



Jessie Cart

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LETTER OF INTENT

jessie cart

15 November 2020

Sarah Curry, AIAS, Assoc. AIA, NOMA,
Past President and Elections Committee Chair
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-5297

Dear Past President Curry,

My story with the AIAS does not begin many years ago, but rather just three when I first began architecture school. When I started a secondary undergraduate program, this time in architecture, being an "older" student, I was nervous. I expected to keep to myself, get my work done, and succeed to the best of my ability. It can be difficult to enter into a school a year later than everyone else and try and find your "people". That first year though, I met this incredibly inviting group of students who kept talking about this "super cool 'club' called the AIAS". I attended my first general body meeting, and from there my life has been transformed. Through the AIAS I have developed new skills, found opportunities, knowledge, and this incredible community that first were friends and now are family.

Like many of the amazing leaders before me, I too have felt an innate desire to serve. During my first undergraduate program, I was heavily involved, participating in community service and seeking out leadership roles that would allow me to help my fellow students. My love for advocacy has been fulfilled through my involvement with the AIAS. From seeing the impact our chapter has on our school and the local community, to the wider impact the AIAS has on the field of architecture as a whole, I am continuously impressed. Tim Sanders said, "your network is your net worth", and with a network like the AIAS, I feel like the richest person on Earth.

At my first opportunity I ran to join our chapter's executive board, happy to serve in any capacity, first as Treasurer and now as chapter President; on a national level, I am a member of our Governance Committee for the 2020-2021 year. I want to continue to assist other chapters, help them exceed their goals and support them in any capacity necessary, furthering the mission of the AIAS.

All of this has led me to where I am today, and I am ecstatic to announce my intention to run for the position of 2021-2022 South Quadrant Director for the American Institute of Architecture Students.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jessie Cart

Jessie Cart

EDUCATION

Savannah College of Art and Design - Savannah, GA

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Architecture

Expected May 2021

Minors: Architectural History

Design for Sustainability

Study Abroad: Lacoste, France

Fall 2019

Wofford College - Spartanburg, SC

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

May 2013

Minor: Neuroscience

Emphasis: Research

EXPERIENCE

Global Vision International - Hoedspruit, South Africa

Research Lead

February 2014 - July 2014

Research Intern

August 2013 - January 2014

Wofford College - Spartanburg, SC

Independent Undergraduate Research

January 2012 - May 2013

LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT

American Institute of Architecture Students

AIAS Governance Committee

September 2020 - Present

SCAD Chapter President

May 2020 - Present

SCAD Chapter Treasurer

April 2019 - May 2020

Savannah College of Art and Design - Savannah, GA

ASHRAE

June 2020 - Present

Secretary/ICC Coordinator

Student Representative

March 2019 - Present

Learning and Culture Credo Task Force

Avenues

April 2019 - Present

Lead Editor and Contributing Writer

Wofford College - Spartanburg, SC

Alpha Phi Omega

September 2010 - May 2013

Fundraising Chair

October 2009 - May 2010

Finance Coordinator

Delta Delta Delta

January 2011 - December 2011

Recruitment Chair

January 2010 - December 2010

Fundraising Chair

AWARDS

Savannah College of Art and Design

Dean's List

Academic Scholarship

Student Achievement Scholarship

SKILLS

Technical

Adobe Illustrator

Adobe InDesign

Adobe Photoshop

AutoCAD

Enscape & Lumion

Hand-Sketching

Microsoft Office

Professional

Detail Oriented

Strong Writing Skills

Organized

Adaptable

Proactive and Analytical

Highly Self-Motivated

Proficient in French



15 November 2020

Sarah Curry, AIAS, Assoc. AIA, NOMA,
Past President and Elections Committee Chair
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-5297

Re: Jessie Cart - Letter of Support for South Quad Director of the AIAS

Dear Ms. Curry,

It is my great pleasure to recommend and support Ms. Jessie Cart in her candidacy for South Quad Director of the American Institute of Architecture Students for the 2021-2022 academic year. As the faculty advisor for the AIAS chapter at the Savannah College of Art and Design, I have had the privilege of getting know Jessie, first as a general member then as an executive board member throughout her matriculation here at SCAD.

From the classroom to her current position as President of our AIAS chapter, Jessie is an excellent example of a student leader. She dedicates a lot of time and effort into the success of not only herself, but her fellow students. I have been immensely impressed with her ability to assist others as well as advocate for them. Her advocacy has been seen through her involvement in assisting our Department of Institutional Effectiveness in the re-writing of SCAD's Learning and Culture Credo, rallying student participation in focus groups and being a voice for all students.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Jessie has worked tirelessly to ensure that the experience of every student has remained fulfilling and engaging. To help supplement for lack of in person peer-to-peer support, Jessie has organized virtual peer review sessions for all students, a series of skill build and software workshops for AIAS members, and even created a "virtual studio" that all students can access and engage while working or needing to connect with one another.

