

November 12, 2016
AIAS National Office
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC

RE: CANDIDACY LETTER OF INTENT

To: Past President Danielle Mitchell, Assoc. AIA; Chair of the Elections Committee

I write to you to officially declare my intent to run for the 2016-2017 Northeast Quad Director position on the National Board of the American Institute of Architecture Students.

I have grown to have such a special bond with AIAS and I only seek ways to make that connection stronger. Since Forum in San Francisco, I immediately was hooked to everything AIAS had to offer. I was and still am amazed on how much passion and dedication is deposited into the students to allow growth and leadership. I became so passionate about AIAS, that I immediately took part in as much as I could and currently hold the position as Chapter President of my local chapter, as well as incoming AIA New York State Student Director. I can say that I have grown so much, and become inspired everyday when I see student involvement with this organization or new leadership in my local chapter.

I believe I owe it to AIAS, to give back everything that I am getting out of it. I, humbly declare candidacy to further this expansion of success and inspiration to all architecture students. I believe we are such a unique profession that demands so much from students and sometimes it is very hard balancing academia and one's personal life. Although, AIAS has been my form of escape into something much bigger, and has taught me so much about time management that I believe all students in this complexity should know.

"You can design and create, and build the most wonderful place in the world. But it takes people to make the dream a reality" - Walt Disney

This quote reminds me that, we, as people drive this world to be what it can become. We are the future generation of this profession and of this world. AIAS is a major influencer of this profession and I strive to influence, with AIAS, to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Ortiz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph Ortiz
2016-2017 AIAS Chapter President
New York Institute of Technology | Manhattan

Joseph Ortiz

(908) 721-6986 josephsortiz@yahoo.com 134 Claremont Ave, New York, New York 10027

Education

New York Institute of Technology | New York, New York

Bachelor's Degree of Architecture, 05.2018; GPA: 3.7

Northampton Community College | Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Associate Degree of Architecture , 05.2014; GPA: 3.6

Easton Area High School | Easton, Pennsylvania

Work Experience

Spanish-English Interpreter, Church of God Ministry of Jesus Christ International, New York, New York

10.2015 - Present

Translate Spanish-speaking church services to English through a headset system.

Waiter, Perkins Restaurant & Bakery; Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

11.2013 - Present

Provide customer service skills, multi-tasking skills and assist in training new employees.

Bath Specialist, Home Depot, New York, New York

06.2015 - 05.2016

Assist customers with picking suitable products for bathroom remodeling.

Summer Housing Assistant, New York Institute of Technology, New York, New York

05.2015 - 09.2015

Created social events throughout New York City for residents from across the world. Participated in creating an enjoyable living experience.

Design Teacher's Assistant, New York Institute of Technology, New York, New York

01.2015 - 05.2015 & 01.2016 - 05.2016

Critiqued first-year student's architecture work, demonstrated photographing architectural model techniques and hand-drawing techniques.

Leadership Development

Chapter President, American Institute of Architecture Students, New York Institute of Technology

05.2015 - Present

Delegate and work with the board to provide social events, professional development events and more for the students. Liaison between the chapter and the Northeast Quad Director, and represent my chapter in conferences around the country.

Chapter Secretary, American Institute of Architecture Students, New York Institute of Technology

05.2015 - 05.2016

Create and organize the chapter's meeting's minutes, and enhanced student involvement outside of the studio with sending emails and promoting the latest opportunities that arrive daily from firms, schools and other organizations.

Student Senate Vice President, Northampton Community College

05.2013 - 05.2014

Mentored senate members and aspiring student leaders on steps to taking leadership positions within Northampton Community College. I was able to speak to high school students about the college transition and leadership growth. I was given the opportunity to lead one of the largest events (*Quad Fest*) the college has ever had.

Student Senate General Member, Northampton Community College

05.2012 - 05.2013

Voiced concerns of students, voted on financial support for student organizations, and helped create new clubs for the college. Led one of the largest student honors & awards ceremony with more than 200 attendants. Student liaison in collegiate committees (Sustainability, Safety, Curriculum).

Leadership Conferences

Grassroots Conference, American Institute of Architecture Students, Washington, D.C

AIA Convention, American Institute of Architects, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Northeast Quad Conference, American Institute of Architecture Students, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Forum Conference, American Institute of Architecture Students, San Francisco, California

Community Service

Docent, Affordable Housing in New York, Hunter East Harlem Gallery

02.2016 - 04.2016

Lead a group through an exhibition of the history and architectural changes in Affordable Housing; alongside Professors and architecture critics.

Liaison, Civic & Community Engagement Task Force, Northampton Community College

12.2013 - 04.2014

Represented the student body on voting, creating mission statements and reviewing for a Civic & Community Engagement Office at the college.

