

Midwest Quad Director Elections Packet

Nicholas W. Clark



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Letter of Intent

6108 Cortez St, Merriam KS 66203, Apt 72

Nicholaswclark@ksu.edu

October 28th, 2024

Colt Brock, Past-President AIAS

Dear Past-President Brock,

It brings me a great amount of joy and excitement to indicate my intention to run for Midwest Quad Director on the 2025-2026 National AIAS Board of Directors! I am a 4th Yr M.Arch Candidate at Kansas State University and since my very first year, I have actively contributed to the development of the Kansas State University Chapter after a substantial decrease in activity post-Covid. During my 1st year in the spring of 2022 I served on our officer board as our chapter's first Material Store Chair creating both a service for our college to obtain model making materials at a cheaper price as well as a perpetual fundraising entity to enable our chapter to host events more frequently. Then, in my 2nd year after being fortunate enough to attend Grassroots the previous summer, I served as a member of the 2022-2023 National Ethics Committee and got elected to President-Elect of my chapter in the fall. During my term as President-elect the chapter has gotten back on its feet and we are working together to establish systems and recurring events to embolden the professional development and social opportunities of the college at-large. Currently, I am serving as the Chair of the 2023-2024 National Ethics Committee and the President of the K-State Chapter. My interest in the Midwest Quad Director position stems from my desire to further develop opportunities for inter-chapter collaboration and communication as well as creating systems to enable chapter's to effectively foster local engagement and activity so that all chapters in the MWQ! I look forward to having some great conversations with chapter leadership over the course of elections and getting to know better precisely what chapters are looking for out of a quad director!

Sincerely,

Nicholas W. Clark

Resume

6108 Cortez St, Merriam KS 66203, Apt 72

Nicholaswclark@ksu.edu

Experience

KGD Architecture, Washington D.C. - Architectural Intern

MAY 2023 - AUGUST 2023

At KGD Architecture in Washington D.C. I had the privilege of being involved in design work on Academic, Affordable Multifamily, and Science & Technology projects. I obtained skills and experience from the Programming and Analysis phase of Project Work, all the way to completing a Punch-walk for the Construction Administration phase.

APDesign Dean's Office, Manhattan KS, - Assistant

AUGUST 2022 - MAY 2023

Working in the Dean's Office for the College of Architecture, Planning, and Design at K-State, taught me a lot about the inner-workings and concerns of higher education administration. The job also provided me with plenty of opportunities to better my graphic design skills by creating posters and publications for the college to educate the student body on the initiatives coming down the pipeline from the administration and what events to watch out for.

BNIM, Kansas City KS, - Architectural Intern

MAY 2021 - AUGUST 2021

At BNIM, Myself and 5 other interns spent the summer studying the Housing Crisis in Kansas City endeavoring to come up with business innovation that would enable a hypothetical firm to better tackle the crisis. The firm we came up with utilized vertical integration, pre-fab construction, and need based design strategies.

Education

Kansas State University, Manhattan KS

AUGUST 2021 - PRESENT

At K-State, I am majoring in Architecture and have been challenging myself with 2 minors in Business and Leadership Studies. As of the Spring 2024 Semester, I have obtained my Leadership Studies Minor, and am in taking my final 2 Business Minor classes. Additionally I am involved in extracurriculars such as founding and operating a project material store with our AIAS chapter. I now serve as the chapter's president and facilitate operations, advertising, and events planning for the chapter. I plan to graduate in May of 2026 with my M. Arch and two minors.

Collegiate Involvement

2025 Midwest Quad Conference Co-Chair I AIAS National 2025

In an exciting collaboration between the K-State, University of Kansas, and Drury University Chapters, I have the wonderful opportunity of working to bring the Arch + Conference to life in Kansas City, Missouri from Oct. 2nd-5th, from a wide variety of keynote speakers, downtown building tours, firm tours, and engaging sessions, I am overjoyed to be a leading part of the planning process in delivering this conference to the membership of AIAS.

CRIT 92 Writer I AIAS National 2024

For the 92nd Edition of the National AIAS publication CRIT Journal titled 'Paracosm', I will be contributing a 1200 word article providing a meta-analysis of the Housing Crisis and its existential implications on the idealism of western society at-large.

President - Past-President I AIAS KSU 2024-5

I am continuing my work to develop the AIAS K-State Chapter's identity, engagement and voice within the College of APDesign through the facilitation of social events and professional development opportunities.

President-Elect I AIAS KSU 2023

I worked to develop the AIAS here at K-State to increase its prominence, efficiency, and ability to improve the experience of the general student body of APDesign.

Ethics Committee Member/Chair I AIAS National 2022-2025

I have been serving the National AIAS Board of Directors as a member and later chair of the Ethics Committee hearing cases of member misconduct and upholding the values of the organization at universities across the country.

