



Ethan Sandburg

2022 - 2023 Midwest Quad Director

Candidate Packet

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Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

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Letter of Intent

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

October 18, 2021

Erin Conti, AIAS, Assoc. AIA, Past President
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Ave.
Washington D.C. 20006

Dear Past President Conti,

I am writing you today with great joy wishing to inform you of my intent to run for the 2022 - 2023 AIAS Midwest Quad Director position on the National Board of Directors.

It is crazy to think that after such a long time of dreaming for this letter to be written that I finally get to write (type) those words. Ever since my first experience seeing the national organization together in FORUM Seattle, I've known I wanted to run for this position one day. Why? Because, the AIAS is amazing! I know every single candidate will likely say that too, but it is worth repeating. Through this organization I have found knowledge, passion, inspiration, and most importantly a family that I am proud to call my own. As part of this family, I have invested more than my fair share of time into getting to know, from my involvement. Serving on the National Governance Committee, National Finance Committee, and this year on the National Membership Committee, has helped me gain a deep understanding of the operations of our organization. Additionally, serving as the University of Kansas AIAS Chapter President during arguably one of the hardest years to be a chapter leader I now better understand the struggles that chapters experience, and I have worked tirelessly with my own chapter on how to "Take Action" and "Evolve" beyond these challenges.

I know these have been key phrases for the AIAS the last couple years. However through the teamwork of my genuinely phenomenal board, I believe that we truly talked the talk and walked the walk. From creating an entire lecture series, establishing and reinventing three chapter committees, organizing a two month fundraiser that nearly funded the chapter for the whole year, and more. After all of that, I more deeply understand the responsibilities of leading and recognize that I'm never truly leading alone. I know that as Midwest Quad Director I would not have an entire executive board at my disposal, but I would argue I would have an even greater source of untapped potential: The Midwest Quad! I feel confident in saying that chapter members are always looking at ways to network and engage students from other schools.

With the passion to make that a reality and my excitement to begin my next phase of my AIAS journey I hope you enjoy reading through my packet.

Sincerely,

Ethan Sandburg
Ethan Sandburg, AIAS
phone #: (913)948-1473
email: ethansandburg@ku.edu
University of Kansas
Master of Architecture, Class 2023



Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

Email: ethansandburg@gmail.com

Phone: (913) 948-1473

Address: 1893 Finch Dr. Tonganoxie, KS 66086

Portfolio: https://issuu.com/ethansandburg/docs/sandburg_ethan_arch608

Objective:

2022 - 2023 Midwest Quad Director Candidate Packet

Education:

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS

Masters of Architecture degree expected May 2023

Major: Architecture Minor: Geography

Tonganoxie High School, Tonganoxie, KS

High School Diploma, May 2018

Held several leadership positions in the school

Employment:

Research Assistant, University of Kansas (February 2021 - Present)

Tasked with researching under the supervision of a professor and developing new ideas revolving around bio-mimicry and ecology.

Extra Curricular Activities:

American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS)

(August 2018 - present)

Involved from a chapter to national level through Chapter Secretary, Chapter President, Creators' Ball Committee, Advocacy Committee, Calendar Committee, Mid-West Quad Conference, Forum Conference, Grassroots Conference, National Governance Committee, National Finance Committee, National Membership Committee

Student Body Liaison

(August 2018 - September 2020)

Interfaced as a member of the Dean's Advisory Board, Department Lecturer Committee, Alumni Awards Committee, Attend Faculty Meeting, Finals Feast, Student Ambassador

Awards/Accomplishments:

November 2020 AIAS Chapter Leader of the Month, Chapter President

Revised AIAS "So Your The Treasurer Guide", National Finance Committee Member

AIAS Chapter Model Bylaws, National Governance Committee Member

AIAS KU Arch Hangout Lecture Series, Coordinator

Experienced Skills:

Computer:

AutoCaDD, Revit, SketchUp, Lumion, Rhino, Grasshopper, Ladybug, InDesign, Bluebeam, Illustrator, Photoshop, Microsoft Office, Google Meet, Zoom, Google Programs, Slack, RStudio

Professional:

Public Speaking, Leadership, Project Management, Interpersonal Communication, Adaptability, Data Interpretation, Organization, Robert's Rules

Interests:

Design Research, Client Communication, Project Management, Community Architecture, Educational Architecture

Candidate Questionnaire

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

01. Describe your origin story as a student leader.

My journey as a student leader began what seems like nearly a life time ago in eighth grade. While it may seem small and insignificant, serving as team captain of my middle school Science Olympiad team was the first time I held a student leadership position. Since then, my leadership journey has been a roller coaster of successes and lessons learned. From national competitions to organizing and directing educational summer camps, my high school years were full of leadership experiences.

