

11/11/18

Keshika De Saram,
AIAS Past President,
1735 New York Ave.,
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Keshika,

I intend on running for Northeast Quad director for the 2018-2019 forum in Seattle. I came to New York 3 years ago, from Texas. I came to New York for a fresh start and to become a known architect. Texas is thriving with architect firms, but the most creative ones are in New York. I have never come to the top half of the United States before my school's orientation. When first coming to the Northeast side, it was for sure a culture shock, to say the least! I have never seen so many people from all around the world. In addition, at first, I didn't understand how the color of my skin could impact my career, or what it meant to have a voice.

I was a heavily involved student in high school. I've been involved in over 20 clubs/organizations since high school. Some, in particular, is International club, which I restarted in my high school because I wanted the students to have a place to discuss their culture, and learn others. With my rule, we had a successful festival that hadn't been done in over 10 years. In addition, I've helped raise 1,000's for UNICEF. There's always a question if a person can handle a role, which comes responsibility, leadership, and passion. I ran over 5 organizations while being in orchestra, and being a International Baccalaureate student. I tell you this because it's a part of me. In addition, I wanted to show my passion to make an impact in the world.

When coming to college I didn't do any activities during my first semester. This is partly due to a new term I learned called "architorture"! AIAS approached me in my second semester and it renewed my passion for architecture. I saw other people that shared my passion. I became a senator right away my freshmen year. Everyone in AIAS at the time was older students. I was the only one in my year to be a part of the organization. It was great knowing the older students because they gave me a lot of confidence and advice through my years. I went to my first conference my sophomore year, at the Boston forum. I was honestly really nervous to go, but it has changed my outlook on architecture. The speeches given were inspiring and informative. Sarah and Racheal were the president and vice president at the time. They inspired me right away to run for a national position. I also went to the Austin forum and Toronto conference, which solidified my goal. I want to continue the great work the past directors have done as well as add new issues that need to be discussed and fresh ideas to keep this organization inspiring people, as it did with me.

Sincerely,
Himesh Patel

Himesh Patel

 350 WEST 88ST APT.619,
NEW YORK, NY, 10024

 817-680-2637

 HPATE131@NYIT.EDU

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am a fourth year architecture student at New York Institute of Technology. I grew up with humble beginnings, and was taught the value of a dollar. My skills include Rhino, AutoCAD, Revit, Photoshop, InDesign, PowerPoint, Photography, and Social Media. My studio projects include: low income housing, high density residential, elementary school, commercial, museum, as well as dwellings.

Architecture is my passion, and is something that I don't let define me, yet it's something that I feel I am destined to perform. I feel that architecture is the frame of life: it doesn't change the painting but it's what the painting is enclosed by, and what enhances the painting to life. Every semester I push myself to learn as many skills as I can. I've managed to get an internship my second semester of my freshman year, be a studio Teachers Assistant, Senator/Secretary of NYIT AIAS chapter, while doing other extracurricular activities, and working while being a full time student.

Anything I don't know, I'll work egregiously hard to understand. I'm determined to succeed in life, and hope you will allow me to be on your journey as well as be a part of mine.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Himesh Patel

References

Jonathan Baron: barondesigninc@gmail.com

Mathew Ford: mford05@nyit.edu

Yema Gbondo: ygbondo@nyit.edu

Himesh Patel



Education



350 WEST 88ST APT.619,
NEW YORK, NY, 10024



817-680-2637



HPATE131@NYIT.EDU

New York Institute of Technology— 1855 Broadway, New York, NY 10023

August, 2015 -2020

Architecture Major, 3.510 GPA

AIAS NYIT Chapter Secretary, Studio Professors Assistant, First Year Mentor, Orientation Leader, Student Advisor, NSLS member, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Student government.

L.D. Bell high school— 1601 Brown Trail, Hurst, TX 76054

3.638 GPA, Class Rank of top 25%

International Baccalaureate program, student leader for 9 organizations.

Skills

AutoCad



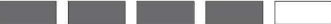
Revit



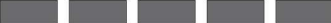
Rhino



Photoshop



InDesign



Illustrator



Power Point



Photography



Social Media



Work Experience

Intern at Baron Design Inc.—New York, NY

January, 2016—May, 2016

Baron Design Inc. is an Interior design company. Assisted the CEO with client meetings, supply runs, phone calls, drafting, floral services, and office administration.

