



Valerie Ulloa

Candidacy Packet | South Quad Director
2023 -2024

Contents

Letter of Intent	01
<small>To Elections Committee and Past President Scott Cornelius</small>	
Resume	02
Letter of School Support	03
<small>From AIAS Faculty Advisor Dustin Albright</small>	
Letter of AIAS Member Support	05
<small>From Cailleigh Treash, AIAS</small>	
Responses to Candidate Questionnaire	06
Signed Statement on the AIAS Policy on Intern Compensation	08
Signed Statement on the AIAS Elections Code of Ethics	09
Contact Information Sheet	10

01

Letter of Intent

To the Elections Committee and Past President Scott Cornelius

November 28, 2022

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

Dear Past President Scott Cornelius,

As I prepared this candidate packet, I for the first time truly reflected the impact AIAS has had on me and the impact that I have returned in the past four years. I can proudly say that I have evolved into a leader that ten year old me could have never imagined when I decided to become an architect.

When I arrived to the architecture program at Clemson, I wanted to break the walls built up by my past and explore all the possibilities to advance further in my career. That is when the American Institute for Architecture Students at Clemson announced they were going to Forum Toronto. I did not know how I was going to go on such a trip not knowing anyone nor knowing what architecture really was but I knew one way or another that would be my first step. Indeed it was because of the experience, excitement and the energy that I received that made me want to become Events Coordinator for AIAS Clemson. Little did I know that a pandemic would alter the course of events for myself and the world. But despite the downsides, I took those experiences and turned them into who I have become as Co-chapter President. I will admit I never saw myself in any other positions within AIAS Clemson, but the leaders around me saw the potential and excitement I had and encouraged me to push forward. I will always be thankful for them and my mentors. If it were not for their constant encouragement and advice, I would not have managed to accomplish leading my chapter to become leaders themselves and to see and guide their potential, like they once did with me.

Now, I take these interactions, connections and experiences to share with my board and members. They have become so important for me to realize that as a leader it is not my success that matters but it is theirs who I want to grow and nourish. For that reason I am informing you of my intention to run for the 2023-2024 South Quad Director position. I hope that you will give me the chance to bring excitement and encouragement to the entire South Quad, and pave the way for these future architects to get excited about what their future in architecture holds. I hope that I can bring encouragement and excitement to more than one school and pave the way for students to reach farther in their career paths.

Sincerely,



Valerie Ulloa, AIAS
Clemson University Co-chapter President

02

Resume

Contact

(864) 517-5256
vaulloa3189@gmail.com

Social

instagram.com/valerie.ujojo
pinterest.com/valerieulloa3189
linkedin.com/valerieulloa3189

Languages

English 
Native Language
Spanish 
Native Language

Tools

Rhino / Grasshopper / AutoCAD / Adobe
InDesign / Adobe Illustrator / Adobe Photo-
shop / Microsoft Word

Skills

Physical Model Building / Acrylic Painting /
Sketching / Critical Thinking / Collaboration
/ Leadership

Skills

Gallup CliftonStrengths
Top 5: Futuristic, Deliberative, Restorative,
Strategic, Achiever

Education

Clemson University School of Architecture

Clemson, SC / Aug 2019 - May 2023
Major - Architecture / Minor - Psychology

Work Experience

Anita's Mexican Restaurant

101 Alice Ave Simpsonville, SC 29681 / June 4, 2019 - Aug 8, 2020
Position - Hostess, Server, Cashier, To-Go / Description - Family dining restaurant in charge of serving customers and cleaning

Tipsy Taco

1133 Woodruff Rd Greenville, SC 29607 / May 9, 2021 - March 20, 2022
Position - Server / Description - Provided top quality service under fast pace conditions, selling and marketing new foods

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

915 Lady St Suite C, Columbia SC, 29201 / May 16, 2022 - August 18, 2022
Position - Intern Architect / Description - Worked on modeling in REVIT, attended site visits, assisted architects in projects, toured multiple GMC offices