Material Store Chair I AIAS KSU 2022

During my 1st and 2nd years at K-State I worked with the AIAS to develop a Material Store as a fully operational storefront providing model-making material to students at affordable prices.

29 October, 2024

RE: Letter of Endorsement for Nicholas Clark for AIAS Midwest Quad Director

I am writing to give my highest recommendation to Nicholas Clark for the AIAS Midwest Quad Director position. I have known Mr. Clark for a little over a year, he was one of the first students I met as the new Dean of APDesign at Kansas State University. It has been abundantly clear in that time that Nick is a leader in the school. He has been a leader in our AIAS organization and is a member of my Dean's Student Advisory Council. He also meets with me regularly to review the AIAS activities and, of course, to advocate for resources for members to travel to Quad and Forum conferences. I have known him to be well organized, thoughtful, passionate, and persuasive. Nick is a leader, an advocate, and is willing to put the work in for the betterment of others. An example of this leadership is his work across universities to gain the bid for Midwest Quad Conference in conjunction with AIAS chapters at K-State along with KU and Drury University.

Nick Clark is an exceptional student and a very promising young professional. He continually seeks out new opportunities to increase his experience, for example he is leading our AIAS chapter while living and studying at our program in Orvieto Italy this semester. I am confident in his past achievements, and look forward with anticipation to the potential designer, professional, and citizen that he will become. It is with this vantage in addition to many years teaching and practice that I can confidently give Nicholas Clark my strongest recommendation in his bid to become the AIAS Midwest Quad Director.

Sincerely,



Michael McClure, FAAR, AIA
Dean and Professor
College of Architecture, Planning & Design
Kansas State University

partner, emerymcclure architecture



29 October, 2024

RE: Letter of Endorsement for Nicholas Clark for AIAS Midwest Quad Director

I am writing this to give Nicholas Clark my recommendation for the AIAS Midwest Quad Director Position. I first met Nicholas last year in August and ever since have worked together with him in our local AIAS chapter at Kansas State University. He has been a standout leader for as long as I have known him and his leadership has never ceased to amaze me. I can confidently say the only reason I've been able to become the president of my AIAS chapter is because of his guidance and continued mentorship. He has taught me many things essential to my position from securing funding for our conference travel costs to how to better lead the officer members and meetings. His leadership style is one of proactiveness, organization, and understanding. These attributes are what make him such a great mentor and friend for me and those around him. The important balance of compassion and objectiveness is something that Nick has mastered in order to best serve as a leader.

Nicholas Clark has been such an inspiring student here at Kansas State University, that has resulted in major changes. His ability to continuously explore all opportunities available has made him knowledgeable and reliable in everything he dedicates himself to. His desire to become an integral part of the national AIAS board has been a very apparent showing of his dedication and aspirations. He continues to push himself to become a better leader and in the process has inspired me to follow in his footsteps. I am confident that if elected Midwest Quad Director, he will excel and inspire many more students. I give Nicholas Clark my strongest recommendation for his bid to become the AIAS Midwest Quad Director

Sincerely,



Samuel Nickols
AIAS Kansas State University Chapter President
College of Architecture, Planning & Design
Kansas State University

1. We all love the AIAS for different reasons, but it takes a critical and constructive analysis of the institutions we appreciate most to continue to evolve them into entities that can support each new generation of membership. **Why are you running for a position on the AIAS Board of Directors? What about the organization and its membership motivates you to seek a leadership position?**

I am running for a position on the AIAS Board of Directors in the hope of increasing inter-chapter engagement and collaboration in a more frequent and spirited manner than currently exists within the Midwest Quad. While the Heartland Huddle monthly meetings are a great venue to share updates on ideas and events between chapters, I see room for development that can create fun and collaborative experiences that can leverage the potential for connection that is afforded by the scale and breadth of the organization itself.

The qualities about the organization that have pulled me in to pursue more leadership positions are two-fold, with such a network of talented and driven students and recent grads, the potential for positive change within the national collegiate architectural experience is tremendous. Second, the opportunity to gain personal leadership experience of such a high caliber and learn so much than just what is offered at my college is tremendous in it's own right. I am someone who deeply loves learning and the opportunity to expand my horizons both physically and mentally. The AIAS and national and local involvement within it, seems to me to be a perfect way to take advantage of these opportunities, better myself, and help others along the way.

Since running for this position at NOLA Forum last year, I have learned a tremendous amount about leadership, collaboration, the community of the AIAS and I feel ready more than ever to take on this role.

