

EAAE/AEEA ORGANISATION AND WORK PLAN

Priorities

The new statutes of the EAAE/AEEA (article 2) says that the purpose of the Association is to advance the quality of architectural education:

The Association should provide a forum for generating and exchanging information on aspects of architectural education and architectural research. The Association aims at improving the knowledge base and the quality of architectural and urban design education.

The mission statement of the association is therefore to build a network of European Schools of Architecture fostering the discussion, the exchanges and a common policy in Europe to advance the quality of architectural education.

These objectives have generally been the focus of the organization from the start. What has been lacking is a more profound discussion leading to clear priorities defining the work of the EAAE and the responsibilities of the Council.

The GA in Chania in 2014 decided that the EAAE should:

- *organize a yearly General Assembly which is linked with network opportunities and discussing the general Association policy,*
- *establish relations with governmental, international and professional organizations and authorities,*
- *coordinate and encourage the dialogue between the different member schools,*
- *promote the organization of thematic networks through conferences and workshops,*
- *articulate critical issues in the context of architectural education, as well as architectural research,*
- *strive for academic excellence.*

As to the *role* of the organization, it is important to underline that the EAAE is an organization for all the Schools of Architecture giving a degree in Architecture that is recognized either by the state or by the professional organization ruling the access to the profession in the home country.

The EAAE should work in the interest of these schools and offer services that the schools need and at the same time provide forums and platforms for these schools to meet, network and exchange ideas.

The Association, defining its profile and role, has to take into consideration that most schools, their academics and managers, take part in a lot of disciplinary, national/political and thematic networks and organizations. The EAAE should not be considered as an umbrella for all these initiatives and actions.

The overall mission of the Association deals with the quality of environment, Architecture and the quality of education and research in the different schools. However, the role of the EAAE should be looked upon as much more focused and clear-cut and includes:

- representation and advocacy related to EU policies,
- mapping and establishing overview and knowledge about Schools of Architecture, Education in Architecture and Architectural Research,
- establishing forums for exchange of knowledge and ideas between the schools, including themes like curriculum and pedagogies, research strategies and output, and economy and school management,
- strategic initiatives and support to develop and run networks, projects and disciplinary events,
- developing the EAAE (EAAE website) into a hub for the exchange of information between European Schools of Architecture,
- give support to the dissemination of new knowledge (EAAE-supported thematic reports).

Organisation and Economy

EAAE activities are based on a minimum of central administration:

- Secretariat in Hasselt (today 20%)
- President, vice president and treasurer (leader group) each supported by their schools
- Council members supported by their schools.
- Secretary for the president (supported by his school)

EAAE economy is based on:

- Membership fees
- Eventual finance and income from projects
- Activities financed from membership schools

There is certainly a need for administrative strengthening of the organization.

The economy is dependent on the amount of member-schools. Today the EAAE experiences a satisfactory economic situation, due to funds that have been set off. This makes it possible for the organization to take initiatives and invest in strategic projects.

The present Council was elected at the GA in Leuven two years ago.

It consists of 11 members after the additional elections in Hasselt and Chania in 2014. The number of members has been an asset and not a problem. However, there is a need to be more structured in defining the roles and responsibilities of different Council-members.

One of the aims of the new work-plan 2015-2017 is to clarify responsibilities within the Council.

The president will coordinate all EAAE-activities, but will have a specific responsibility on policies and advocacy. The new Council should include a responsible for Research, Education and Communication.

The role and responsibilities of the project leaders will be clearer defined, be more significant and have a closer link to the Council.

Work plan 2015-2017

The EAAE activities at the moment can be categorized as:

Events (examples: EAAE yearly conference and GA, EAAE/ARCC conference)

Projects (example: the “Wicked” Erasmus+ project)

Networks (example: the Conservation network inherited from the EAAE/ENHSA activities)

Strategic Initiatives (example: EAAE/ACE working party)

The proposal of the Council 2013 – 2015 is to establish a structure of 5 overlapping fields. Each coordinated by one responsible in the EAAE Council:

- Organisational Development
- Policy and Advocacy
- EAAE Academy Education
- EAAE Academy Research
- Communication and Membership services

The work within these fields will be presented as part of the Congress Program in Milano on the 28th of August. For three of the fields (Education, Research, Web) there are established preliminary work-groups, and separate statements/notes are presented on the EAAE homepage. Members are invited to join the work in these three groups.

