

## LETTER OF INTENT

To Amelia Rosen, AIAS, Assoc. AIA

Dear Past President Rosen,

I thought for a long time about how I would write this letter- what tone I should use, what style it should be written in, what anecdotes I should tell and which tense they should be in. I studied other letters and thought about their strengths and weaknesses and I discussed writing strategies with other students. So much is riding on this, it has to be perfect. In the end I decided all that was wrong and I would write it just like I was saying it to your face; imperfectly, not very formally, and as myself. If this amazing organization we have all discovered and found a home in has taught me anything it is that the best route is to always be unapologetically true to who you are, and to always be open and honest with others about your intentions.

It is these thoughts and intentions that drive me to, with this letter, announce my intent to run for the office of 2020-2021 South Quadrant Director of the American Institute of Architecture students. The AIAS has taught and developed me in ways I never would have imagined the “architecture club”, which is what I called it as a freshman, could. Just earlier today I told someone that the opportunities the AIAS has given me have led to some of the most positive things I have done in my life, and I believe that wholeheartedly. Having been given so much by this organization, I now want to return the favor.

As this is a letter of intent, I would like to explain exactly why I am running for this position and what I intend to do with it. A philosophy I have held for a long time is that if I am going to get involved in something, I need to intend to make it better. If I am not going to make something I am involved in better, why would I do it at all? The experiences I have had and the lessons I have learned as a student leader have led me to believe that I can make a positive change within and through the AIAS, and that is what I intend to do. Students of design are uniquely positioned to care deeply about bettering the world around them and to be imaginative and proactive enough to do it. The membership of the AIAS not only embodies these values perfectly, but the culture of our organization is so positive, hopeful and action-focused that the membership is an absolute powerhouse of change. The term “action-focused” carries much weight here; I can write letters all day about positive change and passion, but to truly have an effect these ideals must be put into action through specific actions made by decisive and objective-based leadership. I believe that I can contribute to this leadership for the AIAS, and I would be eternally grateful for the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,  
Scott Cornelius, AIAS



# Scott Cornelius AIAS, CSI-S

scotecornelius

(806) 681-1870

## Education

Oklahoma State University  
- Bachelor of Architecture

Expected graduation date-  
May 2021

## Leadership and Involvement

President Fall 2019-present  
American Institute of Architecture Students- OSU Chapter

President Fall 2018- Spring 2019  
Construction Specifications Institute- OSU Chapter

Vice President Fall 2017- Spring 2018  
American Institute of Architecture Students- OSU Chapter

Co-Chair Fall 2019-present  
AIAASdLearning & Teaching Culture Policy Project

AIAS Resiliency Committee Fall 2018- Spring 2019

Keynote Speaker Fall 2018

CSI Fellows annual meeting

Teacher Fall 2017- present  
Architecture Students Teaching Elementary Kids

Architecture Leadership Council Fall 2016- present

McKnight Scholars Leadership Program

## Work Experience

Dekker/Perich/Sabatini Summer 2017, Summer 2018  
- Architecture internship. Responsibilities include redlining, correcting construction drawings, creating computer models, and other intern duties.

CEAT Summer Bridge Program- Head Counselor Summer 2019  
- Counselor for incoming freshman in three week preparatory program.

Research and Projects TA Fall 2018, Fall 2019  
- Teaching Assistant to Professor Nathan Richardson for his research and projects.



**COLLEGE OF**  
Engineering, Architecture and Technology  
**School of Architecture**

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4 November 2019

To the National AIAS Board of Directors,

I wholeheartedly support the candidacy of Scott Cornelius for the AIAS South Quad Director position. Scott is currently a fourth year student in Oklahoma State University's five year Bachelor of Architecture program, where he has distinguished himself in his time with our program. His involvement in student activities and events is well known; currently he is serving as the President of our local chapter and has been involved with AIAS since his freshman year. If any event is happening at the School, Scott will be there.

Scott is trustworthy, energetic, and most importantly engaged with his peers and the culture of school. Whatever is needed, Scott is ready to get to work to make it happen. Scott is a student I have often found in my office, bringing me a great idea. I have twice hired Scott to work as a counselor in my summer program for high school students, and I employed him to be a Teaching Assistant for an ARCH course, both are positions that require a proven track record of reliability. Most recently, I charged my School of Architecture Leadership Council (which includes AIAS representatives) to revise our Studio Culture Statement, which had not been reviewed in several years. Scott volunteered for the job, and working with others, he held 'town hall' sessions with students to gather input, and presented drafts to our faculty for discussion. Just last week, the new 'OSU Learning and Teaching Culture Policy' was approved by both the student leadership and the faculty, a monumental task.

