



COLT BROCK

south quad director candidate

2022-2023



COLT BROCK

9106 lynbrook drive, dallas, tx 75238

tel: (214) 901-8580 email: colt@gatech.edu

Erin Conti, AIAS, Assoc. AIA
Past President AIAS
The American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20006

November 6, 2021

Dear Past President Erin Conti,

Over the past few years, I have had the opportunity call this organization home and have seen my AIAS family grow and have met some of the most important people in my life. Having the opportunity to grow within and be nourished by this organization has allowed me to grow in ways that I didn't expect when I started this journey as a small 16-year-old kid.

Having the opportunity to lead and attempt to give back to this organization has been an experience I will always cherish, and never forget. If I can inspire even one fellow student to give back in the ways the organization has given to so many, I think the world would be a much better place. The Squad has become in many ways a family, and has created relationships that will last long past my time in the AIAS and school.

It is for this reason, and so many more, that I am excited to write you and announce that I will be running for the position of South Quad Director at FORUM this year. I look forward to taking part in this process for a second time as a matured student, leader, and person overall. Being able to see work with and be inspired by other South Quad leaders and South Quad Directors has been an honor and I hope to be able to lead and inspire many others as the 2022-2023 South Quad Director.

Thank you for your continued service!

Sincerely,



Colt Brock

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tel: (214) 901-8580 email: colt@gatech.edu

education

georgia institute of technology, atlanta, georgia
b.s. in architecture

class of 2022

experience

architecture intern at mcmillan pazdan smith architects

summer 2021

architecture intern at pbk architects
created construction documents and worked with
design team on renderings and design charretes

fall 2017-summer 2018,
summer 2019

be the future of design at georgia tech

summer 2017

advanced architectural design, lake highlands high school

2016-2018

honors

aias national chapter leader of the month

september 2020

georgia tech faculty honors

fall 2019-spring 2020

georgia tech dean's list

fall 2018-spring 2021

gwinner aias student leadership award

fall 2019-spring 2021

design selected for lake highlands high school
design used for additions and renovations

spring 2018

national involvement

south quad conference co-chair

spring 2022

mental health task force

fall 2021-spring 2022

chair, learning and teaching culture advisory group

fall 2020-spring 2021

conference presenter, aias forum

winter 2020

candidate for 2020-2021 south quad director

winter 2019

freedom by design advisory committee
west quad liaison

fall 2019-spring 2020

local involvement

president, georgia tech aias

fall 2020-spring 2021

vice president, georgia tech aias

fall 2019-spring 2020

studio culture policy taskforce organizer

fall 2019-spring 2020

undergraduate advisory council
georgia tech school of architecture

fall 2018-spring 2020

vice president, lake highlands aias

fall 2017-spring 2018

founder and president, lake highlands aias

fall 2016-spring 2017

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?

Within the AIAS, my journey began as a junior in high school, where I was able to start a chapter of my own! From there, I was able to serve in leadership positions during high school and dive right back into the fold at Georgia Tech. During high school, I was able to take part in an architectural design course and wanted to find ways to apply things I had learned and get involved outside of just my school and I stumbled upon the AIAS, and the rest is history!

I think something that took me a long time to learn and understand about leadership was the fact that you don't have to take on everything in front of you and should be having fun! I think burnout is a very real thing that many of us have experienced, especially recently, and if you are trying to do everything as a leader, you're very likely to burnout and not enjoy the experience. One of the hardest but most rewarding things about leadership is well... leading. Delegating and working with your board/team is super important in making sure to not overwhelm yourself (or others) as you work through your tasks and goals. Once you're not overwhelming yourself, be sure to take a step back from some of the stress you might be facing to remind yourself why you did it in the first place and make sure you're enjoying what you're doing.

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

As I've matured as a leader, my leadership style has changed from that of a servant leader (others first, me last) to a much more flexible and adaptive leader. Being in leadership, whether it be that of a project team for a class, a board member at an AIAS Chapter, or in a work setting, these experiences taught me that to have a successful team, I might have to fill more than one role and wear more than one hat sometimes. This could mean taking on additional responsibilities that may not be what I initially expected, or signed up for, and sometimes that means letting others help me with tasks I might not be able to get done on my own.

