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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

EL INSTITUTO AMERICANO DE
ESTUDIANTES DE ARQUITECTURA

美国建筑学生协会



GILBERTO LOZADA BÁEZ

Candidacy Packet for 2024-2025 AIAS Vice President

November 30, 2023

Cooper Moore, AIAS, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, GRP
2023-2024 Past President + Elections Chair

Dear Cooper,

I am writing to formally state my interest and intent to pursue the position of **Vice President of the American Institute of Architecture Students**. I have been involved with the AIAS for more than three years now, a journey that started with me being staff for our chapter at Universidad de Monterrey, and that has led me to currently take the position of Latin America Regional Director. While effort, perseverance and hard work have definitely played a part in my journey throughout the organization, I would not be painting the whole picture if I failed to mention the importance that our community has had in me having these opportunities.

Time and time again, it has been fellow members and architecture students and faculty that have pushed me outside of my comfort zone into places that I could have never imagined myself in, giving me a platform to take on leadership positions and make the most out of my personal abilities and affinities to overcome self-imposed limits and help others in the process. This, in my experience, is the spirit of the AIAS - empowering students to take on leadership roles and fulfill their potential while growing as a community.

I am once again finding myself in a position where the support from my peers has motivated me to pursue a leadership role where, hopefully, I can use my perspective to steer our community to reach its full potential.

Restating what I mentioned a year ago in my letter of intent for the Regional Director position, I find the AIAS to be a driving force in architectural education across the globe, and one of the few organizations of its kind to be able to bring together architecture students with a variety of geographical and cultural backgrounds to enrich architectural formation and incentivize the creation of a network of students and professionals with similar interests. However, as I have gotten more involved with the processes of the organization, I have learned that there is much work that needs to be done in order for us to make the most out of this unique opportunity that we have thanks to the wonderful community that comprises the AIAS.

In this light, I hope to be able to participate and aid in achieving such a vision by connecting, sharing, representing and co-leading the AIAS to enrich the value we offer to our membership and potentialize our ability to make an impact as architecture students across the globe.

Thank you for your time, and hope to be in contact soon.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'G' and a series of loops and strokes that form the rest of the name.

Gilberto Lozada Báez, AIAS
Latin America Regional Director



Gilberto Lozada Báez



📧 @lozada.arq

✉ gilberto.lozada@udem.edu | gilbo.lozada@gmail.com

"Using architecture through a transdisciplinary framework to explore, design and build psychosensorially rich and ecosystemically engaged posthuman spaces."

EDUCATION

- 2019 – Now Architecture | Universidad de Monterrey
- 2016 – 2019 Associate's Degree in Didactic Teaching | Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León
- 2016 – 2019 International Baccalaureate | Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de Educación Bilingüe

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – Now Collaborator | Nuumen Co.
Executive design for urban, architectural and interior design projects.
- 2021 – Now FabLab CRGS | UDEM
Research on digital fabrication methods and materials, development of social projects and training programs.
- 2022 – 2023 Design Intern | Ibarra Aragón Arquitectura
Intern for the department of Conceptual Design, aiding with BIM modeling and landscape design.
- 2021 – Now Internship | Construction Management, Universidad de Monterrey
Team Leader and manager for on-campus Architectural Archive. Contributor to building codes and regulations in new projects.
- 2021 – Now Social Service | Reconstrucción del Tejido Social, Telar A.C., Jesuitas por la Paz
Assistance with branding and content production, creation of social cartographies for endangered historical areas and vulnerable communities.
- 2020 – Now Workshop Assistant Manager | Centro Roberto Garza Sada (CRGS) Workshops
Assistant Manager for the Metals and Welding, Ceramics, Coatings and Finishes, and Polymers workshops.
- 2018 – 2019 Teaching Assistant | Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de Educación Bilingüe
Assistanship teaching English as a second language for levels B1, B2, and C1.
- 2018 Research Assistant | Faculty of Architecture, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León
Assistant in multidisciplinary architectural research regarding the architectural experience and its neuropsychological effects on users.