As I entered college, I found myself once again being inspired to join student organizations, further develop my leadership skills, and find a family in this new collegiate atmosphere. Finding a like-minded family is what prompted me to join the AIAS and get more involved as a student leader. I was drawn to the opportunities that the AIAS presented to me as a freshman, such as talking to upperclassmen and seeing what the professional world looks like just beyond graduation. The AIAS has thus far shaped my college experience, being my beacon of hope and the driver of my passion for architecture. However, throughout college my leadership story has begun to change from being shaped to becoming the shaper. I used to always try and find leaders that would not discourage excitement and passion, attributes which sadly today are often viewed as childish, but now I myself shape opportunities for future leaders that encourage those attributes. And my piece of advice for those wanting to be a leader is to never feel ashamed to be excited about a project or to show how passionate you are. I've found that when you begin to show how much you care about your work and the people around you, they are often willing to go the ends of the earth with you. Nothing can stop a group of people who have limitless passion and drive from making the world a better place.

02. Describe your leadership style.

Energetic. This is an adjective I've heard in multiple contexts: a faculty member after a successful AIAS event, a fellow student responding to me after a meeting I led, a professional commenting on how I presented myself in the panel, and I've lost track of the number of times I've been told this by my fellow AIAS members. So yes, I'm energetic, and I'm not ashamed of it. I attribute this to my ability to always try and find a silver lining in most situations and push myself to always be my own inspiration. The impact of having energy as a leader has not been lost on me; I am able to take some of the most drab and mundane topics, such as chapter finances, and turn it into a fun and entertaining conversation.

I also understand that energy can only get a project so far. After all, you could have the strongest train in the world, but with no tracks it will never go anywhere. Thankfully as I have experienced more and more leadership opportunities, I have learned how to guide my energy. I am able to create inspiring pieces of programming that promote the mission of AIAS and further create a foundation for the future of my chapter. The best example of this would be my chapters Calendar Fundraiser, a fundraiser that usually brings in over \$2,000 for the chapter. Previously, during the 1990s, this fundraiser was something every KU architecture student wanted to be a part of, but since then it dwindled to becoming a chore for the chapter treasure. However, once I began to understand how much excitement this project could be, I began to create a new re-branding for the project. This included expanding it beyond the purview of the chapter treasurer and allowing fellow students to get involved in the development of the fundraiser. Since starting the committee for calendars in 2020, it has grown from one person to eight people. I suspect it will continue to grow as we find more ways to make this more exciting and as I continue to bring energy, vision, and inspiration.

Candidate Questionnaire

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

03. What one issue do you personally find the most important?

Architecture-adjacent fields, or your type “B” architects are of great importance to me. I say this as someone who has gone nearly their whole architectural education feeling like the traditional path in the field isn’t the right one for me. Because of that I have spent the last few years trying to explore relevant career paths that still utilize my knowledge as an architectural designer, from architectural research to museum exhibit design to higher education administration. I feel that architecture students are given one of the most incredible degrees possible in academia. And yet, we are told all we can do with it is design buildings. However, even through only a few years of searching for other opportunities, I have met people who do marketing, who have their own business, who lead think tanks, who re-imagine ecosystems, who are on the front line of advocacy, all with an architecture degree and all without designing a building.

As Quad Director I want to bring these architecture-adjacent field’s forward. While I am not fortunate enough to serve on the Professional Development Advisor Group this year. I intend to look at that group with much anticipation of developing their ideas and programs further in our Quad. Additionally, having been a part of the AIAS for four years now, I understand how important it is to connect individuals with others that might be actively pursuing architecture adjacent fields. It is professionally vital to create these opportunities for student to get face to face with professionals, AIAS alumni, and even upperclassmen that are actively pursuing these endeavors. I do not believe this is too far beyond the lens of a Quad Director. With help from fellow chapter leaders and the national office I feel confident that I can start the conversation within the Midwest Quad and provide a place where members can feel comfortable expressing their future aspirations, traditional or not.

