The Australian Institute of Architects (AIA) is a professional body for architects in Australia. Until August 2008, the Institute operated as the "Royal Australian Institute of Architects", which remains its official name.

It represents 12,000 members and promotes quality, responsibility and sustainable design to improve the built environment.

The national institute was formed in 1930, when state architectural institutes combined to form a unified national association. A chapter is now maintained in each state and territory. The states and territories include ACT, New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia with their individual Chapter Councils.

The Institute is represented on many national and state industry and government bodies, and is affiliated with the International Union of Architects (UIA). The current national president of AIA is David Karaklin.
The University of Canberra (UC) is a public university that is located in Bruce, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory.

UC offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses covering six main learning areas: Applied Sciences, Health, Art and Design, Business, Government and Law, Education and Information Sciences, and Engineering. As of 2014, the university also offers its degrees at the Holmsglen Institute of TAFE, Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE, Northern Sydney Institute of TAFE, and South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE.

UC partners with two local Australian Capital Territory schools: UC Senior Secondary College Lake Ginninderra (formerly Lake Ginninderra Senior Secondary College) and University of Canberra High School (formerly Kaleem High School). The University of Canberra College also provides pathways into university for domestic and international students. The University of Canberra was first established in 1967 as the Canberra College of Advanced Education (CARE).

The Canberra CARE became the University of Canberra under sponsorship of Monash University in 1990. Over 70,000 students have graduated from the university since 1970.

The University of Canberra has grown by seventy-eight percent since 2007, going from 7,300 students to over 13,000 in 2014. Professor Stephen Parker is the Vice Chancellor of the university. The four faculties are: Faculty of ESTEM (Education, Science, Technology, and Maths), Faculty of Arts and Design, Faculty of Business, Government, and Law, and Faculty of Health.

The university has a number of research centers relating to its areas of research strength. The current Chancellor of the University since 1 January 2014 is Dr. Tom Crawford, AO, a human rights and social justice campaigner. The current Vice-Chancellor of the University since 1 March 2007 is Professor Stephen Parker, AO, a legal academic. Like most Australian universities, University of Canberra derives the majority of its revenue from Australian Government funding and student fees. The ACT Government provides around one percent of the university’s operating budget.
Located at a corner plot in Gulshan, the Karim residence was designed with the idea of merging traditional and contemporary building techniques. The variety of materials used in the building is harmoniously synergized to create a calm but playful symphony of the textures. 'New' was expressed by folding concrete plates and the 'past' symbolized by old hand made bricks, thus creating a sense of 'unfolding time'. This project reflects transition of the building style in our country.

The site measures 416.7 meter squares, with a beautiful view of the Dhaka cantonment on the west. Incorporating the advantage of the views and dealing with the climatic issue, these played a major decisive role in designing the form of the building. Bangladesh has a tropical monsoon climate characterized by wide seasonal variations in rainfall, high temperatures, and high humidity. Sun in this region is tilted towards the west for most of the day. The issue was addressed by a deep overhanging concrete plate, which wrapped around the entire west elevation, providing a deep shadow against the strong glare of the tropical sun. Planter beds are incorporated on the concrete plates, adding a natural softness to the structure, along with the added insulation against heat. The hanging creeper plants from these planter beds create a natural screen that changes with each season, further shading the interior spaces.

Provided the shading device on the western side, there is abundant glare-free light in the interior spaces during the daytime. Wind generally flows from the south-eastern direction in this subcontinent, and natural ventilation in this project is ensured by large uninterrupted open spaces, with balconies and large openings on the north and south facades. The openings for all the major rooms are designed to provide optimum cross ventilation.

While planning, the lifestyle of the client and her children were internalized by the design team, and their specific requirements were taken into account when designing interior spaces. Since the building is designed for a family, the balconies on the northern side were designed in a manner so as to allow communication from one to the other. While designing the landscape of the building an attempt was made to enhance the sense of shared community space when designing the landscape. Clear glass boundary walls allow the passerby to enjoy the serene view of the front yard of the building. The landscaping on every floor along with the roof garden reduces heat absorption by the concrete slabs, insulating the space below and reducing dependence on electricity for cooling in the summer. This project stays true to the architectural style native to this country and yet integrates the contemporary global style harmoniously, representing the emergence of a new building style from traditional roots. An example of successful experimentation and expression of concept, this project has a fresh approach towards apartment building design and use of materials.
The US Solar Decathlon, an international design competition for architecture students, was initiated in America in 2002 and has been held every two years since. It encourages students to work collaboratively to design and construct a single family house planned to be energy efficient and utilize solar energy.