2. Though it may be hard to believe, the AIAS is not perfect. A critical analysis of any organization is a healthy part of its operation. There may be things that you feel the AIAS could do better, or maybe you see new opportunities or partners to engage. **Where do you see room for improvement or new areas for the organization to expand into?**

During my time with the AIAS the tangible benefits of involvement have always been evident to me, although it is worth noting that most of the major benefits which would appeal to the general architecture student the organization provides at the national level. At the local level however, I have found that it is more difficult to convince my peers of the benefits of becoming a dues paying member. I feel this can be remedied through two different avenues of engagement. For one thing, it is pertinent to the prosperity of the AIAS to decrease barriers to conference attendance and travel through either price reduction or increasing the awareness of successful local fundraising strategies to enable members to attend conferences at a reduced personal financial burden. Finally, more active engagement from quad directors to local chapter leaders can provide brainstorming opportunities to appeal to their local general membership with different opportunities and event types.

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 & 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 Board of Directors?

Personally I see issues surrounding the development of opportunities for practice experience the most important to the AIAS in particular as it is an area that the organization is the most uniquely situated to develop and advocate for. While issues pertaining to Learning and Teaching Culture are incredibly important, as a member of the National Ethics Committee, I have become acutely aware of the limited jurisdiction of the AIAS to have major developmental progress and on what are quite nuanced issues. So, in regards to creating practice experience opportunities, the AIAS already operates as a tremendous bridge from academia to the profession, so making progress on this issue involves increasing efforts on things the AIAS is already doing, the coming Professional Development Day at Forum 2024 is a great example, expanding opportunities for students across the country to get their foot in the door of the profession is of paramount importance to the AIAS. Expanding the Career Fairs at Conferences and connecting local chapters with important people and firms in the profession are some of the most poignant benefits provided by our great organization.

4. The AIAS has over 300 chapters across the U.S. and around the world, ranging in size, age range, and even purpose. **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?

As the Director of the Midwest Quad, I would do what I can to promote and expand the operations of the Monthly Heartland Huddles. This being the main avenue through which chapter leaders engage with Quad Directors, I would leverage the opportunity to provide advice and have communal discussions that contribute to the betterment of local chapters through the comingling of ideas from a plethora of chapters throughout the Quad. Additionally, publicising leadership advice from a variety of chapter leaders through the Slack and Quad Director social media avenues can help to increase accessibility to information how to navigate problems common among local chapters as an Officer Board. Programs similar to the Conference FAQ's posted the AIAS national website, can help to enable chapter leadership to better maintain and develop their chapters activity.

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.

In a similar spirit to the wonderful examples set by both Ethan Sandberg and Liz Fraka over the past two terms of the National Board, I plan on being available for correspondence from any chapter leader in the quad via Email and messages on Slack, as well as consistent available timeslots for 1-on-1's on Calendly. As far as my personal goals for the position are concerned, the Midwest Quad Director role involves doing what is possible to empower local chapter leadership at the local level and engaging with the national board at board meetings to correspond with other national leadership by reporting on chapter activity and member involvement across the quad. I not only plan to vigorously engage with these responsibilities with the help of effective time management and task prioritization, I will engage further with chapter leadership to establish interpersonal relationships and connections that will better the capabilities of local chapters as well as serving fervently within my national responsibilities from correspondence to sitting on committees. Over the course of the year long term, I will utilize skills I have developed from my involvement on the ethics committee and my involvement locally to serve the member to the best of my ability.

6. As an organization that is constantly evolving, the AIAS has to often re-evaluate its priorities. What strategic priorities would you like to see the AIAS focus on during your time on the Board?

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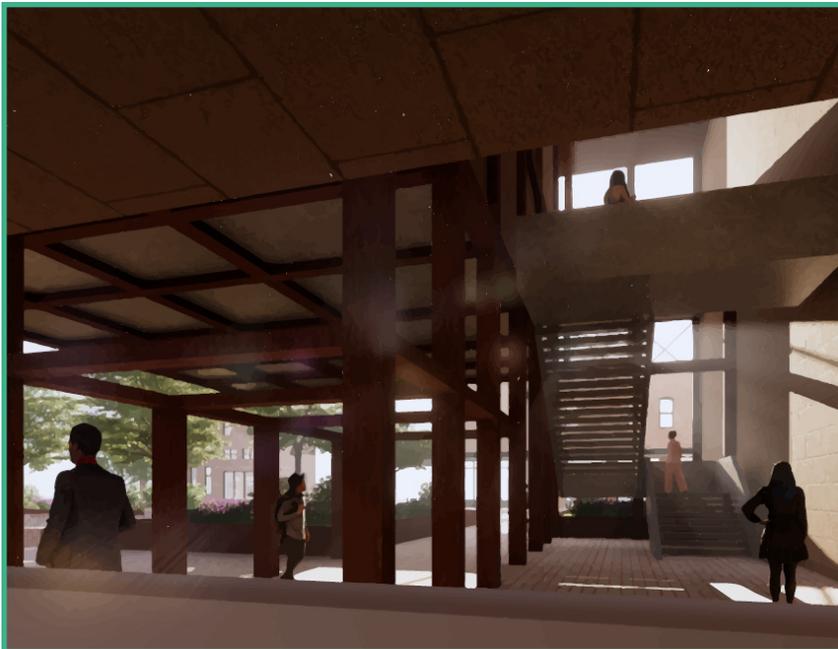
Sasihmono House: Se. 7 - Pr. 1