04. How would you use your position on the Board to better connect and engage our geographically and culturally diverse membership?

My strategies revolve around establishing a stronger sense of togetherness. Especially after the crazy few years students across the world have had, I feel it is more important than ever to remind students that they are not alone. The first and most accessible way to achieve this would be to ensure digital community spaces like the slack channels. These are constantly promoting conversations, and members are provided the opportunity to meet new people. Additionally I would like to continue a program like our Heartland Huddles where students can get face-to-face with other student across the Quad and beyond. I would use my position to review how we can improve these programs to not only be incredibly informative but also inspiring and fun for all members to attend.

To further promote the sense of togetherness I would love to assist chapters in developing partnerships with chapters either inside or outside our Quad. This could be a great way for fellow chapter presidents to brainstorm ideas off each other, or even create competitions for their chapters. Togetherness can be found through chapter visits, I myself love to travel, and it would not take much effort to convince me to get on the road and visit some of the amazing chapters we have across the Quad. Getting to see you all face to face (should it be safe) could be another great way for me to get in the weeds with chapter leadership and explore new opportunities to further develop their chapter. Conversation groups are another idea I would love to begin to facilitate, similar to the Health and Wellness Week group. I would see chapter members from all across the Quad come together and discuss some real issues facing students today. Who is to say something would not be born from this casual conversation? I cannot promise that all of them will get done, but my first step would be talking to the Quad.

Candidate Questionnaire

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

05. Describe how you intend to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of your chosen position on the Board.

As stated in my previous question I would like to devote my time as Midwest Quad Director to developing the togetherness of the Quad. However, next to bringing the Quad together I would love to begin to provide resources and organization to the Quad. Starting with the Quad drive and beginning to increase its prominence and usability for chapters. Providing resources that you all have made and allowing for easy access to useful documents from nationals. This can further be helped thanks to my time served on the national governance, finance, and membership committees, where I have gotten a very deep understanding of the everyday function of the organization from the chapter level to national level. This is even further helped by my time served as chapter president where I went through the process of running a chapter and got very familiar with both the front and center parts of running a chapter as well as many of the detailed behind the scenes work that needs to be done. I am incredibly excited to be able to have the opportunity to learn more about other chapters and find ways in which my organization skills can begin to best help.

Along with both togetherness and organization I also would like to bolster both of these initiatives by looking back at the history of the organization. While it is easy to get caught up in where we are going I have found multiple times that it can be even more helpful understanding where we have been. Taking a deep dive into not only the history of the Quad but beginning to inquire about the histories of the chapters, understanding what worked, what did not, and what may just need to be brought back to light. This can be especially important for the Quad as even in my short time with the AIAS I have seen initiatives come and go, some of which I have interest in picking back up and/or exploring more into as Quad Director.

06. 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?

I feel like I may be beating this into the ground but I want to start more conversations. Especially as we begin to find a new sense of normalcy in a world changed by the pandemic I feel we still have not struck the right balance of interpersonal communication. Which as an organization that focuses on preparing students for the professional world and asks them to challenge the status quo, it is going to be imperative that we provide the spaces and resources for these students to come together and share their ideas. I'm not sure what this will look like exactly and I know there is never going to be a silver bullet solution but I would love to have the opportunity to begin to explore new methods and lay all the cards on the table. As a preacher of the "no such thing as a stupid question" policy I want to hear every idea under the sun and explore with all of you what will work and what will be a learning experience. Programming can be powerful if you can get people excited about it and if you are willing to push yourself to try new things.

This may seem like a scary task, some might even say daunting, to establish a network between chapters and to find new ways to spark passion in a new generation of architecture students. But if being a chapter president during 2020-2021 academic year taught me anything it is that no matter how big the challenge is there will always be passionate people ready to face it head on.

Letter of Membership Support

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

October 30, 2021

Erin Conti, AIAS, Assoc. AIA, Past President
American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Ave.
Washington D.C. 20006

Dear Past President Conti,

It is with great pleasure that I strongly recommend Ethan Sandburg for 2022-2023 Midwest Quad director.

I am Liz Fraka, the current Chapter President at the University of Kansas. Last year, I served as secretary under Chapter President Ethan Sandburg. I have been a general member for a year, and served on two executive boards, as well as serving on the National Membership Committee and the Education and Culture Task Force, allowing me to interact with many passionate members of the organization both in my chapter and around the country. Ethan Sandburg stands out among the most passionate.

