AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable Submission
AIA DIVERSITY RECOGNITION PROGRAM 2010

We respectfully submit the work of the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable for consideration for the AIA Diversity Recognition Program, and applaud the AIA for its commitment to diversifying the profession.

applicant
Guido Seoanes-Perla
Chair, AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable
c/o AIA Seattle
1911 First Ave
Seattle, Wa 98101
emperor@blades.net

component
AIA Seattle
Lisa Richmond, Executive Director
1911 First Ave
Seattle, Wa 98101
206.448.4938
lrichmond@aiaseattle.org

diversity roundtable summary
The AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable attracts, retains and empowers individuals of underrepresented backgrounds in the profession of architecture. We embrace and celebrate diversity in all its facets and strive to provide opportunities for an ever-greater diversity of individuals to become registered architects, take advantage of leadership opportunities and influence our practices and our professional lives.

Our work in 2009 included significant efforts in these four key areas:
- **Inspire** young people from diverse backgrounds to join the profession;
- **Train** architecture students and interns from diverse backgrounds as they seek to enter the field of architecture;
- **Advance** diverse architectural professionals so that they occupy positions of influence within the profession; and
- **Promote** and acknowledge both the work of architects of color and the work of the Roundtable and AIA Seattle’s board in increasing diversity within the profession.

background
The AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable attracts, retains and empowers individuals of underrepresented backgrounds in the profession of architecture through scholarship, community service and activism. Active since 1986, the Roundtable embraces and celebrates diversity in all its facets and strive to provides opportunities for an ever-greater diversity of individuals to become registered architects, takes advantage of leadership opportunities and influences our practices and our professional lives.
purpose
The Roundtable actively promotes a variety of activities and programs to encourage and celebrate diversity, in four key areas:

inspire
Show young people from diverse backgrounds that architecture is a viable and valuable career path that welcomes their participation.

school visits/ career fairs: Roundtable members visit middle and high schools in diverse communities to talk about the profession and the practice of architecture.

gingerbread house event: The Roundtable hosts an annual winter solstice gingerbread house building event with local elementary students to give young people from diverse backgrounds a chance to interact with architects, see architects of color as leaders in their communities, and get playful hands-on experience with the design and building process.

train
Support the training and education of minorities and women planning to enter the profession of architecture.

diversity scholarship: Since 1990, the Roundtable has funded an annual scholarship at the UW Department of Architecture to support an individual demonstrating economic need based on minority/disadvantaged background.

denise hunt scholarship: Since 1998, the Roundtable has annually awarded the Denice Johnson Hunt K-12 Internship at the University of Washington in memory of Denice Johnson Hunt AIA, a K-12 activist and the first woman of African-American heritage to serve as an AIA component President.

advance
Support and advance diverse architectural professionals so that they occupy positions of influence within the profession.

awards: The Roundtable consistently and consciously promotes architects of color for both AIA and outside awards. Recent awardees include Rico Quirindongo AIA, an African-American architect successfully nominated by AIA Seattle for the Puget Sound Business Journal’s prestigious 40 under 40 award, and Meredith Everist AIA, an African-American female architect awarded the 2009 AIA Seattle Young Architect Award.

certification fair: In collaboration with the University of Washington, the Roundtable hosts a certification fair for firms interested in being certified as MWBE (minority/women business enterprise) or DBE (disadvantaged business enterprise) when competing for government contracts.

women in architecture: 2009 was the first year for this highly successful event celebrating the work of local women architects and promoting networking among female professionals.

promote
Highlight successful examples that make the Roundtable’s diversity goals feel more tangible and achievable.

solstice celebration: The much-loved annual Summer Solstice event is an opportunity to remember and celebrate the past, present, and future of diversity in the architectural profession. The program features noted architects and past and present winners of the diversity scholarships.

media coverage: The Roundtable, board and staff have been highly successful in achieving media coverage of diversity within the profession, including a feature on African American architects in the Daily Journal of Commerce, an upcoming feature on the work of the Roundtable in Colors Northwest magazine, and an entire issue of the chapter’s magazine, Forum, dedicated to the issue of equity.

attachments
letters and flyers attached
### AIA Diversity Recognition Program Application Form