Within the different fields there will be a number of events/projects/strategic initiatives/networks established with a responsible project leader.

The categorization into five focused fields should not exclude activities that are overlapping the structure. Normally these kinds of activities, like the EAAE congresses and the EAAE/ACE working party, will be organized with separate project leaders.

1. Organisational Development

The objective is to systematically develop the EAAE as an instrument for the schools. This includes discussions and actions on:

- EAAE economy,
- new membership,
- administrative support,

- organisational structure, roles and responsibilities.

The EAAE is making contact with European organizations with a similar membership and mission in order to inspire and widen the discussion.

2. Policies and Advocacy

The objective is to strengthen the EAAE as an organization that can take part in and influence European knowledge policies that effect Architectural Education, research within the discipline of Architecture and Urbanism and also to some extent University policies and relationship between academic education, the profession and practice.

The EAAE published a Charter on Architectural Research in 2012.

The present Council also published a Statement on the need to stick to the Bologna principles and require 5 years of Academic studies to become an architect. The EAAE should be stronger and more visible in questions concerning policies and standards.

3. EAAE Academy Education

The objective is to strengthen the EAAE involvement and exchange of ideas within the field of education:

- Mapping Architectural Education in Europe, traditions and institutional environments
- Mapping, discussing and initiating Research on Architectural Education
- The development of knowledge and insight through education. Preparing for practice: role of the architect, competences, abilities, skills
- Pedagogies, structure, approaches and curriculum in basic Architectural Education
- Accreditation

4. EAAE Academy Research

There is a need for the EAAE to involve the organization in a more structured way in the discussions on Architectural Research. A majority of the member schools are involved in research activities. The Charter from 2012 was a good beginning, some of the networks on research are still active, and some are being restarted.

Established activities:

- The work on the **EAAE Periodicals database** was started years ago and will continue under the leadership of Hilde Heynen and Débora Domingo Calabuig. The database will be part of the EAAE website.
- Different projects for **Mapping PhD education in Europe** were initiated by ENSHA. The intention is to continue this work based on the development of the material that is already collected. Also this material will supplement the material on architectural education in Europe already presented at the EAAE website. Responsibility and organization of this work is not clarified yet.

New initiatives:

Mapping Architectural Research in Europe. Initiative intends to map research programs and approaches throughout Europe.

- to gather information on international research programs and calls – analysis of dominant policies / patterns / tendencies,
- to reflect (write), discuss and elaborate past, present and possible future of architectural research in Europe

EAAE Supervisor Network

Platform for PhD supervisors and researchers meetings and reflection on how to teach PhD and address issues like:

- what are the approaches, traditions and pedagogies in teaching PhD-students in architecture throughout Europe?
- what are the current experiences and tendencies in PhD teaching?
- can we distinguish fundamental differences in the evolvement of PhD, like moving away from individual teaching to ways of teaching that include graduate schools, thematic shifts, regular peer reviews and the like? What are the pro's en contra's?

Workshops will be arranged through 2015/2016 on the status of AR in Europe, in order to establish a road map.

5. Communication and Membership Services

Membership services that at the moment are provided through the EAAE-website:

- Intranet
- EAAE – guide to Architectural Education in Europe (only member schools in the Guide)
- Promotion of events and announcement of positions etc.
- Download of publications

The main priority is to strengthen the membership services of the EAAE.

Priority is given to the further development of the website to become a “hub” for publishing events, positions, facts on the different schools and their program, doctoral education and research programs. The work will be headed by a Council member/school responsible for the Web and Communication strategies.

Another priority is to strengthen the communication between EAAE and the members. A Newsletter being published every second month is therefore re-established.

Oslo 18th of August 2015

Karl Otto Ellefsen

President EAAE