



2023-2024
AIAS
NATIONAL
PRESIDENT
COLT BROCK

01 LETTER OF INTENT

02 RESUME

03 QUESTIONNAIRE

06 LETTERS OF SUPPORT

09 FORMS

Scott Cornelius, AIAS, NOMA, Assoc. AIA
Past President
Elections Committee Chair
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D.C., 20006

Past President Cornelius,

As I sit here and write this letter to you, it's dawning on me that I have entered my sixth year with the organization. On the one hand, it's comforting to know that I, and many others, have found a space that we can find agency in and call home year after year, but on the other hand, geez do I feel old. Back during my second year as an AIAS member, after months of begging, my parents finally let me drive down to Austin for Forum 2017 (and also made me drive home each night). I have to say it was a life changing event. As an 18-year-old, I got to sit at the back of the room and listen to a group of passionate leaders from all over the country tell their stories and talk about the ways they wanted to change not only the organization, but the world. It was during the candidate speeches that I knew I wanted to be an officer someday.

01

Well here we are, six years later, and I am beyond humbled and excited to write you declaring my intent to be the **2023-2024 AIAS National President**. To say this is anything but surreal for me would be a lie. As I think back to the amazing leaders I've had the opportunity to learn from, be mentored by, and grow up next to, I feel lucky to have been a part of it all. I've spent my time within the SQuad giving back and building up the next class of world changers and leaders, the way those came before me did, and I hope to continue doing that on the national and international level next year.

While I'm only a few months into my tenure as South Quad Director, I've learned from our members about not only the victories we've had but the challenges as well. It's become clear that the walls we face no longer seem so high, and the progress and momentum we have built up can't stop with the end of this year. It will take a concentrated effort from all of our members to continue this forward progress, and I look forward to spending the next six months and beyond learning how I can do that from you, from the board, and most importantly from our membership.

Thank you for your continued guidance as my South Quad Director, my National President, and my Past President, but most importantly my friend. I'm honored to serve alongside you this year, and I hope to follow in your footsteps to join the long line of amazing leaders as the 67th President of the AIAS.

In solidarity and service,



Colt Brock
2022-2023 South Quad Director

colt brock

214.901.8580 | email: coltbrock@gmail.com

EDUCATION

georgia institute of technology
b.s. in architecture

class of 2022

EXPERIENCE

intern architect at mcmillan pazdan smith
architecture intern at mcmillan pazdan smith
architecture intern at pbk architects

spring 2022-present

summer 2021

fall 2017-summer 2018,
summer 2019

be the future of design at georgia tech
advanced architectural design, lhhs

summer 2017

2016-2018

HONORS

aias national chapter leader of the month
georgia tech faculty honors
georgia tech dean's list
gwinner aias student leadership award
designed additions and renovations for lhhs

september 2020

fall 2019-spring 2020

fall 2018-spring 2021

fall 2019-spring 2021

spring 2018

NATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

aias south quad director
co-chair, aias south quad conference
chair, learning and teaching culture advisory group
conference presenter, aias forum
candidate for 2020-2021 south quad director
freedom by design advisory committee

2022-2023

spring 2022

fall 2020-spring 2021

winter 2020

winter 2019

fall 2019-spring 2020

LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

president, georgia tech aias
vice president, georgia tech aias
studio culture policy taskforce organizer
undergraduate advisory council
founder, lake highlands aias

fall 2020-spring 2021

fall 2019-spring 2020

fall 2019-spring 2020

fall 2018-spring 2020

fall 2016-spring 2018

1. 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. **Why are you running for a position on the AIAS Board of Directors?** What about the organization and its membership motivates you to seek a leadership position?

This organization has given me some of my best friends and allowed me to grow into a leader that I can be proud of. It is full of change-makers and leaders that are looking to better not only the field of architecture, but the world as a whole. We are a diverse group of students and alumni who are able to come together to question the systems we are a part of, advocate for change, and innovate the way we approach the world and respond to problems. As a part of this inspiring group of people continues to push me to be a better person and leader, and as president i hope to be able to do the same for all of our members.

Being able to continue in AIAS leadership would allow me to build on six years of experience working to understand how this organization works and has poured into me, and seek to give back to the organization and its members. I don't think it is a surprise to anyone to say that the last few years haven't been easy ones for the AIAS, but serving on the board this year has allowed me to really analyze the systems we have, change the parts of my position that felt dated, and truly support the membership in the ways that they need. Not only that, it has shown me at a larger scale the passion that our members have, despite all of the things stacked against them, they continue to fight and push not only themselves to be better, but the organization too. As national president i intend to build on this passion and push the organization from the top to be better than it ever has been.

03

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

A year ago i would've told you that my leadership style was focused primarily on flexibility and the ability to adapt to what is thrown at me, and while that definitely is still a key aspect of the way i lead, there have also been things that have changed.

To put it simply, leading with trust.

