

The Fellows



Knowledge for Creating
and Sustaining
the Built Environment

Volume 2 Number 1
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A Newsletter written by Fellows of CSI for Fellows of CSI

Publisher: Gilman Hu, FCSI

Editor: Richard A. Eustis, FCSI

Is this the first edition?

By: Richard Eustis, FCSI, CCCA (*Dick received his Fellowship in 1986 at the Los Angeles Convention. His citation recognized his service to the Institute and his involvement in professional education. Since receiving his Fellowship, he has served the Institute as President and is currently on the Jury of Fellows*)

If you read the Volume/Number designation in the upper right corner of this newsletter, you may have wondered why you did not receive any issues in Volume 1. This should not be of concern because you probably did receive Volume 1.

Last year, Gilman Hu, FCSI took on the responsibility of writing and publishing two issues of a newsletter known as the "Coconut Wireless". This was a substantial task for a person to do single-handedly. The newsletter was well received by the Fellows but Gilman did not want to continue the task alone. He asked me to assist by serving as Editor. We agreed that Gilman's work last year should be recognized and so even though this newsletter has a new name, it is the second year of a newsletter written by Fellows for distribution to Fellows.

OCCS - OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE A LITTLE OR A LOT

By Ken Guthrie, FCSI (*Ken received his Fellowship in 1989 at the New Orleans Convention. His citation recognized his notable contributions toward the improvement of construction specifications. Since receiving his Fellowship, Ken has served the Institute as President and is currently very active in the development of the OCCS*)

Soon after I received my fellowship, now retired CSI staff member Walt Geisinger introduced me at a region conference. Walt explained to the audience

that "FCSI" actually meant "Future Continued Service to the Institute". For those Fellows that still have the urge to serve CSI and the construction industry, the OCCS affords an opportunity to contribute a little time and effort all the way to extensive involvement.

The Overall Construction Classification System (OCCS) is being created by a construction industry initiative facilitated by CSI. CSI provides staff support and funds one of two co-chairs for the OCCS Development Committee. The other co-chair is sponsored by the International Alliance for Interoperability (IAI). Over 70 individuals representing 46 organizations are participating. OCCS Workgroup 0, which is the coordinating body, resembles an "old presidents retirement home". In addition to two former CSI presidents, there are two former presidents of Construction Specifications Canada (CSC) and a former president of American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE).

As currently being developed, the OCCS is series of twelve interrelated tables cataloging the built environment throughout the full life cycle. It answers the need for a method in North America for classifying the majority of construction subjects. It will be an open standard available to the construction industry at large. It is envisioned to be used throughout the construction industry as the basis for organizing, sorting, and retrieving information and developing relational applications. This effort is being coordinated with international standards and with the expansion of MasterFormat which will be the basis of one OCCS table.

Tom Heineman, FCSI, an active participant in the OCCS, recently pleaded for a more humble stance and suggested the effort be re-named "PGCS - Pretty

Good Classification System". With his great humor, Tom makes an important point that this undertaking is a colossal task, it will never provide total coverage, and it needs to continuously evolve. Hence, the opportunity for FCSI's to participate a little or a lot as their time and spouses will allow. The varied expertise of the Fellows of the Institute can be a valuable contribution.

The OCCS Development Committee was formed in September 2000. A year later, in October 2001, a Preliminary Draft OCCS for Review and Comment was published. Now, how can an FCSI help?

Just-a-little-bit: Log onto <http://www.OCCSNet.org> and review the Preliminary OCCS. Use the Comment Form to express your ideas on the concept.

A-little-bit-more: Download one or more of the 12 tables and review. Submit your suggestions for additions and modifications.

Getting-serious: Contact OCCS Technical Coordinator, Greg Ceton at gcton@csinet.org and join one of the four Workgroups developing the tables.

Now-you-are-hooked: Offer to undertake a Workgroup assignment to further develop or expand portions of one of the 12 tables.

Beyond-virtual-volunteerism: Attend and participate in one of the OCCS workshops. The next scheduled gathering is in July in Toronto.

Bonus-assistance: Tell others about the OCCS. Help recruit desperately needed engineers, process engineers, facility managers, contractors, specialty subcontractors, product manufactures, or anyone else with a knowledge of a specific aspect of designing and creating the built environment.

This is your chance to help create a valuable resource that will make the work of all involved in the life cycle of a built environment more organized and better coordinated. For the OCCS to achieve its goal,

broad and diverse participation is needed. Each FCSI could contribute valuable input in their specific area of expertise.

