SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group (AG) Report – Broader Insights

Memo: Since the creation of SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group on June 10, 2020, two Reports have been submitted to the SAH Board: No 1 /October 28, 2020; No 2 /March 15, 2021

Date September 29, 2021
Name of Committee/AG SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group
Chair Anna Sokolina

Main current objectives

The Mission of SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group is to support the breadth of interests of the SAH members, to advocate the international, national, and regional contributions of women in architecture, to champion the cause of gender equity and the diversity of professional engagements in the integral field of the built environment. The Objectives of the Group are to provide a platform for collaborative scholarship and a forum for discussion; to document, support, and advance research, publication, education, and exhibition initiatives; and to integrate professional standing of women in architecture with broader studies across cultures and geographies.

https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org;
https://sah.hcommons.org/groups/sah-women-in-architecture-affiliate-group

Summary of recent accomplishments and current activities (April–September 2021)

1. SAH WiA AG Guidelines, Designated Leaders, Organization, Online Platforms
     Chair: Anna Sokolina, Advising Chair: Annmarie Adams, Associate Chairs: Shelley E. Roff, Shailee Dave, Ola Uduku; Secretary–Treasurer: Margaret B. Vickery, Executive Administrator: Rebecca Siefert, Communications Officer: Danielle S. Willkens, Web News Editor: Yan Wencheng, Associate Secretary–Treasurer: Ipek Mehtetoglu, Associate Administrators: Elisa Dainese, Avni Gor, Franca Trubiano, Associate Communications Officer: Priya Jain
   - Organization/Management of Membership Directory and Group Listserv (Sokolina, Vickery): according to Anne Hill Bird’ Report, as of 9.25.2021: c. 400 members
   - Meetings’ Schedule: Siefert; Meetings’ Agenda: Sokolina, w/Officers’ confirmation; publication: Sokolina Posts – SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group (hcommons.org)
   - Letters to SAH WiA AG Members and SAH WiA AG Officers Sokolina, Listserv distribution: Vickery
- **SAH WiA AG primary website** (Admins: Helena Dean, Rebecca Siefert, Anna Sokolina, Danielle Willkens) https://sah.hcommons.org/groups/sah-women-in-architecture-affiliate-group/, https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org/

- **SAH WiA AG Communications/Media Admin Team—5 Online Platforms:** SAH Commons: Rebecca Siefert, Anna Sokolina, support by Helena Dean, contrib. Meral Ekincioglu; Facebook: Elisa Dainese, Anna Sokolina, Franca Trubiano; Instagram: Yan Wencheng, Elisa Dainese; LinkedIn: Avni Gor, Priya Jain, Anna Sokolina; Twitter: Danielle Willkens

2. **SAH WiA AG Registers Committee**

- The **SAH WiA Registers Committee** represents the breadth of interests of the SAH community by creating a comprehensive database on women’s contribution to the discipline, with the focus on Registers, Lists, and Catalogues of: 1. **WiA Bibliographic Resources**; 2. **WiA Archives/Libraries/Collection**s; 3. **WiA Networks** of Likeminded Organizations, https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org/registers-committee/

  Founding Initiative: Anna Sokolina; **Co-Chairs:** Barbara Opar and Anna Sokolina; **Members:** Laura Sánchez Carrasco, Meral Ekincioglu, Alicia Imperiale, Gül Kale, Gillian Mahoney, Rebecca Siefert, Nina Stritzler-Levine, Margaret B. Vickery

- **Meetings' Schedule:** Siefert; Meetings Agenda: Sokolina, w/members’ confirmation; publication: Sokolina Posts — SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group (hcommons.org)

- **First accomplishment**—**SAH Women in Architecture Bibliography**—is a comprehensive project-in-progress of the **SAH Women in Architecture AG** and the SAH WiA AG Registers Committee, a groundbreaking effort to document and recognize the essential role women have played in the creation of the built environment. First edition went through two rounds of peer review and has been published as the list (edited and reviewed, Chicago Manual of Style 17th edition) of over 1,100 **titles of books and theses**: 1) a PDF file, “SAH Women in Architecture Bibliography 2021” on the SAH Publications/Research website (open access since August 3, 2021) sah-women-in-architecture-bibliography-2021.pdf, and 2) the official website for this project, launched and linked to Registers Committee website (access since July 15, 2021) The SAH Women in Architecture Bibliography (hcommons.org).