When working with others, it is sometimes hard to hand the reins over to someone else and let them run with it. Putting trust into those that want to work towards the same things we want is an important step in allowing not only yourself to grow as a leader, but for others as well. All of the leaders in this organization are extremely passionate and well-equipped to tackle the challenges that face them. It's my job as a leader to offer a helping hand when it is needed, but also to put my trust into each and every one of you to keep pushing us forward.

A good example of this for me was in planning the south quad conference this past spring. With this being the first conference back in person since 2019, we as a team were wading into unknown waters. There was a lot for us to do and not a lot of time to do it. By putting our trust into each others' skills and capabilities, individually we were all able to enjoy ourselves and trust each other to produce something we were all proud of and confident in.

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 & 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?

While all of these issues are extremely important, and I am likely to touch on them all during my time as an officer, the one that has become increasingly relevant and pressing to me is the issue of resiliency. During my time as a Quad Director this year, it has become increasingly clear that many of our practices at the local, regional, and national level are not resilient. From the way in which our chapter leaders and members are taught about the organization and their positions, to financial health, to our conferences and programs, chapter leaders often have to find their own solutions from year to year as opposed to being able to learn from past leaders.

During my time as President, I intend to spend time working closely with the Board and more specifically our Directors, the Alliance, and our staff to ensure we are building up practices and programs that are healthy, attainable, and resilient. For example, a formalized transition system that our local leaders can use regardless of when they hold elections or how many positions are actually filled on their board will increase the ability to have resilient chapters with strong leaders. While chatting with leaders this year, it has become clear that they are not being equipped with the ability to effectively and clearly transition their successors. Building up healthy transition processes that are documented and give leaders a clear timeline of what it means to prepare the next group of leaders, allows leaders to be able to focus on leading their chapters and not just surviving. Working with the Directors I want to build out a concrete system to prepare them for success, not force them to just figure it out.

4. The AIAS has over 250 chapters across the U.S. and around the world, ranging in size, age range, and even purpose. **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?

As we've all seen with the hosting of four Quad Conferences this coming spring, the impact of being able to bring members together in person is not lost on anyone. Quad Conferences, and especially the prospect of expanding regional conferences overseas, are an opportunity for members, especially those for which long distance travel is inaccessible, to be able to experience the AIAS in a way that they can't achieve at their chapter alone. Bringing members from different chapters within their respective regions gives members the opportunity to grow their understanding of leadership, connect with other chapters in their area, and create new communities of students.

With the President and Staff taking on an increased role in helping plan these conferences and shifting the load away from our Directors, I plan to continue streamlining the experience for planning teams so that we can engage all of our membership by making regional conferences more accessible. This doesn't just stop with our US-based chapters either; working with the Board and Staff I intend to build a framework to support our international chapters to come together and experience the connections the rest of our members have given our geographically diverse membership.

In order to achieve this goal, I hope to do a lot of work with current and former regional conference planning teams to better understand areas in which they struggled in the execution of the conferences to see what we can do from the National Office to improve that process. In order to better understand the impactful aspects of our conferences, I intend to meet with local leaders in each region to understand what they took away from the conferences and what could be improved. To better understand the barriers that face our international members in coming together, I plan to hold meetings and open discussions with our Regional Directors and their chapter leaders to lay the groundwork for future international conferences.

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.

Over the past sixty-seven years of having AIAS officers, it has become the norm to say that the President is the “outward” facing officer while the Vice President is the “inward” facing officer. The President spends a majority of their time working with the Alliance organizations (AIAS, NOMA/S, AIA, ACSA, NCARB, NAAB), the Executive Director, the Staff, and the Board of Directors. Handling most of the “big picture” items, the President role can sometimes feel disconnected from the membership. During my term as President I intend to work closely with the Vice President and Directors to keep my finger on the pulse of what is going on throughout the organization.

05

In years past, we have often seen a very slim group of people working out of the National Office, but in the past eight months we have had the opportunity to bring on a new Executive Director and hire three new staff members. I intend to work with the Executive Director to execute major staffing decisions, understand our finances and overall health, and ensure we are running the organization in a way that is effective and efficient for our membership. I intend to work alongside our amazing staff on understanding our membership analytics and areas in which we are struggling member-wise, understanding our promotion and communication strategies and making them more efficient, and taking part in the planning and execution of new and improved programs.

With this extremely talented team supporting the President and Vice President, it allows us to focus even more on our members, on making the organization more accessible, and most importantly on advocacy. I look forward to being able to embrace my positions on both the AIAS Board of Directors, but also as a member of the AIA Board and a vocal member of the Alliance to continually advocate for students all over the world. During my time as President, increasing our advocacy efforts includes creating student-focused and -led programming at conferences hosted by the Alliance organizations, educating the members of the Alliance on what the AIAS truly is and all that we do, and continuing to integrate with NOMAS as a close student organization. Being able to advocate for students around the world is the most important part of the position for me. I will use my position on the Board of Directors and all of the support we receive to do that as the 67th AIAS National President.