College of Fellows

By R. Stanley Bair, FCSI, CCS, FAIA (*Stan received his Fellowship in 1972 at the Minneapolis Convention. His citation recognized his contribution to education and his service to the Institute. Since receiving his Fellowship, he has served the Institute as President. He is currently chairing a small group of volunteers who are attempting to draft a set of Bylaws for a "College of Fellows"*)

At the last get-together of the CSI Fellows in Dallas, a suggestion was made that the CSI Fellows should explore the idea of establishing a "College of Fellows". Such an organization could function as a separate "club" for the CSI members selected by the Jury of Fellows for advancement to Fellowship in CSI.

No specific missions, charges, programs, duties, goals or tasks were agreed to for the new organization. However, it was felt that a formalized structure defined by a set of bylaws would be desirable as an initial step in establishing the separate group. Gilman Hu, FCSI, asked for volunteers and accepted offers by about a dozen Fellows who showed an interest in such an initial endeavor.

A starting, formatted bylaws version was drafted and circulated among the volunteers for review and comments. Over the next six months, useful and constructive comments were received and the original version was revised to incorporate these thoughtful amendments. The bylaws are now in an acceptable format and wording ready for review and perhaps a vote for adoption by all the Fellows. Particularly, helpful in the originating and revisioning processes were Gilman, Dick Eustis, FCSI, Bill Pegues, FCSI and Stanley Bair, FCSI, FAIA.

The new bylaws, if adopted, is only an empty structure for a "College of Fellows". What will make the new organization viable, valuable and worth the effort of its formation will be the agreement to and implementation of programs and activities of interest to the Fellows, supported by the Fellows and useful to CSI and its missions.

Editors Note: *The full list of CSI Members who agreed to participate in the development of a set of bylaws for a College of Fellows and who have assisted are: R. Stanley Bair, FCSI, CCS, Chair; Jo Drummond, FCSI, CCS; Richard Eustis, FCSI, CCCA; Alana Griffith, FCSI, CCPR; Dennis Hall, FCSI, CCS, CCCA; Diana Hamilton, FCSI, CCS; Gilman Hu, FCSI; Joseph Kasimer, FCSI; Robert Molseed, FCSI, CCS; William Pegues, FCSI, CCS; William Riesberg, FCSI, CCS; Carole Schafmeisster, FCSI; Tom Tarkowski, FCSI, CCS; Gene Valentine, CCS, (Chair of Jury of Fellows).*

Fellows Express your Views

by Tom Sneary, FCSI, CDT (*Tom received his Fellowship in 1976 at the Philadelphia Convention. His citation recognized his service to the Institute and his work on improving paving specifications. Since receiving his Fellowship he has continued to be active in both his Chapter and Region*)

Editors Note: *Tom provided the following in response to an e-mail telling him of the publication of this newsletter and requesting a brief item for inclusion in this issue.*

I believe you two have come up with an excellent idea.

To me this will be a great vehicle to respond to some of the suggestions discussed at our two Fellow meetings in Dallas.

A most timely subject is the vote next month on the "declassification of membership". I feel each Fellow should express his feeling on this most important vote, in person to his Chapter. Hopefully all have read Hal Rosen's article in the December issue of the News Digest.

I visited the January Board meeting of the Dallas Chapter. It was quite educational. I learned most of the Board had only been members of CSI for a few years. They had no knowledge of how and why CSI was formed and founded. They really did not understand the full meaning of the issue, and not having any real background on the subject, were either going to vote for, or not vote. I then asked to be placed on the program for the full Chapter meeting.

Having conducted "Orientation" for new members each month for over 20 years until I became an Emeritus member in 1996, I attempted to give them the background of CSI, and asked they vote NO. To me the basic purpose of CSI if for we Industry Members who read and react to specifications are here to lend our knowledge and expertise on our specialty to the Professional Members, to allow them to prepare and enforce a good set of specifications.

For those who do not know me, I joined CSI in 1966 as an Industry Member, (contractor classification). While serving on The Board and a member of the Institute Finance Committee, this same subject was constantly raised, even in those days, but it was always kept at a discussion stage. I still feel if this vote carries, we will not recognize CSI in a few years.

I encourage all of you to express your views to your Chapter.

Dick and Gilman, you have my permission to use any or none of my above thoughts, but let's keep the Newsletter going.

Thank you,

Tom Sneary, FCSI, CDT.

A Question For the Fellows?

At the Dallas Fellows Meeting Tom Sneary reminded the Fellows of the social event for the Fellows he and his wife hosted at the previous Dallas Convention. In a subsequent letter, Tom has suggested the Fellows consider having some type of social event that would include spouses each year or periodically. Under the existing Convention format, there has been little time but the changes that will occur in 2003 may provide more opportunities. What do the rest of the Fellows think? Is this something that should be considered in the future? Please let us know your thoughts.