Most importantly however, Scott pursues excellence in his academic endeavors. He began taking college courses when he was in high school through concurrent enrollment, which prepared him to succeed once arriving at Oklahoma State. As a student of architecture, he is driven to craft excellent solutions to whatever challenge is at hand – anything from a concrete class calculation to the design of a concert hall in the design studio. Scott is also a member of the University Honors College, and takes unique and advanced classes above and beyond his required core of Architecture classes. Scott is a great example of a serious student who seeks enrichment for himself while creating opportunities for others.

In conclusion, I reiterate my support of Scott Cornelius' candidacy for a national AIAS officer position. He will not disappoint the organization. Please let me know if you require further information. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Bilbeisi', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Suzanne Bilbeisi, AIA  
Professor and Head of the School of Architecture



Oklahoma State University AIAS Chapter  
101 DWR Architecture  
Stillwater, OK 74078

To whom it may concern,

It is my understanding that Scott Cornelius is re-running for AIAS South Quad Director, and I'm here to tell you that he is, without a doubt, the very best candidate for this job. I know that because of the endless and tireless dedication he has poured into our own AIAS chapter over the last three years. He has single-handedly pushed our chapter to grow and bloom in radical ways that will stick with OSU's AIAS for so many years to come, from reorganizing our executive team to increasing membership to making us more nationally involved than ever before in the history of our organization.

Since the first Oklahoma State University school-wide election cycle that Scott could run in, he did - and he ran for one of the most time-consuming and critical AIAS Executive positions in our chapter - Social Chair. This position single-handedly organizes every AIAS event in our school, of which there are 30+ every semester from general meetings to fundraisers to massive social events like Beaux Arts and Pig Roast, which host between 50 and 100 students and professors per year. Not only did Scott do everything previous Social Chairs had accomplished, but he added and reinvented many events to become more inclusive and more successful than they had ever been in previous years, working (literally) 30-50 hours a week to do so. In that year alone, and everyone who knows him can attest to this, Scott began putting his entire life - all his free time, all his sleep time, and yes, even some of his studio time - into AIAS. Despite the immense time dedication and hard work that was required of him, Scott never wavered in his devotion to bettering his AIAS chapter. The next year, he became our AIAS Vice President and began addressing larger organizational issues in the chapter and nationally, such as increasing membership through benefit programs, AIAS Advocacy (which he was on the national committee for), and rewriting studio learning/teaching culture policies from scratch by organizing town hall events and getting input from students. While doing all those things, he also started getting more people involved in going to national AIAS conferences, finding funding through the school and AIAS to get as many students involved as possible. This year, as AIAS Chapter President, he's continuing to push the boundaries to help our chapter grow and become involved, bringing a total of 20 national members from Oklahoma State University to Forum - more than ever before. He's also helping other AIAS chapters by running the Learning and Teaching Culture Policy Project with our own National AIAS President, Sarah Curry, working with national committee chairs to help improve studio cultures across the United States.

Scott Cornelius is running for South Quad Director for the second year in a row because he is unbelievably devoted to AIAS and he's dedicated to making a difference. He's easily the most capable leader that I know, never afraid to speak up when something needs to be improved. Even more importantly, he's always the first to roll up his sleeves and get to work creating solutions, making friends and having an amazing time while he does it. He deserves your vote, because he certainly has the vote of every member of our chapter.

DH (TREASURER)  
Ego (FBD LIAISON)  
Mark (MARKETING CHAIR)  
Allison (SOCIAL CHAIR)  
Abigail (CEAT LIAISON)  
Brooke (SECRETARY)  
Nick (STUDENT LICENSING ADVISOR)  
Josh (LECTURE CHAIR)  
Andrew (FBD AC)  
Ryan (class rep)  
Katie (2nd yr class rep)  
Cody (class rep)  
Scott (GOV. COM & VICE PRESIDENT)  
Hope (FBD DIRECTOR)  
Ryan (Class Rep of Sus. + Res. Comm. Htee)

Sincerely,  
Hope Bailey, OSU FBD Director  
& AIAS National Member for 3 Years



## ELECTIONS QUESTIONNAIRE

1. **Describe your origin story as a student leader.** What prompted you to get involved? What advice would you give others who have yet to realize their potential for leadership?

I, like many others in AIAS, started out my student leadership career in high school. I was the student body president, vice president of a service organization called LEO Club and vice president of the National Honor Society. I did these things because I liked running events, I liked playing a significant role and it looked great on a college application. I started college out the same way- get involved in everything, move up the ranks, put it on a resume. It wasn't until the middle of my sophomore year at Forum in Austin that I realized I had been "leading" for all the wrong reasons, and simultaneously I found real reasons to be dedicated to an idea and a group of people. The amazing initiative and passion of the AIAS showed me just how much potential students of design have to make change. The way these students truly paid attention to and cared about the world around them changed my outlook on what I could accomplish as a student, and what this organization could accomplish together.

