



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

Re-Building Culture: Learning & Teaching Culture Policies

2022 - 2023 South Quad Director + 2022 - 2023 Latin America Regional Director + 2021 - 2022 Midwest Quad Director

Baili Null

- 2021-2022 Midwest Quad Director
- WashU Graduate Student
- Originally from Dublin, OH
- Loves plants, my cats, & coffee



Colt Brock

- 2022-2023 South Quad Director
- Georgia Tech Alumni
- Originally from Dallas, TX
- Loves cooking, reading, & dogs :)



Paulina Garza

- 2022-2023 Latin America Regional Director
- Universidad de Monterrey Alumni
- Originally from Monterrey, Mexico
- Loves playing volleyball & traveling



LTCAG? ECTF? LTCP? LTCPP? LTCPPP? WTF?!

- What is an LTCP?
- Who is it for?
- How do I write one?
- How do I keep it relevant?



What are all these acronyms?

- **LTC: Learning and Teaching Culture**
 - How the atmosphere of the academic community contributes to both physical and mental health
- **LTCP: Learning and Teaching Culture Policy**
 - The LTCP is meant to foster, support, and maintain the school's Learning and Teaching Culture.
- **LTCPP: Learning and Teaching Culture Policy Project (2020)**
- **LTCAG: Learning and Teaching Culture Advisory Group (2020-2021)**
- **ECTF: Education and Culture Task Force (2021-2022)**