Fellows Workshop at the Las Vegas Convention

Gilman Hu has arranged for the scheduling of a "Fellows Workshop" at the Las Vegas Convention. The Workshop will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2002 from 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm. The Workshop session will provide an opportunity to discuss not only the draft "College of Fellows" bylaws but also other matters that are of interest to the Fellows. Other Educational Programs are tentatively scheduled for this same time period but this time appeared to be the best option. The announcement of this Workshop should appear in the Convention material.

New Proposed MasterFormat™ and You

By Dennis J. Hall, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA (*Dennis received his Fellowship in 2000 at the Atlanta Convention. His citation recognized his contributions to the Institute including his work on the Uniform Drawing System. He currently chairs the MasterFormat Expansion Task Team.*)

CSI is proceeding with the preparation of a new expanded MasterFormat™ to accommodate the needs expressed by organizations outside the CSI

community. The proposed organizational concept is based on the following principles:

- Make MasterFormat™ more acceptable to building engineering disciplines
- Expand MasterFormat™ to cover other than building construction adequately
- Expand MasterFormat™ to more adequately cover the full life cycle of projects
- Provide space for expansion within each division
- Keep change to a minimum for architectural building subjects
- Move product classification to the OCCS Omniclass- Table 6

The MasterFormat Expansion Task Team is asking for your participation and providing feedback and expert advise. Below is a copy of the proposed MasterFormat™ organizational concept. For more detailed information and how you can provide input into the process, please contact Dennis Hall, dhall@hallarch.com, Greg Ceton, gceon@csinet.org, or see www.csinet.org.

Proposed MasterFormat™ Organizational Concept

0. Procurement and Contracting Requirements
1. General Requirements
2. Existing Conditions (*See Divisions 31 & 32 for existing Division 2 material*)
3. Concrete
4. Masonry
5. Metals
6. Wood and Plastics
7. Thermal and Moisture Protection
8. Doors and Windows
9. Finishes
10. Specialties
11. Equipment (*Other than building equipment relocated*)
12. Furnishings
13. Special Construction (*Other than building construction relocated*)
14. Conveying Equipment (*Transportation Systems relocated*)
21. Life Safety and Facility Protection (*Material from Divisions 7, 13, & 15*)
22. Plumbing (*Material from Division 15*)
23. HVAC (*Material from Division 15*)
24. Electrical (*Material from Division 16*)

- 25. Communications (*Material from Divisions 13 & 16*)
- 31. Exterior Construction (*Material from Division 2*)
- 32. Exterior Improvements (*Material from Division 2*)
- 33. Transportation (*Includes material from Divisions 11 & 14*)
- 34. Waterway and Marine Construction (*Includes material from Division 5*)

- 41. Fluid Treatment (*Includes material from Divisions 11 & 13*)
- 42. Power Generation (*Includes material from Divisions 13 & 16*)
- 43. _____ Processes (*New Division(s) for new material*)

Twenty-Six Fellows?

By Mark Kalin FAIA FCSI CCS (*Mark received his Fellowship in 1999 at the Los Angeles Convention. His citation recognized his contributions to education and the improvement of construction specifications. He is currently president of SCIP and the Boston Chapter of CSI.*)

Of course it's a good idea to have a Fellows Newsletter. We've all lost track of the hours contributed to CSI and our industry. Maybe that's why we were elected to Fellowship, so when we have our 'senior moments' we'll still know CSI noticed. Which is the point of this article.

CSI has changed dramatically in the past few years. There are region directors who have been members less than five years, a staff that could support an organization with twice as many members who still outsource even the ballots and mailing labels, grumbings on the chat rooms on 4specs.com about how CSI has forgotten its origins, chapters that won't pay their region assessments, bylaws amendments to eliminate membership classification, and on and on.

This newsletter is going to some fellows that I know - the 26 Fellows who are members of SCIP

(Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice). At our annual meeting last year right before the convention, Edith Washington came into our meeting to let us know what was going on with the changes to the convention and leadership conference. I asked the 45 people in the room to raise their hand if they had contributed more than 1000 hours to CSI. Nearly everyone raised their hand. Over 40,000 hours given to CSI.

SCIP will have a booth this year at the CSI Show, right across from the feature booth. We asked for a free booth, but were told no. We were invited into the feature booth for free, but we declined. Many of our members believe specs aren't in the game plan for CSI and we'll have to go it alone. Please stop by the booth and say hello. We're all still pushing for the advancement of knowledge.