Sponsored by the US Federal Government’s Department of Energy, it prompts students to design a house that they have been invited to build on the Mall in Washington DC. In 2015, 14 houses, designed and built for the US Solar Decathlon, were constructed in Irvine, California. Each was designed and constructed by student design teams and monitored for energy use, generation and conservation. In addition the houses were assessed by the public who were invited to visit the houses at open houses. Designed by students enrolled in university programs across America, the program also encouraged global collaborations and several of the fourteen teams that were selected to participate consisted of partnerships between universities in North America, Central America and Europe.

Each of the specially designed solar houses was assessed by experts following the completion of construction with ten contests providing the basis for examinations of the design and performance of each house. These ranged from 'Comfort and energy balance' and 'General comfort zone to 'Appliances', 'Communications', 'Market Appeal', 'Architecture', 'Affordability' and 'Engineering'. Points were assigned to each of these ten individual contests and each house assessed by technical juries. Up to 1,000 points was awarded for each house.

In 2015, the proposals were impressive and each of the fourteen houses explored different ideas relative to building form, use and materials. The house that was designed by student and faculty from Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey was the overall winner. The GROW House, designed by students from the School of Architecture and Planning at the University at Buffalo, was awarded second place with 941 points – just nine behind the winning entry. Both of these houses were shaped by considerations of climate and the impact of weather. The design of the winning scheme, a single storey house, was influenced by Hurricane Sandy – the catastrophic storm that devastated areas of New Jersey. Consequently the house was designed to resist flooding and take account of storms.

The GROW House projected opportunities for alternative lifestyles influenced by climate change. The design created an expansive glazed roof that collected water while providing shelter for interior and external spaces where occupants could garden and grow food. It was the only fully-functional home in the competition that was under the competition’s energy use threshold.

The two winning schemes highlighted the value of design and how architecture has the potential to improve the quality of life for everyone. And, while the project is clearly aimed at encouraging students to seriously consider the potential of solar energy as a fundamental source of power in housing design, the US Solar Decathlon Design Competition also provides invaluable educational experiences and collaboration in both design and construction. The 2015 US Solar Decathlon attracted international attention and representatives from other countries visited the houses in California and considered the value of this remarkable design initiative.

Brian Carter, a registered architect in the United Kingdom, is a Professor of Architecture at the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York.
The 50th Anniversary of the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) was celebrated at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in London from 15th to 18th June, 2015. It was a week-long event commemorating CAA’s first 50 years while also looking to the future. The celebrations consisted of the CAA Council meetings and General Assembly and an International Summit on 16th and 17th June with the theme “Designing City Resilience” and other additional activities.

The council meeting on 15th June was held in the Council chamber at the RIBA. Council members from Australia, Cyprus, India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Kenya, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka attended the meeting. Following the council meeting the CAA council were hosted by the RIBA President Stephen Hodder for a dinner.

The CAA held its Designing City Resilience Summit on 16th and 17th June. The two-day international summit comprised of 18 sessions, where attendees collaborated with experts from across the world to learn and share ideas on city resilience.

The RIBA also organized a student’s competition as part of the CAA 50th Anniversary and International Summit. The competition aimed to encourage students from around the Commonwealth countries to send in entries on the theme of “Visualizing the Future of the City”. The entries were exhibited at the RIBA headquarters during the event. There was a RIBA President’s Reception on 16th June where the winner of the CAA student’s competition was announced.

The Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects in collaboration with the RIBA hosted a very special Gala dinner to celebrate the 50th Anniversary Congress of the CAA on 17th June. This event was held in the remarkable surroundings of the Drapers Hall within the City of London. The evening was concluded by an entertaining speech from 2015 RIBA Royal Gold Medal winners Sheila O’Donnell and John Tuomey.