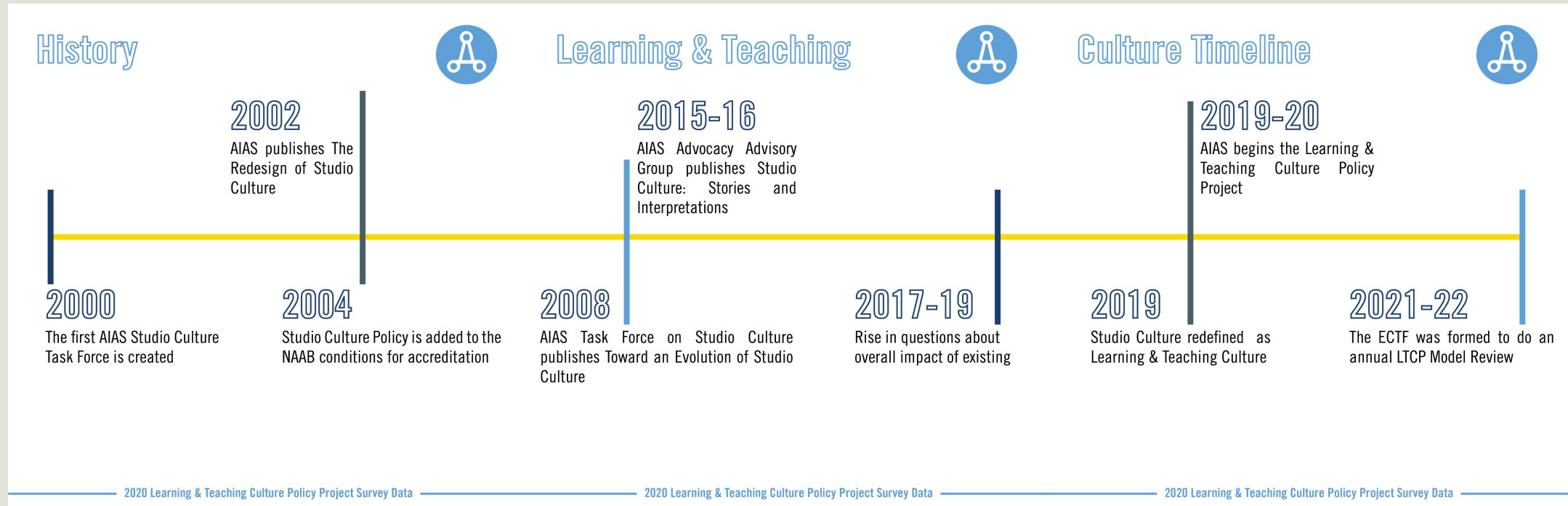




THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

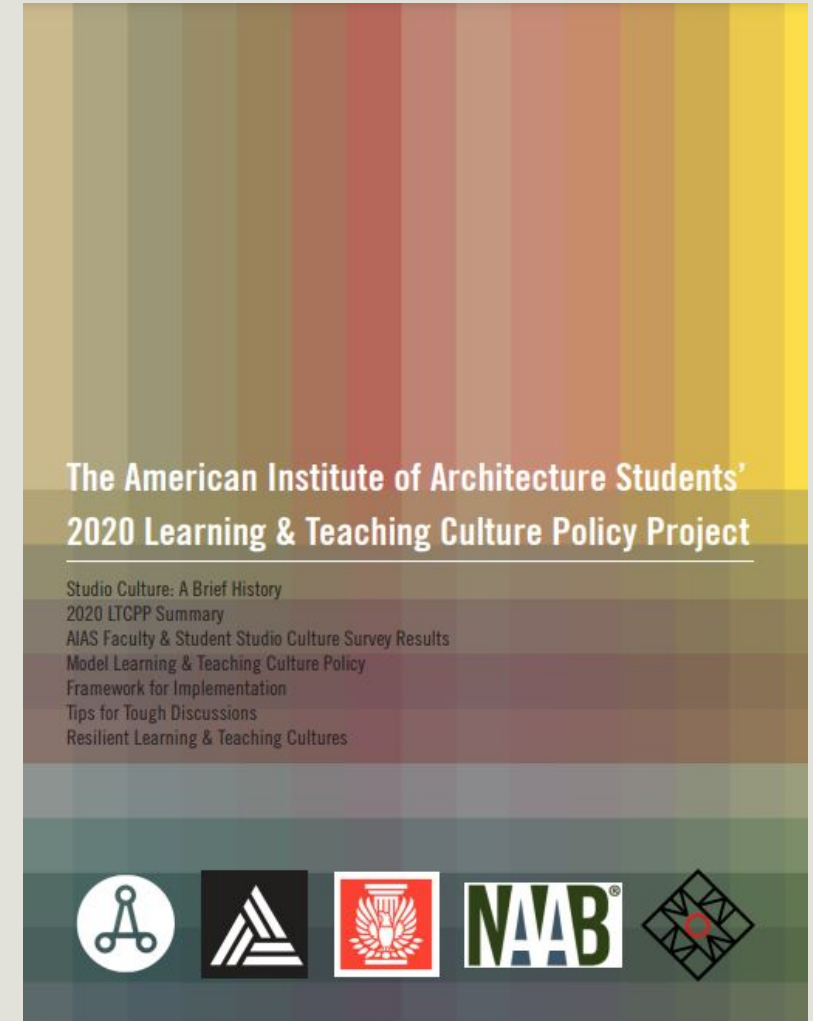
What is a LTCP?

Brief Introduction



2020 LTCP Project

- Studio Culture: A Brief History
- 2020 LTCPP Summary
- AIAS Faculty & Student Studio Culture Survey Results
- Model Learning & Teaching Culture Policy
- Framework for Implementation
- Tips for Tough Discussions
- Resilient Learning & Teaching Cultures

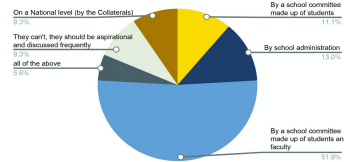


ECTF Graphics

- Infographics from the 2020 LTCP Survey Data for awareness and student use available on the CoP Drive.

Enforcing Studio Culture

How do you think Studio Culture Policies can be successfully enforced? (Student Responses)



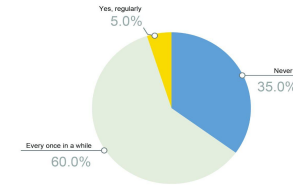
More than half of respondents agree a school committee made up of students and faculty is the best way to enforce Learning & Teaching Culture.

2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Survey Data



Existing Culture Awareness

Is Studio Culture formally discussed at your school? (i.e. a Town Hall or presentation of the Policy) (Student Responses)



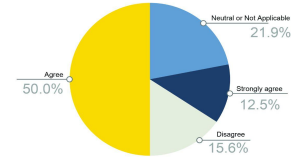
Almost every student surveyed attends a school where Studio Culture is not formally discussed.

2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Survey Data



Positive Lifestyles

Do you feel that the Studio Culture Policy at your school portrays a positive lifestyle of learning and teaching? (Student Responses)



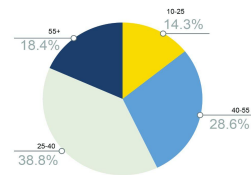
Only 50% of students feel that their existing Studio Culture outlines a positive lifestyle.