In my opinion, the Fellows in CSI are going to have to make a choice. Either get involved again or let CSI wander. Some of us have. Tom Heineman is Miami Chapter President; I'm Boston Chapter President (for three more months). What's our mission? Whatever you decide. After all, they made you a Fellow because you're a leader.

For me, the mission was to create an educational program in Boston, so that design firms with CSI members could get free lunchtime seminars, on over 20 topics ranging from energy codes to doors and hardware (and yes we pay the speakers).

The bottom line: We can all make a very big difference in CSI. Please share what you're doing in the next issue of this newsletter. Let's talk about what is going right, instead of what is going wrong.

TOUCHÉ

By R. Grant Easterling, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA (*Grant received his Fellowship in 1996 at the Denver Convention. His citation recognized his contribution to education and his work with students. He currently serves as Academic Liaison for the Tulsa Chapter and is a member of the Jury of Fellows.*)

One of the real benefits of being a CSI member has been our organization's culture of open sharing of technical information that is promoted within our CSI

Code of Ethics. A unique experience, when compared with other industry organizations, has been the realization that this mode of sharing often extends into member discussions on many topics related to our everyday work. Here is where I urge you as Fellows of our Institute, to consciously make a difference.

Each of us has warmly experienced the recognition and deference most members extend to a person who has been honored as a Fellow. This perception provides each of us the ideal opportunity to make a difference with those around us. The possibilities are truly endless. However, there is one specific case where I want to challenge each of us to consider and then to commit to do.

The case of the new member: top priority! Absolutely the most important retention insurance that can be obtained for any new (or existing) member is to have been assimilated into the Chapter. That is welcomed, informed, and accepted as a member of CSI. Also, participating on a committee, a taskforce, or special assignment that benefits the group. And certainly, a key ingredient is public recognition of the member's industry contribution and teamwork. Simply stated, truly becoming a part of the group.

What is the best way to help achieve this result? For you and me as Fellows it is to become a *mentor* to new members or to members who need to recommit to active participation in chapter activities. The great thing is that this is in addition to the organized efforts that your chapter will make. This is something that you can do as easily and as naturally as breathing. **BE A FRIEND. SHOW INTEREST. GET TO KNOW THE PERSON. SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF CSI AND WHY YOU ARE A MEMBER.** But you must make a conscious effort to do this for it will surely not happen if you don't. It needs to be done over and over, and it needs to be sincere! If you really care, they will understand and they will appreciate your openness and sharing what only you can give, your time and your heart.

Being a participant in committees and assisting our chapters in numerous ongoing endeavors are both productive and necessary for us as Fellows to continue to do. Yet I submit to you that nothing will ultimately make as lasting or as meaningful impact

on your chapter or the construction industry as our ability to influence others in CSI ethics and principles. Nothing beats one on one. We as Fellows hold this responsibility as surely as we hold the honor of our Institute.

Touché....reach out there and touch someone. Try it....you'll be amazed at how much you will like it....and we will make a difference!

Want to be involved?

By Gilman Hu, FCSI, AIA (*Gilman received his Fellowship in 1995 at the Minneapolis Convention. His citation recognized his exceptional service to chapters, regions and the Institute through his development of improvements in programs and services. He is currently serving on the Convention Program Task Team.*)

Remember last May's survey? A majority of Fellows expressed a desire to be of service of some kind. Here are some opportunities:

Be a presenter at one of the two CSI events in 2003. This will be the first year of the "split convention format".

Pick a topic you think may be of interest to the attendees. Organize a team or be a sole presenter, and sell your idea to the CSI Convention Program Task Team (CPTT) for consideration. You need not have everything finalized at this time, just sufficient information for the Task Team to consider the merit of the proposal. The Task Team is looking for new topics, new faces, and new formats. Put yourself in the place of the audience. What would you have to show and tell that would attract someone to attend your presentation? You can be a solo, have co-presenters, or part of a panel format.

You will be contacted personally by a member of the Task Team if your proposal has the potential to attract. You will receive final confirmation of acceptance or rejections. Shortly afterward you will need to get your act together. Speakers selected will receive standard courtesies.

April 9-11, 2003, Chicago IL – Construct America
This event will have technical education,
and Honors and Awards.

June 26-29, 2003, Philadelphia PA – CSI's University.

This event will have Leadership Training, Presidential Gala, Education sessions, and "Culture of Learning".

