



**ANDREW WOOD**

**MIDWEST QUAD DIRECTOR APPLICATION**

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## Contact Information

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@mrandrewood



@andrewdavidwood

Letter of Intent  
Candidate 2017-2018 Midwest Quad Director

November 12, 2017

Sara Walhgren, Assoc. AIA  
Past President AIAS  
Chair of the Elections Committee  
1735 New York Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20006-5292

Past President Ms. Sara Wahlgren, Assoc. AIA  
Chair of the Elections Committee,

I am writing this letter to declare my interest in running for the AIAS Board of Directors as Quad Director for the Midwest States. With experience at my local chapter from Kansas State University, I am excited to take the next step in leadership within our international organization.

Having been involved in AIAS since 2014, I have grown in my leadership skills through the various positions I have held within my chapter until now as Director of International Programs. Having served as president of our college Plot Club and through an ongoing internship with Architect One out of Topeka, Kansas, it is my experience that clear and concise communication is essential for effective leadership.

Everyone has a story to tell and a reason for the decisions they have made. I make it my business to understand what motivates people; empowering my peers to become the best versions of themselves. Seeing potential in others, and bringing that budding talent to fruition is my passion and I am confident I will be able to help the students in my quad in their journey through AIAS and into their future careers.

The experiences AIAS afforded me through my attendance to our Quad and Grassroots conferences opened my eyes to the opportunities at the fingertips of every architecture student in the country, and I will make it my mission to energize our membership in the ways I have been as the 2018-2019 Midwest Quad Director.

Sincerely,



Andrew Wood  
Director of International Affairs, Kansas State University AIAS

# ANDREW WOOD

785.443.1874  
mrandrewood@gmail.com  
@andrewdavidwood  
@mrandrewood

## Education

### **Kansas State University**

College of Architecture, Planning, & Design (APDesign)  
Masters Degree in Architecture  
Minor in Regional and Community Planning

graduation 2019

### **Colby Community College**

Associates Degree: concentration in Art  
Associates Degree: concentration in Business

graduated 2014

## Experience

### **Architect One** Topeka, Kansas

Architectural Intern  
Responsible for processing construction documents  
in AutoCad and Revit  
Construction of presentation models of firm projects  
Management of new branch office

May 2016 to present

### **Sociology Tutor** Colby, KS

Colby Community College  
Helped student make a four letter grade improvement

spring 2013

## Skills

Fluent in conversational Spanish  
Proficient with Autodesk Programs: AutoCAD, Revit, 3ds Max, and Rhino  
Hand drafting, rendering, and modeling making  
Graphic design using the Adobe Suite Photoshop skills  
Presentation and communication skills  
Group coordination and administration

## Honors

Italian Studies Scholarship  
Student Development Award  
Paul Weigel Foundation Scholarship  
Phi Theta Lambda  
Phi Theta Kappa  
Presidential Scholar  
High School Valadictorian

2017-2018  
spring 2017  
2014 to present  
summer 2014  
fall 2012  
spring 2012  
spring 2012

## Activities

AIAS Director of International Programs  
APDesign Technology Committee Member  
APDesign Responsible Stewardship Committee  
APDesign Dean's Student Advisory Council Representative  
Plot Club President  
AIAS Social Chair  
Plot Club Vice President  
APDesign College of Architecture Ambassador  
APDesign Architecture Peer Educator  
91.9 KSDB Specialty Radio Show Host

2017 to present  
2016 to present  
2016 to present  
2016-2017  
2016-2017  
2016-2017  
2015-2016  
2015 to present  
2015 to present  
2015 to present

12 November 2017

Sarah Wahlgren, Assoc. AIA  
Elections Chair + Past President  
American Institute of Architecture Students

Dear Ms. Wahlgren and esteemed members of the American Institute of Architecture Students:

It is my honor to recommend Andrew Wood, AIAS, to run as the Midwest Quadrant Director of the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS). I have taught in architecture for nearly thirty years, am a fellow, a distinguished professor, a past regional director of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA), former president of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) and at various times in my academic career the faculty advisor for KState's AIAS Chapter. In these various roles I have met and worked with many in leadership positions within the AIAS. In the short time I have known Andrew I have seen one who is eager to go beyond his life experiences, learn as much as possible, and leverage his leadership skills through various avenues within our college.