Organization Experience

AIAS Clemson University

Forum - Toronto Dec 28, 2019 - Jan 2, 2020 / Grassroots July 28, 2020 - Aug 1, 2020
South Quad - Oklahoma Nov 6 - 8, 2020 / Forum - Chicago Jan 5 - 8, 2021
South Quad - Atlanta March 31, 2022 - April 3, 2020 / Grassroots July 28 - 31, 2022

AIAS Events Coordinator for 2020 - 21 year
AIAS President Elect / Liaison for 2021 - 22 year
AIAS Co-President / Beaux Arts Ball Director for 2022 - 23 year

AIA Columbia, SC

Emerging Professionals Meetings July -August 2022

Habitat For Humanity

Homcoming House Build 2019 & 2021
General Member 2019 - 2020 / 2021 - 2022

03

Letter of School Support

From AIAS Clemson Faculty Advisor Dustin Albright



November 30, 2022
Elections Committee
The American Institute of Architecture Students
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Members of the AIAS Election Committee,

I write this recommendation in enthusiastic support of Valerie Ulloa and her candidacy to be the next AIAS South Quad Director. Valerie has been a committed participant and leader within our AIAS chapter at Clemson University since arriving her freshman year, and I am certain that she would be an outstanding South Quad Director.

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Clemson University
Lee Hall
Clemson, SC
29634-0503

P 864-656-3898
F 864-656-1810

While I know Valerie to be a strong student within our School of Architecture, highly respected among her peers and the faculty, I have not yet had the chance to teach her in a course. However, I have gotten to know her through AIAS. As the faculty advisor for Clemson's chapter since 2016, I have had the great pleasure of working with numerous talented and dedicated student leaders. That being said, Valerie, who is serving as co-president of the chapter this year, is the most committed, enthusiastic and creative AIAS leader that we've had during my tenure. Below are a few observations, each hitting on the kinds of qualities that I imagine would make Valerie particularly effective as a South Quad Director.

I am accustomed to meeting with the new leadership at the beginning of each new academic year, learning about their goals, and offering suggestions and assistance, as needed. In Valerie's case, I was pleased to be pulled into communications and planning over this past summer, as she wanted to get to work early on establishing a good foundation for the coming year, knowing that she was going to be serving remotely during her Fall semester abroad in Barcelona (our B.A. program in Architecture requires a semester of off-campus studies). Not only had Valerie reached out to me early to get the ball rolling - I learned that she and her leadership team had also been proactive in meeting with our School Director to discuss programs for the coming year. Valerie's enthusiasm is matched and supported by her levels of preparation and organization.

This year marks a particularly important year for our student organizations, including AIAS, as all classes are back to being fully in-person following varying degrees of hybridity throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The organizations are poised to be particularly active and engaging, looking to grow their membership and offer a range of social, academic, and career-focused programs. Valerie and her team have seized on this, with plans to resurrect past AIAS highlights such as the Beaux Arts Ball and community design/build projects (under the banner of our Freedom by Design chapter). She has looked to continue and deepen the connections our chapter has with area professionals. What is most interesting to me, however, are her forward-thinking and creative efforts to build bridges with other nearby AIAS chapters, but also with other student organizations from allied disciplines, including Construction Science and Civil Engineering. These are great moves that will connect our students with their future colleagues across the building industry. Through these experiences, Valerie is building for our AIAS chapter a legacy of collaboration.



Valerie is doing all of this while maintaining and modeling remarkable levels of transparency and communication within the organization. Moreover, while understanding that building for the future requires learning from our past, she has taken it upon herself to lead research efforts into the history of Clemson's AIAS chapter, connecting with past alumni, and seeking to involve their input and memories.