A General Assembly, which was an open meeting for all member organizations, was held on 18th June. The key topics for discussion were constitutional and structural reforms, the development of a new web portal and the need to reconsider the CAA’s role in recognizing schools of Architecture. Discussions also included ways to make the organization sustainable for the next 50 years plus the election of a new president and other office-bearers along with various committee members. Peter Obari was voted as European Region representative and to lead a group addressing Resilience and urban growth issues. RIBA President Stephen Hodder signed an MoU with RICA president Sam Obah during a break in the proceedings to encourage Canada to rejoin the CAA. Canada agreed to reconsider their position. The General Assembly marked the end of the week-long event.
'DESIGNING CITY RESILIENCE' SUMMIT AT RIBA, LONDON

The Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) celebrated its 50th Anniversary at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in London from 15th to 16th June, 2013. The event included a Council meeting and a Council dinner on the 15th, followed by an international summit on “Designing City Resilience” on the 16th and the 17th, and a General Assembly on the 18th.

The two-day international summit comprised of 16 sessions, where attendees collaborated with experts from across the world to learn and share ideas on city resilience. A total of 256 delegates representing 26 countries attended the event. 36 international speakers, involved in the design and construction, development and infrastructure, city leadership and governance, insurance and finance, and technology and communications of a city, were drawn from across the world to speak in the Summit. The Designing City Resilience panel, chaired by Peter Olson, consisted of renowned and active practitioners, policy experts, academics and media professionals.

Names and details of speakers and panelists can be found in www.designingcityresilience.com/programme/speakers. There were 6 panel sessions on key themes that make up City Resilience, namely:

- Defining City Resilience - RickyBurzetti, LSE, Jo da Silva, author of the definitive actionable piece on City Resilience and head of International Development, Arup and Nancy Kele, MD, Rockefeller Foundation, the prominent organization working in the resilience field around the world.
- Designing places for people - Charles Landry, key consultant to international cities, Saskia Sassen, Sociologist, Columbia University, Helle Saholi, Founding Partner of Gehl Architects.
- The role of technology in improving resilience - Jen Hawes-Hewitt, Dan Hill, Martin Powell and Rick Robinson, all from global consultancies who have worked in numerous global cities were joined by Jonas Kroustrup, CEO, City of Vejle.
- City Resilience: Vision, strategy, barriers and lessons so far - The world's first CRO panel included the CROs from the cities of Glasgow, Rome, Chennai, Melbourne and Rotterdam.
- Creating long-term value through innovative city investment strategies - Kate Brown, from international developer and investor Grovenor, Sarah Toy, CRO, Bristol, Julia Bickell, Hong Kong based financier from the IFC and Brian Field, Development Advisor, European Investment Bank.
- Climate Change and shocks to the system - Claire Bonham-Carter, Aecom, Greg Lowe, Wills Group, Daniel Maylan, TfL, and Mayor’s advisor on infrastructure and Peter Williams, CTO, IBM.
'DESIGNING CITY RESILIENCE' SUMMIT AT RIBA, LONDON

The summit also emphasized on three case study presentations. The first one highlighted Barcelona—a city aiming to address the social and economic stresses as a result of infrastructure failures and pollution. The second presentation brought Bristol under the spotlight as a city which, due to rapid growth, is investing in designing places for people by forming ‘decentralized governance structures, empowering citizens, minimizing risk and creating a more resource efficient future’. The third case study on New York underlines its climate change and shocks and how it faces the ‘chronic stresses of a large successful city. The city’s new Pathways strategy focuses on developing policies to improve the quality of life of its citizens, support economic success, and tackle social inequality, whilst also mitigating the risks of climate change’.

