



# Juanita Libreros Foronda

AIAS National Secretary/ Treasurer

2024-2025 Candidacy Packet

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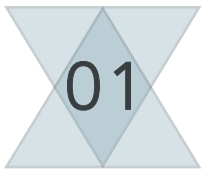
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# 01 Letter of Intent

27 November 2023

Cooper Moore, AIAS, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, Elections Chair and Past President  
American Institute of Architecture Students  
1735 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington DC,  
20006-5292

Dear Past President and Elections Chair Moore,

It is with immense pleasure and honor that I write this letter declaring my candidacy for the 2024-2025 National Secretary/ Treasurer of the American Institute of Architecture Students.

My journey with AIAS commenced in a Zoom meeting room hosted by the Executive Board members of the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) as part of their Welcome Week. This meeting was the first time I felt connected with so many incredible people who came together under the umbrella of AIAS. Not knowing anything about the organization prior to joining, I felt surrounded by the incredible community of the SCAD chapter and decided to stick around, play some pictionary, and learn more about the AIAS. Then, one Napkin Sketch Competition later, and I was fully into the organization! Thinking about it today, I never thought that the napkin sketch I submitted that night would result in me running for a position on the AIAS National Board 3 years later, but I wouldn't change that outcome for the world.

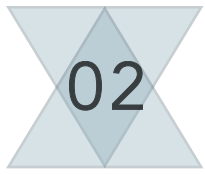
Throughout my journey with the AIAS, I have been surrounded by an incredible community that has impacted my life and journey as an architecture student. I have felt connected with AIAS members worldwide and seek to honor its impact as a student-led organization filled with generations' worth of incredible members. As I went on to become the Vice-President and then President of the SCAD AIAS Chapter, my exposure to AIAS has allowed me to rethink many of my decisions as an architecture student. It has expanded my knowledge and filled it with wonder for a world and community that is more equitable, inclusive, and powerful for students. My incredible AIAS mentors have taught me that it is okay not to know everything and make mistakes. It is okay to wonder and plan for a better future that will impact everyone around you for years to come. The organization has opened my eyes to what it is like to be a future architect and exposed me to current challenges with resources to overcome them. The AIAS has helped me become a better person with an open mind and understanding to consider all of our struggles. Thanks to the incredible opportunities with AIAS, I have become a mentor, mentee, leader, conference planner, advocate, and overall a better person.

As the Secretary/Treasurer position is introduced for the first time in AIAS history, it is my purpose to advocate for the organization and its members to create a better link between the resources offered by AIAS and those needing them. I look forward to a year of service to AIAS and its members worldwide as the National Secretary/ Treasurer. The AIAS has inspired me to take this journey, which I am sure will be filled with countless incredible opportunities for growth and development. I will continue to forever be excited to be in the AIAS!

Sincerely,

*Juanita Libreros Foronda*

Juanita Libreros Foronda, AIAS



# 02 Resume

912.503.5847

## EDUCATION

### **Boston Architectural College (BAC)**

**Candidate for Master of Architecture | 2023 to Present**

Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL)

