

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

Abby Fields

AIAS Vice President 2018-2019

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letter of intent

Sarah Wahlgren, Associate AIA, Elections Committee Chair
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20006

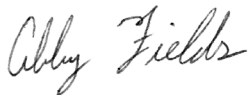
Dear Ms. Sarah Wahlgren,

I am pleased to inform you that I intend to run for the office of AIAS Vice President 2018-2019. I understand the role and duties of the Vice President, and I feel confident in my ability to perform while undertaking this position. Through my personal experiences on both local and national levels, along with countless second-hand experiences through my peers, mentors, and successors, I have been greatly inspired to develop my personal goals and ambitions and to become the person I am today. The AIAS has been the most significant source of both my inspiration and motivation since I began my journey in a design education, and career, over four years ago.

My local AIAS chapter continuously offers various roles, events, and activities that have allowed me to be involved in different pieces of my chapter's puzzle from the beginning; I have experience and witnessed 'membership' through varying means of execution. As a result, I have grown to see many different points of view concerning architecture school and all that our education affords. I have also had the privilege to explore different characteristics of varying education styles and different perspectives by means of connecting with peers and mentors nationally: through Quad conferences, National conferences, NAAB involvement, and National Committees. Early on in my membership, I got taste of the inspiration that comes from the national AIAS at a Quad conference co-hosted by my school: through interacting with Quad members and seeing presentations and keynotes. Since then, I have attended numerous conferences where I am continuously inspired to do more and to be better.

Throughout my time as an architecture student, the AIAS has taught me how to make the most out of my membership and that different people are able to get different things out of the AIAS. Through various roles and positions on my local board and national committees, I have been able to tap into my own truths and ambitions. The more leadership roles I have held, the more I crave the affordances of these roles in helping people get what they come here for. Leadership responsibilities fuel a passion I have for solving problems and bettering from the ground up. I have always been very passionate about team strength and morale: my instinct is to strengthen from the inside out to be better equipped for future growth and ambitions. While being involved in the AIAS, I have learned to progressively better myself while remembering to step back and reflect on who I am with pride. The AIAS has allowed me to dream my dream, to live my dream, and now I want to share my dream with others. As Vice President, I would work to establish a means of conveying the significance and legitimacy of the AIAS within universities for those chapters that struggle with a lack of faculty and/or administrative support. I also want to empower students to choose their own career path, whether it be traditional or non-traditional.

Thank you for your consideration,



Abby Fields

RESUME

Abby Fields

abbyawfields@gmail.com 205.542.5933

education

Auburn University—Honors College // College of Architecture, Design and Construction, B. Arch *fall 2013—spring 2018*

Urban Studio *5th Year Thesis* // Rural Studio *3rd Year*

Jefferson State Community College *summer 2014, 2015*

Jefferson County International Baccalaureate High School *fall 2009—spring 2013*

honors, activities, + involvements

Auburn University Founders Scholarship *academic achievement*

AIAS *fall 2013—current*

Urban Studio Liaison 2017–2018

National Advocacy Task Force 2017–2018

Vice President, local chapter 2016–2017

Finance Committee 2016–2017

NAAB Visiting Team Member 2016–2017, 2017–2018

+various local committees

Service Sorority *spring 2014—current*

Sustainability Chair *1 term, 2016*

NOMA *3 years* // CAD/C School Ambassador *3 years* // Summer Opt. Studio TA 2017

professional experience

design

ArchitectureWorks architectural intern *fall 2017*

McAlpine House architectural intern *summer 2016, 20167 + fall 2016*

SketchUp Workshop Series for M. RED class *spring 2017*

other

church childcare 2011–current // retail *winter 2016* //

lifeguard *summer 2014, 2015* // secretary *summer 2014*

letter of support



SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING, AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

November 26, 2017

The American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Re: AIAS Vice President Nomination

:

Please accept this letter of support for **Abby Fields**. She has indicated to me that she intends to run for the position of Vice President of the American Institute of Architecture Students. I can confirm that Auburn University's School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture has an active student chapter of the AIAS and that Abby Fields served in a leadership capacity for this chapter as Vice President. She has already demonstrated her abilities at the local level and I believe that she will continue to expand this skill set as she is offered more opportunity and responsibility at the National level.

