

Republic of the Philippines
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC)
PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE (PRBoA)

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

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I. Introduction

For the year 2007, the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture (**PRBoA**) focused its efforts on several key areas of concern and continued the monitoring of the conditions affecting the practice of architecture by carrying out the following actions:

- 1) Campaigned for the implementation of R.A. No. 9266 and its IRR with the Government's **executive branch** i.e. different departments/ line agencies of the national government, the Legislative branch and selected local government units (LGUs), thru their city or municipal mayors, primarily through the preparation of the pertinent **PRBoA** position papers and related correspondences..
- 2) Drafted a *motu proprio* administrative complaint against a registered and licensed architect (**RLA**) who is supporting an unregistered person i.e. involving the illegal practice of architecture and publicly calling the attention of other entities who continually misrepresent themselves as registered professionals; drafting of various forms of administrative and criminal complaints against both public/ private sector violators of R.A. No. 9266;
- 3) Prepared various resolutions relevant to the practice as envisioned under **R.A. No. 9266** (The Architecture Act of 2004), its IRR and derivative regulations; participation in legislative proceedings related to bills affecting the practice of architecture or of conditions affecting the physical (built and natural) environments; review and update of the Standards of Professional Practice for RLAs (part of the IRR of R.A. No. 9266);
- 4) Formulated and prescribed the rules and regulations for the registration of architectural firms, corporations, companies, partnerships or associations engaged in the practice of architecture, as part of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (**IRR**) of **R.A. No. 9266** (The Architecture Act of 2004).
- 5) Formulated and prescribed the rules and regulations in granting temporary/ special permits to qualified individual foreign architects.
- 6) Participated in the preparation of the architecture profession for free trade in its professional services within and among the ASEAN countries through a Mutual Recognition Agreement (**MRA**). This agreement shall include the setting up of standards and commitment of technological transfer among the ASEAN Member countries.
- 7) Prepared the 2007 PRBoA data compact disc (CD) for free dissemination to all architectural organizations, schools and related stockholders and to concerned national and local government entities.
- 8) Operationalized the other PRBoA website outside of the PRC website (at www.architectureboard.ph initially searchable via the Yahoo search engine) and the prepared the accompanying PRBoA data compact disc (CD) for dissemination to stakeholders.

Despite the limited time for the adjustment periods of the three (3) new members of the fully **reconstituted PRBoA**, several strategies for the full implementation and enforcement of R.A. No.9266 were advanced and successfully disseminated.

II. COMPOSITION OF THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE (PRBoA)

The three (3) Members of the PRBoA for the year 2007 and their respective areas of practice are the following:

CHAIRMAN

(started 16 November 2006) : **Archt. Armando N. Alli**, *fuap, piep, aaif, picam*
Site/ physical planning and conceptual architectural design, space planning and management (general private practice); physical planning and building plan/design regulation and construction arbitration/ mediation (public sector practice)

MEMBERS :

(started 03 November 2006) : **Archt. Angeline T. Chua Chiacco**, *fuap, piep*
Private practice, Architectural Design, Master site development & physical planning, space planning

(started 30 March 2007) : **Archt. Marietta B. Segovia**, *uap, piid, aaif*
Space Planning and Interior Design,
private practice

replacing

Archt. Miguel Caluza, *fuap*
Member until March 30, 2007

III. Architecture Licensure Examinations (ALEs)

A. Conduct of Examinations

The **PRBoA** reviewed and deliberated on the conduct and results of two (2) licensure examinations for 2007. Member AT Chua Chiacco was part of the delegation that conducted the Special Professional Board Licensure Examination (SPBLE) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) held late December 2007 in two sites, Al-Khobar and Jeddah. This was the first **ALE** to be held outside Metro Manila and outside the country. It was conducted upon instruction from PGMA through the Department of Labor (**DoLE**).

Through **Board Resolution No. 3, Series of 2007**, the **PRBoA** consolidated three (3) subjects, namely Utilities System, Structural Design and Building Materials & Construction into one (1) integrated subject, to be held on the same day as History, Professional Practice and Ethics.

The **PRBoA** conducted four (4) licensure examinations for the year 2007; two (2) in Manila and the other two (2) in KSA.

- 1) January 9, 20 and 21, 2007 **ALE** in Manila with 735 examinees;
- 2) June 28, 29 and July 1 **ALE** in Manila with 1,141 examinees;
- 3) December 21 & 22, 2007 Special **ALE** in Al-Khobar, KSA, with 66 examinees; and
- 4) December 24 & 25, 2007 Special **ALE** in Jeddah, KSA with 41 examinees.