2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Survey Data



Current Student Workload

Roughly how many hours a week do you dedicate to studio work? (Student Responses)



Over 46% of students spend over 40 hours a week on studio work.

2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Survey Data



Implementation & Tips for Tough Discussions

What can you do at your school? Check out the 2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Packet for in depth information.

Here are some highlights:

Characteristics of LTCP's that are most successful and least performative:

School Specific
Revisited Periodically
State (& Re-State) Intent

Helpful responses and tips for tough discussions like:

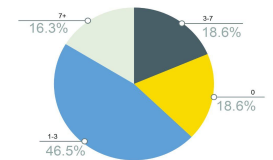
"We're too Busy"
"Our Culture is Fine"
"We can't enforce this"
"Conflicting Policies"

2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Survey Data



Current Student Workload

Estimate how many times a week you skip or forget meals due to studio work: (Student Responses)

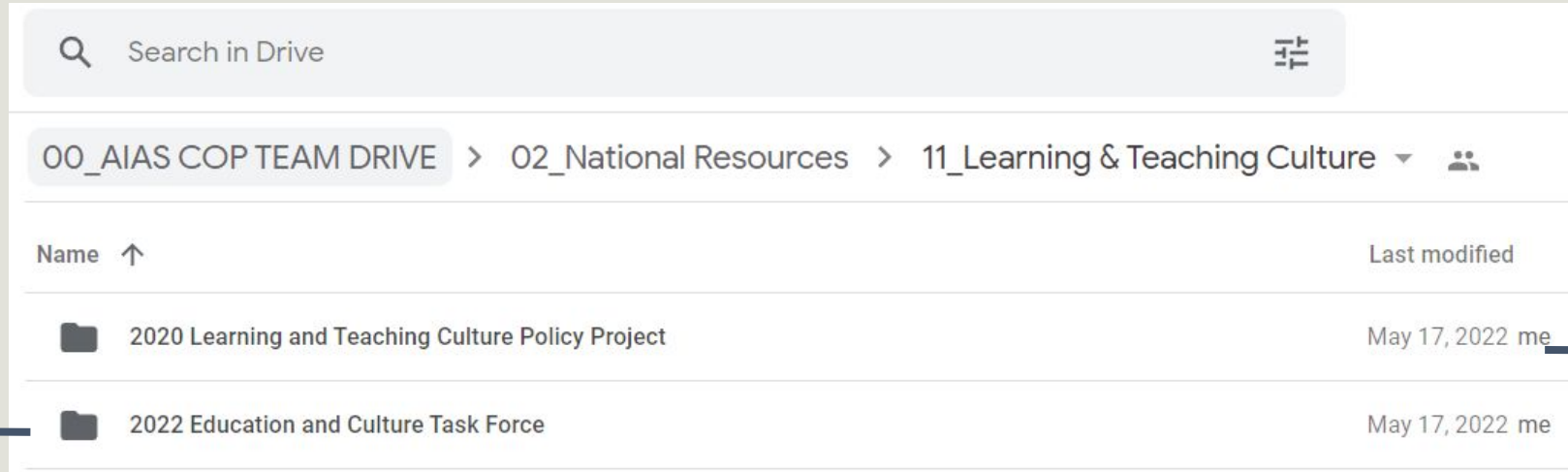


81% of students miss meals due to studio work.

2020 Learning & Teaching Culture Policy Project Survey Data



LTCP Resources



Find the most recent model policy, user guide, and instagram posts you can share at your school!



Find the 2020 LTCP Project Packet (LTCPPPP???)



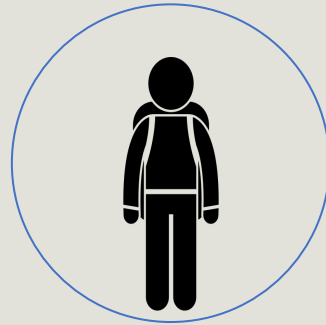


THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

Who is it for?



AIAS MEMBERS



STUDENTS



TEACHERS



ADMINISTRATORS

NAAB Required

National Architecture Accreditation Board



- The board has to check that the document is connected to the learning community.
- The document should be effective between schools, universities and NAAB.



School & Faculty Relationships

- One of the goals is to create a better *culture of respect* by keeping a positive environment.
- Respect diversity, health, beliefs at all times.
- Physical or emotional abuse is not tolerated.





THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

How Do I Write One?