April 5, 2002 – Deadline for Call for Topics

Details are available from all Chapter Education Chairs, posted on the Education Page of CSINet and TheCSIShow.com, or you can obtain a hard copy by calling 1-800-689-2902 ext. 4771 (ask for Evelyn)

Be a contributor to *The Fellows*. We are always looking for a few good writers – regular columnist, one-time contributors, and letters to the editors or to fellow Fellows. This is your newsletter, your means to communicate with each other. Please be brief and to the point. We don't guarantee publishing everything as space is valuable, but we will read everything that we receive and make our calls as to how we use the materials submitted. Since this is a volunteer operation, the submittals with the most interesting topic, early date and those with the most friendly (e-mail) means will be given priority.

Help us to be more efficient. Approximately one-third of our current Fellows membership is reached via the US Postal System. The rest via e-mail. Thanks to our Sponsors who have contributed generously to the "kitty", we have the freedom to concentrate on what we want to do, serve the membership, rather than to worry about finances.

If you do not have an Internet address (you qualify if you are currently receiving this in the form of a hard copy) send us an e-mail address of someone near you. We can send you a copy via or c/o that person. That party can print a copy and deliver the next edition of *The Fellows* to you. You not only will receive it faster, but without any possible anthrax bacteria. Besides, you will save us work and contribute to the USPS's efficiency. Just have your friend, spouse, associate, etc initiate a request via e-mail to the Publisher and request your name on the snail-mail list be changed to a "c/o e-mail address".

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We welcome other sponsors. For details, contact our publisher, Gilman Hu, FCSI

About this Newsletter

By the Editor

This newsletter is an independent, volunteer-produced periodical. To the extent we can obtain either the mailing address or the electronic address, it will be distributed to all living Fellows, even if they are no longer members of CSI. Thus this becomes an ideal vehicle by which Fellows can share information with other Fellows.

The current newsletter staff and responsibilities are as follows:

Publisher:

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Gilman is responsible for publication, circulation, finances, and the business aspects of the newsletter. He will also assist in finding Fellows to contribute articles for the newsletter.

Editor:

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Dick is responsible for the newsletter editorial policy, content, style and the formatting of material. He will review all material that is submitted for publication and will attempt to include all articles that are in "good taste" in a future edition of the newsletter. The final decision on material to be published is the exclusive responsibility of the editor. We do reserve the right to release material published in this newsletter for reprinting in other publications so long as the author and this newsletter receive credit.

It is the intent that all material contained in the newsletter will be written by Fellows with the full understanding that the reading audience will be other Fellows. We do not intend to include material that does not meet these criteria just to fill space. The size of each issue and the frequency of publication are dependent upon the availability of material to be included in the publication.

The newsletter will not contain advertising but we will recognize our "Financial Sponsors" who provide funding to cover the out-of-pocket costs. To the extent the newsletter can be distributed electronically, it will reduce our publication/distribution costs.

Each article in the newsletter will contain a "By line" so that the author gets full credit. We will also include a brief biographical statement about the author, as many Fellows may not be familiar with the entire Fellowship. The fact that an author has one article published in this newsletter should not deter the Fellow from submitting an article for another edition. In fact, we are looking for Fellows who would be willing to contribute an article for each issue.

Please let us know your comments about this newsletter and please submit an article for a future edition. All comments and article for future publication should be sent to the Editor, Dick Eustis.

Participation is the Thing

By the Editor

The following is an extract from the first issue of the "Coconut Wireless" produced last year by Gilman Hu, FCSI.

200 letters sent. 105 responded. 53% participation. That's a lot better than the Institute's election.

Of those that responded, 30% indicated they had retired, 70% are still working.

On the question whether we ought to do something more than what we've been doing, the retired group of 31 responses: 12 said yes, 15 said no, and 4 had no comments. From the still-active group of 74 responses: 50 said yes, 21 said no, and 3 had no comments.

The high percentage of response indicates the Fellows have a strong interest in maintaining CSI as a strong and vital organization. A little over 53% of the respondents indicated they would like to be more involved in CSI than they currently are. They believe that as a group, the Fellows have a lot to offer CSI.

This issue of "The Fellows" has included suggestions for several ways to remain involved in CSI. Are your interests in the OCCS or the updating of MasterFormat, being a mentor, being active in your Chapter or Region, or expressing your views, verbally or in writing? The real issue is to remain involved. As Gilman indicated last year, "the Fellows have a lot to offer". If each of us only contributes a small amount of time to our favorite CSI activity, we can be a major impact.

All Opinions expressed in the articles in this newsletter are those of the author and the opinions do not represent the Construction Specifications Institute, the Editor or the Publisher.

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