Studio Professor Assistant—NYIT, New York, NY

September, 2016 — December, 2016

Assisted Fundamentals 1 studio professor with critiquing design and organization.

Orientation Leader/First Year mentor—NYIT, New York, NY

July, 2016 — January, 2018

Student Advisor at NYIT School of Management—New York, NY

August, 2015—May, 2017

Advised students on schedules, as well as filing and event coordination.

I learned time management, responsibility, consumer service, being a leadership, and person growth.

Banana Republic.—New York, NY

September, 2017 — December, 2017

Sales Associate for a busy location. Helped me understand the regular consumer.

Languages

English



Gujurati



Spanish



Volunteer/ Leadership Experience

AIAS—New York, NY

2015-Present

AIAS Secretary and Senator. Attended AIAS forums 2016 and 2017 as well as other conferences.

UNICEF

2009-Present

For 8 years I've managed to raise thousands of dollars for UNICEF. Started a fundraiser Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF at my high school; it continues to raise money till this day.

November 15, 2016

Keshika De Saram, Assoc. AIA
Past President and Elections Committee Chair
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Ave NW
Washington, DC, 2006-5297

Re: Himesh Patel Application for Northeast Quad Director 2019-20

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Himesh Patel application for the Northeast Quad Director 2019-20.

As Director of the School of Architecture and Design and AIAS Faculty Advisor, we work closely together for not only AIAS events, but for our community, for student competitions, and for organization of lecture and social events. In my experience, Himesh is a thoughtful, analytical thinker. He is an asset to our school and an asset to our AIAS chapter.

Himesh has served as NYIT Orientation Leader, First Year Mentor, Student Advisor and has been a first-year studio teaching assistant. He has been an AIAS member since freshman year and held office as senator and secretary.

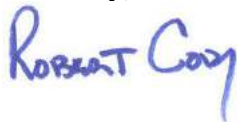
I first met Himesh in Boston at the AIAS Forum. His interest in architecture was evident and he has developed into a serious young architect. He has also attended AIAS Forum in Austin, Texas and a Northeast Quad Conference.

While I have not had him in my classes, I know from his professors and classmates that he is hard working and articulate. He has been a helpful observer and collaborator in faculty committees, giving him experience in leadership. He has also been an excellent advisor to students.

Himesh will succeed as an architect. His curiosity and tenacity will serve him well not only as a student, but into the profession. His desire to excel, to be challenged, willingness to learn and ability to work with and encourage others, makes him an excellent candidate for Northeast Quad Director 2019-20.

I hope this letter supports him well.

Sincerely,



Robert Cody, AIA, LEED AP
Associate Professor, AIAS Faculty Advisor
Director of Undergraduate Architecture, School of Architecture and Design, Old Westbury



ELECTIONS QUESTIONNAIRE

The Election Questionnaire is for all Officer and Quadrant Director candidates. Please limit your responses to two pages total, and submit responses as a .PDF file, compiled with all other election materials, to Past President at PastPresident@aias.org.

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?

2. 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, studio 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 National Board of Directors?

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?

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.

Himesh Patel Election Questionnaire:

1) I discussed my origin story as a student leader in my letter, but I didn't really say how or why it all started. I was a brown puggy boy my whole life. It was cute until junior when kids could be tough. Before high school, I was introverted and didn't have many friends. There were only 5 other brown kids in my class, and we all felt not apart of the crowd, partly due to us being in the suburbs of Texas. Orchestra was my comfort zone. I knew everyone, and it is where I thought I could have a voice. Then I started joining club activities in 8th grade, then became a leader in a club the next year. Becoming a leader changed everything. It made me work harder at school and break out of my shell. Suddenly, I had a lot more friends and had a purpose of going to school. Then I really got involved in high school and took all advanced class. Every day was a struggle to keep up with everything but I don't regret it. I was fully out of my shell, most of the school knew me and I excelled in everything I did.

Then in college, I really became a new person with being an orientation leader, first-year mentor, student advisor, TA, AIAS leader, and a voice for the architecture community. I'm the only architecture student at my school that knows students and faculty in other majors. In addition, my work with incoming students is one of my proudest achievements as a student leader. The advise I'd give potential leaders is be yourself, be understanding, and be willing to put in the time. In addition, I'd tell them to put themselves out there because it will change you for the better.