I could go on. Suffice it to say that Valerie is an exceptional AIAS leader in every sense. It is quite rare to find someone who possesses in equal measure the vision, the drive, the communication skills, the organizational skills, and the team-first mentality that Valerie displays. I am 100% confident that she would be an outstanding South Quad Director and I ask that you carefully and favorably consider her application for this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dustin Albright".

Dustin Albright, AIA, LEED AP
Associate Professor and Assistant Director | School of Architecture
AIAS Faculty Advisor
Clemson University

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Clemson University
Lee Hall
Clemson, SC
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05

Letter of AIAS Member Support

From Caileigh Treash, AIAS

November 16, 2022

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

To the Elections Committee and Past President Scott Cornelius,

I am writing today in support of Valerie Ulloa's nomination for AIAS South Quad Director. I have known Valerie for four years and have had the privilege of serving on the Clemson AIAS Board with her for two of those four years. Valerie is an extremely hard worker. She is passionate about AIAS and making a difference for all architecture students. As President of Clemson's Chapter of AIAS, Valerie has worked tirelessly to rebuild our program after the pandemic. Through the creation of new events and collaborations with other clubs in the Clemson School of Architecture, she has encouraged growth in our club with members representing every class. She has also worked to create better dialogue between all organizations represented in the School of Architecture at Clemson. Valerie has also worked towards creating better interaction and collaboration with AIAS Chapters across the South Quad. In addition, she has continued a program with a local middle school to encourage students to have an interest in architecture. Valerie has done all of this while being six hours ahead of her chapter. The time and geographical difference have not stopped Valerie from putting everything into making Clemson AIAS better than ever before.

Valerie has been involved in AIAS since her first year at Clemson, later serving on the board during her second year as Events Coordinator, followed by President Elect and Liaison. Throughout her time as a part of AIAS, Valerie has worked to make AIAS reflect the needs of the student body.

As South Quad Director, Valerie would keep working to make AIAS a direct reflection of the student body it represents. She is always full of ideas that change our club for the better, a change that would be seen throughout the entire South Quad. Valerie is incredibly organized and hands-on. She would be very involved in the needs of every chapter in the South and continue to expand the networks between different schools in the region. South Quad can only benefit from having Valerie as its Director.

I support and encourage the nomination of Valerie as South Quad Director. I believe in her abilities, tireless work ethic, and priceless connections throughout AIAS. Valerie would not take this role lightly, seeing it as an opportunity to give back to the club that has helped her grow. South Quad and AIAS as whole would be lucky to have Valerie as South Quad Director.

Sincerely,

Caileigh Treash, AIAS

Co-Vice President

AIAS Clemson University

Responses to Candidate Questionnaire

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?

Since my first conference at Forum Toronto, AIAS has given me the excitement and opportunities that I never imagined for myself. I began my architectural career knowing absolutely nothing other than that I wanted to become an architect. AIAS then provided me with connections to upperclassmen who helped me when I was struggling and who pushed me to become a leader. I want nothing more than to be able to give back and share all the resources I have accumulated in the past four years. Never had I imagined that I could potentially impact more than my school, but now I am seeking for that opportunity to speak about the issues that I and other students of architecture have run into and will continue to because this career path is constantly evolving. AIAS involvement at Clemson was beginning to decline and that was something I was not ready to accept. There are students of so many various talents and I want to tap into their skills so that they also have the resources available for their success. As current Co-chapter President I have taken the time to revive our membership, bring back the Beaux Arts Ball and reinstate Freedom by Design. So many new students have been able to find their callings and I have seen the inspiration and excitement in their faces that I once began with. That is why I plan to run for a position on the AIAS Board of Directors—to inspire and to motivate.

