

## **SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group (AG) Report 2020**

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Submission to the SAH Board: October 28, 2020

### **Main current objectives**

Recognizing the broad scope of professional engagements and diversity of women's contribution to the built environment around the world, and that these chronologies have only begun to be written and disseminated, current objectives of the Group are: to serve the SAH community of scholars; to provide a forum for collaborative scholarship and discussion; to document and advocate the international, national, and regional contributions of women to the discipline; and to advance and support research, publication, education, and exhibition initiatives on the subject, and integrate professional standing of women in architecture and design with broader studies on leadership, identities, philosophies, and structures of power across borders and cultures.

### **Summary of recent accomplishments and current activities**

The SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group was established on June 10, 2020. The Group Proposal initiative was launched on Dec. 11, 2019, by Anna Sokolina, following the SAH Board announcement of the creation of SAH Affiliate Groups. After drafting the mission statement, the purpose, and the proposed guidelines for the group, she reached out to over 100 SAH members, received confirmation of interest, with particular support expressed by 24 who formed the *Leadership Support Group*, and 7 members signed the Proposal as the *Founding Leadership Group*: Anna Sokolina, Annmarie Adams, Kathryn E. O'Rourke, Rebecca Siefert, Margaret Birney Vickery, Nathaniel Robert Walker, Danielle S. Willkens. The WiA AG Proposal was submitted by Sokolina to the SAH Board on Feb. 12, 2020.

### **WiA Group Projects, Assigned Lead Officers, Launch Date and Collaboration**

#### **1. National Outreach**

- **Collaboration: BWAf + SAHARA and SAH Archipedia** Kathryn O'Rourke  
**Jan. 8, 2020**–current. Anna Sokolina, Kathryn O'Rourke, Wanda Bubriski, Catherine Erkkila, Cynthia Phifer Kracauer, Aislinn McNamara, Pauline Saliga, Editors-in-Chief of SAHARA and SAH Archipedia, cc SAH Board
- **Collaboration: WIA Silicon Valley + SAH CONNECTS** Kathryn O'Rourke  
**July 18, 2020**–current. Anna Sokolina, Kathryn O'Rourke, Dasha Ortenberg
- **Collaboration: Pratt Institute SoA New York Book Launch + SAH WiA Panel** Anna Sokolina  
**May 26, 2020**–current. Anna Sokolina, Dean Harriet Harriss, Ashley Simone

#### **2. SAH WiA Virtual Roundtable** (Post-Montréal Virtual Programs) Anna Sokolina, Rebecca Siefert

**July 26, 2020**–current. Anna Sokolina, Rebecca Siefert

### **3. International Outreach**

- **SAHGB's Women Architectural Historians' Network (UK)** *Shelley Roff*

**Jan. 13, 2020**—current: *Anna Sokolina, Shelley Roff, Elizabeth Darling*

- **EAHN** *Shelley Roff*

**Oct. 12, 2020**—current: *Shelley Roff, President Jorge Correia*

### **4. SAH WiA AG Celebrating March 2021: Women's History Month, Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon**