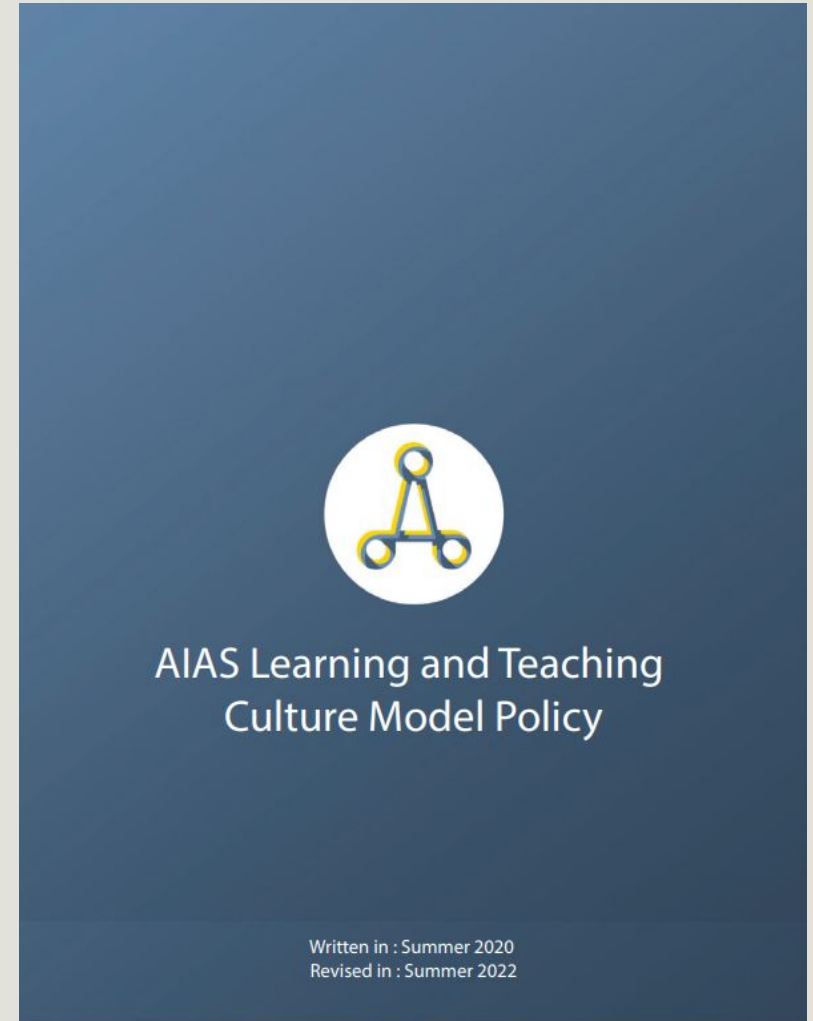
Finding Your Schools Policy

- Start on your schools website.
 - Search for Studio Culture or Learning and Teaching Culture Policy
- Contact your school administration to verify that the documents you find are the current version.
- Look for a “Last Revised” or “Published” date.
- Can’t find it? Search for your schools most recent NAAB Architecture Program Report and see what was included.



The AIAS LTC Model Policy

- Will be released on the CoP Drive or on the AIAS website by Grassroots!
- A starting point for referencing current issues facing students and faculty in our learning communities.
- Includes an in depth user guide and links to previously published LTC resources.



The AIAS LTC Model Policy

- The model represents the bare minimum of what students, faculty, and school administrations should expect from each other - it is not a one size fits all document, and is unlikely to fit all of the unique needs of any school.



