Illinois Institute of Technology's Rice Campus, 201 East Loop Road. Wheaton, Illinois. Sponsored by the DuPage Area Engineer's Week Committee, the expo will feature interactive displays and presentations designed to enhance children's interest in math, science and engineering. One of the featured presentations will be "High-Rise Building Design" by Larry Novak of Skidmore Owings & Merrill.

- May 24, 2007. CTBUH Tall Building Height Criteria International Meeting, to be held at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. For additional information contact Antony Wood at awood@ctbuh.org.

*CTBUH, S. R. Crown Hall, Illinois Institute of Technology, 3360 S. State Street, Chicago, IL 60616
phone: 312-909-0253 fax: 610-419-0014 email: info@ctbuh.org web: www.ctbuh.org*