I have known Andrew for over a year first as a student in my studio, and since then as a mentor. He is one I depended on when AIA Kansas hosted the AIA Central States Regional Conference in the Fall of '16 to disseminate information to his AIAS colleagues and seek volunteers to engage with professionals. Andrew is a determined, sometime stubborn, young professional who is well organized and works hard. He follows through with what he says he will do to the highest level possible.

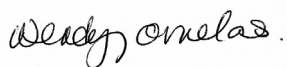
In **APDesign** one way we encourage leadership is through participating in various student-run college organizations. For the past year Andrew has been the president of the college's Plot Club, which in essence serves all seven hundred students in the disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture/regional & community planning, and interior architecture & product design. It has not been an easy year. Last spring semester, because of the renovation and addition to our on-campus building our studios were all moved off-site, nearly twenty minutes away, in a space not designed for classes, studios, printing, plotting or shop activities. This was the framework for Andrew beginning his presidency of the Plot Club. He thrived in the challenge to keep the plotters running in a professional manner throughout the semester. Andrew also organized, coordinated and then clearly communicated semester-end plotting schedules so all students could more seamlessly print for the various studio due dates. Not an easy task when there were multiple disciplines, with disparate due dates, and a limited number of plotters. It was handled in a very professional and equitable manner. Then over the summer, as president, Andrew was then responsible to coordinate moving the plotters from the remote location, back onto campus into our newly renovated building. During that time he discovered accounting and financial issues, which made for contentious debates regarding raising prices, and why it was necessary. He dispelled rumors and explained clearly why this was vital, showing the costs for using local services rather than the plot club machines. It was a hard decision, but Andrew was very professional in how he handled the situation (especially considering no one likes costs going up).

In 2016 I was chair of the AIA Kansas | AIA Central States Conference Committee (which was held in Manhattan). When I wanted to engage students in the conference I knew exactly who to call and who would come through with any help that was needed – Andrew. During our state conference the Emerging Professionals Committee typically hosts a “Chit Chat” (a pecha kucha-style event) to raise scholarship funds for students at KState and the University of Kansas. We asked the AIAS chapters of each school to put together a presentation (along with others across the region). Andrew put together an amazing group who developed their “Chit Chat”. The piece was fun, taking their position as students of architecture seriously, as well as in a self-deprecating manner. Everyone at the Chit Chat talked about it! It clearly was the highlight of the evening!

Andrew not only volunteers for numerous activities in the department and college, but he also has a weekly show on the university’s radio station, holds a job during the school year to help pay for his schooling, and for the past two summers has worked in an architect’s office gaining important professional experience. This shows his ability to organize, listen, represent his colleagues, speak to those in the profession, as well as to participate in his interests beyond the classroom.

I hope that you will join me in supporting Mr. Wood in his quest to represent the Midwest Quad as their Director. As a ‘gray hair’ and ‘mature’ member of the profession I am proud to have him leading the call to engage, and share his enthusiasm with his colleagues in our region. Andrew will follow in the footsteps of other strong leaders from the Midwest. With him I know the future of our profession is in good hands.

Sincerely,



**Wendy Ornelas, FAIA**

Professor

Distinguished Professor, *Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture* | Richard Upjohn Fellow, *American Institute of Architects* |  
2012-2014 Director, *Central States Region, American Institute of Architects* | 2009-2010 President, *National Architectural Accrediting Board* |

## **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 journey as a student leader began in the theatre with misplaced motives and a flawed mindset, but ended with a life lesson that reshaped my leadership style. I was selected to be the male lead in the school play, and I was fully prepared to be the star of the show. Unmemorized lines and lack of commitment caused me to become extremely discouraged with the performance of everyone around me. In an effort to bolster the performance, I took it upon myself to help them run lines and keep them in line during practice. As rehearsals continued, my alleged assistance had accomplished absolutely nothing, and no one was talking to me due to my ridiculous condescending attitude (of which I was still oblivious). With tech week on the horizon and rehearsals still in the throws of disaster, I saw that everything I had been doing up to that point had only irritated the situation further. Still out of selfish ambition, I decided to look for ways to genuinely help my fellow cast and crew members succeed to the degree in which I had planned to myself. From helping in the prop room to learning about stage makeup, I made it my mission to make everyone's life simpler.