Chair, Community Service Committee

10.2013 - 05.2014

Planned community service events for students to expand their leadership skills.

Casa de Guadalupe Center - Helped low-income elementary school students with school work.

Breast Cancer Walk - Drove students to the 5k Breast Cancer walk in Downtown Bethlehem.

Tsunami Survivors Clothes Drive - Helped a church collect and organize clothing to send to survivors.

Skills

HandDrafting - Sketching - Photoshop - Indesign - Illustrator - AutoCAD - Revit - SketchUp - 3D Studio Max
Fluent in English & Spanish



School of
Architecture
& Design

July 14, 2016

Daneille Mitchell
AIAS Past President

RE: AIAS National Board of Directors
Nomination of Joseph Ortiz, NYIT Manhattan AIAS President 2016-2017

Dear Daneille,

It is my distinct pleasure to nominate Joseph Ortiz, for the honor of serving on the 2016-2017 AIAS National Board of Directors. I first met Joseph when he was working on re-activating the AIAS chapter with the NYIT Student Government. He has been tirelessly working to promote the AIAS in our school since that time. He has served as the 2015-2016 chapter Secretary for our NYIT Manhattan AIAS Chapter, attended the Forum Conference in San Francisco, the Quad Conference in Pittsburgh, and the AIA Convention in Philadelphia and the Grassroots Conference in Washington D.C. After getting the AIAS Leadership bug he successfully ran for NYIT AIAS President.

I remember at the AIA convention in Philadelphia when I was speaking at a CFA emerging architects event, he chased me down to get the location of the event and came with numerous other students in tow. I have seen him also do this at our many alumni events. I have witnessed firsthand the positive transformation his presence has made at the NYIT School of Architecture and Design. In addition to NYIT I also see him loyally helping out his local community college (Northampton Community College) and working with community groups focused on affordable housing, breast cancer, tsunami survivors and low-income elementary school students (Casa de Guadalupe Center). His selfless service is infectious, and I see other coming under this spell. The intersection of his passion for architecture and community service has motivated many students in gaining a greater and deeper knowledge of the profession, enabling them to achieve more and do more in the profession than they would have without his example.

I strongly support the nomination of Joseph Ortiz AIAS for a position on the AIAS National Board. I whole-heartedly believe that his contribution to the profession is just beginning and a bit more leadership responsibility on the National stage would be a great experience for him and a great asset for the profession we all so very much love. I strongly encourage you to give him the greatest consideration for this special honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "F. Mruk", is written over a horizontal line.

Frank Mruk FAIA, FStratPS, RIBA
Associate Dean
New York Institute of Technology
School of Architecture and Design



September, 2016

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter in support of Joseph Ortiz for the position of Northeast Director for the American Institute of Architecture Students. I came to know Joseph quite well during his two years at Northampton Community College where he was not only an outstanding student but also a standout student leader.

I have worked in higher education for 30 plus years as a dean and vice president at Lehigh University, the president of Wittenberg University, and most recently at Northampton Community College. Based on my experience, I would rank Joseph among the top students I have had the pleasure to work with.

During his tenure at NCC, Joseph served as vice-president of the student senate, student representative to our Civic & Community Engagement Task Force, worked as a student orientation leader, and was a finalist for the College's most prestigious student award, the Trustee Leadership Award.

Joseph is smart, engaging, civic-minded, has excellent interpersonal skills, outstanding writing and speaking skills, and a strong sense of motivation. His performance as the vice-president required him to work with students, faculty, staff, community members and board members and he did so with great ease, drawing praise for his efforts. He is a joy to work with and makes all those around him better by his mere presence. Simply put, Joseph has the characteristics I would look for in a friend and hope for in a son.

I give him my highest recommendation to serve as the Northeast Quad Director of your organization. You would be very lucky to have him play such a role! Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions.

If you select Joseph, you will not be sorry.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark H. Erickson'.

Dr. Mark H. Erickson
President

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?

My leadership began when I started at Northampton Community College about four years ago. I never saw myself as someone that can hold a leadership role, let alone speak in front of large crowds. Fortunately, I had a good friend that was always involved and pushed me into getting involved with her in Student Senate. I remember simply telling her that I can help her campaign, but that's as far as I was going. It amazed me how good she was at convincing me and highlighting the qualities and passions I had. I learned that a leader is not about being a certain person, but it is about being your better self and helping others do the same. From that moment on, I was able to obtain the position as Vice-President of the Student Government in my College, and many times saw myself speaking in front of hundreds of high-school students and leading large-scale events. Those experiences inspired me to continue being involved and led me to AIAS at NYIT. When I first joined AIAS, I was very inspired by the leaders in NYIT's chapter, because they had so much conviction and passion; not only for architecture but for all the students. When I attended my first AIAS national conference in San Francisco, I was incredibly amazed by the strength and leadership that this organization had as a group and as individual students. I have learned so much from this organization and continue to be pushed by AIAS to reach and set new goals for myself.

