



Carl Dilcher

2019-2020 South Quadrant Director



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Letter of Intent

16 November 2018

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

Past President Keshika De Saram,

Like countless other students, I have discovered my agency and passion from my experiences in the American Institute of Architecture Students. This organization is pivotal to promoting change in the profession and inspiring its next leaders to find their own voice. It provides an important platform for students to affect meaningful change in architecture education, the workplace, and even what it means to be an architect.

The AIAS has undoubtedly had an impression on my life, helping me to find my own agency and to grow as an individual. The lessons I have learned from inspirational speakers, engagements with the professional community, and connections I have made at the organization's different scales have all instilled a deep passion for this organization within me.

It is in this sentiment that I would like to declare my intent to run for the 2019-2020 South Quadrant Director.

As the Vice President of the Georgia Institute of Technology's AIAS chapter, I have learned how to serve my peers as a leader and what the organization can provide to its members. Over the past few months, our executive board has been working on restructuring our chapter towards finding our niche within our school to better support the needs of our members. However, it is through the National level as a member of the Health & Wellness Task Force that I have learned how the AIAS can create long-reaching impacts for the holistic architecture community. Our members have valuable agency, and I hope to empower others to evolve the profession.

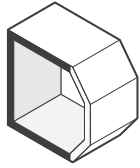
Every chapter in the AIAS has a unique role that they play in their schools. The variable conditions between chapters produces a rich fabric of architecture communities - but also unique set of challenges. As the South Quadrant Director, I hope to use my ability as a creative problem-solver and help chapters tackle the diverse range of issues they face.

Enclosed are the additional pages for my candidacy submission. I would like to thank you for your years of dedicated service to the American Institute of Architecture Students. It would be an honor to serve as the South Quadrant Director on the 2019-2020 Board of Directors.

Best,



Charles L Dilcher Jr.



# CHARLES DILCHER

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roswell, ga 30076  
404.805.1834  
cdilcher3@gatech.edu

EDUCATION	Georgia Institute of Technology; Atlanta, Georgia B.S. in Architecture, class of 2019 Undergraduate Certificate in Computational Design	2015-present expected graduation: 2019
EXPERIENCE	Architecture Undergraduate International Studio Studied architecture and urban development in Berlin, Germany Gensler Mentorship Program College of Design IT Lab Assistant Manage plotters and College of Design computer labs Architecture Intern with CNNA Architects Inc. Created construction document drawings including plans, sections, details specifications, and other detail sheets General Contractor Intern with PE Structures Learned to read construction documents and to create bid estimates for projects	spring 2018 fall 2017 fall 2017- spring 2019 summer 2016, 2017 fall 2014
AWARDS & HONORS	Georgia Tech Faculty Honors Georgia Tech Dean's list I See What You Did There: Berlin Exhibition Work selected for display in exhibition Vernon McCoy & William Shipley Scholarship Mike Rice Competition Honorable Mention The Future of Refugee Camp Infrastructure Symposium Work selected for display in symposium	spring 2017, spring 2018 2016, fall 2017 fall 2018 spring 2018 2016 2016
LEADERSHIP	Georgia Tech AIAS Vice President AIAS National Health & Wellness Task Force member Member of the Georgia Institute of Technology's School of Architecture Recruitment Initiative Committee Nominated by professor as part of an initiative to reach out to the GT SoA's incoming freshmen	2018-2019 2018-2019 2016
SKILLS	AutoCAD   SketchUp Pro   Adobe Illustrator   Adobe InDesign   Adobe Photoshop   Adobe Acrobat   Rhinoceros 5   Grasshopper   Lumion   Revit   Drafting   Laser Cutting	

14 December 2018

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

Dear Members of the AIAS Election Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I wholeheartedly support and recommend Carl Dilcher for AIAS South Quad Director for the 2019-20 academic year. Carl is deeply committed to the AIAS and to representing the student voice in the profession. He will be a tremendous asset on the AIAS Board of Directors.

Carl possesses all of the qualities one would find in a student leader. He cares deeply about his fellow classmates, our program here at Georgia Tech, and – perhaps most important for this position – he has deep respect for AIAS and the potential the organization has to impact architecture students and education more broadly. Carl has been involved with Georgia Tech's AIAS chapter since his first year, but assumed a leadership position this year as our chapter Vice President. He, along with the other members of our Executive Board, have worked hard over the last six months to revitalize our chapter and better align its activities with the interests and needs of our students.

His experiences at Grassroots in July were invaluable in thinking about how to re-shape our chapter. Because of this, Carl has developed a true desire and passion to serve other chapters. Grassroots also inspired him to take on a role at the national level as a member of the AIAS Health and Wellness Task Force. His commitment to creating a healthy and well-rounded educational experience is evidenced by his work on this task force. We are pleased that he brings that work back to campus to help guide our conversations here.

Carl is known in the School of Architecture for his maturity and commitment to serving his peers. I have personally known Carl since fall of 2015 as he began his education at Tech. As an instructor in his sophomore studio, I had the opportunity to get to know him better, see his development as a designer, and observe how he balances his academic commitments alongside his service to and support of AIAS. I continue to be impressed with his ability to handle both in stride. I have truly enjoyed working with him, both as a student and as a leader in the School.

I give Carl my highest possible recommendation. He has the full support of the Georgia Tech community – we are confident that he will accomplish great things as AIAS South Quad Director!