**Applicant name**

| AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable |

**Name of firm (if applicable)**

| AIA Seattle |

**Link to firm Web site (if applicable)**

| aiaseattle.org |

**Applicant mailing address**

| 1911 First Ave  
| Seattle, WA 98101 |

**Applicant e-mail address**

| emperorsp@hotmail.com, lrichmond@aiaseattle.org |

**Applicant phone number**

| 206-448-4938 |

**Title of program/initiative**

| Diversity Roundtable |

**Link to program/initiative Web site**

| aiaseattle.org/committee_diversityRT.htm |

**Description of program/initiative**

The AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable attracts, retains and empowers individuals of underrepresented backgrounds in the profession of architecture through scholarship, community service and activism. The Roundtable supports programs in four key areas:

**INSPIRE:** Show young people from diverse backgrounds that architecture is a viable and valuable career path that welcomes their participation. Activities include school visits, career fairs, and an annual gingerbread house event for elementary school students.

**TRAIN:** Support the training and education of minorities and women planning to enter the profession of architecture. Activities include an annual endowed diversity scholarship and the Denice Hunt internship, both at the University of Washington College of Built Environments.

**ADVANCE:** Support and advance diverse architectural professionals so that they occupy positions of influence within the profession. Activities include active nomination of minority architects for both chapter and outside awards, a certification fair minority-owned firms, and a women in architecture event.

**PROMOTE:** Highlight successful examples that make the Roundtable’s diversity goals feel more tangible and achievable. Activities include active pursuit of media coverage for minority architects and an annual chapter Solstice Celebration highlighting diversity in the profession.
I hereby certify that I have permission to publish all images from my submission for the AIA Diversity Recognition Program.

I hereby authorize the American Institute of Architects to use this submission, in part or in whole, for electronic and print publication purposes.

Print Name: Lisa Richmond, AIA Seattle
Signature: [Signature]
Date: 9/16/09
September 9, 2009

AIA Diversity Recognition Program
American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

Re: AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable Submission

Dear Selection Jury,

It is my sincere honor to write in support of the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable's submission to the AIA Diversity Recognition Program. This group of energetic and enthusiastic volunteers brings imagination and commitment to the question of diversifying the profession of architecture. They orient to the possible, moving ideas from concept to reality with great success and speed.

In my capacity as the Assistant Dean for College Affairs in the College of Built Environments at the University of Washington, I have the opportunity to regularly engage the roundtable in both collaborative and participatory roles. This past year the roundtable hosted its inaugural “Gingerbread House Build” here in one of our community spaces. Elementary aged children of all backgrounds worked with creativity, patience, and teamwork to construct schools, houses, furniture, cars, people, and landscapes out of sugary building blocks. Mentors from the roundtable guided their explorations infusing architectural knowledge into the experience. I look forward to the continuation and growth of this event.

Current University of Washington architecture students’ benefit from the work of the roundtable through an annual scholarship that provides funding towards their studies. This scholarship traditionally goes to an under-represented student promoting the growth of a more diverse architecture profession. The roundtable takes a hands-on approach with these recipients inviting them to participate in annual events and connecting them with professional contacts who can provide mentorship.

The work of the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable is worthy of recognition for its past success and potential for future contribution. Seattle’s architecture community is fortunate to have this group working diligently to highlight and promote diversity from the academy to the professional office.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Most sincerely,

Abigail Grossen
Assistant Dean for College Affairs
Celebrating Women in Architecture

Featuring retired Executive Director of Environmental Works, Jan Gleason FAIA.

Wednesday, April 15th, 2009
5:00-8:00PM
University of Washington, College of Built Environments
Gould Hall Court, 3949 15th Ave NE, Seattle (Enter on University Way side)
FREE, No RSVP necessary

Light refreshments will be served

Questions? Contact Guido Seoanes at emperorsp@hotmail.com or 206.355.9984

As a follow-up to Women’s History Month, you are invited to an informal evening gathering celebrating women’s achievements in the field of architecture. Work by women architects will be on display and representatives from government agencies interested in helping women and minority-owned businesses succeed will be on-hand to answer your questions. This event will be a great combination of architects, architecture students and agencies that hire architects. We hope you can join us!

About Jan K. Gleason FAIA
Her decades of socially responsible practice have culminated in Jan Gleason’s role as Executive Director of Environmental Works, a Seattle-based community design center which since its establishment in 1970 has made quality design available to non-profit facilities. Her practice experience, professional reputation, and design acumen have advanced the importance of Environmental Works as one of the nation’s best respected community design centers, and helped bring value and awareness to the profession’s community service mission.

