



krishpatel

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Tuesday, November 21st, 2017.

AIAS National Board of Directors
1735 New York Ave.,
Washington, DC 20006.

RE: Candidacy Letter of Intent

To Sarah Wahlgren, Assoc. AIA, Chair of the Elections Committee,

It is with great passion and enthusiasm I write to you to declare my intent to run for the position of 2018-2019 West Quad Director, and serve on the Board of Directors for the American Institute of Architecture Students.

I became a member of the AIAS in 2014 during my first year at the Academy of Art University. Since then, I have been involved with the organization on different levels from being on different National Committees, and serving as Volunteer Director for Forum 2015, to serving as Chapter Vice-President. Currently, I'm serving as FBD directors to start a chapter with bay area architecture school to come together to collaborate, design and built for the community around us. Over the span of about three years, I got a deep understanding of the demographics and functionality of the national office; which filled me with positive energy and inspired a spark in me to serve the AIAS. At my first Grassroots Conference, I was able to see the bigger vision of the AIAS; the energy I felt was like never before. I was inspired by many of the other student leaders and designers who attended the conference. Later on, I got an opportunity to serve alongside the inspiring Forum planning team to help host the AIAS Forum 2015 in San Francisco. During the event, I served with the volunteering team which helped me to realize the emotion and respect people carry for the AIAS. I want to now pass it forward towards the growing architecture student community.

Looking back to the first time when I volunteered for my chapter on a small local event, I never thought of the opportunities the AIAS provides to the young architecture students. I want to help this organization carry forward the good work being done that is inspiring the future designers and leaders to give back to the community. Ultimately, I want to connect the geographically vast West Quad by establishing a connective network and connecting the diverse group of chapters it holds. Connecting people together and helping them in their challenges has always been my goal. I also want to advance my leadership abilities in fortifying the bridge between the diverse collection of students and professionals.

My inspiration to run for this position is the respect and the value students have for this organization and the large network it provides for the advancement of all in design and leadership. So with this I write to you about my desire to join the National Board of Directors of American Institute of Architecture Students and serve as the 2018-2019 West Quad Director.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Krish Patel, AIAS
2017- 2018 Freedom By Design Director | AIAS at Academy of Art University
B.Arch Candidate | Academy of Art University



Education:

Expected Graduation 4th Year B. Arch,
May, 2019 Academy of Art University, San Francisco.

In my 8th studio interested in Co-Living housing situation as new type of young generational housing culture in urban cities.

Experience:

2018-2019	Student Director North, AIA California Council.	I will be serving as Student Director for California Council, in which I will be reaching out to AIA and AIAS Chapters of California and connect them with their local chapters.
2017-2018	Freedom by Design Director, AIAS at Academy of Art University.	I'm serving as FBD directors to start a chapter with bay area architecture school to come together to collaborate, design and built for the community around us.
2016-2017	Chapter Vice President, AIAS at Academy of Art University.	During my term I encouraged many of the local leaders of our chapter to get involved nationally with AIAS to advance their leadership skills and grow themselves.
2015-2016	Volunteer Director, AIAS Forum San Francisco.	As Volunteer Director, I was responsible for gathering and managing a team of 25 Volunteers. Being on this team I was able to be highly involved with the AIAS National Office in organizing the Forum San Francisco.
2015-2016	Chapter Treasurer, AIAS at Academy of Art University.	During my term I managed the financial accounts of our chapter. It involved fundraising and budgeting for functioning of chapter.
2015-2016	Finance Committee, AIAS National.	I was provided with the opportunity to be part this committee that evaluates the expenses and financial status of the organization.
2016-2017	Advocacy Task Force, AIAS National.	I was provided with the opportunity to be part this task force which was charged with exploring opportunities for the advancement of equity, health, sustainability and justice in architecture school and profession.
2017-2018	Global Council Committee, AIAS National.	As a member of Global council we are focusing on mentoring foreign chapters and looking into opportunities for working abroad.
Spring 2015	Student Construction and Fabrication Coordinator Active Rest, MSPF.	I volunteered in helping put together Active Rest Project for Market Street Prototyping Festival held for making Market Street, San Francisco more active. I was highly involved in Digital Fabrication, Construction and Assembling of the project.
Fall 2016	Student Design and Fabrication Volunteer Homeless (p)Lane.	We as students designed and built a prototype for homeless shelter. The prototype was exhibited during Architecture and City Festival as part of the Resilient City theme hosted by AIASF.



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November 22, 2017

Ms. Sarah Wahlgren, Assoc. AIA
Elections Committee Chair
The American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Avenue
Washington DC 20006

Re: Mr. Harikrishna Patel
Position: Western Quadrant Director

Dear Ms. Wahlgren,

I am the Undergraduate Director of the School of Architecture at the Academy of Art University and I have known Mr. Harikrishna Patel (Krish) since he entered our program in Spring 2014. Krish showed himself to be a serious and attentive student from the start of his studies with us and we are fortunate and pleased to support his efforts to be elected the West Quad Director. This is an excellent opportunity for Krish to further his two and a half years of experience with the AIAS and we see that the organization will benefit from his commitment should the election be successful. We understand that this will mean that Krish will need to coordinate his travels for the AIAS with his studies, and we are prepared to support these conditions, as we are confident that Krish will handle both his responsibilities and his academic expectations with maturity.

Krish has expressed his desire to assist other young students in reaching their goals while at the same time serving to elevate the activities in the West Quad. These goals are an extension of what we have witnessed in the program when Krish has stepped up time after time in class, in studio, in the AIAS and in the co-curricular activities to support all students in accomplishing the goals of any given project. These projects included the Active Rest Market Street Prototyping project led by one of our faculty, which placed a student-built Design Build project on the most prominent street in San Francisco to engage and examine public interaction in the urban environment. Krish supported the project in a tight deadline and assisted in organizing other students. In similar capacities, Krish has shown the same

leadership in the studios and in the classroom where his mature confidence and thoughtful and articulate manner supports the success of other students.