B. Release of Examination Results

The **PRBoA** successfully met its target schedules for the release of results of the **ALEs**, to wit:

- 1) January 2007 - released on February 09, 2007, 15 working days after the last day of the examination;
- 2) June 2007 - released on July 20, 2007, 15 working days after the last day of the examination;
- 3) December 23, 2007 (2 **ALEs**) - released on January 23, 2007; and

Percentage of passing for the examinations as follows:

| | January 2007 | June 2007 | December 2007 (2 ALEs) | Total |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Number of Examinees | 735 | 1,141 | 107 | 1983 |
| Total Number Passed | 370 | 467 | 31 | 868 |
| Percentage | 50.34% | 40.93% | 28.97% | 43.77 % |

C. Oath-taking Activities

The **PRBoA** and **PRC** organized and administered two (2) mass oath-taking ceremonies of newly registered and licensed architects (**RLAs**) in coordination with the United Architects of the Philippines (**UAP-IAPOA**) for the January 2007 and the June 2007 passers, both held at the Grand Ballroom of the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila. Guest Speakers were Archt. Prosperidad C. Luis, *fuap* on March 17, 2007, and Dr. Fernando Nakpil Zialcita on August 18, 2007. PRC Commissioner Nilo B. Rosas and PRC Secretray of the PRBs Atty. Carlos G. Almelor also graced the August oath-taking ceremony.

The **PRBoA** released the results ahead of the target dates as required under existing PRC rules. Both members of the **PRBoA** prepared and encoded five hundred (500) test questions per board subject: Member ATCC prepared 500 questions for each of the three subjects : Structural Design, Utility Systems, Building Materials and Construction. Member MBS prepared 500 questions for the consolidated Architectural Design and Site Planning subjects.

D. Zero Anomaly

The **PRBoA** continues to be steadfast in its commitment for a zero-anomaly examination. To assure this objective, the **PRBoA** together with all concerned **PRC** examination supervisors, undertook all examination procedures in strict compliance to set safeguards.

DATA SUMMARY

| Activities | January 2007 Regular ALE | June 2007 Regular ALE | December 2007 Special ALE | December 2007 Special ALE | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| EXAM DATE | January 9,20 & 21 | June 28,29 /July 1 | December 20, 21 | December 24, 25 | |
| VENUE | Manila | Manila | Al-Khobar, KSA | Jeddah, KSA | |
| DATE RELEASED | February 09,2007 | July 20, 2007 | January 23, 2008 | January 23, 2008 | |
| NO. OF EXAMINEES | 735 | 1,141 | 66 | 41 | 1,983 |
| TOTAL NO. PASSED | 370 | 467 | 16 | 15 | 868 |
| PERCENTAGE OF PASSING | 50.34 % | 40.93% | 24.24% | 36.59% | 43.77% |
| OATH TAKING DATE/ VENUE | March 17 2007 Grand Ballroom, Sofitel Phil, Plaza | August 18, 2007 Grand Ballroom, Sofitel Phil. Plaza | February 2008, Dharan | 29 February 2008, Riyadh | |

E. Recognition Given to ALE Topnotchers

As a special citation to topnotchers of the Architectural Licensure Examinations (**ALEs**), the **PRBoA** presented certificates of recognition and medals to the topnotchers during the oath-taking ceremonies held on **March 17, 2007** for the January 2007 passers and on **August 18, 2007** for the June 2007 passers, both held at the Sofitel Plaza Hotel, Pasay City.

The Award of Excellence and Recognition Night was held immediately after both oath-taking ceremonies in recognition of the exemplary performance of the **ALE** top-notchers by Pacific Paints "Boysen" Philippines.

IV. Implementation of R.A. No. 9266 – Architecture Act of 2004

For the year 2007, the **PRBoA** concentrated its efforts on the full implementation and enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266** (the Architecture Act of 2004), signed by H.E. President Gloria Macapagal - Arroyo on March 17, 2004 and effective 10 April 2004. Its IRR took effect on 01 December 2004. The following actions which were undertaken by the **PRBoA** for the year:

- 1) The **PRBoA** lobbied and campaigned for the full implementation and strict enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266** by sending official letters, position papers and memoranda to the different key offices of the **executive** branch of the national government as well as selected local

government units (**LGUs**); position papers specifically were addressed to the LGU mayors, vice mayors as chair of the municipal/city councils, building officials, legal officers, etc. for the LGUs and to Secretaries and agency heads for the executive branch of the national government and other agencies of government that deal with architects and architectural works;