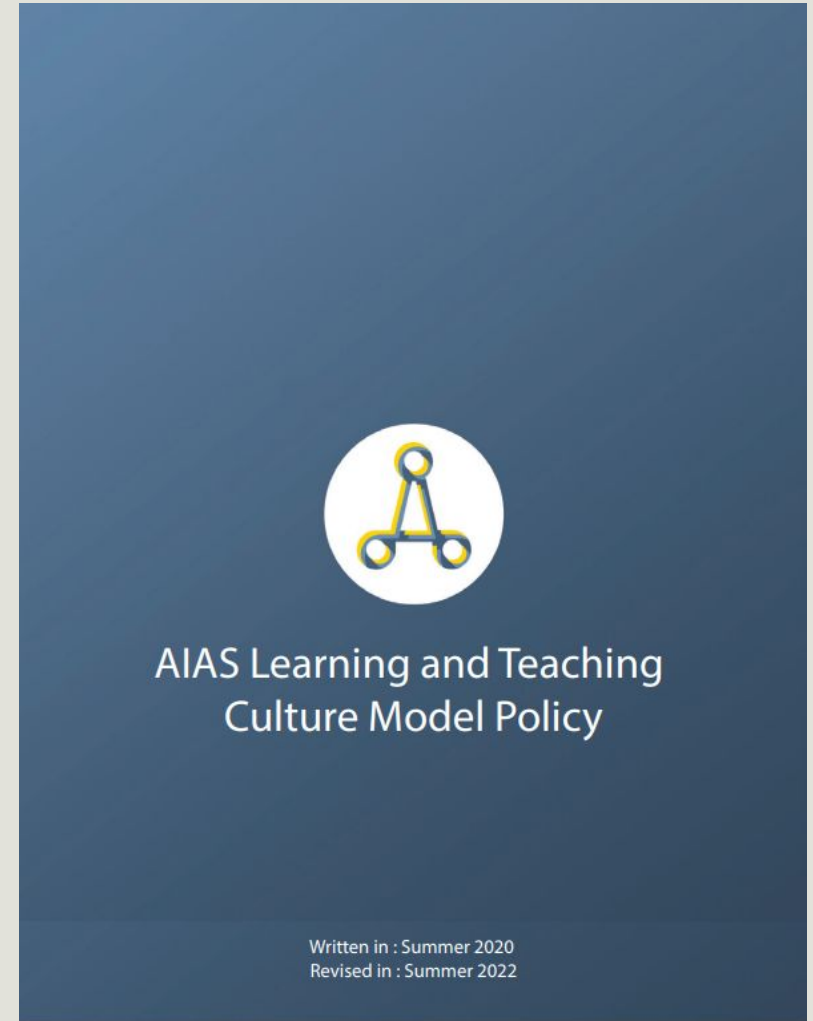
AIAS Learning and Teaching
Culture Model Policy

Written in : Summer 2020
Revised in : Summer 2022



The AIAS LTC Model Policy

- How is an LTCP written and maintained?
- How can LTC and LTCP help my school?
- Where do I start?
- How do I use the model policy?
- What should I avoid when writing an LTCP?



Reach out



QUAD DIRECTORS

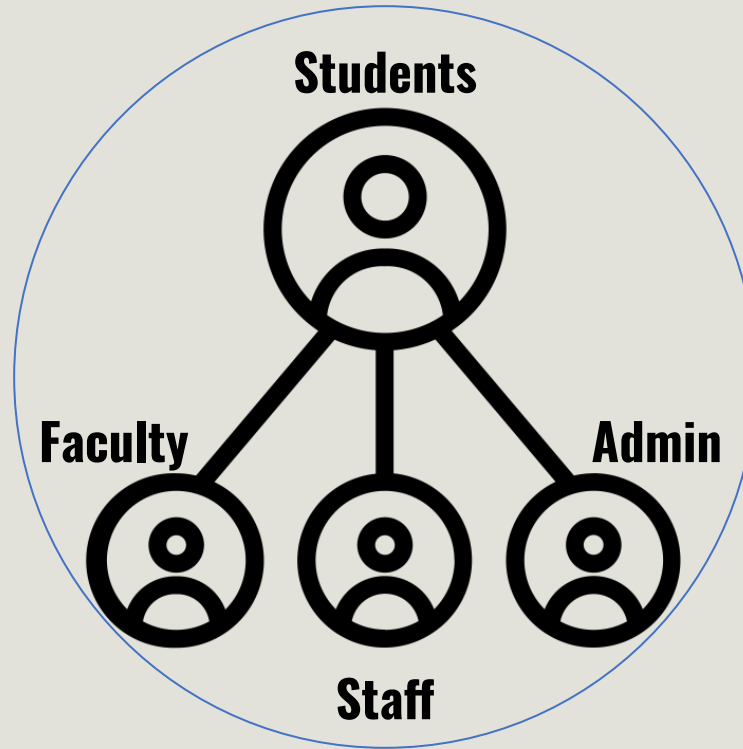


REGIONAL DIRECTORS



RELATED COMMITTEES

Form a committee of faculty & students





THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

Town Hall

Miro Activity - scan this QR code and join a breakout room!





THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

How do I keep the policy relevant?

Resiliency

- What even is resiliency?
- Resiliency is defined as “*the ability to recover from or adjust easily to adversity or change*”
- How can we go about making a policy that is resilient?