Balancing all of the responsibilities of being chapter president, a member of the Governance Committee, and a rigorous studio environment, Jessie's organizational and time management skills have been put to the test. She has shown exemplary leadership and dedication, and there is no doubt in our minds that she can handle the duties of South Quad Director.

We enthusiastically extend our support for her candidacy for South Quad Director for 2021-2022! I know that she will, as always, give to the mastery for this position the complete dedication that she has given to her studies at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

Hsu-Jen Huang, Ph.D.
Professor of Architecture
Savannah College of Art and Design
(O) 912-525-6868 (C) 912-484-8787 (E) hhuang@scad.edu



AIAS

SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN

20 November 2020

Sarah Curry, AIAS, Assoc. AIA, NOMA,
Past President and Elections Committee Chair
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-5297

Re: Jessie Cart - Letter of Support for South Quad Director of the AIAS

Dear Members of the AIAS Elections Committee,

When you want to get something done above and beyond expectation, you call on Jessie Cart. It is for this reason along with her unmatched passion for AIAS and her drive to help others to succeed that I support Jessie for the AIAS South Quad Director for the 2021-2022 year.

As the current Events Chair for the SCAD chapter of the AIAS, I have witnessed Jessie transform the organization to be an influential force within the school of building arts and the Savannah community. When she first joined as the Treasurer, Jessie made it her mission to reach out to more students and to connect them with other members and events. While she was careful to never step on anyone's toes, she assisted several positions beyond her own. Many individuals on the board recognized her ability to assist with the planning and execution of projects. What made her contribution most admirable was her willingness to also cover undesirable tasks. Whether it was handing out free pizza to overly stressed students during finals week or organizing tons of valentines for a fundraiser, she was super dedicated to the organization and the people who were a part of it. Remember, that was only her first year on the board.

During her second year on the board, the SCAD AIAS members specifically wanted her to be President for the 2020-2021 year. This marked a crucial moment for the SCAD architecture department as it is the year the program was supposed to be reviewed for accreditation. As a detailed oriented leader, Jessie made sure that every aspect of the student experience was examined to better the education of future students. She reached out to administration to review the studio culture policy. From these focus groups, students were given a platform to address concerns and ideas within the department and the architecture program at SCAD.

The examples listed above are only a small handful of the exceptional work Jessie Cart is doing to better AIAS. If she were given the position of the AIAS South Quad Director, I could only imagine the level of supportive and dedicated leadership she would give to other chapters. Her passion, authentic character, and strong communication skills have proven to be the perfect combination for this position. It is an honor to recommend Jessie Cart.

Best Regards,

Chandler Adams
AIAS SCAD Chapter Events Chair

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 origin as a student leader did not begin with the AIAS, but rather began in high school when I was elected as a Peer Leader. Peer Leaders are assigned groups of freshmen to help guide and navigate through the transition from middle school to high school. It was at that moment when I understood how much I could influence and impact those around me and led to me pursuing other avenues of leadership and advocacy. While pursuing my first degree, I had the opportunity to serve as a leader in different capacities for different organizations, and that helped me understand that all leadership positions are important, even if it seems small, sometimes you learn the most from those smallest positions.

Advice I would give to others who might not yet realize their potential is that leadership comes in many different forms. You do not need to be elected or appointed to a position to be a leader. You can lead through your actions. Leadership can be seen on many different scales, and if you are unsure how to get started, start small. Identify something you are passionate about or want to change and start setting small goals and steps that will help you achieve the ultimate goal of change. This can be in the classroom where you volunteer to organize the development of a group site model, within an organization, or even at home. Do not be scared to advocate for yourself and others, and always remain true to you.

2. Describe your leadership style. Explain how previous experiences working with teams have helped you discover your leadership style.

My leadership style has definitely evolved over the past decade. Traditionally, I have been more flexible, allowing me to fill a wider variety of roles successfully. Each leadership position and organization varies and different groups of people thrive under different leadership styles. I try and adapt so that I am the best leader that I can be and one that benefits the whole of the organization the most. I have found that an affiliative method has allowed me to make deeper connections and bonds with those around me, making me more accessible and easier to approach. As chapter President, I have found a balance between delegating tasks to the other board members and supporting them when they need help. Playing team sports my entire life, I understand how give and take can work, and how at times some teammates need more support than others. Like that, I always make sure that all of the board members around me are thriving, because it takes an entire team to succeed and not just the success of an individual. Advocacy is also an important part of being a leader. I love advocating for my members, board members, and fellow students. I have had an excellent opportunity recently when I began assisting SCAD's Department of Institutional Effectiveness in the rewriting of SCAD's Learning and Culture Credo.

3. 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, learning and teaching 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?

Advocacy is really important to me, and I would like to preface this with that each of the above issues is equally as serious, and it is difficult to choose just one. However, I find that personally health and wellness is an issue I find myself thinking about on a daily basis. Beyond physical health, mental health includes our psychological, emotional, social well-being. It has the potential to directly impact all areas of our lives but still is not a primary concern to many people. The stigmas surrounding health and wellness are extremely damaging, and I work hard to try and destigmatize the negative connotation associated with what is perceived as negative mental health.