Many thanks to our supporting partners:

AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable in partnership with the Association for Women in Architecture presents:
August 27, 2009

AIA Seattle – Diversity Roundtable
1911 First Avenue
Seattle Washington, 98101

Attention:
Lisa Richmond – Executive Director - AIA Seattle
Guido Seoanes – Chair of the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable
Douglas Jennings – Diversity Roundtable member

Regarding:
AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable’s submittal for the AIA National Diversity Recognition Program

Dear Lisa, Guido, and Douglas,

We are pleased to support the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable in its submittal to AIA National for the Diversity Recognition Program.

The AIA Diversity Roundtable (DRT) has been an active participant in the Edmonds School District annual Middle School Career Fair. DRT has presented the practice of Architecture for consideration as a career to the middle school children of our district. The DRT representatives have reflected the diversity or our student population in a way that will encourage both genders and all ethnicities to consider architecture as a potential career choice.

Middle School children are at a very impressionable age. For them to be able to see professional adults that match their own ethnicity is a very powerful and influential message. The DRT presentations at our Career Fair have sent a lasting message to our diverse student population that professional careers (and in particular, architecture) are an appropriate goal for all students. From the letters and feedback we have had from the students that attended your presentations, I feel that many students of both genders and all ethnicities have been convinced to strive to become architects or pursue other professional careers.

Sincerely,

Michele Ehl
Work Based Learning Specialist
Edmonds School District
425-431-7119
ehlm@edmonds.wednet.edu

* OUR MISSION *

To ADVOCATE for all students by PROVIDING a learning environment which EMPOWERS students, staff and the community to MAXIMIZE their personal, creative and academic potential in order to BECOME lifelong learners and responsible world citizens.
**WINTER SOLSTICE**

**Gingerbread House Design Competition**

Age Requirement: 6-9

Application Deadline: Mon., Dec. 1, 2008, 5p.m.

Date of Event: Sat., Dec. 13, 2008, 2 p.m. Gould Hall, UW

Judging begins at 3 p.m.

This event is sponsored by Diversity Roundtable Committee AIA Seattle
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2009

AIA Seattle Announces UW Architectural Scholarship Winner
Student Jennifer Richter will Use Funds for International Study

Seattle, WA—AIA Seattle, a Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, is pleased to announce the 2009 winner of the Marga Rose Hancock Endowed Scholarship for Diversity, Jennifer Richter. Awarded to a graduate architecture student in the University of Washington’s College of Built Environments, the scholarship supports academically meritorious and financially needy students, with a preference for underrepresented minorities. Jennifer, a graduate student at the UW, plans to use the funds to study in Copenhagen, Denmark.

"AIA Seattle is excited and proud of Jennifer’s accomplishments” said Marilyn Brockman, Board President of AIA Seattle. “She represents the future of our profession and we wish her luck and success in her journey.”

Jennifer Richter grew up in the Northern Virginia area and earned her bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College. She majored in English, but also studied philosophy and mathematics. After graduating with her undergraduate degree she traveled across the United States, as well as Israel, Egypt, China and Japan and then lived for two years in New York City, interning at Architectural Record and with the International Rescue Committee as a mathematics teacher for recently resettled refugee youth.

Jennifer relocated to Seattle in September of 2008 and has just completed her first year of Master’s of Architecture studies at the University of Washington. She is interested in low-income housing, sustainable design and socially conscious and humanitarian projects. She is also currently a graduate student assistant for an Architectural History course offered at the UW and will be employed for the duration of her graduate studies at the Integrated Design Lab.

About the Seattle Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
Founded in 1894, AIA Seattle is a not-for-profit professional association of architects, allied professionals, and laypeople. AIA Seattle provides the architecture community with resources and relationships to make a difference through design. We open doors, provide connections, keep our members and the public informed, and demonstrate our commitment to great design as the key ingredient for livable, sustainable places.

###
University of Washington Capital Projects Office and the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable present:

Minority and Women's Business Enterprise

CERTIFICATION FAIR

FOR ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

Tuesday, July 14, 2009
From 3:00pm until 6:30pm
AIA Seattle, 1911 First Avenue
(Between Stewart and Virginia)
FREE! No RSVP necessary.

Questions? Contact Douglas Jennings AIA at (206)221.4219 or djenning@u.washington.edu

If your architectural or engineering (AE) firm is minority-owned or women-owned and you are not yet certified by the state and federal governments, this is your chance to learn how to become certified.

