

March President's Message
Maia Gendreau, CSI, CDT, AIA

MEETING MUSINGS

Many thanks to Gina Rodda, CEPE, CEA, LEED AP, of Energy Code Ace and Gabel Associates, who presented on 2016 Title 24 Part 6 and Multi-Family Buildings, Low Rise versus High Rise. This presentation was a whirlwind view of how building envelopes will change to address the second code cycle countdown to Net Zero in 2020. It was compelling to understand how the non-residential building energy code was not being greatly modified, mainly due to the State feeling that the building industry needs a bit more time to assimilate the current requirements. And I think many of us are going to be spending more time designing envelopes with performance modeling in mind, as some of the equipment that is needed to meet prescriptive requirements may be unfamiliar to us all....windows that sense when the furnace is on and close themselves!? Personally, I have not had the pleasure! Some other features I thought will have far reaching effects on residential design: interior ductwork, exterior insulation and high performance windows. In the future, you may find yourself working an estimated energy bill cost into your home shopping experience. Another tidbit I found most interesting, the Energy Code and the Building Code have different interpretations of high rise and low rise buildings. Such as, a building code low rise residential podium could be a high rise in the eyes of the Energy Code. At any rate, for a designer such as myself, with both commercial and residential clients, it was an evening well spent!

CSI CERTIFICATION: Signups for CSI Certification exams are ongoing through February 28. Exams will be held as planned starting on April 1-27. It's not too late to sign up for a study group and take advantage of this great opportunity for professional development. Fresno Chapter, East Bay Oakland and Los Angeles Chapters are among those in the West Region hosting study courses. You can learn more on their chapter websites. Don't miss out on these opportunities to advance your career and learn

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND for VOLUNTEERING.

If you have ever wondered how Santa Clara Valley Chapter continues to host education programs monthly, create seminars, and throw the best holiday party of the season, well please join us! It's a small but friendly group of volunteers who keep things rolling along at the chapter, and we are always seeking additional hands! I encourage you to check it out, even if you want to assist with one event. Contact maia@mba-architects.net or any board member.

BI-REGION CONFERENCE

Registration will soon be open for the Bi-Region Conference, hosted this year at the Sheraton Seattle. With over 30 technical sessions topics focused on Material Science, Construction Management, Sustainability, Technology and Concrete, plus the tradeshow, Keynote speaker and other events the conference is always a great opportunity to learn, meet trusted advisors and grow your circle of comrades. Sessions will begin THURSDAY, May 18th and go through SATURDAY May 20th. The Hotel block rooms will be available until April 3, so sign up early!