CAA VALIDATION PANELLISTS
Information for member institutes making nominations

Selection
The Green Book requires a transparent selection process in which each CAA Region ‘...can nominate up to 20 suitably qualified candidates via its Vice President, reflecting the nature of the region, from which 10 people will be appointed to sit on the Validation Panel, which in total should not exceed fifty persons.’

The panel should have as near as possible equal representation from education and practice and men and women. Part of the strength of a CAA visiting board is in the diversity of its members and CAA is committed to implementing this aspect.

Qualities
The procedures call for the nomination of ‘...suitably qualified people on the basis of their experience and demonstrable capability as experts in the judgement of educational achievement in architecture.’

Nominees should be fully qualified, registered architects and members of your institute and their qualities and skills should include:

- Ability to extract key aspects from large quantities of documents,
- Ability to scrutinise students’ work and judge its worth in the context of the schools brief/course objectives and CAA criteria
- Ability to track information, pursue missing aspects as necessary and assembling an accurate opinion from the evidence presented
- An interest in the education/learning process
- Ability to engage in professional dialogue/discussion to evaluate a school against its own objectives and CAA criteria free from personal preconceived and other school’s educational models.
- Professional conduct; i.e. keeping to the program, being discrete and respecting confidentiality.

In summary panellists should be diplomatic, rigorous and fair and held in high regard by colleagues.

Service
CAA currently undertakes an average of three CAA boards (requiring two CAA panellists one of whom chairs the board) and two with National Systems (where a single CAA representative is required per year) and thus the service is not expected to be onerous.

Whilst current validation experience is preferred, we recognise that in some countries there will be little or no opportunities for this. In the interest of diversity, we are looking first for the above qualities. If a nominee has little or no experience of validation, there are opportunities to train to ensure that standards and consistency are maintained.

An average visit, inclusive of travelling time is 6-7 days including at least one weekend. Whilst expenses (including economy fare) are reimbursable by the local school and/or institute, currently, no fees are paid.

Tony Godwin
Executive Director