CERTIFICATES

- 2022 Nature Based Metropolitan Solutions | Delft University of Technology
- 2022 Climate Change: From Learning to Action | UN Climate Change Learning Partnership
- 2021 Education for Sustainability | FOMCEC
- 2021 Neuro Environments | Digital Futures World
- 2020 Neuroscience, Architecture and Design | Neuroarq Academy
- 2020 International Panel for Universal Accesibility | Universidad de Monterrey

EXTRACURRICULARS & VOLUNTEERING

2023 – Now	American Institute of Architecture Students <i>LatAm Regional Director, Board of Directors</i>
2021 – 2023	AIAS UDEM Chapter <i>Treasurer</i>
2021 – 2022	SDSDN SDG Student Hub <i>Co-Founder for UDEM Chapter, Solutions Officer</i>
2022	Humarq: Raíces <i>Conference Co-coordinator</i>
2018 – 2019	Youth Against Stigma <i>Founder</i>
2017 – 2018	Buddy Project <i>Campus Representative</i>

PARTICIPATIONS

2023	Nuevo León Architecture Biennial <i>Honourable mention in the student category Architecture for Education and Culture, showcased in the student category Architecture for the City.</i>
2023	Alberto J. Pani Architectural Composition Award
2023	National Encounter for Architecture Students <i>Best Socially Responsible Urban Project</i>
2022–2023	GILSA Design Awards
2022	Swisstainability Forum <i>Project presentation for the Swiss-Mexican Commerce and Industry Chamber.</i>
2022	New York City Architecture Biennial <i>Shortlisted project for the Inclusion Award.</i>
2020, 2023	Distinguished Alumnus Award <i>School of Architecture and Habitat Sciences, UDEM.</i>
2022	Honours Program <i>Líderes Plus, UDEM.</i>
2022	Make It Human (UDEM, DIF Sta. Catarina) <i>First place</i>
2021	Xignux UDEM Prize <i>First Place, built project.</i>

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Soft Skills: Leadership, Teamwork and Team building, Communication, Problem Solving, Creative Thinking, Time management.

Hard Skills: Rhino+Grasshopper+Kangaroo, Revit, AutoCAD, SketchUp, Adobe Creative Cloud, Microsoft Office.

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (TOEFL 670 points), French (DELF A2)

Interests: Research, Botany, Ecology, Philosophy, Art & Literature.

San Pedro Garza García, Nuevo León, November 21st, 2023.

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter on behalf of the Architecture Program at the Centro Roberto Garza Sada for Architecture, Art, and Design of the Universidad de Monterrey, to express my full support towards **Gilberto Lozada Báez** in his pursuit of an officer position at the **American Institute of Architecture Students**.

An outstanding student within our university, Gilberto has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership qualities, dedication, and a passion for architecture throughout his time in our program. His academic achievements, commitment to extracurricular activities, and engagement with the architectural community make him a well-rounded and exemplary candidate for the position.

As the program director, I have had the privilege of witnessing Gilberto's leadership abilities firsthand. His approach to leadership is characterized by inclusiveness, empathy, and a deep understanding of the diverse perspectives within our field. Gilberto's enthusiasm for this discipline is infectious, showing a strong and proactive commitment to fostering an environment that encourages collaboration, innovation and creativity for peers and colleagues alike.

In addition to his leadership and mentorship, Gilberto has a strong academic record, consistently achieving outstanding results. His ability to balance academic excellence with active involvement in extracurricular activities is a testament to his exceptional time management and organizational skills.

I have no doubt that Gilberto would excel as an officer within your organization, confident that his vision, leadership, and dedication will continue to contribute to the growth and success of the AIAS. In this light, I would like to state my full support to our student Gilberto Lozada Báez in his candidacy for the position of Vicepresident at the AIAS, thus acknowledging the school's awareness of his desire to seek a seat on the **AIAS National Board of Directors** and the implications thereof.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at rosaura.lopez@udem.edu

Sincerely,



MArch. Rosaura G. López Pérez
Director of Architecture Program
Universidad de Monterrey



San Pedro Garza García, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

Tuesday November 21st 2023

To whom it may correspond

Greetings.

It is my pleasure to enthusiastically recommend Gilberto Lozada for the role of Vice President of the American Institute of Architecture Students.