*Danielle Willkens*

### **5. Online Presence**

- **SAH Commons WiA Group Website** *Rebecca Siefert*

**Aug. 10, 2020**—current: *Rebecca Siefert, Helena Dean, Anna Sokolina*

- **Social Media Group Sites** *Danielle Willkens, Franca Trubiano, Priya Jain*

**September 22, 2020**—current: *Franca Trubiano, Rebecca Siefert, Anna Sokolina, Danielle Willkens, Priya Jain*

### **6. WiA Group Bylaws, and Logo Design** *Anna Sokolina*

**June 21–Sep. 9, 2020:** *approved by unanimous vote of Group members*

### **SAH WiA Group Milestones**

- Organization/Management of Membership Directory and Listserv (*Sokolina*) 6.5.2020—present: currently 135 members
- SAH AGs Zoom Orientation 7.8.2020 (*Anna Sokolina, Danielle Willkens*)
- *Rebecca Siefert* serving as the Interim Communications Officer 8.7–9.9, and *Sokolina* as Interim Chair 6.10–9.9.2020
- Draft of *SAH WiA AG Bylaws*, discussion with Group members via Listserv 6.21–8.15.2020 (*Anna Sokolina*)
- SAH WiA Group Logo design/copyright registration application 7.24–9.6.2020 US CO Case #1-9221536801 (*Anna Sokolina, Design Review by Rebecca Siefert, et al.*)
- Construction of SAH WiA Commons site 8.10.—public from 9.8.2020 (Lead Admin: *Rebecca Siefert*, Site Admins: *Helena Dean, Anna Sokolina, Danielle Willkens*)  
<https://sah.hcommons.org/groups/sah-women-in-architecture-affiliate-group/>,  
<https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org/>
- SAH WiA AG First Elections by anonymous e-ballot 8.15–9.6.2020 (*Siefert, Sokolina*)
- SAH WiA Center First Meeting Agenda, Group Guidelines, Outline of major projects, assignment of projects to Elected Officers 9.6–7.2020 (*Sokolina*)
- SAH WiA Center First Virtual Meeting 9.9.2020 (*organized by Siefert, moderated by Sokolina and Siefert, 10 elected officers in attendance*)
- SAH WiA Center Greeting Letter to Members via Listserv, cc to SAH Board 9.9.2020 (*Sokolina, on SAH WiA Commons site from 9.17.2020*)
- WiA Group listing on SAH website <https://www.sah.org/about-sah/sah-affiliate-groups> 9.10.2020 (*Helena Dean, Anna Sokolina*)
- SAH WiA AG Virtual Roundtable Proposal submission to SAH Conference Committee 9.13.2020 (*Sokolina*)

- Created SAH Commons page of *WiA Center* 9.18.20 (*Siefert, Sokolina*)
- Published *WiA* group Bylaws on group Commons site 9.19.20 (*Siefert*)
- Publication of First Center Meeting Minutes on SAH *WiA* Commons site 9.19.2020 (*Margaret Vickery, Rebecca Siefert*)
- Social Media Team Virtual Meetings 9.22, 9.29, 10.19, 2020 (*Organized by: Franca Trubiano, in attendance: Sokolina, Siefert, Trubiano, Wilkens, Jain*)
- Creating a Qualtrics regarding SAH *WiA* Social Media initiatives 9.22–27.2020 (*Trubiano*)
- Media Survey Report /identification of guidelines, strategy, projects 9.29 and 10.19.2020 (*Trubiano*)
- International Collaboration: project with EAHN 10.12.2020–recent (*Shelley Roff, President Jorge Correia*)
- International Collaboration: project with SAHGB's WAHN 1.13.20–recent (*Anna Sokolina, Elizabeth Darling, Shelley Roff*)
- National Outreach: Collaborative project with WIA Silicon Valley Committee 7.18.20–recent (*Kathryn O'Rourke, Dasha Ortenberg, Anna Sokolina*)
- National Outreach: Collaborative project with BWAf 1.8.2020–recent (*Kathryn O'Rourke, Anna Sokolina, Wanda Bubriski, Cynthia Phifer Kracauer, Aislinn McNamara, Pauline Saliga, SAH Board, Editors-in-Chief of SAHARA and SAH Archipedia*)

## **List of activities in progress and upcoming events/discussions**

### **1. National Outreach:**

#### **- Collaboration: BWAf + SAHARA and SAH Archipedia** (*Kathryn O'Rourke*)

We are exploring this type of collaboration, currently in communication on behalf of the project (*O'Rourke and Sokolina, the BWAf Staff, in collaboration with the SAH Officers and Editors-in-Chief of SAHARA and SAH Archipedia: Pauline Saliga, Gabrielle Esperdy, Catherine Erkkila, Jacqueline Spafford, Mark Hinchman; cc Victoria Young, Carla Yanni*)

*Kathryn's Report:* Progress on building connections with BWAf. We are preparing to publicize opportunities for *WiA* (and all SAH members) to contribute to the BWAf's Dynamic National Archive (DNA) Collection, their database of U.S. women in architecture. We would like to explore ways that we could link contributions to the DNA project to contributions to SAHARA, i.e., members write a DNA entry and submit images to SAHARA at the same time, so that women are more fully represented in SAHARA. SAHARA is the first and easiest of SAH's publications to associate with DNA entries because authors could rather quickly upload images of buildings designed by the architects, they write about at the same time they submit to the DNA (*SAH Archipedia* entries requiring additional and distinct writing).

#### **- Collaboration: WIA Silicon Valley + SAH CONNECTS** (*Kathryn O'Rourke*)

*Kathryn's Report:* Ongoing discussions with *WiA* Silicon Valley about creating a joined SAH *WiA* AG / *WiA* Silicon Valley SAH CONNECTS program in March of 2021 on new histories, new historians, and vernacular contexts that would examine the ways architectural historians and architects might identify knowledge in and among people and communities that have not traditionally contributed in large numbers to either discipline, as well as the ways architectural

historians and architects might learn from one another in their research on the built environment as it concerns women.