3. **SAH WiA AG Legacy Committee**

- The **SAH Women in Architecture AG Legacy Committee** has been established on June 1, 2021, as a global SAH WiA AG initiative that supports the SAH mission. The initiative has been put forward by Anna Sokolina on May 3, 2021, peer reviewed by SAH WiA AG elected Officers, announced on June 3, 2021 to SAH members in **SAH Opportunities** and to SAH WiA AG members via Listserv. **Mission:** To preserve, advocate, and promote the legacy of women in architecture, and celebrate scholars, academics, activists, and other noted professionals who have contributed to the cause of gender equity across borders, demonstrated remarkable professional record, and championed the broad and progressive knowledge in the integral field of the built environment.

- **Organization:** **First Meeting** August 9, 2021, **SAH WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE AG LEGACY COMMITTEE: FIRST MEETING AGENDA 08.09.2021 — SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group (hcommons.org)**

  **Chair:** Dr. Anna Sokolina; **Committee Members:** Dr. Esra Akcan, Dr. Jelena Bogdanovic, Dr. Sigal Davidi, Dr. Catherine Erkkila, Dr. Carmen Espigel, Prof. Diane Elliott Gayer, Dr. Mary Anne Hunting, Prof. Elizabeth Martin, Dr. Kiwa Matsushita, Dr. Mari Nakahara, Dr. Katherine Kaford Papineau, Dr. Atsuko Tanaka, Dr. Thaisa Way, Dean Julie Willis, Ex-officio: Barbara Ann Opar, SAH WiA AG Exec.

  **Admin:** Dr. Rebecca Siefert

- **Programs Outline:**

  **Events and Projects:** Women in Architecture Day; Book Launch Annual Festival; Special Events;
**Recognition Program:** SAH Women in Architecture Annual Award for Distinction in Scholarship; SAH Women in Architecture Annual Honorary Designation; SAH Women in Architecture Annual Scholar Emerita [Emeriti] Recognition—*awaiting decision of the SAH Strategic Planning Committee*

**The SAH Women in Architecture Library and Archive:** Allocating the venue, staff, and funding; Developing the SAH Women in Architecture Library and Archive; Digitizing, publishing, and providing electronic access to collected records—*awaiting decision of the SAH Board*

4. **SAH 2021 Conference**
   
   **SAH WiA AG Virtual Roundtable: May 12, 2021** 12:00-1:30pm CST, “Textbooks in Focus: Women in Architecture Survey.” Moderators: Anna Sokolina and Rebecca Siefert, Panelists: Carmen Espegl, Harriet Harriss, Mary Anne Hunting, Kevin Murphy, Shelley Roff, Margaret Birney Vickery. Tech support & Promotion: SAH—Helena Dean and Christopher Kirbabas; SAH WiA AG; Pratt Institute
   
   **Initial Proposal:** “SAH WiA AG: Creating a Women in Architecture Survey Textbook” Sokolina and Siefert, 14 confirmed panelists. Proposal discussed at the First Meeting of the SAH WiA AG Center, submitted 9.12.2020 to SAH Conference Committee, revised according to received feedback.

5. **National Outreach**
   
   - **Collaboration: SAH, SAH WiA AG, SAH Archipedia, BWAF**
     
     Jan. 8, 2020–current: initial discussion Sokolina, Catherine Erkkila, Pauline Saliga, Editors-in-Chief of SAHARA, Cynthia Phifer Kracauer, Aislinn McNamara; cc SAH Board
   
   - **Collaboration: 2nd project of SAH WiA AG and AIA Silicon Valley Chapter WIA Committee**
     
     4.5.2021–current: invited virtual panel "Inspired by History to Form the Future“ at the hybrid AIA SVC WIA Annual “Architectural Intelligence” Symposium AI.21, September 28, 2021. Initiative and organization: Anna Sokolina and Dasha Ortenberg, Chair, WIA Committee, AIA SVC; moderators: Priya Jain and Anna Sokolina; panelists: Eva Alvarez and Carlos J. Gomez; Mary Brush, Yan Wencheng; cc Carla Yanni, Helena Dean—panel created, postponed till March–April 2022, due to covid
   
   - **Collaboration: SAH WiA AG, Pratt Institute SoA NYC, in-person Book Launch Event + Panel**
     
     Anna Sokolina, Dean Harriet Harriss, Ashley Simone—postponed due to covid

6. **International Collaboration**
   
   - **Collaboration: SAH WiA, SAHGB's Women Architectural Historians' Network (UK); and EAHN**
     