The event also incorporated a City Resilient Challenge as a participatory way of bringing architects from around the world to propose strategies addressing the challenges faced by 11 international cities: Austin, Barcelona, Bristol, Chennai, Glasgow, Manchester, Melbourne, New York, Rio de Janeiro, Rotterdam and Vejle. The Designing City Resilience team, in conjunction with Aecom, then formed 4 composite cities based on the challenges these cities faced: Emerging City, Mega City, City Region and Innovative City. Each composite city was assigned a Mayor, namely Peter Haddad (Mega City), Nancy Kele (Innovative City), Charles Ledward (Emerging City) and Rod MacDonald (City Region). They, along with the attendees, then established innovative policies to address the challenges, which were then presented by the Mayors at the end of the summit. Taken from the four city presentations, a set of key guiding principles were to be devised.

The Designing City Resilience Summit had a total of 22 supporters:

- 3 Headline sponsors: Aecom, Grosvenor and Polyplumb
- Content Partners – Broadway Malyan, Lend Lease and Mott MacDonald
- 12 event partners encompassing global philanthropic organisations such as the Rockefeller Foundation through to government bodies such as the Government Office for Science
- 4 global media partners

The Designing City Resilience is the first independent non-aligned forum for international experts to shape future thinking on city resilience.
RIBA STUDENT’S COMPETITION: VISUALISING THE FUTURE OF THE CITY
What will your city look like in 2065?

The competition, organised and managed by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) on behalf of the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA), as part of the CAA 50th Anniversary and Designing City Resilience Summit hosted by the RIBA, aimed to highlight the diversity of challenges, opportunities and responses faced by cities throughout the world, from large nation states to small island communities.

The subject was inspired by the work of the UK Government’s ForeSight Future of Cities project which has been considering the way in which societies will adapt and respond to these issues will affect the future of cities in the UK. The ideas competition was open to all students of international schools of architecture and asked entrants to show an understanding of the issues faced by cities around the globe.

Around 250 international schools were invited to participate, these included CAA validated schools, RIBA validated schools, and other schools in the RIBA’s network.

The participating schools offered the competition to their students and were asked to select and submit a winning entry for final judging. The competition generated a great international response, with 33 entries received in total, 18 of them from outside of the UK.

All submitted entries were judged anonymously by a panel comprising Rukshan Widyankara, CAA President, Stephen Hodder, RIBA President, and Peter Oborn, RIBA Vice President International.

The winners were announced at the RIBA President’s Reception on the 16 June 2013 as part of the CAA 50th Anniversary and Designing City Resilience Summit, and were:

1st Prize: The Cambodod Solar Estate by John Cook, University of Westminster (CAS);
2nd Prize: The Floating Square Mle, London by Asria Stefanova, Newcastle University (CIT);
Joint 3rd Prize: Resilient City by Rukshan Widyankara (Lead) and Yuki Abe, Kurimoto Ishihara, Hiroki Oshima, Kohei Osako, Shunsuke Sato, Kana Morizaka, Zhang Yangsong from NIE University, Japan;
Joint 3rd Prize: My Intelligent Efficient City by Rukshan Widyankara (Lead) and Yuki Abe, Kurimoto Ishihara, Hiroki Oshima, Kohei Osako, Shunsuke Sato, Kana Morizaka, Zhang Yangsong from NIE University, Japan;

All entries were exhibited between 15 and 16 June during the CAA 50th Anniversary and Designing City Resilience Summit hosted at the RIBA Headquarters.

The four winning entries have also been exhibited during the "Drawn To The Future" exhibition, curated by the Building Centre and exhibited in its Galleries in London from 27 July to 3rd October 2013. The exhibition presented the innovative technologies that are changing the way we see the future.

Rukshan Widyankara, CAA President said: "While, architecture of all entries have been executed with relaxed, broad strokes, they are indeed impressive, generous, and are of very high quality. They provide excellent premises for the development of new functional concepts for cities needing resilience, and serve our intention excellently. I am thankful for RIBA for organising the Competition and setting the standard for future competitions in the Commonwealth."

Stephen R. Hodder MBE, RIBA President (2013-2015) said: "I am delighted and honoured to be part of the judging panel for the CAA Student Competition 2013, which is an important part of the 50th Anniversary General Assembly of the CAA being celebrated in London at the RIBA. The entrants to competition give us a view of future of our profession and architecture across the Commonwealth. It is wonderful that the CAA is able to showcase this to the world. Congratulations to the well deserving winners and to the great ideas and enthusiasm demonstrated in all the entries."