I had the pleasure of collaborating with Gilberto Lozada these last two years, in his role as Latin America Director of AIAS, and also as his time as treasurer in the AIAS Chapter of University of Monterrey.

During our time together, Gilberto proved to be bright, determined, and visionary at his different roles within the organization. His collaboration and leadership skills were truly impressive, and with his continuous dedication and attention to my chapter, he has helped improve the status of the chapter, and to vinctuate all AIAS chapters in Mexico together.

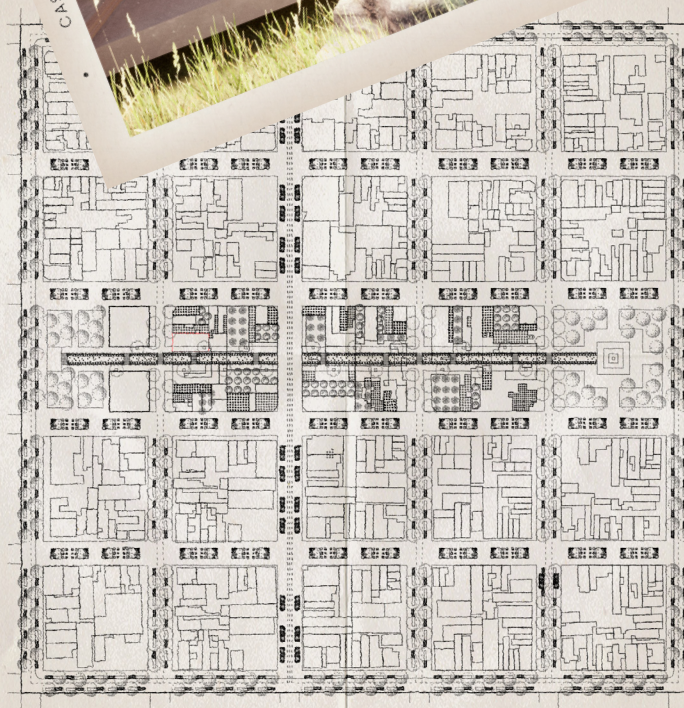
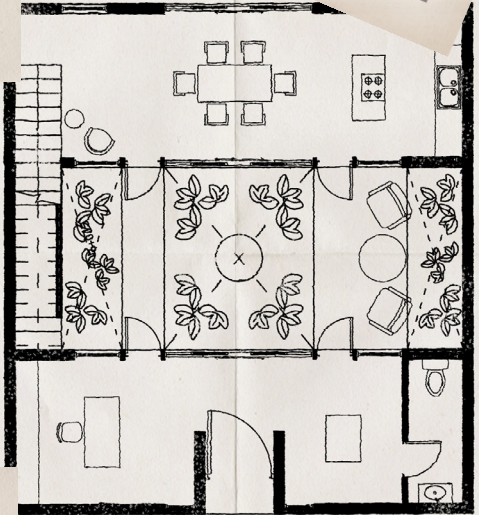
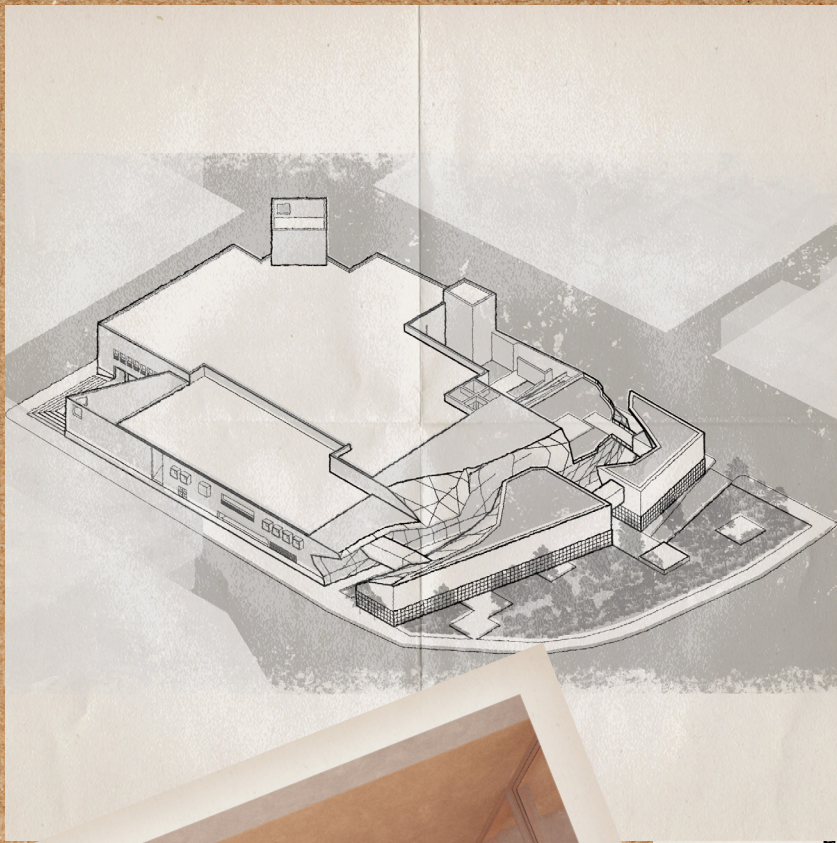
I am confident without reservation that Gilberto would be an excellent candidate for this role. As a tireless creative and passionate individual, he will be a productive addition to the organization.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like me to further elaborate on Gilberto's talents and achievements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Maya Benitez', written in a cursive style.