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

As Co-chapter President, my leadership style varies from seeing the whole situation at hand to the smallest minute detail, which I take into account when leading my board members and chapter. There is not one specific approach that determines my leadership style because, as I've realized with my background interest and knowledge in psychology, there can be multiple solutions to a problem, which will vary from each person and team. From educational and personal experiences, I have noticed the effects different leadership styles have on an individual within a team and the people that surround them. With the AIAS Clemson chapter declining, I chose to take a transformational leadership approach which required changes in the structure of the board. In order to increase involvement and connections, the board grew from eight positions to eight-teen, not including planning teams for FBD and BAB. This meant I needed to take a secondary approach so that I would not lose sight of who I was working with. I felt that a coaching style was necessary to care for the individual in not only who they are but their goals, external involvements, skills and making sure that the work they do reflects them. That is where I believe leaders derive from, when they truly care for others, because I believe that is where one can spread passion and excitement to others in the school of architecture and all around them.

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?

As we are all well aware, architecture students today face a multitude of issues. One issue I strongly stand by is the development of leadership. We are constantly surrounded by leaders such as directors, advisors, professors, mentors, student leaders and our peers. They affect how students function as well as the dynamics within the school of architecture regarding issues such as health and wellness, equity, practice experience, etc. They are also tasked with guiding students to reach their potential. However, the post pandemic environment has called for a reassessment on architectural education. In the school of architecture, the cost of an underdeveloped leadership is the health and wellness of the students. As South Quad Director I want to create an environment where all sorts of leaders emerge. I hope to travel and meet with as many South Quad chapter leaders to assess their various skills and understand who these leaders are. Following this assessment, I plan on reaching out to chapter presidents with the necessary resources to further develop their leadership skills by generating guides, training,

awareness and checking-in on how they are doing. By increasing leadership skills I hope to create a healthy environment where peers want to engage and make a difference for those around them.

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?

The AIAS is filled with chapters of all shapes, sizes and locations and that is one of the most amazing resources available to students of architecture. My first half of being president of my chapter has taken place while I have been studying abroad in Barcelona on a six hour difference. This has posed many obstacles but has not hindered my ability to continue leading. Better yet it has given me the opportunity to truly understand what it was that my board needed and still needs. Communication and provision of resources from nationals and other chapters have helped the AIAS Clemson chapter revive, increase involvement and membership, and collaborate with other student organizations within our school of architecture. I hope to take all the templates and guides other chapters have created and devise an organization or bank of materials to continue the growth of existing chapters and help new ones take root. Continuing Squad Sessions and one-on-one meetings with chapters will allow for the distribution of materials and I want to aim to attend chapter general body meetings to break down the influx of information nationals has to offer.

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.

First and foremost, I plan to consistently meet with our current South Quad Director and as many past South Quad Directors I can get a hold of. All of them have different experiences and advice that I can take on to assist me as new situations and issues arise. I will also graduate from undergrad this upcoming May, while taking a year off to work at an architecture firm before heading back to grad school, so I will have more time to invest towards the development of my position and of the South Quad chapters. This will ensure more flexibility so that I can truly connect with chapters by meeting with them online, through Slack, Instagram, Zoom, and email, and in-person as I aim to travel to meet chapters. Each month I plan to continue Squad Session and one-on-one meetings as they have helped myself and the AIAS Clemson Chapter reach closer towards its full potential. By holding these meetings I hope to create a bank of information so that chapters have the ability to increase knowledge and information to their boards and members about nationals and their resources, design clearer transition guides into roles within the chapters, and increase collaboration and communication between chapters and other student organizations. These goals will help me increase connections so that students of architecture can become more involved by channeling their motivations and inspirations to others.



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: Valerie Ulloa

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: December 2, 2022

Signed Statement on the AIAS Policy on Intern Compensation

08



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: Valerie Ulloa

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: December 2, 2022

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.

Signed Statement on AIAS Elections Code of Ethics

09



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): Valerie Ulloa

Chapter: AIAS Clemson University

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Co-chapter President

Email Address: vulloa@g.clemson.edu

Mobile Phone Number: (864) 517-5256

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

o Facebook: _____

o Twitter: @_____

o Instagram: @valerie.ujojo

o Other: LinkedIn: @valerieulloa3189