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AIA Minnesota Announces Four Architects Elevated to Fellowship at the National Level

MINNEAPOLIS, MN The 2009 Jury of Fellows from The American Institute of Architects (AIA) in Washington, D. C., elevated 112 AIA members, to its prestigious College of Fellows, an honor awarded to members who have made significant contributions to the profession. New fellows included in this group are AIA Minnesota's John Cook, FAIA, HGA Architects and Engineers, David Graham, FAIA, ESG Architects, John Klockeman, FAIA, and Linda McCracken-Hunt, FAIA, Studio Five Architects, Inc. All four new fellows are members of the AIA Minneapolis Chapter.



Cook

Alongside every great designer is an equally great technician. John Cook is an award-winning architect specializing in cultural and higher educational facilities. He has worked together with some of the world's most distinguished architects and designers, including Frank Gehry, FAIA, Jacques Herzog, Honorary FAIA, and Michel Desvigne. He is a partner in charge of technical work in a studio he shares with design partner, Joan M. Soranno, AIA. Through his innovative technical solutions for highly complex building types, John has attained the highest level of professional standards with far-reaching impact on the architectural profession. He has made significant contributions towards the success of important cultural buildings such as the Bigelow Chapel,

Walker Art Center Expansion, and the Weisman Art Museum.

With his quiet but assertive approach, John engages in a rigorous design process, researching building systems, emerging technologies and new materials to execute technically advanced and architecturally expressive projects seamlessly. John is the science that advances the art of architecture. "His quiet, humble and thoughtful demeanor always puts the profession and the solution first. It is this over arching dedication to translating new and innovative design ideas into real and elegant technical solutions that each of us as architects strives for."

—Jeffrey Scherer, FAIA, Past President, AIA Minnesota

Graham has pioneered a collaborative city-building practice through which he restores the public realm, enhances the vitality and livability of urban neighborhoods, and designs context-sensitive contemporary architecture that repairs the urban fabric. Graham's expertise and built work have significantly expanded the range of typologies for infill architecture, mixed-use, and urban residential by infusing traditional forms with contemporary vigor and attention to sustainability.



Over the last two decades, Graham has shared his collaborative model of urban renewal with colleagues through 25 AIA seminars and at 12 AIA conventions on architectural leadership and urban design. He has presented at the AIA National Convention, promoted the AIA Principles of Livability through his nationwide lectures, and served on the 2006 National AIA Regional and Urban Design Jury. A recognized leader beyond his own industry, Graham is frequently invited to speak at and participate in conferences and juries for the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), Multi-Housing World (MHB), the Urban Land Institute (ULI) and the Congress for New Urbanism (CNU).

Honored to have been elected an AIA Fellow, Graham states: "I will strive to continue my leadership and focus on city building through architecture at a time in history when creating livable, sustainable and innovative urban communities is more important than ever."



Klockeman was singled out as one of the best two among fellows receiving the fellowship specifically for leading the institute. Peers and colleagues recognize his leadership of the profession by example through tireless volunteerism for affordable housing, shelter for the homeless, and improved knowledge sharing. His organizational and people-connecting talents have built bridges to a more humane society. Klockeman has both a talent for connecting people and a passion for service. He makes people believe they can accomplish things together.

In his ten years on the AIA Minneapolis (President in 1993) and AIA Minnesota Boards, John led the Federal Reserve Bank Design Advisory Group to ensure a responsive urban building for Minneapolis. He conceived the Volunteer Clearinghouse, which matches volunteer members with pro bono opportunities. He also served on the AIA Affordable Housing Task Force, AIA Housing Committee, AIA Board Knowledge Committee (BoKnoCo) and Bridgewater Township Planning Commission, where he still serves.

"I am humbled and deeply moved to be recognized by the jury. Let all the glory be to God, creator of all. My career began as an outreach to those who found themselves homeless. This same spirit of service has echoed through all my efforts. My hope is that this recognition will further the understanding that homelessness is still with us and requires our ongoing attention."



McCracken-Hunt, firm principal at Studio Five Architects, Inc., is recognized as a gifted leader, expanding new areas of practice by redefining the role of the architect as an owner's representative and as a public leader advocating integrated practice delivery options.

Her focus and leadership providing owner's representative services for public and private clients has influenced the planning, design, and construction of over \$700 million on over 100 large, complex projects for public and private clients. Her leadership at the University of Minnesota was instrumental in the successful completion of many



notable projects designed by national and regional firms. For the past 11 years, Linda has established Studio Five Architects owner's representative services to be one of the leading owner's representative services in the region, leading over \$450 million of project activity.

Nationally recognized as a gifted leader, McCracken-Hunt has held influential positions at the AIA Institute, serving as a key member of the AIA National Board of Directors and as a North Central Regional Director from 2005-2007. She served on the Executive Vice President/CEO Selection Committee, the Finance and Audit Committee, and the Gold Medal and Firm Award Committee, chairing the Award Committee in 2006 for the 100th Anniversary Award of the Gold Medal and the 45th year of the Architecture Firm Award. As an AIA Minnesota leader, Linda was AIA Minnesota president (2000), member of the board of directors (1990-2001), and served on the executive and finance committees.

McCracken-Hunt said of the fellowship, "I am deeply honored to be elected to the College of Fellows, amongst so many talented architects, mentors, and friends that I respect and admire. I am proud that my commitment to the profession has been recognized by a national jury of my peers."

The Fellowship program was developed to elevate those architects who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society and who have achieved a standard of excellence in the profession. Election to fellowship not only recognizes the achievements of architects as individuals, but also their significant contribution to architecture and society on a national level.

Out of a total AIA membership of nearly 86,000, there are fewer than 2,600 distinguished with the honor of fellowship. The elevation to fellowship is conferred on architects with at least 10 years of membership in the AIA who have made significant contributions in one or more of the following nomination categories:

1. Promoted the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession
2. Advanced the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training and practice
3. Coordinated the building industry and the profession of architecture through leadership in the AIA and other related professional organizations
4. Advanced the living standards of people through an improved environment
5. Made the profession of ever-increasing service to society

The four new fellows will receive their Fellowship medals during the Investiture of Fellows Ceremony at the AIA 2009 National Convention and Design Expo in San Francisco.

For more information, view the coverage at AIArchitect at info.aia.org/aiarchitect and view the national press release, including a list of the jurors, at aia.org under the press releases section.

The American Institute of Architects Minnesota, founded in 1892, is dedicated to strengthening our communities, improving our built environment and providing exceptional design. For more information on the organization and Minnesota architectural firms, reference our Web site at www.aia-mn.org and pick up a copy of Architecture Minnesota, the award-winning architectural magazine of the Midwest.