Juan Diego Cipriano Maya Benítez
President of AIAS UDEM Chapter
Universidad de Monterrey.
juan.maya@udem.edu



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?

Over the past three and a half years, I have been involved with the AIAS in different positions — from being a staff member at my local chapter, to being a treasurer, and finally serving as Latin America Regional Director on the AIAS Board of Directors. This has been a transformative journey through which I've had the opportunity to witness the dedication and passion of our incredibly diverse membership, and where I've discovered a community with which I deeply resonate.

Through these experiences, I've come to understand that the AIAS means something different to each member: it is a melting pot of unique perspectives and personal stories, brought together by an unwavering drive to make a difference. It is this diversity and determination that makes our organization rich and dynamic, and motivates me to seek this leadership position.

While it took getting tapped on the shoulder and being encouraged to consider applying, it is my profound belief in the organization's mission, coupled with a genuine desire to give back to the community that has shaped my architectural journey, that leads me to apply for this position in the AIAS Board of Directors, hoping that I'm able to use the perspective I've gained over the years to help channel that collective drive and passion into initiatives that will further enhance the AIAS experience for all members, and contribute to the continued evolution and success of the AIAS.

2. Though it may be hard to believe, the AIAS is not perfect. A critical analysis of any organization is a healthy part of its operation. There may be things that you feel the AIAS could do better, or maybe you see new opportunities or partners to engage. Where do you see room for improvement or new areas for the organization to expand into?

Over time, I've observed some underutilized opportunities within our organization that, if tapped into, could significantly enhance our connectivity and improve the benefits we offer our membership. One such area of untapped potential lies in achieving true engagement with our incredibly diverse membership. By giving greater visibility to the richness our members provide to the organization, both within the US and around the world, we can only improve our understanding of our collective needs and challenges.

In my perspective, one incredibly important way we can do this is by actively including our membership in the decision-making processes. This can generate a positive feedback loop, reinforcing a sense of community and shared ownership, empowering our membership and at the same time ensuring that our organization remains responsive and adaptive.

Additionally, I see an opportunity for the AIAS to further expand its reach by cultivating partnerships with external organizations and institutions. Collaborations with entities that share our passion for architecture can open new opportunities for knowledge exchange, resource sharing, and collective initiatives that benefit both AIAS and its partners.

Finally, I believe that an organization such as the AIAS is only as strong as its members and its connections are, so by creating these opportunities to strengthen internal connections, amplify diverse voices, and foster external collaborations, we can be better prepared to face challenges and take opportunities that propel the AIAS toward even greater heights, ensuring its continued relevance and impact in the architectural community.

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?