### **Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)**

**Bachelor of Fine Arts in Architecture | 2019 to 2023**

*Graduated Magna Cum Laude (GPA 3.79)*

## LEADERSHIP

### **AIAS BAC Chapter**

Member | June 2023 to Present

### **AIAS SCAD Chapter**

2022 to 2023 Academic Year Chapter President

2021 to 2022 Academic Year Chapter Vice President

National South Quad Spring 2023 Conference Liaison

Member | September 2020 to June 2023

### **AIAS J.E.D.I Task Force**

Member | August 2023 to Present

### **AIAS Future Programming Task Force**

Chair | August 2022 to June 2023

### **AIAS Council of Global Representatives**

Member | August 2021 to July 2022

### **NOMAS SCAD Chapter**

2021 to 2022 Academic Year Chapter Treasurer

Member | June 2020 to 2023

## AWARDS

**Alpha Rho Chi Award** SCAD | June 2023

**SCAD'S Dean List** SCAD | 2019 to 2023

**Member Showcase** AIAS National

## LANGUAGES

English ; Spanish ; French

## TRAVEL

Colombia, South Korea, Qatar

## EXPERIENCE

### **The Lane Group, Inc**

Jacksonville, FL

### **Summer Architecture Intern**

June – September 2022

- Developed construction documents in AutoCAD for three residential projects which included Demolition Plans, Reflected Ceiling Plans and Building Sections to communicate the renovation and historic preservations of the homes
- Communicated with clients through site visits and organized a Cost Analysis document based on prices given by contractors, which was adjusted per the client's needs
- Established a detailed system of note-keeping for the organization and management of a project from start to finish through Microsoft Excel and Project Sheets in AutoCAD

### **American Institute of Architecture Students**

Savannah, GA

### **SCAD Chapter Vice-President and President**

June 2021 – June 2023

- Worked as the "Inner Face" as the Vice President for the SCAD AIAS Chapter to coordinate the board and SCAD AIAS members to keep everyone up to date with events from June 2021 to June 2022
- Served as the SCAD AIAS Chapter President from June 2022 to June 2023 and aided in the increase on membership from 20 members at the start of the year to 60 members at the end of the year
- Hosted the AIAS National South Quad conference which welcomed over 150 members to Savannah, GA with the theme of "Revival"
- Coordinated with board members to develop a Mentorship Program to promote a healthy studio culture environment amongst students

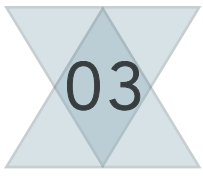
### **National Organization of Minority Architects**

Savannah, GA

### **Barbara G. Laurie Student Competition**

June – October 2020

- Performed market analysis for the competition site in Oakland, California, to represent the SCAD NOMAS Chapter and reached out to potential stakeholders in the area to understand the community and their needs
- Presented the competition deliverables through working with coaches to improve vocal representation, coordinating the final sheets with group members, and meeting deadlines for the competition
- Utilized Revit and Rhino skills to create floor plans, vignettes, diagrams, and an experiential analysis of the space



## 03 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?**

I am running for the AIAS Board of Directors as I have always felt motivated by the united community and resources within the organization. AIAS enables students worldwide to unite in a safe space focusing on inclusivity and community. The AIAS core values of Impact, Community, Growth, Passion, Perspective, and Balance are all essential to the life and success of an architecture student, which is why I am delighted to be running for a leadership position in this incredible organization.

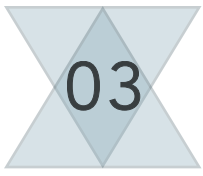
When I first learned about the organization in 2020, I was excited about the architecture community that AIAS was a part of. The welcoming environment within the Savannah College of Art and Design chapter pushed me to research more about the organization and its opportunities and resources. Since that moment, I knew that I wanted to learn more about the organization and the impact it could have on my life as an architecture student. As an international student living in the U.S., the AIAS introduced me to a variety of resources that I would never have known about if I hadn't joined the organization. From becoming the President of the SCAD chapter to hosting the South Quad conference, I began to realize that the most significant part of leadership, and my driving force for seeking leadership, was to allow others to have a similar experience I had with AIAS and to contribute to the impact generations have had before me. Joining committees and task forces such as the Council of Global Representatives (2021), Future Programming Task Force (2022), and the J.E.D.I Task Force (2023) introduced me to people from all over the world who are uniting under one purpose: to create an architecture journey that is inclusive, collaborative, and impactful for everyone who chooses it.

**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?**

One thing that I have always loved about the AIAS is their adaptability towards change. Throughout generations, we have seen various changes worldwide that have impacted the architecture community. AIAS has always risen to the occasion to adapt and grow from this to unite with some incredible organizations. As a NOMAS member and leader throughout the years, I have noticed firsthand the impact of partnerships in the exchange of ideas and development. As a current member of the Boston Architectural College AIAS Chapter, I have experienced how AIAS and NOMAS work together to offer students various resources and networking opportunities, such as firm tours. These collaborative events are essential nationally as they unite different ideas and introduce a common goal for the organizations. There is so much we can all learn from each other, and the more students can seek to bridge the organizations, the stronger and more knowledgeable we will become.