Juan Huey-Ray and Vicky Schiantarelli of the Washington State Office of Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises (OMWBE) will be available to discuss the process used to become certified by the state as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) or a Woman Business Enterprise (WBE) and how to become certified by the federal government as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE).

ADVANTAGES TO CERTIFICATION - There are many advantages to MWBE and/or DBE certification. All of the public agencies listed below and many others have goals for MWBE and/or DBE participation in their projects. With large amounts of federal stimulus funding coming to the Pacific Northwest (much of it for highway projects) certification can be a help to both prime consultants and sub-consultants. Additional benefits of certification will be discussed at the event.

Many thanks to our supporting partners:
To: AIA Diversity and Inclusiveness Discussion Group

Sub: AIA Diversity Recognition Program

I have had the immense pleasure of participating with the Diversity Roundtable through the AIA Seattle Chapter and would like to nominate this group for recognition. Being the President of the newly formed chapter of The National Organization of Minority Architects, the Diversity Roundtable has been an immeasurable resource and support group for our chapter. We are groups that have parallels in our goals and we have partnered together on several events so we could reach out to more individuals. This group under the astute direction of Guido Seoanes-Perla (current Chair of the Roundtable) continues to further it’s mission and vision of helping diverse design professionals succeed. The Roundtable is truly an exemplary group of voluntary individuals that contribute to the diversification of our often exclusionary profession. The committee gives opportunities for leadership for the underrepresented groups, reaches out to underrepresented communities to encourage architecture as a profession, and recognizes the great work of those that are usually overlooked.

The Diversity Roundtable has established several programs that align with it’s mission and it’s vision of aiding the diverse design community. It has established two endowed scholarships at the University of Washington for minorities to pursue architecture. It annually reaches out to diverse communities that are often neglected in terms of design services by having pro bono work services for them, career talks, and design workshops for children. The Roundtable also acknowledges the often overlooked talent of individuals who have contributed to the built environment.

As the President of the National Organization of Minority of Architects North West chapter, I highly commend the efforts of The AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable for furthering the architectural profession by reaching out to the diverse communities here in Seattle.

Thank you,

Leon M. Holloway, AIA Assoc., LEED AP, NOMA NW President
Awards for architects, March 19, 2009

James M. Suehiro

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) announced the election of three architects from Seattle to the AIA College of Fellows: Richard Dallam, Gerald (Butch) Reifert, and James M. Suehiro.

These new architects stand out not only for the quality of their designs, but also for their desire to use architecture to improve our communities and environment.

Dallam redefines hospital design. He reaches beyond conventional wisdom — and the traditional realm of the architect — to define new innovative design methodologies.

Reifert has elevated the level of discourse regarding design, sustainability, teaching and learning, and the community context of educational facilities.

Suehiro focuses on shaping future air travel passenger experiences. His firm, Suehiro Architecture, specializes in the planning and designing of airport terminals.

New faces, new places, January 29, 2009

Gladys Ly-Au Young

The Seattle chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) welcomed Gladys Ly-Au Young to its board of directors. Young’s two-year term started in December 2008.

Prior to joining Graham Baba Architects, Gladys worked at Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects as its sustainable design coordinator in its Seattle office. She oversaw the integration of sustainable design into all aspects of its projects.

Young has a Master of Science in sustainable design from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Washington State University.
Rico Quirindongo’s spreadsheet is a mirror.

He updates it hourly, both on his professional and personal time, so he can examine what he did that day — and every day.

This chronological map of his activities allows him to have a “conversation with myself. It allows me to cross-pollinate ideas and allows back and forth conversation between past and present that informs my decision-making, what I pursue, and how I prioritize my activities.”
September 15, 2009

The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006-5292

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in support of AIA Seattle’s Diversity Roundtable and all of the good work the committee has done over the years. I was introduced to the Diversity Roundtable (DRT) in 1994 when I was a young graduate student looking for role models and direction. Members of the DRT reached out to me then and provided the leadership that I so desperately sought. In addition, they supported my education, as I was one of the first recipients of the Marga Rose Hancock Diversity Scholarship, a scholarship created by the DRT to support minority students in need at the University of Washington.