Abby Fields has proven herself to be a capable leader in our school AIAS chapter. In her position as Vice President she oversaw the administration of the annual Pumpkin Carve, one of our largest chapter sponsored events. She was also responsible for organizing the Internship Fair, one of the largest fund raising events held by our chapter. Abby exhibited a calm leadership style, with an expectation that her colleagues would respond to the example she had set when executing the tasks required. It is because of this I believe she will be an excellent choice for the position of Vice President.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need additional information; I may be reached at daggchr@auburn.edu or 334.844.4518.

Sincerely,

Christian Dagg, AIA
Associate Professor and School Head,
School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape Architecture

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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?

Early on in my high school career, I realized that being a member in an organization was not enough for me; I always wanted to do more and be more involved in the governing of the group. As a leader, I immediately saw the value in maintaining organization and structure within a team so that external goals could be most efficiently met. I have always had a service-oriented heart, which is what initially draws me into the groups I am involved in. Leadership roles allow me to serve my organizations through my passions.

An excellent piece of advice I have received from one of my biggest supporters is that sometimes we have to do the scary things. If you are passionate about something, or even if you just have a little itch to do more, I encourage you to get more involved and see where your interests and passions take you, even if you are pushed out of your perceived comfort zone. Focus on what can be gained rather than what can be lost.

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 have seen that studio culture and diversity often tie together in a big way, and this is very important to me concerning advocacy. I personally believe that advocacy is a means of service within our profession; I believe in ensuring that everyone has a voice while maintaining respect to others.

As an elected leader on the AIAS National Board of Directors, I would focus on educating and informing people on relevant problem-areas/topics within our education and profession, specifically concerning social equity and diversity. Awareness and understanding play major roles within advocacy. As Vice President, I would help the Advocacy Task Force tackle these issues by developing deliverables concerning educating while avoiding conflict and maintaining respect: deliverables could vary from culminating advice on how to educate and inform others, to creating info-graphics to acknowledge problems within social equity and diversity, to interviewing people.

questionnaire

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?

To better connect and engage our diverse membership, I would initiate cross-Quad socialization beginning in a brief exercise at National conferences. I would also initiate Chapter President cross-Quad small-groups to share general information and strategies for problem-solving with groups outside of your Quad, offering different perspectives on local chapters. Getting more international members at conferences would also be beneficial to further engage with diversity among our membership. Social media platforms, like Instagram, can be used to showcase certain aspects of chapters so that chapters can learn from each other.

A communication-based interface, such as Slack, could be used to connect current chapter leaders across the world to share resources and information with each other. Increasing attendance at Grassroots would also help serve chapter leadership in seeking ways to better their chapters.

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.

I think the AIAS has an opportunity to further our goals to “foster an appreciation of architecture and related disciplines” as well as “enrich communities in a spirit of collaboration” through incorporating more representation of tangential professions at conferences and in the content we produce on our website. While attending Grassroots 2017, I was in a session with an interior design + psychology student; it was beneficial for both parties when we shared insight and perspectives during the session. It would be great, as students, to begin interacting with and learning more about the professions we will collaborate with later on. This information would also be helpful and supportive to students who are thinking of exploring alternative career paths.



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: Abby Fields

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: Abby Fields

Date: 11/22/17



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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: Abby Fields

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: Abby Fields

Date: 11/22/17

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.



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**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): Abby Fields

Chapter: Auburn University

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Urban Studio Liaison

Email Address: AbbyAWFields@gmail.com

Mobile Phone Number: (205) 542.5933

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- Facebook: _____
- Twitter: @_____
- Instagram: strwberyFields
- Other: _____

AIAS VICE PRESIDENT

Abby Fields

2018-2019