Our school holds a vision to create strong and inspired citizens of the world, as we look at the challenges facing us. Krish's strength of character and intelligent, inquisitive nature represents such a student. He brings the ethical insight that we seek to cultivate among all of our students as we cannot depend only on faculty alone to sustain these values. Krish is an important part of our community as he supports the strong collaborations among students, as well as showing himself to be a leader in the thoughtful considerations of the challenges of our contemporary society. In a second year studio that seeks to expand the students' social consciousness, I have a strong memory of Krish presenting his work for the design of a school for the blind (his choice of program) and researching the needs of the children of the school. Krish was memorable in his thoughtful research and beautiful yet, understated design proposal that respectfully sought to honor and serve the users of his program. He brought the same respect to his teamwork in designing the Individual Guerilla Sleeping Unit as the students took on the serious subject of homelessness in the city of San Francisco.

In summary, we fully support Harikrishna Patel in his efforts to hold the role of West Quad Director.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer M. Asselstine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer M. Asselstine, AIA
Undergraduate Director | School of Architecture
Academy of Art University

jasselstine@academyart.edu



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 journey starts with my desire to help people when I was in high school. I always find joy in extra curriculum activities, which helped me be an extrovert and outspoken. The desire in me to serve the community was developed more after I joined architecture school; the AIAS was the perfect tool for me to further develop my leadership skills and engage in activities outside of architecture. The potential opportunities I was introduced with by the AIAS encouraged me more to become a student leader and be an inspiration to pay it forward. As mentioned earlier, the first Grassroots Conference I attended helped me develop as a student leader and it inspired a spark in me which encouraged me to run for this position. I have also attend the AIA Leadership Institute which motivated me to a better leader and obtain leadership skills like never before. All together for me, leadership is more to connect people and help others grow in their challenges. I have been on different kinds of leadership positions in past, I started as a volunteer for a small event to serve as a Volunteer Director for Forum 2015 San Francisco. Currently, I'm serving as FBD directors to start a chapter with bay area architecture school to come together to collaborate, design and built for the community around us. The main prompt for me to get involved is every leadership opportunity is followed by a quote from Jack Welch 'Before you are a leader, success in all about yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.' My advice to others who has yet to realize their leadership potential is to try to work outside of their comfort zone, because once you get out of your comfort zone a leader in you takes birth. This will help you grow better in everything you are trying to achieve and you will gain more confidence in yourself to take on different opportunities.

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?

The issues that AIAS members are working as a student are allowing us to grow early and understand them to tackle it for the future of the architecture community. After being a member of Advocacy Task Force last year were overlooking the issue of diversity, equity, and accessibility in design. I personally feel because of globalization , diversity is a key trait for progression. The more diverse the community is the more variety of range of solution will be explored. Many of the successful profession today have a very diverse group of problem solvers and critical thinker, following that example if we can create that level of diversity within the student leaders the path to the critical solution will be quick and efficient. As an elected Board of Directors, I will focus on the development of diversity with the student community and adopt the diversity as a tool for advocating the large network of students on a platform which will be more stable and efficient to promote the values for which the AIAS has been believing. Also, I believe in providing maximum opportunity to our student leaders so that they can understand and bring the solution to it. By having a more open discussion among the student's many different ideas will be evolved for the advocacy of architecture.



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?

As a West Quad Director, I would like the geographically vast west quad to combine the quad pods based upon the location of the chapters in the same area. My aim will be to create a structure which will contain several layers of the specific state or location of chapters. As this past year for the Bay area schools I tried to establish a Freedom By Design Chapter for San Francisco Bay Area, this program has created a platform for all the school in the area to come together and network with the students in their area but also work on a FBD project by exchanging their skills of design. On the other hand, where some chapters are distantly located will make a quad based on their contrast need like membership, financing or more. This chapter can use technology to create a virtual event to collaborate. By introducing the online system to connect those chapters during their local events will spark inspiration for events to boost membership in their chapter. This will be a reliable way to connect with chapters in different areas and help each other grow. In larger concept, this will help west quad to learn from examples, boost their membership and grow their local network. Also, this can create an opportunity to built new chapters in west quad.

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.

The opportunities AIAS can create now is by connecting with other organization that works architecture students in other countries. It has a great start in some of the Middle Eastern and South American countries, but now its time to create programs that will boost membership all around. We should develop programs that allow our members to have more opportunity to travel abroad through an exchange program or developing internship opportunities in foreign countries. This could also be during Grassroots time when the international chapter student can travel to the US and see the inside out of the organization in person or vice versa. On a more national level, AIAS should connect with other design student organization to develop skills of our members. Even the FBD program can be benefited with this by connecting to ASLA, IIDA or ASCE in the local area if needed help during the FBD project. In summary, it will help the members to grow professionally because in future they will be practicing with people from those organizations. We also connect with other non design major because that interaction will help or members to understand that industry who could be a potential clients in future.



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 graduates 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: **Harikrishna Patel**

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: **11/26/2017**



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: Harikrishna Patel

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: **11/26/2017**

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

1735 New York Ave., Washington, DC 20006

202.808.0075 | aias.org

**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): **Krish Patel**

Chapter: **Academy of Art University**

Chapter Leadership Position: **Freedom By Design Director**

Email Address: **harikrishnagpatel@gmail.com**

Mobile Phone Number: **+1(215)-410-1736**

Social Media Account Handles:

- Instagram: **being_harikrishna**
- LinkedIn: **being_harikrshna15**



collaborate
diversify
design
network
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west quad



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