I believe all of these issues are of extreme importance, and I believe that in their very nature they are interconnected. To me, this means that, when striving to find solutions, we can only get there by approaching them holistically and collaboratively.

However, in the spirit of narrowing down my answer, I can share that I find the intersection of Leadership, Equity, and Sustainability to be particularly crucial. To make progress on these topics, I would first emphasize enhancing the organization's understanding of these topics and the factors that influence them. This involves engaging with diverse actors, strengthening ties with other organizations and leveraging existing partnerships both within and outside the architectural realm, to broaden our perspective. Building bridges and embracing a global perspective allows us to increase our resources, share insights, and collectively address challenges to better advocate for leadership, equity, and sustainability.

Additionally, I would propose implementing simple yet efficient protocols to assess the organization's engagement, as well as its representation and sustainability efforts. Establishing clear evaluation criteria will help us increase our accountability and allow us to measure our progress in a much clearer way.

Finally, I consider that incentivizing communication between diverse groups, including intercultural and interdisciplinary dialogues would be key for the advancement of these issues. These forums would facilitate the exchange of ideas on these topics from a true understanding of the environmental, social, and economic aspects that encompass them. Overall, to address these issues I would encourage practices to gain a broader understanding that develop into contextualized solutions where our efforts are both meaningful and effective.

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?

Based on my experiences connecting with the diverse regions of the AIAS, from the U.S. and Latin America to China and the Middle East, I envision strategic actions to strengthen connections and engagement within our geographically and culturally diverse membership. In this light, I would use my position to acknowledge the varied demographic profiles of our chapters worldwide, looking to expand the AIAS presence internationally and create platforms for our diverse membership through the following actions:

1. Strengthen National Efforts: Develop and implement national initiatives that not only support existing chapters to pursue international collaboration, but also provide resources and guidance to chapter leaders seeking to grow their chapters, ensuring a unified and international approach to leadership development in the AIAS.
2. Formalize the Presence of Diverse Membership: Establish formal mechanisms to recognize and celebrate the diversity within our membership, acknowledging the unique contributions of our chapters

and creating a platform where they can share their experiences, best practices, and success stories, to foster a sense of unity and inspiration.

3. Reach Out to Strategic Allies:: Actively pursue international partnerships and collaborations, particularly with architecture student organizations in different countries, to create a shared platform for exchange and collaboration.

4. Connect, Connect, Connect: Implement virtual and in-person events, forums, and collaborative projects that bring together members from different regions, promoting cross-cultural interactions and shared learning experiences.

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.

In light of the Vice President's primary focus on internal operational responsibilities within the AIAS Board of Directors, I intend to foster better communication, accountability, and engagement with our membership while aligning with the key functions expected of the role. To do this, my action plan considers the following strategies that have the power to greatly contribute to the operational growth and international presence of the AIAS while ensuring a dynamic, inclusive, and globally connected community.:

1. Diverse Programming: Increase efforts to diversify programming both within and outside our conferences to ensure it remains relevant and appealing to our varied membership, going beyond talks and conferences to introduce experiential events that actively engage our community's drive and effort and provide innovative and enriching experiences.

2. Internal Transparency and Connection: Propose and implement protocols to evaluate the efficiency, transparency, and inclusivity of our internal processes, as well as soliciting member feedback to identify areas for improvement.

3. Expand Partnerships: Actively seek partnerships worldwide to broaden our network, facilitate knowledge exchange, promote a more global perspective within the AIAS, and create new collaboration opportunities. This also includes strengthening existing relationships with sponsors, universities, and industry leaders, to further enhance the resources available to our members. Establish partnerships with international organizations to

4. Support for AIAS Members: Advocate for student issues and implement initiatives to support the mental health and well-being of AIAS members and architecture students in general, recognizing the challenges present in our field. Establish mentorship programs to connect experienced members with those seeking guidance, creating a supportive community within the organization.



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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: Gilberto Lozada Báez

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: 11/13/2023



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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: Gilberto Lozada Báez

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: 11/13/2023

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.



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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): Gilberto Lozada Báez

Chapter: Universidad de Monterrey

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): _____

Email Address: gilbo.lozada@gmail.com

Mobile Phone Number: +52 81 2111 4879

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

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