



PLDA

**Professional Lighting
Designers' Association**

The next chapter

Changes in PLDA in summer 2010

Life is not only dynamic, it is made up of a series of chapters – each based on and growing out of the last. The same can be said of a lighting designers' association. This summer marks the start of a new chapter in the history of the association. Alongside the regular changes that occur when Council members have served their terms and are replaced by newly elected Directors, there are also changes in some of the leadership roles.

Alison Ritter, Founding Member and Director General of PLDA (founded and formerly known as ELDA), announced her wish to step down and dedicate more time to educational activities 18 months ago. Her intention is to investigate and create realistic and effective courses and programmes in the field of Continuing Professional Development. On 1. September she will be replaced by Wim Aalders, who is well known to lighting designers around the world as Export Manager at We-ef. Wim has been involved with ELDA and PLDA since 1999 and played a key role on behalf of We-ef in the success of the workshops the association offers. Wim Aalders looks forward to running the association from Head Office in Germany and representing PLDA worldwide, supporting the elected Council in their efforts and goals to establish the profession. Wim is Dutch-born and speaks at least three languages fluently. He brings with him a wealth of experience in international business and a serious interest in supporting the lighting design profession.

This summer also marks a new chapter in the lives of Martin Lupton and Sharon Stammers. They have formed a new practice together called Light Collective, and wish to invest time and energy into their new business and initiatives. One of the consequences of this move was that they both decided to resign from their positions in PLDA. Dr. Martin Lupton began his presidency in April 2009 and spent a large part of his presidency updating and completing (annexes) the PLDA Statutes together with his fellow Council members. His work for PLDA also took him around the world where he promoted the association and the lighting design profession. For this and all the efforts he put into helping PLDA grow, the association is deeply grateful.

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The PLDA Council regret but respect Dr. Lupton's wish to focus on his own business plans, and trust that he will continue to promote and support PLDA in the UK and elsewhere, he will also continue to support PLDA in the discussion with CELMA, for example. In line with the PLDA Statutes, Dr. Georgios Paisidis as President Elect has stepped up and taken over the role as President.

As of 15. August, 2010, Sarah Adams will be taking over the UK Regional Coordinator position in PLDA. Sharon Stammers, who was the first to fill this position and who spent three years building up the PLDA presence in the UK and serving a growing membership, has decided to dedicate her working time to Light Collective.

We are delighted to welcome Sarah Adams as the new UK Regional Coordinator. Sarah is New Zealand born and studied Architecture at the University of Auckland and Illumination Engineering at the Technical University of Auckland. She also took a course in Direct Marketing in Sydney before embarking on a career in the lighting industry that has taken her around the world.

From 1996 to 2005 Sarah Adams worked at Marketing Management level for Philips Australia and New Zealand, Philips Luminaires Asia Pacific in Singapore, and Philips Lighting Solutions in London/UK. From 2005 to 2008 she was employed as a lighting designer at BDP in London.

Sarah will continue to co-ordinate lectures/events/social occasions for members and ongoing members, represent PLDA in the lighting industry in the UK, stage recruitment campaigns to further increase UK membership, maintain contact to educational establishments and identify opportunities for UK workshops. She will also act as a UK link to the PLDA Circle of Sponsors.

On behalf of PLDA Head Office, the Council and members in the UK and worldwide, we wish Sarah all the best for her new role and look forward to interesting events and activities on the UK lighting design scene.

At the same time we would like to thank Sharon Stammers for her input and efforts to promote the association and the profession in and outside the UK. Thanks to Sharon, membership in the UK increased to 118 and PLDA has become a serious player in the UK lighting industry and existing networks.

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