The scholarship and the organization very quickly became a stepping stone for me. The DRT was a reinforcing factor in my introduction to my mentor and business associate of over ten years, Donald I. King, founder of our firm, DKA Architecture. Once I was a young professional out in the workforce, DRT provided me purpose. In hosting the AIA National Diversity Conference in Seattle in August 1997, I was afforded the opportunity for involvement in the larger conversation about how we, as a diverse population of designers, have the opportunity and the responsibility to lead in the conversation about having a positive impact on our communities and our built environment. I helped pull together pieces of the conference, including its program and graphics. Over the years, I have continued my involvement with the DRT. I currently sit on the committee and, starting this month, will be representing issues championed by the DRT as an incoming member of AIA Seattle’s Board of Directors.

As a mature designer, I am a founding member of the Northwest Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects and the designer of the Northwest African American Museum in Seattle. I have also recently received the honor of being named one of the Puget Sound Business Journal's 2009 40 under 40, a program that spotlights the top business leaders under the age of 40 who excel in their industry and show dynamic leadership. I have DRT to thank for the support of their membership and for putting me on the path. For this, and for all the students that are recipients of the scholarship, we will always owe the DRT a debt of gratitude. More than just the scholarship, DRT’s value comes from the forum and the collegial support that it provides to all architects of diverse backgrounds in the greater Seattle Area and the region.

Sincerely,

Rico Quirindongo AIA, NOMA
Architect
DKA
2008.13 June

Ms. Marga Rose Hancock
1400 - 11th Avenue West #1
Seattle, WA 98119-3280

Dear Ms. Hancock:

It is with great honor and humility that I accept the Marga Rose Hancock Endowed Scholarship for Diversity in support of my studies during the 2008-2009 academic year. The contribution will be a huge help in completing the Master of Architecture and the Master of Urban Design & Planning degrees.

My mission in my studies and as a future architect is to identify the pioneering architects of color who have some how remained under the radar and are left out of the continued discourse of great architects and designers. Creating this knowledge base shall provide opportunities to educate youth of color who are unaware of role models of color within the World of Architecture. Additionally, it is important to me to learn the skills needed to become more civically engaged, to promote inclusive planning processes for public participation, and to continue developing quality living environments for the greater good; ideally, incorporating knowledge from the CAUP programs and from my Master of Public Administration studies and anticipating earning a PhD sometime in the future. Additionally, with this scholarship, I am afforded the opportunity to study abroad this summer, visiting Mexico City, Guanajuato and Morella, Mexico to study the impacts of planning and design on social and environmental justice issues in large, urban areas.

To reflect on my background and how I arrived at this point in my life: I spent majority of my youth in Wilson, North Carolina. After high school graduation, I attended Appalachian State University where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Communications. I desired to study architecture in undergrad, however, because of a number of road-blocks I told myself that I would return to earn a Master of Architecture within 10 years of completing the bachelors degree. In the meantime, I earned an MPA from Seattle University and worked in affordable housing for a number of years before entering into the architecture industry. My professional experience also includes working at a couple architecture firms and with one of the areas leading experts in urban planning.

Currently, I have completed half of my studies with two-years behind me, and only two more to go. In addition to this award, some of my other accomplishments include: earning cumulative GPA of 3.6; receiving a 2007-2008 Fellowship from the Graduate Opportunities for Minority Achievement program and being asked to present in the showcase for the Annual Diversity Fellowship Dinner; and being an award recipient of the Urban Design and Planning Scholarship Fund.

In conclusion, my intent is to graduate in 2010 and continue pushing the envelope to develop strong leadership skills. I plan to open my own firm and advocate for underrepresented minorities while practicing architecture, urban planning and real estate development. Achieving my dreams is much more attainable because of the generosity and support of the AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable and the Marga Rose Hancock Scholarship for Diversity. Thank you very much, it is greatly appreciated.

Warmest regards,

André Taybron
Dear Mr. Guido Swany - Perle, June 12, 2004

It was such a pleasure to have met you back at the luncheon on May 27th and I am much looking forward to seeing you again on Friday, June 19th. I wanted to, however, write to you to express my sincerest gratitude in your contributions in making the Marga Rose Maurok Endowed Scholarship for Diversity possible. I am honored to have been selected as recipient of this year's Scholarship.