2. **Describe your leadership style.** Explain how previous experiences working with teams have helped you discover your leadership style.

My experiences as a leader have led me to focus on two things in every leadership decision I make: being honest with those I am leading, and leaving every organization, program or event better than I found it. Honest and open communication between a leader and those they are leading starts every relationship, event and program in the right direction. In the past I have been not entirely open in order to not cause disruptions or controversy, but this has always led to a worse situation. I now always try to consider the most open and honest way I can go about making any decision. The trusting relationships I have formed through this focus on honesty has allowed me to delegate responsibilities with more confidence, has allowed others to bring issues and concerns to me more easily and has greatly changed the culture of our chapter's executive board and our school.

A determination to make a positive change in everything you touch begins to make a great difference very quickly. Early in my leadership career I decided to improve every organization or program I became involved in, and that decision more than anything else has led me to where I am now. There are always ideas to make something better; even if I don't have one, someone else surely will. My thoughts behind this exercise are simple: if you're not going to make something better, why would you do it at all?

3. In recent years, the AIAS has increased its efforts in advocacy for architecture students on issues including but not limited to health and wellness, equity, student loan debt, learning and teaching culture, practice experience, leadership, and technology. **What one issue do you personally find the most important?** How would you make progress on this issue as an elected leader on the AIAS National Board of Directors?

While all issues of advocacy are important, the one I have focused on the most recently has been Learning and Teaching Culture. The ability of a school's student body to set specific goals for their own cultural development is an incredible opportunity, and one that should not be taken lightly. Well written and executed Learning and Teaching Culture Policies (LTCP's) can be the basis for change in nearly every aspect of architectural education, from positive professor/student relationships to healthy eating and sleeping habits to curriculum changes. With the new Learning and Teaching Culture Policy Project we are beginning to revitalize these policies in ways that will strengthen and validate them across the country (and hopefully the world!). During my tenure on the Board of Directors I will ensure the continuation of this initiative, and I will build off of the base LTCP model by defining more specific and executable practices to change the culture in a school for the better. Issues of cultural change, unfortunately, cannot be fixed by just writing a document- they must be discussed, formally and informally, and all students in a school must know the cultural goals that they are trying to reach.

4. The AIAS has over 250 chapters across the U.S. and around the world, ranging in size from just a few students to hundreds. **How would you use your position on the Board to better connect and engage our geographically and culturally diverse membership?** What resources would you propose to better serve Chapter leaders seeking to grow their chapters and connect to other students around the world?

There are many ways to better connect AIAS members all around the world- open online forums, video call workshops on specific subjects, initiatives to bring students to conferences who would not normally come, translation of organization documents and policies, etc. One easily actionable idea I would love to implement as South Quad Director is to pair chapters from across the quad together to engage in events and competitions. These pairings would function much like "sister" cities programs, or like chapter pen pals. Forming remote relationships with students at other chapters would encourage attendance at regional and national conferences, build a sense of the true proportions and reach of our organization and easily grow students' networks outside of their own schools.

5. **Describe how you intend to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of your chosen position on the Board.** Elaborate on your intended

communication/action plan and the primary goals you have for your one-year term.

As the director of the South Quad I intend to focus much of my time and effort on our organization's focus on the general membership of the AIAS. While communication and relationships between chapter leaders can always be improved I intend to find means to allow regular students to communicate and form relationships across the country and the world. To me the role of the Quad Director is to show chapter leaders ways to prove the value and power of the AIAS to their members, and to get those members more deeply involved in the AIAS; in many cases this means more regular communication and presence in chapters who may be lacking involvement on a national level. I plan to focus chapter-by-chapter on first ensuring the strength and structure of the chapter within its school, then on helping the leaders of that chapter find the best way to communicate the value and work of the AIAS to their membership. The culture of each chapter is different in ways that only the leaders and members of that chapter truly understand, and each chapter may require new ideas or methods to ensure their continued success.

- 6. Describe one area in which you see an untapped opportunity for the AIAS to engage in a new way.** Either with other organizations, with school faculty and administrators, with the profession, with the international design community, or any other audience or venue.

I am very excited for the possibility of the AIAS getting involved in K-12 education. Grade school curriculums across the country are seriously lacking not only in art education, but in education on technical skills and career paths. The profession of architecture is one that is uniquely positioned to help educate young minds in all of these fields, and who better to begin that initiative than the AIAS? Our organization has made vast strides in advancing architectural education at universities, and I am confident we can make a difference in K-12 education as well. (Come to my ASTEK session at Forum to learn more about one of these initiatives!)





## AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS POLICY ON COMPENSATION FOR INTERNS

In July 1993, the AIAS Board of Directors adopted a "Public Policy on Uncompensated Interns." The policy has been subsequently reviewed and reaffirmed by the Board and reads as follows:

The AIAS maintains that employers must properly compensate all employees. Compensation must be in compliance with the regulations for the jurisdiction in which they are working.

In 2010, AIAS crafted a public statement on intern compensation in conjunction with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and the American Institute of Architects, which reads as follows:

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, the American Institute of Architects, and the American Institute of Architecture Students recognize that architects are bound by law and ethics to pay interns, and strongly advocate for the appropriate compensation of architectural students and interns. Because of current economic transformations, some architects have both solicited and accepted the services and labor of interns without pay. We strongly urge architectural firms and other for-profit employers to respect the law and comply with the ethical standards of our profession, and we strongly encourage interns to refuse to accept employment without pay, and to notify the Department of Labor in cases where employers propose such an arrangement. For more information on labor laws and professional ethics, please see the AIA Code of Ethics and the U.S. Labor Department standards under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The ACSA, AIA, and AIAS further support architects, students, and recent graduate doing pro-bono work. We recognize the distinction between unpaid work for profit-making employers, and unpaid work for non-profit organizations, communities in need, and volunteer activities, which allows participants to determine their own hours and degree of involvement. The AIA has established guidelines for service that are provided on a Pro Bono basis. They can be found under the member section of the AIA website.

### POLICY ON COMPENSATION FOR INTERNS AFFIRMATION

As a way of confirming that the AIAS is not promoting or being promoted by architects employing unpaid interns, we ask that each participant in an official AIAS function review and sign the following statement. We appreciate your participation in our event and thank you for your support of our position against unpaid internships. This position is supported as well by the Board of Directors of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Name: SCOTT CORNELIUS

I do hereby affirm that I understand and support the AIAS policy on the compensation for interns. If I employ interns, I further affirm that I do not use unpaid architectural interns in my professional practice when applicable by federal wage and hour laws.

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 11/15/14



## AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS ELECTIONS CODE OF ETHICS

Elections are a critical step by which the American Institute of Architecture Students is governed. Annual elections, as outlined in the Bylaws and the Rules of the Board, ensure that the membership of the organization participates in the selection of the best candidates to serve on the national Board of Directors.

Individuals elected to the Board of Directors represent the membership and ensure the continued success of the organization. Therefore, participants who are involved in the elections process, including candidates and Board Members, are expected to demonstrate the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and good judgment.

Confidentiality is required of all participants in the elections process. Participants should not discuss details of the elections process to the general membership before, during or after FORUM. Elections information that is considered public knowledge, and therefore can be shared with the membership, occurs during the General Business Sessions and at the General Assemblies.

Campaigning is strictly prohibited prior to FORUM. Conversation between chapters regarding candidates should not take place. Campaigning will only begin at the first General Assembly of FORUM.

Campaigning during FORUM shall be professional. Candidates and candidate support groups should be respectful in their campaigning efforts. Disrespectful campaigning will be a violation of the Elections Code of Ethics, and will be grounds for immediate review by the Past President.

Campaigning materials should follow the Election Guidelines, and should be distributed in appropriate venues only. Appropriate venues include FORUM General Business Sessions, General Assemblies, and Quad Breakouts.

As leaders of this organization, and future leaders of this profession, we must uphold the highest ethical practice. Questionable behavior during elections will not be tolerated. Any concerns should be immediately raised with the Past President.

### ELECTIONS CODE OF ETHICS AFFIRMATION

To promote the highest level of professionalism during elections, we ask that each participant in the elections process review and sign the following statement. We appreciate your participation and thank you for your support and dedication to the organization.

Name: SCOTT CORNELIHO

I do hereby affirm that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the AIAS Elections Code of Ethics and the Elections Guidelines.

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 11/19/19

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.



### AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS CANDIDATE CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

Candidate contact information will only be used by the Past President to communicate elections-related information. If provided, social media handles will be shared when candidates are posted publicly on AIAS website and social media.

Name (as preferred): SCOTT CORNELIUS

Chapter: OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): PRESIDENT

Email Address: SCOTTECORNELIUS@GMAIL.COM

Mobile Phone Number: 906-681-1870

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: SCOTT CORNELIUS
- o Twitter: @SCOTTECORNELIUS
- o Instagram: SCOTTECORNELIUS
- o Other: \_\_\_\_\_