   
   - **Women in Architecture Wiki Edit-a-Thon:** 04.23.2021–01.01.2022 https://bit.ly/3aCN9ix Yielded: 4.69k article views; goal: 100k views; facilitator/editor: Danielle Willkens

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**List of recent activities and upcoming events/discussions**

1. **SAH WiA AG Registers Committee**
   
   [https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org/registers-committee/](https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org/registers-committee/)
   
   - **Call for Bibliographic References to Expand the Women in Architecture Bibliography** (1,100 titles—published in *Opportunities Roundup* Call for Bibliographic References to Expand the Women in Architecture Bibliography [sah.org] and distributed via Listserv [submission 9.10–11.10.21]: Barbara Opar, Anna Sokolina; started receiving responses
- **Call for Bibliographic References: Women’s Contribution to Pittsburgh Architecture**—published in *Opportunities Roundup* [Call for Bibliographic References: Women’s Contribution to Pittsburgh Architecture](sah.org) and distributed via Listserv ([submission 9.10–11.15.21](https://sah.org/jobs): Barbara Opar, Anna Sokolina:

  “In preparation for the 75th SAH Annual International Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, April 27–May 1, 2022, the SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group and SAH WiA AG Registers Committee invite submissions of bibliographic references to compose a brochure containing a bibliography on women who have contributed to Pittsburgh architecture, or whose life and work trajectories are relevant to Pittsburg’s built environments.”

- **New Project: (4.) WiA Oral History Interviews** Initiative: Pauline Saliga; put forward: Opar, Sokolina; added online: Sokolina Registers Committee – SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group ([hcommons.org](https://hcommons.org)); two recorded interviews: Siefert; transcription: Deichler w/supervision by Opar, edits: Siefert—*in progress*

- List of WiA Archives/Libraries/Collections—Ekincioglu, Opar, Sokolina—*in progress*

- **New Student Mentorship Program** Gul Kale, Sokolina—*logistics in progress*

2. **SAH WiA AG Legacy Committee**

  *SAH WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE AG LEGACY COMMITTEE: FIRST MEETING AGENDA 08.09.2021 — SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group ([hcommons.org](https://hcommons.org))*

  - This Committee has been established on June 1, 2021, Inauguration Aug. 9; 16 members. The mission, guidelines, framework, and the team to be introduced on the SAH Commons page—the Legacy Committee Website to be created following the SAH Board & Committee’s feedback on projected programs, Nov–Dec 2021—as part of SAH WiA AG official website. **Trifold Programming**; contents of two Programs await confirmation of the SAH Board: The Recognition Program awaits consideration by recently formed SAH Strategic Planning Committee; **The WIA Library and Archive Program** has been submitted to Pauline Saliga and Carla Yanni for feedback

- **New Proposal: The Inclusion and Social Justice Program**—Esra Akcan, Cornell University

- Proposal to combine the programs: Women in Architecture Day and the Annual Book Launch Festival, to celebrate recently published architecture books written by /or on woman—Esra Akcan

3. **Program “March 2022: SAH WiA AG Celebrates Women’s History Month”**

   - **Electronic flyer**—design: Sokolina, distribution via listserv: Vickery, online publication: WiA AG Communications/Admin Team

   - **Mar. 1 Greeting Letter** to SAH WiA AG Members: Sokolina, listserv distribution: Vickery

   - **Mar. (TBD) Second edition of the SAH Women in Architecture Bibliography**—online publication: to be compiled and edited by Opar, Sokolina, web design: Siefert, tech support: Deichler, Vickery; with contribution by SAH members; 2 rounds of peer review: SAH WiA AG Officers & members of the Registers and Legacy Committees


   - **Collaboration: SAH WiA AG and SAH Archipedia**: [https://www.sah.org/jobs-and-careers/opportunities/recent-opportunities/2021/08/20/default-calendar/call-for-authors-sah-wia-ag-sah-archipedia-publication-project-on-the-work-of-women-architects?_zs=BfSgX8&_zl=W7DjZ](https://www.sah.org/jobs-and-careers/opportunities/recent-opportunities/2021/08/20/default-calendar/call-for-authors-sah-wia-ag-sah-archipedia-publication-project-on-the-work-of-women-architects?_zs=BfSgX8&_zl=W7DjZ) Catherine Boland Erkkila, Gabrielle Esperdy, Anna Sokolina: flyer—Erkkila, ed. Sokolina; announce in SAH Opportunities—Erkkila; via WiA group listserv—Vickery, Sokolina, on 5 SAH WiA AG platforms--WiA AG Communications/Admin Team:

    “In anticipation of the annual program, “March 2022: SAH WiA AG Celebrates Women’s History Month,” SAH Archipedia editors and the SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group are collaborating on a publication project to highlight the work of women architects in the United
States, both the building entries and significant sites related to women’s history.” Publication: Mar. (TBA) — received c. 40 responses

- Meetings of the WiA Group Leaders
  - Feb. (TBD) SAH WiA AG Center Virtual Meeting agenda: Sokolina, organization: Siefert
  - Mar. (TBD) SAH WiA AG Registers Committee Meeting agenda: Sokolina, organization: Siefert
  - Mar. (TBD) SAH WiA AG Legacy Committee Meeting agenda: Sokolina, organization: Siefert
  - Mar. (tentative) SAH WiA AG Communications/Admin Team Meeting

  - Mar. 8 SAH CONNECTS Webinar, “Transnational Connections: Women’s Role in Disseminating Architectural Trends in the Twentieth century” organized by Vickery, with contrib. by Siefert; moderator: Margaret B. Vickery, panelists: Svava Riesto, University of Copenhagen; Henriette Steiner, University of Copenhagen; Patricia Santos Pedrosa, University of Beira Interior, Portugal; Forth Speaker TBA (invited Dr. Barbara Penner, Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, London)
  - Mar. (TBD) SAH CONNECTS Webinar #2, “Intersections: Architectural History and Conservation in South and East Asia,” moderators: Priya Jain and Yan Wencheng; panelists: Cecilia Chu, University of Hong Kong; Bai Ying, Southeast University of China; Jigna Desai, CEPT University, India; Bhawna Dandona, Sushant University, India; commenters: Delin Lai, University of Louisville KY, Mary N. Woods, Cornell University, NY
  - Mar. (TBD) SAH CONNECTS Webinar #3, “Women in Architecture: Critical Histories,” organized by Sokolina; moderators: Shelley E. Roff, University of Texas, San Antonio, and Anna Sokolina; panelists: Margaret (Molly) Lester, University of Pennsylvania, Carmen Espegel, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain; Kate Reggev, Columbia University GSAPP; Nerma Crudge, Architectural Association, London, UK; Rebecca Siefert, Governors State University, IL

- All Program Updates: weekly SAH Opportunities: Helena Dean and designated SAH WiA AG officers; SAH WiA AG Commons: https://sahwomeninarchitectureaffiliategroup.sah.hcommons.org Ekincioglu, Siefert, Sokolina; Facebook: SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group | Facebook Dainese, Sokolina; LinkedIn: SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group: Overview | LinkedIn Gor, Jain, Sokolina; Instagram: @sahwiag Dainese, Yan; Twitter: @SAHWiAag Wilkens

- Disseminate information on events organized to celebrate Women’s History Month by our sister organizations and networks, in the US (e.g., the Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Division orientation of Women architects/designer collection on 3.8 & 3.16.2022—highlight: Mari Nakahara), Europe, Australia and New Zealand, and across other geographies.

4. SAH 2022 Annual International Conference, Pittsburgh, PA
   - SAH WiA AG Membership Meeting: inquiry for a room w/ c. 50 seats, lunchtime, April 27, 28, or 29 — submitted
   - SAH Post-Conference Virtual Program, May 2022: SAH WiA AG Virtual Roundtable Proposal “Women in Architecture: Scholarship and Discoveries,” moderators: Anna Sokolina and Rebecca Siefert; panelists: Sigal Davidi, Technion Israel Institute of Technology; Harriet Harriss, Pratt School of Architecture; Shelley Roff, University of Texas, San Antonio; Christopher S. Wilson, Ringling College of Art + Design, Sarasota, FL; Paola Zellner, IAWA, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA—Proposal submitted

5. National Outreach
   - Collaboration: SAH WiA AG + BWAF + SAHARA and SAH Archipedia started by Kathryn O’Rourke, Anna Sokolina, now pending. We were exploring this type of collaboration, in communication by Sokolina, the BWAF Staff, and with SAH Officers and Editors-in-Chief of SAHARA and SAH Archipedia: Pauline Saliga, Gabrielle Esperdy, Catherine Erkkila, Jacqueline Spafford, Mark Hinckman; cc Victoria Young, Carla Yanni
Report (from Spring 2021): “We are preparing to publicize opportunities for SAH members to contribute to the BWAF’s Dynamic National Archive Collection. We would like to explore ways to link contributions to the DNA project to contributions to SAHARA: 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 of SAH’s publications to associate with DNA entries because authors could upload images of buildings designed by the architects, they write about at the same time they submit to the DNA.”

