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able workforce and supply of materials. To offset those shortages, some architects are suggesting that regional strategies be developed to manage the flow of previously abundant materials, such as plywood and gypsum board. "This will affect people in Austin, Dallas—everywhere, because crews are working on the Gulf Coast where there is more work and more money," said Dohn LaBiche, AIA, of the LaBiche Architectural Group in Beaumont. "It will be years before a full revival, and it will be hard to find people to do the work."

With little or no outside assistance during the first few days following Rita, many impacted communities, inexperienced in such disaster relief, have found themselves facing the difficulty of determining a course of action beyond initial damage control and repairs. In Southeast Texas, architects anticipate an emphasis on preplanning and rebuilding strategies providing for stronger structures in coastal areas. New roofing and wind-loading requirements will likely be considered by rebuilding teams in the coming months, Wall said.

How can cities better prepare for this type of situation? The solution may lie in preplanning, which would not only reinforce buildings to withstand storms, but would help make future rebuilding efforts more efficient, Clark said. "You can't start reconstruction until you decide what business markets will support the city, and that's why preplanning needs to happen," he said. "It is a necessity that buildings be able to withstand hurricane-force winds, especially places like civic centers, multi-purpose assemblies, fueling centers, grocery establishments, and privately owned support facilities."

This emphasis on preplanning extends beyond the architectural community in Southeast Texas. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the national AIA initiated a nationwide call for federal legislation to provide redevelopment strategies with focus on permanent solutions for affected communities.

With impacted communities across Southeast Texas still months away from the construction phase, however, current efforts will continue to focus on regaining basic utilities, clearing debris, and bringing businesses back into the community. "It is our responsibility," Wall said. "What we can do as architects to help the community back on their feet is what we need to do."

ASHLEY ST. CLAIR

Interns Meet at National Conference, Develop IDP Course of Action

SAN ANTONIO The national AIA and National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) hosted the 2005 National Internship Conference on Sept. 22-25 at San Antonio's historic Empire Theatre. Despite the threat of Hurricane Rita in the Gulf Coast region, the conference moved forward as scheduled, with over 70 people from across North America in attendance.

Twenty-five emerging professionals (a term used in place of "intern") were selected from a pool of essayists drawn from an essay competition held earlier this year. Others that joined the emerging professionals included representatives from the five collateral organizations of AIA, NCARB, NAAB, ACSA, and AIAS.

The conference evolved around four motivational words—empowering, innovating, envisioning, and connecting. These words facilitated a process to move issues forward in addressing improvement with the established institution for architectural internship and to evolve toward a more beneficial and cohesive internship program. The goal of the conference was to draw from two previous events—the 1999 Collateral Summit on Architectural Internship and the 2002 National Summit on Architectural Internship—to continue the process toward ongoing national dialogue on issues affecting changes in internship.

In need of a course of action regarding the points discussed during the conference, the emerging professionals and other informed participants developed a list of seven points that were presented to the attendees. The emerging professionals' points on desired actions were:

- 1) interns would take the Architect Registration Exam upon graduation and concurrent with internship;
- 2) expand NCARB's Internship Development Program standards to allow alternative (non-traditional) paths to licensure;
- 3) NCARB should allow mentors to sign IDP forms as a verification to IDP training;
- 4) form an advocacy group on the ARE;
- 5) mentorship should be required within IDP training units;
- 6) a percentage of CEUs should be required from mentoring; and
- 7) for validation and advancement on the next IDP conference, state boards must be participants. An eighth point was later added to better integrate foreign-educated architects in internship and licensure.

Mentorship was a poignant concern among the emerging professionals, especially since several of them were participating in non-traditional settings, such as community-based, non-profit organizations which do not typically involve IDP-qualified staff. (According to the 2005 Internship and Career Survey, approximately twenty percent of IDP participants followed a non-traditional path.) Mentorship should be a "laddership," where everyone helps everyone depending on place, time, and opportunity, said speaker Grace Kim. In such a system, even interns would be expected to mentor each other. "I challenge you to do more than talk about what is 'broken' in our current system or the proposed changes that can be made at the national level," Kim said. "I would ask that you look back and see who is behind you on the ladder and give them a hand up."

CHERYL DAVANI, ASSOC. AIA

UT Launches Online Exhibition on Texas Architecture

AUSTIN The UT School of Architecture's Visual Resources Collection (VRC) has expanded the exhibition "Texas Architecture: A Visual History," which documents Texas' architectural heritage, to include an online exhibition by the same name through the university's UTOPIA Web site (utopia.utexas.edu/explore/txarch/index.html).

An educational outreach initiative launched by the university, UTOPIA funds projects designed to share the intellectual treasures of UT with the community beyond the campus. The exhibition provides a historical overview of Texas' built

environment and access to nearly 4,000 digitized images documenting Texas architecture from the Marian Davis and D. Blake Alexander slide collections. The VRC collaborated with the UT Libraries' Alexander Architectural Archive (AAA) and Digital Library Production Services (DLPS) to create the online version. The physical exhibition, which will continue through Jan. 6 at UT's Sutton Hall, showcases Austin's turn-of-the-century commercial architecture and includes images taken across Texas by Professor Emeritus D. Blake Alexander.