During my year as Georgia Tech AIAS's President, when school was fully virtual and nothing like what I expected when I ran for the role just a few months before, our entire board had to adapt and respond to everything that was happening while still ensuring the best experience for our members. While traditionally, the President at our chapter was an outward facing role, during my year as President the position became increasingly inward facing, and was forced to evolve the way in which the President interacted with our partners and allied organizations. Working with my team we had to redefine roles that had been in place for many years if we wanted to keep the year rolling. While it was an incredibly challenging year from a leadership standpoint, it was amazing to be able to work with the my board and other organizations and be able to grow in ways none of us would have expected when we first ran for those positions!

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?

Throughout my time in the AIAS I have always tried to be an advocate for positive culture in both our education spaces and our industry. When I first started in high school, that meant making sure we gave positive feedback to each other and helping each other when we could. When I first started at Tech that meant looking out for my classmates and making sure people were taking care of themselves. And as I come close to ending my time in undergrad it has become challenging the system and pushing for infrastructural and policy level changes. During the 2020-2021 academic year I had the privilege to serve as Chair for the Learning and Teaching Culture Advisory Group (LTCAG) where I was able to work with students from chapters across the country in the inaugural year of a committee that was focused on bringing positive learning and teaching culture policies to schools at all scales.

While I am no longer chair of the LTCAG and am now a member of the Mental Health Task Force, I hope to use what I have learned and my position as South Quad Director to continue these conversations to change the structure of our industry and elevate the voices of students across the Quad and around the world as we fight to make change. I hope to be able to work with the other collaterals to get more student representation and understanding within their programming through conference presentation, student inclusion in working group and strategic councils, and elevating and sharing the stories of students across the Quad to members of other organizations.

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?

Coming from a high school chapter with just a few kids who barely knew what a plan or section was, to being a part of a collegiate chapter ready to make some waves, my journey has been varied and challenging at times, but rewarding the whole way. Being a part of the organization at different levels has given me the opportunity to work both within and outside of my chapter structure to offer support, collaboration, and engagement to chapters across the Quad. Taking this knowledge I have gained, I hope to be able to create resources for our leaders that cater to their needs, whether it be a new chapter struggling to get members, or a large chapter looking to connect with others. Creating a clear resource guide, communication opportunities, and serving as a connection between chapters, I hope to make a network of friends and leaders throughout the Quad!

Giving chapters dedicated times to meet with me and other members of the National Board, directing them to existing resources they may need or creating new ones, or even connecting them to other chapters that may have overcome the same issue, I hope to take the institutional knowledge that is rich throughout the members of the South Quad and use that to continue to allow it to be the best Quad in the AIAS!

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.

Since I'll be graduating in the spring of 2022, if I were to be elected South Quad Director, I'd be serving during my first year out of school! While it'll be a bit unnatural to not be a student, I'm super excited to be able to spend more time working with chapter leaders and members of the South Quad to fulfill my duties. I intend to work on regular newsletters, takeovers, and highlighting chapters across the Quad, working through both Slack and email to get the information leaders need out to their members. Each month I would love to have at least two meetings within the South Quad: the first would be a time for vertical information sharing, where I would primarily give updates to members and leaders about what is happening at the Quad, national and international level. The second meeting would focus on horizontal information sharing. I will invite all chapter leaders and members to ask each other questions about specific topics or challenges they have been facing and to share what has worked well and high points they have had that could inspire other chapters. These meetings would be invaluable for both our large and small chapters, where challenges that may seem unique are really ones that we can come together to work through. Oftentimes our smaller chapters don't get the support they need and I hope this structure will help to elevate their experience within the AIAS.

Using the knowledge I have gained throughout the last year, I hope to connect the Quad in ways that have been challenging in the past in order to allow us all to grow together. And as we continue to transition into our new normal, I plan to travel around the Quad to visit chapters and meet with both boards and general members to try and lessen the gap between our local members and our National Board. Regardless of what the world looks like, I look forward to maintaining a constant connection between our chapters and the Board of Directors!

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?

As we continue to face and adapt to the ever changing environment that the pandemic has pushed us into, I've spent a lot of time attempting to understand our conference structure in a deeper and more critical way. As someone who is co-chairing a conference, we have had to come to terms with some of the new barriers we face but have also further exposed some of the ones that have existed for years. As we continue planning this conference the same question keeps coming back to me, what can we do differently? Why isn't the structure in place that would help us as an organization plan our conferences to be more accessible and equitable to our members in the U.S. and the world as a whole? As a member of the National Board, I would love to be able to take the events and times we must come together and meet the other wonderful leaders from across the nation and adapt and update that framework. I see a chance for us as an organization to evolve and bring into the fold more diverse and creative minds, potentially even working with other collaterals, including NOMA and NOMAS, to create a conference that unites, instead of divides. Working with our Board Liaisons and students and leaders in other architectural organizations I think we can bring students together in a way that has yet to be seen in the architecture world.