- 2) Formulation of generic letters, papers, memoranda, complaints, etc. to be used by all **UAP-IAPOA** chapter members and other architectural organizations to establish a uniform and unified standard in information dissemination and in filing complaints for willful violations of **R.A. No. 9266** by local and national government officials;
- 3) Public information and awareness through the different media regarding fake architects most of whom were previously and erroneously perceived by media and by the general public as licensed professionals;
- 4) Formulation of policies regarding the use of the title “ARCHITECT” through **Board Resolution No. 04, Series of 2007**;
- 5) Formulation of policies for the separate registration with the **PRC** of **architectural** firms, companies, partnerships, corporations, or associations of registered and licensed architect (**RLAs**) in full compliance with **R.A. No. 9266**;
- 6) Formulation of policies for the issuance of **special/temporary permits** to **individual foreign architects** in full compliance with **R.A. No. 9266**; and
- 7) Prescribing guidelines for accomplishing Logbook on diversified experiences in Architecture.

For 2007, the **PRBoA** consistently monitored developments concerning the full implementation and enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266** and its IRR. Among the key developments being monitored are:

- 1) the matter of the **preparation/ signing/ dry-sealing of architectural** documents as part of **building permit application** process required by the Department of Public Works and Highways (**DPWH**) under the **2004 Revised IRR** of Presidential Decree (**P.D.**) **No. 1096** (The **1977 National Building Code of the Philippines/ NBCP**); the **PRBoA** has consistently and officially maintained that the DPWH (a line agency) does **not** regulate matters concerning **architectural** practice and that there is **no** injunction that applies to **R.A. No. 9266**; only the **PRBoA** as mandated by **R.A. No. 9266** regulates architectural practice, and the **PRBoA** implements and enforces **R.A. No. 9266** and its derivative regulations through the **PRC** (a quasi-judicial and quasi-legislative body); the **PRBoA** believes that 2007 was the opportune time to officially discuss the matter with the Professional Regulatory Board of Civil Engineering (**PRBoCE**), possibly in a non-confrontational manner, under the **PRC**'s auspices; in 2007, the **PRBoA** believed that the **PRC** must decide firmly on the matter of the official and legal signatory to all **architectural** documents as the worst-case alternative is for the concerned Professional Regulatory Boards (**PRBs**) to possibly resort to independent legal action to uphold certain rights guaranteed by their respective professional regulatory laws; and
- 2) on the separate matter of the **preparation/ signing/ dry-sealing of “subdivision” plan** documents as part of **development applications** required by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (**HLURB**); as regards the matter of the official and legal signatory to “subdivision” plans, the **PRBoA** believes that 2007 was the opportune time to officially discuss

the matter among the four (4) **PRBs** involved i.e. **PRBoA**, **PRBoEP** (environmental planning), **PRBoCE** and **PRBoGE** (geodetic engineering), possibly also in a non-confrontational manner, under the **PRC**'s auspices. In this manner, the proper nomenclature of the pertinent physical planning documents could be agreed upon by the concerned **PRBs** and this would therefore serve as the primary guide for the **HLURB** in its future policy-making functions; similar to the issue of **architectural** documents, the **PRBoA** believes that the **PRC** must decide firmly on the matter as the worst-case alternative is for the **PRBs** to possibly similarly resort to independent legal action to uphold certain rights guaranteed by their respective professional regulatory laws.

A. Logbook on Diversified Experience in Architecture (LDEA)

Revisions to the approved **LDEA**, series of 2000 was necessary to properly conform to **R.A. No. 9266** and its IRR. The **LDEA** for examinees is now being implemented and at present is still undergoing further studies and review on its procedure of accomplishment, particularly the **PRBoA**'s questioned matter of the supposedly mandatory signatures of the Deans/ School Heads i.e. the **PRBoA** fully maintains that the Deans' signatures are only optional as the **LDEA** is **not** an academic document and since the practice has **no** legal basis under r.A. No. 9266. The matter is still to be discussed at length with the different schools through the Council of Deans & Heads of Architecture Schools of the Philippines (**CODHASP**), under **UAP-IAPOA** auspices.

B. Standards of Professional Practice for the Architects

The **PRBoA** in coordination with the **UAP-IAPOA** is currently reviewing and updating the Standards of Professional Practice (the Architect's National Code) to conform with **R.A. No. 9266**, thereby addressing the different demands and problems facing the practice.

C. PRBoA's Regulatory Functions

The **PRBoA** signed and issued **868** certificates of registration to all successful examinees who passed the **ALE**, upon completion of registration requirements and **30** duplicates and or replacement certificates for **RLAs** who applied for the re-issuance of certificates due to loss or damage of the original.