Opening came, and as far as the audience knew, everything was a huge success. The reality was I stumbled through my lines and I was only able to finish because my cast supported me. As I walked out on stage for my bow as the lead in the production, I felt like an undeserving flea. My focus had been entirely on my own agenda, and the group suffered because of it. The entire cast assembled behind me for the final bow to close out the show, and as we grabbed hands I realized I had only finished because they were at my back the entire show. Supporting actors are essential to a successful performance, and as the leader of the cast it had been my job to help them share our story. A star without his/her cast is nothing more than an awkward flash of light no one wants to see, just as a leader without followers is simply a lost person with opinions.

Since that day, I have changed my leadership style significantly and made it my goal to be a selfless leader. The job of a leader is to catapult those within their sphere of influence to success. Your success as a leader should only be measured by the accomplishments of those beneath you. Being a true leader is not always leading from the front of the pack, but staying in the back to help those who need help keeping up. This makes leadership available to anyone in any position who wants to make a difference; large or small, everyone plays a part. Our passion for leadership should be to motivate and facilitate the goals of others.

## **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?**

As I stumbled, arms full of supplies, into my first semester freshman year studio, I could sense the difference a great studio culture made in an educational environment. The first week flew by, and that dingy corner room of Seaton Hall already felt like the home I never knew I was missing. My studiomates became my family and our professors were our guides to the eventual brainwashing that we all went through in our respective first year programs. Through the insane deadlines, lack



of sleep and general delirium our studio culture grew to become something I hope to replicate in almost every situation. Every single architecture school has its own distinct flavor when it comes to their studio culture. As a first year student, I was blessed to have a school that valued a balanced lifestyle. The work load required from an architecture student is extremely demanding, and time management is one of the largest hurdles to overcome during our years in academia. This work/life balance we create during our school years will form the way in which we perform as professionals, in all the realms of the industry. It is our responsibility as leaders in the AIAS to train our peers in healthy, nurturing habits that will set them on the path to success. As Midwest Quad Director, I will help facilitate chapter leaders in healthy studio culture for their school to bring about the most success for their student body.

**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?**

I plan to use my position on the Board to strengthen the network of AIAS chapters in the Midwest region by means of strong innovative channels of communication. The national platforms for communication of our organization include Slack, Google Hangouts, and Facebook which are used primarily by the chapter leadership. Applying that existing infrastructure used by AIAS nationals on a more localized level would push our membership one step close to understanding the day to day life of other members from all over their region. I intend to facilitate this system by empowering our local membership to communicate with regional and national leadership, but more importantly to make new connections with fellow members in other chapters. We are a professional organization that focuses on professional networking, but also creating personal relationships and learning about the lives of others thus furthering a healthy work/life balance.

**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.**

Furthering diversity by means of a strong relationship with the National Organization of Minority Architecture Student (NOMAS) is essential to the success of AIAS. Being an international organization with membership spanning the globe, we owe it to all our members to expose them to all the rich nuances and intricacies our distinct membership possess. An active relationship with NOMAS and similar organizations will educate everyone in our organization for their coming years as professionals on the international stage. The rich cultures represented in the Midwest, like all regions, should be shared by means of strong channels of communication for growth and understanding. Partnering with NOMAS will further the diversity in all of our chapters and will contribute to our success as an organization.

## Intern Compensation Form

### 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: Andrew Wood

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

## Elections Code of Ethics

### 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: Andrew Wood

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.