The Sashimono Timber House located at 1424 E Almeria Rd, Phoenix AZ, 85006. is designed to be a categorical innovation on the prefabrication and affordability modules that exists in the single family residential market today. "Sashimono" is a technique for assembling furniture and other wooden items without nails, using both simple and highly complex wood joints. This building technique is magnified at the building scale through the use of dowel-laminated timber (DLT), a structural system that does not use any glue for it's construction. The design of the home is at once modular and flexible in it's shipping and assembly techniques, yet maintains a sense of place among the context of it's fundamental climate region.



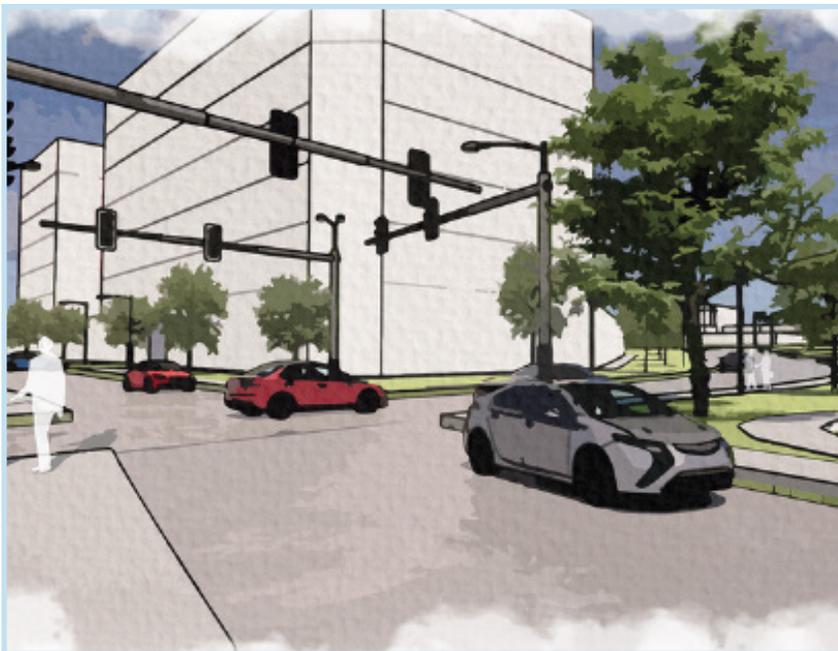
Hanging Theatre: Se. 6 - Pr. 2

The Hanging Theatre, sited where the competing street grids of Chelsea and The West Village meet in the Meatpacking District, is an architectural composition which balances contextual influence, and a diagram which hangs the public space as the most celebrated area of the project. The Vierendeel Truss which makes up the entire floor plate on the 5th floor of the building is supported by the pedestrian framing of the program bars at the two party wall conditions of the site. This, coupled with the unique characteristics of the truss itself, allow the mezzanine lobby and black box theatre to hang down into the central core of the buildings mass.



Interwoven Lives: Se. 5 - Pr. 1

Deriving its formal geometry from the existing social connectivity of Eureka, Interwoven Lives creates a space for that same form of interconnected community between residents. With a patio or balcony afforded to all 12 units on the property as well as shared views of the several courtyards and community garden on the site, there are multitudes of opportunities for the residents to grow closer and live happier within their community. Each of the four unit block structures aggregate two-four units together in such a way as to create shared and private spaces for dynamic use by the residents.



KGD Internship: Su. 2023

In the Summer of 2023, I moved to Washington D.C. to be a summer intern for KGD Architecture. While there I gained invaluable experience in the architectural profession. From working on the earlier programming and analysis phase of cutting edge housing projects, to punch-walking near complete renovation projects, I couldn't be happier about my time at KGD.



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: Nicholas W. Clark

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: Nicholas Clark

Date: 10/29/24



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: Nicholas W. Clark

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: Nicholas Clark

Date: 10/29/2024

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): Nick Clark

Chapter: Kansas State University

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Past-President

Email Address: Nicholaswclark@ksu.edu

Mobile Phone Number: 913-295-0010

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: n/a
- o Twitter: @n/a
- o Instagram: @nickclark2147
- o Other: _____