- SAH WiA AG and AIA Silicon Valley Chapter WIA Committee—panel postponed till March–April 2022, due to covid outbreak: invited panel “Inspired by History to Form the Future” at the hybrid AIA SVC WIA Annual Symposium AI.21. Organization: Anna Sokolina and Dasha Ortenberg (Chair, WIA Committee, AIA SVC); moderators: Priya Jain, Anna Sokolina; panelists: Eva Alvarez and Carlos J. Gomez; Mary Brush, Yan Wencheng

- Pratt Institute School of Architecture: SAH WiA AG Panel, New York Book Launch, and Exhibition at Seigel Gallery, Dean Harriet Harriss, Anna Sokolina, Ashley Simone—in-person event, pending to covid

- SAH WiA AG Secretary–Treasurer Meg Birney Vickery and Associate Secretary–Treasurer Ipek Mehmetoglu are working on finding sources to support research and scholarship on women in architecture, with focus on individual and institutional opportunities for the SAH WiA AG members, considering the group’s grant applications, and potential funding for the new SAH WiA AG Internship Program to be launched in 2022—guidance of the SAH Executive Committee is appreciated

6. International Outreach


- Collaboration with faculty at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark—Siefert, Vickery, logistics in progress

Rebecca Siefert’s brief: “I met with Henrietta Steiner and Svava Rietso of the University of Copenhagen... to discuss possible collaborations www.womenindanisharchitecture.dk/... they're interested in the idea of crossing boundaries between architecture on a variety of scales—‘architecture’ as buildings, ‘landscape architecture,’ ‘furniture design,’ etc.—and transnational architectural history writing, as well as oral history... They expressed interest in the possibility of collaborating with us on a panel for the 2023 SAH conference.”

- Interviews: European authors of books on women in architecture published in a foreign language Shelley Roff’s brief: “This would provide the English-speaking community access to a world of research, which they might not necessarily be able to read (or easily read). This would need to be an author that speaks English.”
**Financial Impact**

SAH WiA AG is seeking the SAH leadership and financial guidance. 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 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.

We appreciate SAH financial guidance: concerning SAH support of our projects in general, and in particular—support of our US-UK Grant Application, and other grant applications.

We seek the SAH Board and Executive Committee advice on:

1. A specialized support of software/advice/funding to publish our Registers projects, i.e.: 1) the website for the continuously expanding SAH Women in Architecture Bibliography, 2) the website for SAH WiA AG Oral History Interviews Project, 3) the Global Women in Architecture Network crosslinked database.

2. Are we allowed to hire someone (with SAH support) to assist us with the tremendous work that must be going into the Registers, developing/editing SAH Women in Architecture Bibliography and Oral History Interviews; other projects and events, e.g., the Annual March Program: Celebrating Women’s History Month?

3. We seek the SAH Board and Executive Committee support of our SAH WiA AG Legacy Committee Program: The SAH Women in Architecture Library and Archive—Program description and inquiry for support submitted to SAH Executive Committee on 8.16.2021; follow-up insights submitted on 9.10.2021.

**Recommendations for SAH Board**

We are grateful to the SAH Board for the leadership, the collegial and administrative support we have received during the establishment and the early stages of the SAH Women in Architecture Affiliate Group. We are looking forward to further 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 aim to advocate our cause of women in architecture, by celebrating women’s pioneering achievements and professional leadership, therefore we are seeking approval of our Recognition Program, developed to address historically silenced questions of gender equity, advocate change, and proposed to champion female leaders and role models in our world-largest learned society of scholars in architecture—the program is currently on hold, awaiting feedback / confirmation by recently formed SAH Strategic Planning Committee—Program description and inquiry for support submitted to SAH Executive Committee on Aug 16, 2021, discussed, and forwarded for further consideration to the SAH Strategic Planning Committee.

We seek the SAH Board and Executive Committee administrative, collegial, and fiscal support of our SAH WiA AG Legacy Committee Program: The SAH Women in Architecture Library and Archive—Program description and inquiry for support submitted.

We are in hope that our many pioneering plans and innovative projects, such as The SAH Women in Architecture Library and Archive, SAH WiA AG Recognition Program, et al., will be continuously sustained by the SAH, and endorsed both academically and through appropriate funding advice and practice by the SAH Board.