Peter Oborn, RIBA Vice President International said: "I'm delighted that the competition has attracted such a wide range of responses from around the world, all of which reflect a real engagement with the subject. The entries illustrate the range of challenges faced by the cities of tomorrow and it's been particularly interesting to see the way in which competitors have engaged with the underlying issues and have interpreted the brief according to their local circumstances."
ROBERT MATTHEW AWARD - ANNOUNCEMENT

CAA is pleased to announce the Robert Matthew Award for 2015 to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the CAA. The Robert Matthew award is given out every three years for a body of work marking an innovative contribution to development of architecture relevant to the country or region of operation.

ABOUT ARCHITECT ROBERT MATTHEW: Sir Robert Hogg Matthew lived from 1906 to 1975. He was an architect who became a leading member of the modernist movement. He became a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1955 and served as its President from 1962 to 1964. He was awarded Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1952 and Knighted in 1962. He was also President of the Commonwealth Association of Architects and the International Union of Architects.

ABOUT THE AWARD: An executive meeting in Kuala Lumpur led by then CAA President Professor Peter Johnson in 1982 established this Award to commemorate CAA's founder Sir Robert Matthew. It recognizes innovative contributions to the development of architecture in the Commonwealth context. The award is to be made to an architect or architectural office making the most outstanding contribution having particular relevance to the country or region in which the architect or architectural office operates.

PAST WINNERS: The past winners represent a distinguished body of architects who have provided many Commonwealth countries with significant and lasting architectural endowments.

1. Philip Cox of Australia - 1983
3. Raj Rewal of India - 1989
5. Ian Ritchie Architects of UK - 1994
7. TR Hamzah and Yeang of Malaysia - 2000
8. Balkrishna Doshi of India - 2003

CONDITIONS:

1. The award is given once in the term of General Assembly of CAA.
2. The award is to recognize innovative contributions to the development of architecture, especially in the Commonwealth context, by an architect or architectural practice nominated by a Member Organization of the Commonwealth Association of Architects.
3. The award is to be made to an architect or architectural office making the most outstanding contribution to the development of architecture having particular relevance to the country or region in which the architect or architectural office operates.
4. The award may be made for cumulative contributions made over the current session of the CAA Assembly and the immediately preceding session.
5. Each Member Organization (MO) will make one nomination, not necessarily restricted to the members of that Institute or association.
6. Submissions are to be made electronically on jpg or pdf formats to A1 paper size (594mm x 841mm) which should be capable of being printed at a high-quality resolution. These should be in landscape format only. The total combined size of the upload should not exceed 25MB per image.
7. Maximum no of A1 papers submission are limited to 10.
8. The nomination to be submitted to the Secretariat of the Commonwealth Association of Architects with appropriate supporting material on or before the stipulated date.
9. The awards shall be judged by a jury of two members of the profession and one other, appointed by the President of the Commonwealth Association of Architects.

SCHEDULE OF AWARD: The schedule of the process involved in selecting the Award Recipient:

- 10th December 2015 – Deadline for submission. The Jury shall base its assessment on nominations received prior to this date.
- January 2016 – Jury review. The Jury shall review the shortlisted candidates and prepare their final recommendation.
- January 2016 – Award Recipient is chosen through a majority vote. The decision shall be final and without appeal.
- February– March 2016 – Award Recipient receive the prize. The Award Ceremony will take place in Lahore, Pakistan where the Award Recipient shall receive a Certificate, Cash Prize, and a Medal.

DECLARATION OF AUTHORSHIP & ACCEPTANCE OF COMPETITION REGULATIONS: A declaration should accompany all submissions agreeing to abide by the award conditions and accepting the decision of the Judging Panel as final.

COPYRIGHT: The ownership of Copyright in the work of all Nominees will be in accordance with the UK Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, that is Copyright rests with the author of the submitted design.

ENQUIRIES: The award is being managed and administered by the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA). All enquiries relating to the award should be directed to comarchitect.org@gmail.com with a copy to admin@comarchitect.org. Neither the organizers, sponsors nor members of the judging panel should be solicited for information as this may lead to disqualification from the Award.