I grew passionate about health and wellness when studying psychology in my first degree, learning and witnessing the devastating effects that unaddressed health issues can cause. Many students fear asking for help when they are struggling, whether due to social stigmas, personal fears, or fear of the attributed financial burden that can sometimes accompany seeking help. As an elected leader on the AIAS National Board of Directors, I would work to destigmatize mental health. If we want to move forward and discuss it more openly, we need to normalize talking about all of it, celebrating the wins, the small positivities, and work through the losses. I would also like to work on generating more resources geared specifically towards students who may not have financial means to pay for help, and assist chapters in advocating for more health and wellness options from their respective schools.

One method would be to advocate for schools to have at least one faculty member per department trained and certified to recognize the early signs of someone in crisis. This can be achieved through a variety of training programs such as the ones taught by the QPR Institute. The ultimate goal would be for having a faculty member trained to recognize these early warning signs as a required part of NAAB accreditation alongside the Learning and Teaching Culture policies. Being able to recognize these signs is equally important for students as it is for faculty and staff.

4. The AIAS has over 250 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?

Throughout the past two years, I have had the opportunity to connect my chapter with other chapters within my Quad. We even had a "GA AIAS" retreat in summer of 2019 where all of the AIAS chapters in GA got together to talk, discuss their board setup, share events, discuss interactions with administrations, and more. It was extremely productive and led to the development of a lot of friendships and mutually beneficial relationships between our chapters. Recently I have been able to connect with chapters and students outside of my quad pod and state. The collaboration and conversation stemming from these new relationships has benefited everyone involved.

I would use my position on the board to try and connect different chapter leaders and members with one another, even outside of our quad. If there is a chapter struggling in one area or looking to develop something like a mentorship program, I would make sure to connect them with a chapter who has successfully done that along with assisting myself. Every chapter is unique, but that doesn't mean they are alone. Chances are someone else has struggled with the same challenge and connecting them allows both chapters to grow and connect with one another. Devising ways for leaders and members to connect beyond the conferences and pod calls can be done through different events, such as SQuad family dinners, game nights, instagram challenges, and more.

5. Describe how you intend to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of your chosen position on the Board. Elaborate on your intended communication/action plan and the primary goals you have for your one-year term.

Time management has been a skill that I have honed over the past few years. During my time in architecture school, I have balanced my academics, the AIAS, being on the board of our ASHRAE chapter, being an editor and contributing writer for our design magazine, family, and a social life. I have learned how to say no which is an important skill for all leaders to have. Understanding my own personal limitations will help me fulfill my roles and responsibilities as South Quad Director. I will make sure that I have enough time in my schedule to remain flexible for the position for any changes that might arise. I am also quick to adapt to changes. If things change at the last minute, I am good at reorganizing and restrategizing for success. My primary goal will be to continue to build stronger chapter-to-chapter connections such as the one I helped establish in Georgia with other chapter leaders. I want to ensure that every chapter has an equal voice.

I pride myself on being accessible through many communication methods. I understand that not everyone is on instagram and that reliance on a single method of communication is inadequate. I will use a variety of communication methods, such as slack, e-mail, and instagram equally to ensure that I reach everyone to the best of my ability. Also due to my personal preference for a more affiliative leadership style, I want to work on cultivating strong personal relationships with each chapter leader.

6. We all love the AIAS for different reasons, but it takes a critical and constructive analysis of the institutions we appreciate most to continue to evolve them into entities that can support each new generation of membership. What facet of the AIAS would you most enjoy innovating or improving to help the organization remain relevant to architecture and design students around the world? What are your ideas for that kind of growth?

The field of architecture is constantly changing, from style choices, to materiality, our never moving buildings are ever evolving. More recently, priorities within the field have begun to shift, more focus has grown towards sustainable design and awareness of the negative impacts of globalization and gentrification are becoming more widely spoken about. As the field changes, it is important that we, as an organization, shift with it, potentially directing the narrative to one of a more beneficial and equitable future. Organizations like Design Impact have pointed out that at this moment in time, we have a unique opportunity for change at the intersection of racial equity and COVID-19.

Developing actionable changes that architecture and design students can execute to help guide us towards a more equitable future is something I would love to work on. Focusing on systematic change within the field of design through network building, policy creation, and helping with system level strategies within schools is an excellent way to move towards equity and positive growth.

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: Jessie Cart

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: Jessie Cart

Date: 16 November, 2020

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 and Board 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: Jessie Cart

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: Jessie Cart

Date: 16 November, 2020

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.

**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): Jessie Cart

Chapter: Savannah College of Art and Design

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): President

Email Address: cartjh@gmail.com

Mobile Phone Number: 404-895-8325

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: /jessie.cart
- o Twitter: @
- o Instagram: @jessiecart1
- o Other: LinkedIn: Jessie Cart



Jessie Cart

2021-2022 SOUTH QUADRANT DIRECTOR
CANDIDACY PACKET