2) In my opinion, the "practice experience" or the "real world" is something I want students to be more aware of. It's important they understand it's important to network, and be active. In addition, my expertise in social media will come in hand with getting the word out.

By network I mean, going to the AIAS conferences. Furthermore, how we get students more interested in attending. The way chapters promote the conferences is important. Many schools pay the admissions ticket as well as hotel costs to go. This is something many students don't know. In addition, getting earlier flights is essential because that's mostly what they're paying. If you tell them, it's only going to be 200-300\$ in total to attend then it seems a lot more possible. People honestly don't think about the cost of food and transportation, which doesn't need priority. Another aspect is having chapters do firm tours. This also includes networking schools (my job) to connect them for more availability of attending as well as networking with other schools.

Being active is another important element I want the chapter to push. So many students are stuck in a box called the studio. All they want to work on is studio, and all they want to go to is studio. This has been proven to make students more socially unaware. This is important for a job interview, client meetings, and your own personal health. At my school, I've tried aggressively to get students to go to conferences, firm tours, or even general schools fairs and simply going out eating. I've hit huge strides within my architecture community to get out of studio, but it's still a problem, of which all architecture schools have. In addition, it's important that AIAS doesn't form into a clique, which discourages introverts. We must be open and accepting to all.

3) A way we all connect is through technology. There's texting, calling, facetimeing, and social media to keep us all connected. In my quad, I will make sure to schedule facetime meeting with each chapter president to make sure everyone is doing great. The presidents are the ones who suffer the most and need the most guidance. A lot of the time, they just need reassurance that their role is important and the work they are doing is acknowledged. Having that connection is a vital part to understand what's really going on in each chapter and how I can help them. I personally have people come to me for advice on my social media account, regularly. Younger students in my high school, my orientation students, students I've advised, friends, and even people I don't know, all around the world have asked advice from me. Whether if they should leave home for college, do architecture, join AIAS, come to my school, and more. Furthermore, I've been hit with multiple situations and have actually been trained to handle stressful situations with students. Knowing how to talk to people, and relating to them is one of my biggest strengths. I plan to use this in leading my Quad, as well as being their comfort zone to talk to.

4) I've discussed many ways AIAS can engage with students but an untapped opportunity is the huge diversity we have as an organization. AIAS is not just some club architect students join to learn more about architecture. It's a huge social network of students with different skin colors, backgrounds, and personal stories. The last forum In Austin, I went around asking students why they joined AIAS, and what their background was. A lot of people said they joined because it was a good networking opportunity, but they also had a diverse background that brought them to do architecture. So many people have opinions and stories to tell but nowhere to tell them. I want to use our social media to not just tell success stories but focus more on the stories people have to share. I met people from all around the world at the conference. My school itself is highly diverse as well. And we need to celebrate that, as well as be conscious of current political issues that have broken through in the last 2 years.

When doing firm tours with my AIAS chapter I noticed that there was no one that looked like me at the firms. We visited the biggest firms in the world, and I saw very little colored people. I thought, wait this is New York City. So, how is it that 90% of the architects were white. I then looked at my school studio and saw 40% of them were white. I didn't know how to make sense out of this until I became more politically aware of the world, and how harsh it can be. We see the #metoo movement, black lives matter, women marches, and more issues that have been exposed. They have been always there, it's just no one's talking about it. I don't think it's hit the architecture community enough because race and gender are still issues in the workforce. The last forum had great lectures over current issues in our workforce, but I want to keep pushing these discussions in our individual chapters. It's time to stop ignoring it. I will make sure this topic is discussed in each chapter so that students are aware of the issues they might face and how to deal with it.



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: Himesh 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: Himesh Patel

Date: 11/11/18



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 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.

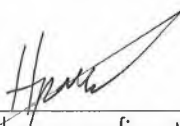
As leaders of this organization, and future leaders of this profession, we must uphold the highest ethical practice. Questionable behavior during elections will not be tolerated. Any concerns should be immediately raised with the Past President.

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: Himesh 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: 
Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.

Date: 11/11/18



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): Himesh Patel

Chapter: New York Institute of Technology

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): _____

Email Address: Hpatel131@nyit.edu

Mobile Phone Number: 817-680-2637

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- Facebook: Himesh patel
- Twitter: @_____
- Instagram: superasianindian
- Other: _____

**YOUR NEXT
NORTHEAST
QUAD DIRECTOR!!!**

HIMESH PATEL