Sincerely,



Michelle A. Rinehart, Ed.D.  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

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Georgia Institute of Technology  
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Candidate Questionnaire  
1 of 2

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?

At every stage of my education, I have aspired to help my classmates succeed. Assisting my peers to find success and discover their own agency has lead me to seek leadership positions and culminated with me becoming a class officer during high school. Once I reached Georgia Tech, I found my home in my architecture community. I attended my school's Beaux Arts Ball during freshman year, and this sparked my interest in my school's AIAS chapter.

I joined a few committees and became an active member at our small, but enthusiastic chapter during my sophomore year. Oddly enough, my introduction to AIAS leadership began late into my third year, while I was abroad; our chapter's president at the time reached out to me while I was overseas about pursuing a leadership position in our chapter. It seemed like an incredible task, certainly not one I thought I could manage before. But I love supporting my peers. I love helping them realize their potential. A leadership role at my chapter would allow me to give my fellow students more opportunities to succeed, so it seemed like a natural step to take. A few weeks later I became my chapter's Vice President.

My entire view of the AIAS changed dramatically when I attended my first conference at Grassroots 2018, and I immediately fell in love with the organization's mission and especially its community. The national level of the AIAS has empowered me to elevate my voice and create impactful change through the Health & Wellness Task Force.

I have been inspired by the leaders and the amazing individuals of the AIAS. It is never too late to discover your own agency. Leadership takes many forms and scales. If you are dedicated to serving others, leadership will find you.

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?

Many of these pillars go hand-in-hand, but I find the challenges that health and wellness present on studio culture to be the most persistent issues. Studio culture has taken great leaps and the AIAS is indicative of the strong community that we as architecture students have carved out for ourselves. The studio environment is an enriching part of an architecture education, but unhealthy behaviors and an associative stigma remain. Architecture students become professional problem-solvers, impacting the experiences and lives of people all around the world. It is imperative that we do not let unhealthy habits developed in our education impact the important work we do or our future workplaces.

Candidate Questionnaire  
2 of 2

The partnership between the AIAS and NAAB has been an excellent resource to implement changes about how schools' administrators approach health and wellness. Many schools offer resources or encourage healthy lifestyles, but there is a disparity in the availability and effectiveness behind these efforts. As the South Quad Director, I will challenge the Board to continue building upon the foundation laid by committees working towards these issues. But the most important changes that can occur in health and wellness must come from the students themselves. I will encourage chapter leaders to use their chapters as a vessel of change. As a member of the Board, I can help chapters advocate for mental health awareness and work with chapter leaders to develop strategies for shaping fulfilling lifestyles in studio.

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?

Every chapter has unique conditions that influence what kind of role they take on at their schools - chapter histories, administrative support, school size, and many more characteristics. The specific functions of each chapter adapt to these factors, the missions remain the same: to give architecture students every opportunity to succeed. I would use my position to organize collaborative efforts between chapters. The Quadrant Director position provides a great perspective to catalog the varieties between chapters and connect chapters with the same difficulties. I hope to orchestrate interchapter calls and events that will allow members to share their successes and areas that need improvement. Chapters can learn from each other and succeed together. Not everyone can afford to attend conferences, but interchapter events are an amazing way to facilitate the exposure of new ideas and relationships that make AIAS so effective as an organization.

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.

Many schools with AIAS chapters also have chapters of other student organizations - ASLA, APX, NOMAS, VIA, IDSA, ASID, IIDA and others. At the local level, membership often varies in fluidity between these organizations. Each of these organizations take on different roles at different schools, finding their own niche to best serve students. I believe that collaboration between these organizations at the local level is mutually beneficial for chapters. Joint ventures with other student organizations has only increased the homogeneity of the student body at my school, and I have heard of many other chapters' successful events with their partner organizations.

These interactions are key to the local level, but not often seen on the national scale. Collaboration between different elements of the design community is an everyday part of the profession, but many architecture students are not directly exposed to these until after graduation. By meeting and learning about other architecture students from around the country at AIAS conferences, we open ourselves up to new perspectives, ideas, and ways of thinking. These networks are incredibly beneficial to students, so why not connect with other student organizations at the national level? The AIAS can use its position to collaborate with other student organizations and create interdisciplinary events that will expose our membership to the types of multifaceted networking that exists in the profession.



## 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: Charles L. Dilcher Jr.

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: 11/16/2018





## 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: Charles L. Dilcher Jr.

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: 11/16/2018





## 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): Carl Dilcher

Chapter: Georgia Institute of Technology

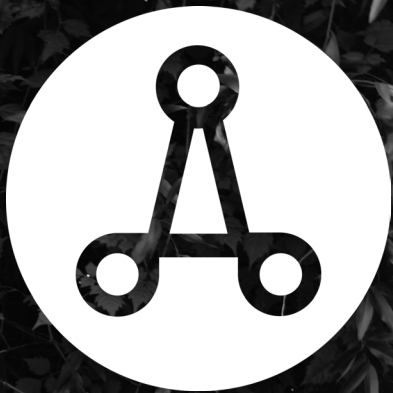
Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Vice President

Email Address: cdilcher3@gatech.edu

Mobile Phone Number: (404) 805-1834

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- Facebook: Carl Dilcher
- Twitter: @
- Instagram: @cdilcher
- Other:



Carl Dilcher

2019-2020 South Quadrant Director