15 November 2021

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 Colt Brock for AIAS South Quad Director for the 2022-2023 academic year. Colt has been a member of AIAS since he was in high school and is deeply committed to the organization. His depth of involvement from high school through his time here at Georgia Tech will allow him to be a tremendous asset on the AIAS Board of Directors.

Colt possesses all of the qualities one would find in a student leader. He cares deeply about his fellow classmates, our program here at 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. As a first-year student, Colt joined Tech’s AIAS chapter and quickly gained a leadership position, being elected Vice President for Undergraduate Students in only his sophomore year. He, along with the other members of our Executive Board, have worked to provide a range of enriching opportunities for our students. The Executive Board has also taken on the task of examining the culture of our studio and learning environment, thanks in large part to Colt’s experiences with AIAS and his participation in Grassroots. It is clear he cares deeply about the health and wellbeing of his classmates and takes an active role in working with faculty to provide the best learning environment possible for our students.

Colt is known in the School of Architecture for his commitment to serving his peers and for his work with both our AIAS chapter and the School’s Undergraduate Student Advisory Board. Colt has a true desire and passion to serve other chapters. This has been reinforced this year in his efforts to co-host the South Quad Conference this coming spring, alongside the student chapter at Auburn. We are looking forward to, what I am sure will be, a conference. I truly believe that Colt will make an excellent South Quad Director.

I have personally known Colt since fall of 2018 as he began his education at Tech. As the coordinator of his first-year studio, I had the opportunity to get to know him, 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

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handle both in stride. I truly enjoy working with him, both as a student and as a leader in the School.

I give Colt 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle A. Rinehart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "A".

Michelle A. Rinehart, Ed.D.
Interim Dean
College of Design

To:

AIAS Elections Committee

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

November 14, 2021

Dear Members of the AIAS Elections Committee,

I am pleased to give my support and recommendation to Colt Brock for AIAS South Quad Director for the 2022-2023 year. Colt's longtime involvement in and dedication to AIAS at both the national and chapter levels make him fully suitable for the position, as well as a great fit for the Board of Directors.

Over the years that I have known Colt, I have gotten to see the many ways in which he leads with conviction and dedicates himself fully to the advancement of the organization at both the national and chapter levels. Prior to his time at Georgia Tech, he started a chapter at his high school, showing initiative and an early interest in the organization. At the college level, he has previously served as our Vice President and President for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years respectively. In his role as president, Colt led an executive board of 10 people, encouraging and guiding us until each goal for the year was executed efficiently and to the best of our abilities. Colt's leadership was also key in increasing engagement among our student body in our chapter activities. Even during the difficulties that have accompanied the COVID-19 pandemic, our chapter was still able to offer programs to our members under his leadership. Colt is also gifted at fostering meaningful connections. Due to his diligence and gregariousness, our chapter has been able to grow our communication with other AIAS chapters, the AIA office in Atlanta, and architectural firms in our city.

Colt is incredibly dedicated to serving our student body and community. Within our school, he launched an initiative to rework our Studio Culture document which inspired much-needed conversations among students and faculty. He was also involved in the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion student task force which began in the Summer of 2020. The work of this task force continues today thanks to the groundwork that he and the other founding members laid. Colt was instrumental in revitalizing our Freedom by Design chapter, showing his dedication to service in our community. Because of his belief in the mission of FBD, our chapter was able to get involved in a very large project with the government of a local county. To date, it is the largest and most ambitious FBD project our chapter has ever pursued.

I am very honored to recommend Colt for the position of South Quad Director and to support him in his aspirations. He embodies many of the qualities that make a great leader, and in addition to his impressive accomplishments, he is also a reliable teammate and friend, always willing to lend a hand or an ear. Colt has made such a difference already, and I know he will continue to do so in the important and impactful role of the next AIAS South Quad Director.

Sincerely,



AnLi M. French
AIAS Georgia Institute of Technology President

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: Colt Brock

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: 10/31/21



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: Colt Brock-----

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: 10/31/21-----

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): Colt Brock

Chapter: Georgia Institute of Technology

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Past President

Email Address: coltbrock@gmail.com

Mobile Phone Number: 214.901.8580

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: _____
- o Twitter: @_____
- o Instagram: @cb542
- o Other: _____