**- Pratt Institute School of Architecture: New York Book Launch and Exhibition at Seigel Gallery, SAH WiA Panel** (*Dean Harriet Harriss, Anna Sokolina, Ashley Simone*)

Stage: correspondence, planned for 2021-22 acad. year

**2. SAH WiA Virtual Roundtable Proposal:** “SAH WiA AG: Creating a *Women in Architecture* Survey Textbook.” Post-Montréal SAH Conference 2021 Virtual Programs, May 3–28. (*Anna Sokolina and Rebecca Siefert, 14 panelists*)

Proposal discussed at the First Meeting of the SAH WiA AG Center, submitted 9.12.2020 to SAH Conference Committee

**3. International Outreach**

**- SAHGB's Women Architectural Historians' Network (UK)** (*Shelley Roff*)

*Shelley's Report:* Oct. 12, 2020-current: Ongoing discussion with Elizabeth Darling and SAHGB Women Architectural Historians' Network members to develop a panel discussion on a topic on women in architecture for SAH CONNECTS for International Women's Day, March 8, 2021.

**- EAHN** (*Shelley Roff*)

*Shelley's Report:* Progress on building international connections. Ongoing conversation with EAHN President Jorge Correia on how to make the SAH WIA affiliate group known to EAHN members. Query put forth for to EAHN officers regarding collaboration on a virtual event for Women's History Month in March 2021.

**4. Celebrating March 2021:** Propose and develop projects celebrating Women's History Month and the International Women's Day March 8

**- Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon: SAH WIA AG Celebrating March 2021** (*Danielle Willkens*)

**5. Online Presence:**

**- SAH Commons WiA Group Website** (*Rebecca Siefert*)

Frequent updates and development

**- Group communications: Create and maintain SAH WiA social media platforms:**

**Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn** (*Lead Site Admins: Danielle S. Willkens, Franca Trubiano, Priya Jain; site admins Rebecca Siefert, Anna Sokolina*)

Social Media Team Virtual Meetings 9.22, 9.29, 10.19, 2020 (*Organized by: Franca Trubiano, in attendance: Sokolina, Siefert, Trubiano, Wilkens, Jain*); Creating a Qualtrics regarding SAH WiA Social Media initiatives 9.22–27.2020 (*Trubiano*); Media Survey Report: identification of guidelines, strategy, projects 9.29 and 10.19.2020 (*Trubiano*)

**6. Meeting Minutes, and Fundraising** (*Julia Walker and Margaret Vickery*)

**7. Inclusive Advice** (*Annmarie Adams*)

## **Financial Impact**

As a new group with no professional financial analyst onboard, SAH *WiA* AG is currently attempting a Financial Impact analysis at a rather low level of our financial sophistication, to calculate the expected stream of expenditures and revenues associated with our primary projects and programs, in order to assess the actual feasibility of our plans. This early-stage evaluation of our proposals and plans would make it clear, if and how fast we can proceed with our endeavors and further efforts. Therefore, our Group is seeking financial advice from the SAH leadership. By analyzing the impact of changes brought through our activities, we will get the information about the areas that may be affected thank to the difference we will bring to the SAH and in particular, to specific areas we aim to develop and innovate, to our contribution, and to broadening the SAH membership base.

Currently, to discuss the impact of our activities and plans, we seek the SAH leadership and a financial advice in terms of:

1. Careful financial assessment of each of our projects;
2. Predicting the consequences of a disruption, if any, of our plans;
3. Prepare a Financial Research Plan;
4. Carry out the analysis of results;
5. Disseminate the Impact Assessment findings among the SAH *WiA* group officers leading our projects.

We seek SAH guidance with five elements: Sponsorship of our projects in general; Understanding how the SAH is planning to support our initiatives; and the Basis of the SAH Financial Impact Tools, Processes, and Findings for our *WiA* AG.

## **Recommendations for SAH Board**

We are grateful to the SAH Board for the remarkable leadership, and for the collegial, scholarly, and administrative support we have received during the establishment and the early stages of the SAH *Women in Architecture* Affiliate Group. We look forward to advocate our cause, contribute to the SAH mission, collaborate and reach out to advance our endeavors, expand our membership base, and bring new members to the SAH. We are in hope that our many pioneering plans and innovative projects will be continuously sustained by the SAH, and endorsed both academically and through appropriate funding advice and practice by the SAH Board.