December 1, 2022

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 President for the 2023-2024 academic year. Colt has been a member of AIAS since he was in high school and is deeply committed to the organization, currently serving on the AIAS board as the South Quad Director. His depth of involvement from high school through his time here at Georgia Tech and now on the Board of Directors has uniquely prepared him for the position of President.

Colt cares deeply about his fellow architecture students and has a deep respect for AIAS and the organization's potential to impact the lives of students and architectural education and the profession more broadly. I have personally known Colt since fall of 2018 as he began his education at Tech. We have remained in contact since his graduation and I have had the pleasure of meeting with him more recently to discuss his role as South Quad Director, which he is quite passionate about.

I fully expect that Colt will bring that same passion as President for 2023-2024. I know that he has a long set of priorities for the position, but I would like to take an opportunity to comment on a few and demonstrate how Colt is prepared to lead in these areas. The first is collaborations with the Alliance Organizations. As a student leader here at Tech, Colt recognized the risks associated with isolationism and the need to "protect one's own turf." He successfully broke down the barriers that can sometimes exist between undergraduate and graduate students. He also worked to strengthen the relationship between AIAS and our many other student organizations, understanding that they were all working toward the same goal and that they could be stronger and more successful together. Working with Auburn University to host the 2022 South Quad Conference was a perfect example of Colt's desire and willingness to partner for a greater common goal.

The second priority on which I would like to comment is his desire for students to not only understand the value of the AIAS, but to personally experience the direct, positive impact the organization can have in their lives as architecture students and young professionals. Colt comes to this quite naturally, having joined AIAS as a high school student in Texas. His involvement in AIAS prepared him for life as an architecture student and allowed him to develop into a leader early in his undergraduate career here at Tech. Being involved at AIAS across institutions and at all levels means that Colt can see the power of the network, from

Vice Provost for Faculty

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A Unit of the University System of Georgia – An Equal Education and Employment Opportunity Institution

the chapter to the Quad and to the national office, and how they can work in tandem to provide the largest benefit to students

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. As the AIAS faculty advisor here at Georgia Tech, I had the pleasure of working with Colt as he, along with the other members of our Executive Board, worked to provide a range of enriching opportunities for our students. The Executive Board took 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 architecture students and took 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 is an exceptionally well-prepared student leader who remains first and foremost an advocate for his classmates and peers. I truly enjoyed working with him, both as a student and as a leader in the School. I am confident that Colt will be an excellent President representing AIAS on a national platform.

I give Colt my highest possible recommendation and fully support his candidacy for 2023-2024 AIAS President.

Sincerely,



Michelle A. Rinehart, Ed.D.
Vice Provost for Faculty



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

27 November 2022

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

Dear Members of the AIAS Elections Committee,

I am very pleased to give my support and recommendation to Colt Brock for AIAS National President for the 2023–2024 year. I can think of no one more dedicated to the AIAS organization and its advancement, and I am confident that his exceptional leadership at both the chapter and national level make him an ideal candidate for President.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Colt since I started at Georgia Tech and have gotten to witness his numerous contributions to our school and our AIAS chapter. Colt served as our chapter Vice President and President for the 2019–2020 and 2020–2021 academic years, respectively, and the legacy of his leadership continues to be felt in our organization. Among other incredible contributions, Colt was instrumental in connecting our chapter to AIA Atlanta and helped to create our Emerging Professionals Student Mentorship Program in collaboration with AIA, which has become one of our most successful programs and continues to strengthen our relationship with the Atlanta architecture community. Even after his time on our chapter's Executive Board, Colt continued to uplift our chapter and the organization by leading the effort to host the 2022 South Quad Conference here in Atlanta. This was not only an exceptional conference, but an impactful reconnection of chapters in the Quad after Covid-19.

In addition to his contributions to our AIAS chapter, Colt's work to rewrite our Studio Culture Document and his efforts as part of the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion student task force that began in the summer of 2020 not only inspired much needed conversations and positive change at Georgia Tech, but also helped to actively create a legacy of student empowerment that enables myself and current leaders in the school to continue to push for a better student experience.

I have also been fortunate to know Colt as our current South Quad Regional Director. As South Quad Director, Colt has consistently led thoughtful conversations and promoted an active sharing of resources that allow our chapters to better support and empower each other. Colt also facilitated the reconnection of the AIAS Georgia chapters this year in the wake of the pandemic, which has blossomed into incredible partnerships and support between our chapters that I expect to continue for years to come.

I am honored to recommend Colt for President. I am lucky to know him as a leader, mentor, and trusted friend; and believe that not only myself, but our school and the AIAS are where we are today because of him. His dedication to bettering the architecture community is deeply felt within every level of the AIAS organization that I have had the opportunity to experience, and I cannot wait to see what incredible impact he will have as AIAS National President.

Sincerely,

Lauren Riehm

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 employee interns, I further affirm that I do not use unpaid architectural interns in my professional practice when applicable by federal wage and hour laws.

Signature: 

Date: 11.09.22



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: 11.09.22

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): South Quad Director

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: _____