Today is the last day of the 1st year of my M. Arch program. Although, I am thrilled to have completed this year, I am incredibly excited for the upcoming summer and for the following academic year. This summer I plan to travel to Copenhagen to study the multiethnic experience in Denmark and this scholarship helps make those travels possible. I have ambitious goals for my studies at the U of A and am interested in bridging the gap between architecture and minority communities. I am delighted to have found myself in the architectural profession and would love to share this opportunity with Grattis's youth. I hope to graduate in the Fall of 2011 and until then plan to direct my studies in exploring architecture both personally and as a means of giving back to the community. Thank you again for what you have made possible.

Sincerely, Jenniffer Richter
The AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable
in association with the University of Washington's College of Built Environments presents:

12th Annual Summer Solstice/Juneteenth Event
A Celebration and a Fundraiser for the
AIA Seattle/UW College of Built Environments Diversity Scholarships

Friday, June 19, 2009
5pm - 8pm
Home of Mariana Quarnstrom, 5767 S Oaklawn Pl, Seattle
(Seward Park, via Metro routes 34 or 39)

Among Special Guests: Jennifer Richter, 2009 Marga Rose Hancock Diversity Scholar.
RSVP to spure@aiaseattle.org  RSVP is appreciated, but not required.

Free to attend, but please bring your checkbook in support of two diversity-oriented scholarships: Denice Johnson Hunt Endowed Fund, which provides financial support for students in the UW Department of Architecture and the Marga Rose Hancock Endowed Scholarship for Diversity, which supports student scholarships and activities that assist the Department of Architecture in recruiting underrepresented students.

Many thanks to our event sponsors and supporters: Fred and Mariana Quarnstrom, DKA, ZDS Architects, Rolluda Architects, GPA, atelierjones, and Suehiro Architecture. Also, thanks to Appetizers provided by Zaina. Tiramisu provided by Tutta Bella.

The Summer Solstice is an opportunity to remember and celebrate the past, present, and future of diversity of the architectural profession. The program features noted architects and past and present winners of the scholarships. We hope you will join us!

Cannot attend the event? Please consider supporting the scholarships via a tax-deductible donation payable to the UW Foundation by visiting http://www.aiaseattle.org/node/2917
September 1, 2009

Ms. Lisa Richmond, Executive Director – AIA Seattle
Mr. Guido Seoanes, Chair of the AIA Seattle – Diversity Roundtable
AIA Seattle – Diversity Roundtable
1911 First Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

RE: AIA Seattle Diversity Roundtable’s submittal for the AIA National Diversity Recognition Program

Dear Ms. Richmond and Mr. Seoanes,

The University of Washington’s Capital Projects Office (UW/CPO) and the University of Washington’s Business Diversity Program (UW/BDP) are proud to support the AIA Seattle’s Diversity Roundtable (AIA/DRT) in its submittal to the AIA National Diversity Recognition Program (DRP).

The University of Washington maintains a serious commitment to reflecting the diversity of our community in all of its activities. The UW/BDP is responsible for developing business diversity in all areas of the UW’s business activities, and works closely with UW/CPO on developing diversity in the procurement of architectural and engineering (A/E) services and construction services.

Most of CPO’s diversity program for A/E’s is handled through the Architect/Engineer Partnership Program (A/EPP - managed by Douglas W Jennings AIA). Throughout our diversity effort with A/E’s, AIA Seattle and, in particular, the AIA Seattle’s Diversity Roundtable, has been a supportive partner. UW/CPO has worked in close partnership with AIA/DRT in facilitating many outreach programs to Minority and Women Business Enterprises (MWBE) including: 1) the Networking Event for Prime Consultants and Subconsultants (introduced MWBE subconsultants to larger A/E firms); 2) the Certification Fair (helped small architectural firms learn how to become certified and enjoy the advantages offered by the Washington State OMWBE office); 3) Celebrating Women In Architecture (an event on the UW Campus intended to celebrate and encourage women in architecture); etc.

We have consistently found AIA/DRT to be a supportive and helpful partner in all of our MWBE A/E outreach efforts, and see that its efforts, beyond those with the UW, also have a beneficial effect to the development of an architectural profession that is appropriately diverse. The AIA/DRT has been able to help attract, train, and advance people of color and women into the profession of architecture in the Seattle region and we hope they will be given serious consideration for this important recognition.

Sincerely,

Richard K. Chapman
Associate Vice President for Capital Projects
Capital Projects Office

Phyllis A. Mayo
Business Diversity Program Manager
Business Diversity Program

c: Douglas W Jennings AIA