As regards complaints against **RLAs** filed with the **PRC**, the **PRBoA** attended to about fifty (50) administrative cases. The **PRBoA** attended 45 scheduled hearings and acted on 47 case folders.

| MEMBERS OF THE PRBoA : | CASES | STATUS : |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1) ARMANDO N. ALLI | Cayanan vs. Co | Pending |
| | Tan vs. Santiago | Pending |
| | Mansukhani vs. Chua,Go &Sy | Pending |
| | Cua vs. Aurellio | Pending |
| 2) ANGELINE T. CHUA CHIACO | Ang vs. de La Rosa | Pending |
| | PRC vs. Dayagbil | Pending |
| | Salumbides vs. Paco | Pending |
| | Wood vs. Baduya | Pending |
| | Concepcion vs. Rabarra | Pending |
| | Baluyot vs. Maducduc | Amicable Settlement |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | Santos vs. Litonjua | Settled but PRC was not informed |
| 3) MARIETTA B. SEGOVIA | Ong vs. Gan | Pending |
| | Cepeda vs. Santiago | Dismissed |
| | Cowper vs. Sabado | Pending |
| | Smith vs. Gamil | Pending |
| | Tan vs. Santiago | Pending |
| | Del Rosario vs. Reyes | Pending |

V. ASEAN Architects

The **PRBoA** and the **PRC** are addressing the concerns brought about by the General Agreement on Trade, Tariff and Services of the 1960s/ the World Trade Organization (**GATTs/ WTO**) since the Philippines is part of these economies thru the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (**AFAS**). On **April 18, 19 & 20, 2007**, the **ASEAN Conference** was hosted by the Philippines and was held at the Hyatt Hotel in Manila, with **PRBoA** Members Chua Chiacco and Segovia in attendance.

As regards the **AFAS**, the **ASEAN Architect** through the **PRBoA** has participated in mutual recognition agreements (**MRAs**) which were offered in Indonesia on September 2006 on a bi-lateral level with the ASEAN member countries. The **MRA for Architectural Services** was signed in November 2007 for the Philippine Government by DTI Secretary Peter Favila. It is expected to take effect in five (5) years time i.e. late 2012.

Meanwhile, the **PRC** is continuously negotiating for foreign reciprocity within **AFAS** and **WTO**. The **PRBoA** has been supportive of the **PRC** thrust but such reciprocity requires compliance with Continuing Professional Development (**CPD**) initiatives which the **PRBoA** periodically looks into, independently or in conjunction with **CPD** providers such as the **UAP-IAPOA** and other architectural organizations.

VI. The PRBoA, CODHASP and CHED

On March 17, 2007, the **PRBoA** had a meeting with the Commission on Higher Education (**CHED**) and with some representatives of **CODHASP** for the Policies, Standards and Guidelines (**PSG**) for the enhancement of the syllabi of the **B.S. Architecture** course.

A. Harmonize the Licensure Examination

On April 25, 2007 during the **Tripartite Network Business Meeting** organized by **CODHASP** and the **UAP-IAPOA**, the **PRBoA** discussed the proposed **CHED B.S. Architecture Curriculum Course Syllabi** to align the Architecture Licensure Syllabi with the Scope of the Architecture Licensure Examination (**ALE**). The goal is to develop competencies in preparation for the **ALE**.

The **Tripartite Network** and **CODHASP** meetings held during the UAP National Conventions and National Conferences have been the established venues for the consultation, discussion and resolution of concerns between the academe and the **PRBoA**.

VII. Low - Performing Schools

With the objective of improving the quality of architecture education, the **PRBoA** identified schools with low performance in the 2007 ALEs in Manila. The **PRBoA** recognizes the need to schedule school inspections to determine the cause of the low performance of some of these schools and also to check on the professional qualifications of faculty members in full compliance with **P.D. No. 8981** (The PRC Modernization Act of 2000), **R.A. No. 9266**, other related laws and their respective IRRs.

VIII. Continuing Dialogue with the Academe, Graduates, ALE Candidates and Students

To ensure that the academic community, graduates, ALE candidates and the students have a clear understanding of the Architects' Licensure Examination (**ALE**) System, the **PRBoA** undertakes a continuing dialogue with the academe and the architecture students. Upon invitation of the **UAP-IAPOA**, some seminars or dialogues were conducted in some schools of architecture or at the **UAP-IAPOA** head office. This has probably aided somewhat in improving the performance of some schools in the **ALE**.

Before every **ALE**, the **PRBoA** in coordination with the United Architects of the Philippines Graduate Auxillary (**UAPGA**), a UAP-affiliated organization for graduates of architecture conducts a one (1)-day orientation in preparation for those taking the **ALE**.

