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Cool Compartments

The Hyundai Card Air Lounge

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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Greetings. This is my first column in *LD+A*, and as I begin my term serving as your new IES president, both are a true honor. Over the years having read the past presidents' insightful columns, I sit here intimidated, to say the least.

Last year was incredible. Serving as your vice president, I was able to cover most of the U.S. and Canada awarding the new 10th Edition of the *IES Lighting Handbook* to random winners as part of the IES Roadshow. The time I spent with each Section was truly valuable. We were able to visit almost 80 cities from Alaska to Texas and meet an amazing cross section of the American and Canadian lighting community.

If you missed it, the IES Roadshow provided an overview and update on the IES and its latest activities. I provided a brief overview on the new *Lighting Handbook*, and hopefully by now, you have downloaded the free webinar by David DiLaura to get the full skinny on the fat reference manual. As a designer, it pleases me that we concluded with a CEU-accredited program on sustainable lighting and daylighting. The CEU credits allowed the program to be adopted by allied organizations such as the AIA, USGBC and all of the lighting folks that want to keep their LC current. This program also allowed the local Sections to increase their own visibility and potential membership. The great news is the Roadshow will continue on next year.

The reason for the Roadshow was relatively simple. I wanted to put a face on the IES, as this is *your* professional organization and I wanted to provide defined deliverables to all members, whether you reside in a large city or a remote area. The honest and direct feedback we received was diverse and pointed. The topics ranged from sectional organization to questioning the Strategic Plan, to expressing the need for more membership benefits, to the cost of membership for retiring members. All suggestions were heard, documented and relayed back to the Board at the quarterly meetings. Hopefully you will see most of them addressed over the next few months.

YOURS, MINE AND OURS

I planned on discussing in this article how, as this is *your* organization, it is critical for each member to participate at any level of involvement that you can; instead, I am reminded of my oldest daughter's college graduation a few months ago. The commencement speaker discussed

how life's path is not necessarily straight, followed by the topic of the recent economic recession and how historically unique this time is. The new graduates were told to utilize their skills to excel in their career and life, and the importance of finding a mentor for technical and moral growth. Like most commencement speeches, inspirational messages were added about staying true to your values, fighting to do what is right and staying humble. As a proud parent of an unemployed graduate, I began to reflect on those themes of maximizing your skills through mentorship, guiding yourself through values and keeping your humility. Was the wisdom offered to the students or actually directed to the parents? It was equally appropriate for both. The message is so strong, so take an additional moment to reread the previous sentences.

I ask, can these themes be adopted by all IES members? After all, it's *your* society that exists solely to benefit you, either directly or indirectly. I look forward to serving with you, welcome you all to participate actively in the IES and hope that we all instill the same feeling of pride into everything that we do. With this renewed spirit, membership benefits will continue to grow, membership numbers will grow, and the strength and the visibility of the IES in the entire community will grow.

As the incoming president, I am learning about all of my new responsibilities and so far the one that I am most proud of is the upcoming IES Annual Conference. Keep November 11-13 open as you are going to want to be there. We have adopted the same organizational format for the seminars as the *Handbook* and, for the first time that I can remember, it will include a complete design track. The City of Minneapolis has a lot to offer and the weather is going to be perfect. The recent meetings in Toronto and Austin were great, and due to the hard work and great organizational efforts of the team, including Valerie Landers and Jennifer Jaques, this meeting will be unforgettable. Please be sure to tell them thanks for all of their efforts. Don't miss it.

Thanks again for your support and please let me know what I can do for you and *your* society.

CHIP ISRAEL
FELLOW IALD,
LEED AP, IES PRESIDENT

