

Associate RGD Committee Annual General Meeting Report

Presented by:

Rupsha Mutsuddi, Associate RGD

Bella Sanchez, Associate RGD

April 26, 2025

The Associate Committee this year...

22 Members and growing...

Committee Model

- We are starting to take on an internal initiative but are largely focused on having our Members help with other goals and initiatives from the Professional Committees
 - This helps us with Member retention and participation as well as being able to assist with the larger RGD goals as whole

The Associate RGD

- We changed this membership category from Provisional to Associate RGD in consultation with other Members at the same level (emerging designers) and Student Members. We felt the term “associate” was better at representing where we are in our career path. It also aligned with other professional associations across the nation

Guest Speakers

- At every meeting we have a guest speaker join us for an **AMA (Ask Me Anything)** for our Members to ask questions and learn from other Designers within the association
- Thank you to our guests:
 - Geneviève Metropolis RGD
 - Michael J. Young RGD, ADS
 - Michelle Hopgood RGD
 - Zia Somjee RGD

Initiatives

Project Based Mentorship Program



About the Program

- The RGD's Project-Based Mentorship Program combines the team-based approach of the Designathon with the project-focused nature of the previous Internship Mentorship Program.
- Inspired by these programs, this **twelve-week program** aims to assist emerging designers in filling gaps in their portfolios with projects they haven't had the opportunity to do in their school curriculum or professional workplaces. Certified RGDs lead Associate RGDs and Student RGDs teams which create mock projects around different themes.

Projects and Mentors

- **Claire Blair** – Restaurant Branding
- **David O'Connell RGD** – Beverage Branding and Packaging
- **Raymond Cheah RGD** – Design for Social Impact
- **Michael Gioffre** – Branding for an Arts District/Creative Hub
- **Magued Hanna RGD** – User Interface and User Experience Design for a Digital Platform
- **Anya Hamman** – User Interface and User Experience Design for a Platform focused on Grocery Management
- **Amelia Nash RGD** – Branding for a Circular Economy
- **Balaji Ramachandran** – User Interface and User Experience Design for a Platform for Skill Learning
- **Josh Skinner RGD** – User Interface and User Experience Design for a Transit App in a Fictional City
- **Stephanie Strawbridge RGD** – Website Re-Design for a Non Profit Organization
- **Amanda Wood RGD** – Packaging Design and Branding
- **Victor Szeto RGD** – Event Branding and Collateral

Sub-committee Members

Emma Hodgson Associate RGD

Logan Chapman RGD

Kathy-Ann Scantlebury Associate RGD

Preet Soni Associate RGD

Roxanne Hammond Associate RGD

Rupsha Mutsuddi Associate RGD

Samiksha Makhijani RGD

Special thank you to: Elyse Maxwell RGD

Associate RGD Outreach and Feature

About the Initiative

- The goal of this new initiative is two fold:
 1. First, it aims to help the RGD with the transition of graduating Student RGDs to Associate RGDs by identifying channels for outreach and connection
 2. Second, it aims to celebrate the work of current Associate RGDs through features in the newsletter.

Future Leader: Jennifer Gagnon Associate RGD

Associate RGD Members can be nominated by mentors, supervisors, peers, clients, or they can nominate themselves.

<https://rgd.ca/articles/future-leader-jennifer-gagnon-associate-rgd>



Sub Committee Members

Bella Sanchez Associate RGD

Camille Clores Associate RGD

Padmini Balkissoon Associate RGD

Yatri Bhatt Associate RGD

Special thank you to: Kevin Faruggie Associate RGD, Priscilla Rosales Associate RGD, Roxanne Hammond Associate RGD, Rupsha Mutsuddi Associate RGD, Sebastian Gonzalez Associate RGD, and Stephen Zander Associate RGD

Other Committee Initiatives we are actively involved with:

- **Book Club** – Membership Committee
- **Slack** – Membership Committee
- **Local Events** – Events Committee
- **DesignThinkers** – Events and Education Committees
- **Discord Emerging Designers Network** – Student Committee
- **Resources for Designers New to Canada** – Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Committee Members

Bella Sanchez Associate RGD

Camille Clores Associate RGD

Carlos Potes Associate RGD

Elias Lemke Associate RGD

Emma Hodgson Associate RGD

Hannah Wiley Associate RGD

Jennifer Huynh Associate RGD

Jessica Acevedo Associate RGD

Kaoutar Taghi Associate RGD

Kathy-Ann Scantlebury Associate RGD

Michaela Kruizinga Associate RGD

Michelle Tieu Associate RGD

Padmini Balkissoon Associate RGD

Roxanne Hammond Associate RGD

Rupsha Mutsuddi Associate RGD

Yatri Bhatt Associate RGD

Thank You!

Gopika Rajendran Associate RGD

Kevin Faruggie Associate RGD

Leah Dunn Associate RGD

Priscilla Rosales Associate RGD

Seb Gonzalez Associate RGD

Selena Mangoni Associate RGD

Stephen Zander Associate RGD