My advice for you, who has not realized your potential for leadership, is that everyday you are being a leader to yourself. You are helping yourself make the right choices, and try the best you can to succeed. So, why not help others realize the same? AIAS is an outstanding organization that helps you step away from your comfort zone and teaches you how to be comfortable when you're uncomfortable. AIAS is a network of opportunities that has the door wide open for you to step in and be part of this bigger picture. Many times as students we get wrapped up in studio and classes, but being able to branch out and obtain these experiences are also beneficial to your education. Leadership is not about being in front of the line, but it's about making sure every one is moving forward with you. There is so much to learn from other people and the best part is that no one is perfect. We all have potential to be a leader, all you need is a little push.

2. In recent years, the AIAS has increased its efforts in advocacy for architecture students on issues including but not limited to student loan debt, studio culture, intern development, leadership, technology, and diversity. 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?

I find so much value in early architectural education, such as high schools and community colleges. I started in a community college and AIAS wasn't prominent on campus as it is in universities. Being in AIAS now, I think about how beneficial it would have been to have a proactive chapter in my community college or simply meet AIAS leaders for mentorship. This stage of academia is very important because it is when students are finding where they are going to take their next step into a career path they have set their minds in taking.

I would like to progress this issue as an elected leader on the AIAS National Board of Directors by starting visits to high schools and community colleges with local AIAS chapters and begin informing these students about this organization. As well, with the membership committee, move forward and create general packets for local chapters to use to begin an outreach to their closest high school or community college. This can benefit these students greatly, because they will now have mentors that are going through an upper-level architectural education and can provide advice on portfolios, choosing a university, internships and so much more that AIAS provides.

3. The AIAS has over 160 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?

The strength of AIAS membership is that it is so geographically and culturally diverse. Being part of the Membership Committee, I am able to take part in a dialogue about how we can bridge these similar gaps. Meanwhile doing so, I am on a video call with students that are all spread out in the United States. AIAS is constantly trying to stay connected with these modern forms of communication. Although, as we see many times, it is very different than going to a conference and being able to speak about these issue in person. I would like to continue to create these forums of discussion to allow more opportunities for students to remove themselves from their comfort zones and speak about these concerns that are highlighted by the membership. These concerns and global topics that the membership choose to tackle can be platforms for local chapters to meet and discuss. If we inform the membership that there is opportunity to form new committees on broader issues with AIAS chapter leaders, I believe that can tap into personal passions that can influence others and start to globalize.

4. 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.

There is an untapped opportunity in the engineering student communities. Many engineering organizations focus on similar values that AIAS does. They strive to provide the best for their membership and seek opportunities for them as well. Engineers see the world very differently than we do, yet in our career paths, there will be many times that we will cross paths. I believe there is an opportunity to collaborate with them and expand the network and relationship to the technical side of science in design. It will allow diversity and new interests to develop within our community and can somehow open up new visions and perspectives.



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS
1735 New York Ave., Washington, DC 20006
202.808.0075 | aias.org

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.

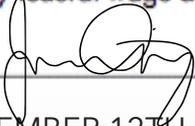
The ACSA, AIA, and AIAS further support architects, students, and recent graduate doing pro-bono work. We recognize the distinction between unpaid work for profit-making employers, and unpaid work for non-profit organizations, communities in need, and volunteer activities, which allows participants to 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: JOSEPH ORTIZ

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:  _____

Date: NOVEMBER 12TH, 2016



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, Board members and elections committee 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 Elections Committee.

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.

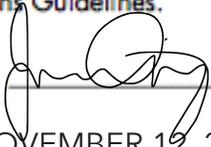
As leaders of this organization, and future leaders of this profession, we must uphold the highest ethical practice. Questionable behavior during elections will not be tolerated. Any concerns should be immediately raised with the Elections Chair.

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: JOSEPH ORTIZ

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:  _____

Date: NOVEMBER 12, 2016

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 Elections Committee 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): JOSEPH ORTIZ

Chapter: NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY - MANHATTAN

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): PRESIDENT

Email Address: JOSEPHSORTIZ@YAHOO.COM

Mobile Phone Number: (908) 721-6986

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- Facebook: facebook.com/joseph.ortiz
- Twitter: @
- Instagram: josephsortiz
- Other:



JOSEPH ORTIZ

2017-2018 NORTHEAST QUAD DIRECTOR

2016-2017 CHAPTER PRESIDENT | NYIT MANHATTAN