So what should we do?

- It's always important to know that your Policy is a living document and should be revisited often!
 - If your policy hasn't been reviewed in since last year? Well, it's a perfect time to look it over to make sure it is covering topics important to YOU!
- With the way we're learning constantly changing, it is important to note that "culture" isn't something that just takes place inside of the four walls of studio!
 - Even if you're not IN studio working or taking classes, balance and health are still important factors
 - Make sure your policy covers both in person and virtual students/faculty is something that will allow you to be able to respond to many more situations!



Mental Health

- In recent years the AIAS has begun to focus on mental health research and resources for students!
- This conversation goes hand and hand with Learning & Teaching Culture and should be an important pillar of your policy!



But what IS mental health in the LTCP?

- Some important things you can include in your policy that address mental health are:
 - Defining mental as an important factor of the culture at your school
 - Promoting mental health through a positive work-life balance
 - Providing a framework for seeking help if you need it
- This is by no means everything but is a great place to start the conversation!



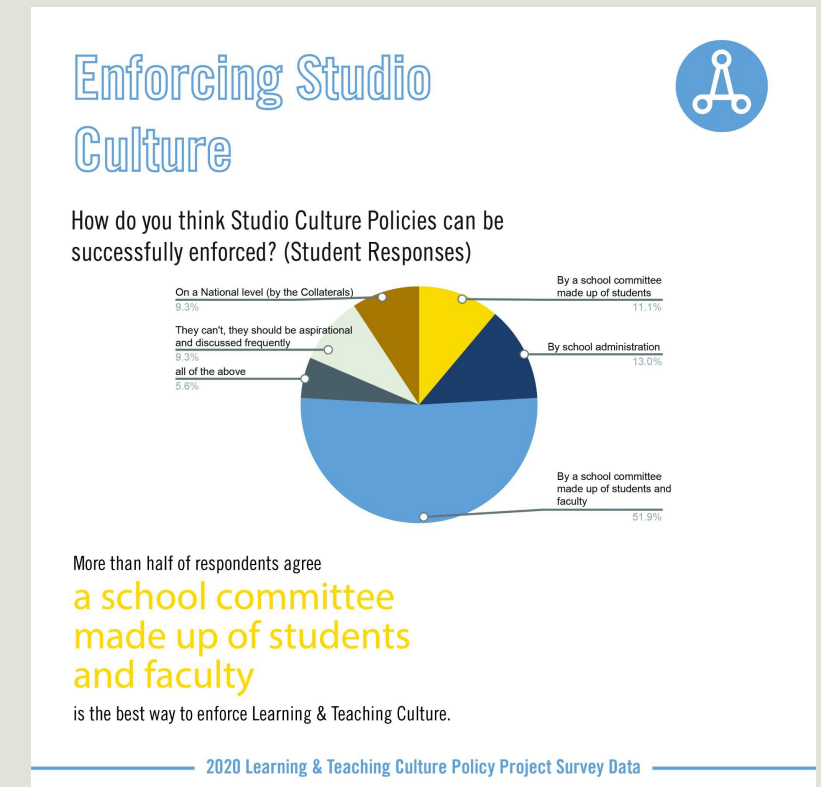
Implementation

- After writing a policy you may find yourself asking, “how do I put my policy into action?”
 - One of the best things to do is make it visible
 - (Print out copies of your policy and make sure it is posted and available throughout your school!)
 - Make sure to revisit it often to make sure it is covering important topics
 - Meet with faculty and administration to make sure they understand the purpose of the policy and buy into it as a tool
 - Be patient! It often takes time to make sure it is fully



How do I respond to violations of the LTCP?

- But what happens if someone violates the Policy?
 - As students it often falls on us to take the initiative to make sure people are held accountable for violating the policy
 - Reach out to the committee that helped you write the policy, or form a new one, to figure out the best way to move forward with responding to violations!



Special Thanks to the 2021-2022 Education and Culture !



Pankti Thakkar, Chair
*Savannah College of Art
& Design*



Baili Null, Liaison
Washington University St. Louis



Liz Fraka
University of Kansas



Ezekiel Cambara
NYIT Long Island



Isaac Haynes
Auburn University

And a very special thank you to all of YOU !

- If you have any additional questions -
 - Reach out to your Quad / Regional Director or any of our National Committees!
 - Instagram: @aias_advocacy
 - Email: ltc@aias.org