IX. Dialogue with Government Agencies

A. DPWH

The **PRBoA** continuously communicates with **DPWH** on an official basis, on matters affecting the profession. Letters and memos were sent to the Office of the **DPWH** Secretary regarding the full implementation and enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266**. Unfortunately, most of these have had no responses, whether official or unofficial, prompting the **PRBoA** to commence with the preparation of administrative and civil complaints against the **DPWH** Secretary, for filing in early 2008, as part of the 2008 **PRBoA** program to focus on the **legislative and judicial branches** of the national government.

B. Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita

On the morning of **September 20, 2007**, the entire **PRBoA** met with **Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita** at the Guest House of Malacañang Palace to inform the Executive Secretary about the pressing problem facing the **PRBoA** as regards the national implementation and enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266**.

The Executive Secretary promised that his office would assist the **PRBoA** in securing the necessary legal opinion/s of the Department of Justice (**DoJ**) regarding the interpretation of **R.A. No. 9266** with respect to the writ of preliminary

injunction on Sections 302.3 and 302.4 of the 2004 Revised IRR of **P.D. No. 1096** (the 1977 National Building Code of the Philippines/ **NBCP**). However, by year end, the PRBoA had not yet received any communication from the ES.

X. PRBoA Meetings, Resolutions, Memoranda, Letters, etc.

The **PRBoA** had total of eighteen (18) *en banc* meetings in and out of the **PRC**. The **PRBoA** also drafted about fourteen (14) resolutions of which six (6) were approved by the **PRC**. About seventeen (17) memoranda to the **PRC** were also prepared covering various topics. The **PRBoA** has acted on about 109 letters and invitations and has drafted/ issued more than one hundred and fifty (150) letters to various entities as part of its 2007 campaign with the **executive** branch of the government for the full implementation and enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266**. The **PRBoA** also sent out more than nine hundred (900) letters of invitation to inductees, presidents/ deans/ heads of architectural schools, guests, etc. regarding the 2007 mass oath-takings.

XI. PRBoA Invitations, Government Addresses and General Speaking Engagements

The **PRBoA** was invited by the **UAP-IAPOA** on several occasions to conduct seminars regarding **R.A. No. 9266** and its IRR at the national, district and chapter levels and as speakers on other related matters. The **PRBoA** also participated in various activities, programs, seminars and conventions conducted by other architectural/ professional organizations. The **PRBoA** participated in some seminars as resource speakers, mainly upon the invitation of schools, colleges and universities in collaboration with the **UAP-IAPOA**.

XII. Relationship with the UAP - The Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization of Architects (IAPOA)

The **PRBoA** and the **UAP-IAPOA** continually assured each other of mutual su

- 1) full implementation and enforcement of **R.A. No. 9266**, its IRR and derivative regulations, including possible legal assistance in cases to be filed against known/ documented violators;
- 2) information dissemination/ consultative meetings on **R.A. No. 9266** and its IRR;
- 3) professional development of **RLAs** through the **CPD** program;
- 4) review and revision of the Standards of Professional Practice to conform to **R.A. No. 9266** and to form part of its IRR; and
- 5) as part of the **ASEAN Architects**, to possibly involve the UAP in consultation/s related to the mutual recognition agreements (**MRAs**).

XIII. Full Reconstitution of the PRBoA

Arch. Marietta B. Segovia was appointed as Acting Member on March 30, 2007 to replace Arch. Miguel Caluza. With her appointment, the full reconstitution of the original **PRBoA**, as prescribed under **R.A. No. 9266**, was finally achieved.

XIII. Involvement in PRC/ PAPRB Activities

The **PRBoA** participated actively in all the major activities of the **PRC**. In 2007, the **PRBoA** Members contributed their time and talents in the physical development, improvement and expansion of portions of the PRC offices/ buildings, both at the Manila Head Office and at the Regional Office in Iloilo City. For the Manila office, the Examiners' Lounge, especially the male and female restrooms, were given a totally new look by **PRBoA** Member Angeline T. Chua Chiacco. In the Iloilo City regional office expansion, the **PRBoA**, through Member Marietta B. Segovia, undertook the space planning for the on-site testing office.

The **PRBoA** also attended and participated in all **PRC** and **PAPRB** meetings, seminars, workshops, the PRC week, and finally the 2007 PAPRB Congress and General Assembly and Christmas Party, with **PRBoA** Member Angeline T. Chua Chiacco, a **PAPRB** Board Trustee, as Congress Chair.

*Attachments follow
(including the **PRBoA** Data CD)*