During my time in AIAS, I have worked with Ethan very closely, and time and time again, his drive, his dedication to the organization, and his strong work ethic prove him to be an effective leader within this organization. Ethan stepped into the role of president just as the world was shutting down. Ethan worked tirelessly to create regular, engaging programming to give value for our students. He initiated a weekly lecture series with a wide range of valuable topics, inviting our alumni from across the country to speak and provided networking opportunities even when virtual. He also kickstarted our chapter's YouTube channel, which allowed our chapter to make these panel events even more valuable as a lasting resource for students.

Beyond his ability to create engaging programming, Ethan is also a wonderful teammate to work with. He is always positive and that positive energy spreads to those around him. It is very apparent that he genuinely cares for those that he works with, which leads those around him to create better work.

If you need more information or examples, feel free to contact me at 913-475-4549, or by email at lizfraka@gmail.com. As this letter of recommendation can only provide a snapshot of Ethan's qualifications and achievements, I would be happy to elaborate on my time working with him.

Sincerely,

Liz Fraka, AIAS
Chapter President
University of Kansas

Letter of School Support

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS



Nov. 15. 2021

The American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) Board of Directors

1735 New York Avenue, NW
3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20006

Dear AIAS Board of Directors,

As the Chair of the Department of Architecture at the University of Kansas, I am writing with great enthusiasm to support the nomination of Ethan Sandburg, the 2020-21 KU AIAS Chapter President for the 2022 - 2023 AIAS Midwest Quad Director position. Ethan took on the KU AIAS Chapter President at probably the most difficult time in history due to the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. He demonstrated great leadership skills in leading the team in developing a series of events and initiatives to keep our students engaged during the one year of remote learning. He spearheaded the monthly General Body Meetings to keep our student members informed about key events in the KU AIAS Chapter and helped build a more connected KU AIAS Chapter. Ethan also led the development of a weekly lecture series called “**Arch Hangout**” that connected students with alumni, professors, and discussed very important and timely topics such as women in architecture, DEIB and design, internship, healthy work-life balance, KU certificates, and licensure. Ethan was also instrumental in developing the Calendars Committee and led a successful fundraising effort together with his peers.

In addition, to support the local KU AIAS Chapter, Ethan has continuously served on various national committees, such as the governance committee and finance committee. He has also participated in several AIAS regional and national events, including the summer Grassroots Conference, Midwest Quad Conference, and the national conference FORUM.

During his tenure at the AIAS KU Chapter, Ethan has demonstrated his ability to work closely with the team and remain flexible and nimble. He has great communication skills, which are essential in advocating AIAS to our students, alumni, faculty, and design practitioners. I appreciate the hard work that Ethan and his peer student leaders have dedicated to supporting the positive teaching and learning culture. I would like to give my full support to Ethan’s nomination for serving as the 2022 - 2023 AIAS Midwest Quad Director. I am confident that he will be a great asset to AIAS Midwest Quad. I hope you will consider Ethan for this opportunity for him to

Letter of School Support

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS

[REDACTED]

apply his leadership and teamwork skills at a bigger stage and making wider impacts to our AIAS Midwest Quad schools and students. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Hui
Hui Cai, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Chair,
Department of Architecture
Associate Director, Institute of Health and Wellness Design
The University of Kansas
Board of Directors, Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)

Internship Compensation

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS
1735 New York Ave., Washington, DC 20006
202.808.0075 | aias.org

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: Ethan Sandburg

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: Ethan Sandburg

Date: 10/21/2021

AIAS Elections Code of Ethics

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS
1735 New York Ave., Washington, DC 20006
202.808.0075 | aias.org

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: Ethan Sandburg

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: Ethan Sandburg

Date: 10/21/2021

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.

Contact Information Sheet

Ethan Sandburg, AIAS



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS
1735 New York Ave., Washington, DC 20006
202.808.0075 | aias.org

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): Ethan Sandburg

Chapter: University of Kansas AIAS Chapter

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Past President

Email Address: ethanqsandburg@gmail.com

Mobile Phone Number: (913) 948-1473

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: Ethan Sandburg
- o Twitter: @ N/A
- o Instagram: cheekykansas
- o Other: _____