Similarly, introducing the Secretary/Treasurer position is an essential step toward the organization's future. Looking at the roles and responsibilities of past officers, it has been evident that a role like this was needed in the AIAS to maintain a fair distribution of responsibilities for all students involved in the organization. Adding this position allows other roles, such as the President and Vice-President, to focus more on reaching students and establishing connections with members. Therefore, I see much room for improvement with this new position as it seeks to provide a more just and fair balance to the inner workings of the AIAS.





## 03

# Candidate Questionnaire

**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?**

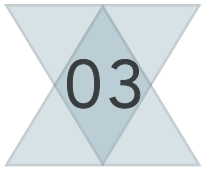
Equity, Advocacy, Empowerment

The efforts in advocacy for architecture students are plentiful as these issues impact people from all over the world. I have always been in awe of how the AIAS has stood up for many issues and never remained silenced in the face of adversity. One issue that I find the most important is equity, advocacy, and the need for empowerment. As an international student studying in the U.S., I have always aimed to speak up and educate those around me about my experiences or knowledge. However, it is often difficult for international students, minorities, and others to find the perfect resources to thrive in a different country. Therefore, empowerment goes far beyond those mentioned previously because we all have a role in aiding our communities and speaking up for those around us. Advocates have many roles in the AIAS, so I would strive to grow these more with informative conversations on the topic and bring to light all the incredible people who make up the AIAS. If elected as a leader on the AIAS National Board of Directors as Secretary/Treasurer, I hope to increase the conversation on these topics and provide an organized resource list for those seeking support from the organization.

**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?**

Throughout my life, I have had the opportunity to live and experience many different places and cultures around the world. Born in Colombia, being raised in South Korea for 7 years, graduating high school in Qatar, and now living in the United States of America are the broad mixture of cultures that have shaped me into the person that I am today. When I first learned about AIAS, I wasn't aware of our incredible diversity within the organization. Therefore, it is essential to focus on the accessibility of information and resources, whether it be the distribution of these resources or the language in which they are brought out. The AIAS has a wide geographical and cultural diversity, including diversity in the languages its members speak. Putting out more resources in languages used by various chapters would allow more members the option to join AIAS and grow their chapters internally. Through committees such as the Council of Global Representatives and the J.E.D.I Task Force, these ideas could become a reality and better serve the AIAS Chapter Leaders.

The AIAS Google Drive, for example, is an incredible resource that only a few Executive Board members know about or look to for information. Therefore, if elected Secretary/Treasurer, I would look into different ways to make these incredible resources more accessible to Executive Board members and the general membership so that they can be used for the betterment of the organization. Some examples that would allow more members access to this information would be putting out recap posts on Instagram after a Council of Presidents meeting or creating newsletters and "how to" posts that use the immediate resources that past AIAS leaders have found helpful. In this way, all members would have access to new changes in the AIAS while also opening up the conversation for more diverse knowledge and connections among chapters.



03

## Candidate Questionnaire

**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.**

### Communication, Connection, and Reliability

As the role of Secretary/Treasurer is introduced to the AIAS for the first time, my goal is to aid the organization through the detailed inner workings and behind the scenes. The roles of Secretary and Treasurer are ones I am familiar with, having served on the SCAD AIAS Chapter board as Secretary and on the SCAD NOMAS Chapter as Treasurer. Both of these roles are vital to an organization as they provide a sense of structure and support. This historic change to the structure of AIAS is exciting as it marks an important step of the organization toward a more united and balanced board of architecture student leaders who are all working towards a common goal of providing for all AIAS members.

My goal as the first Secretary/Treasurer would be to establish a system of note-taking that would allow our members and the Council of Presidents to benefit from direct resources and knowledge of conversations that have been had. Directly relating to the role of Secretary, I will emphasize using our AIAS Google Drive and Archives folder to allow all Executive Board members from all chapters to benefit better from the incredible resources and knowledge within this Google Drive. The history of AIAS is extensive and can all be found in some way throughout the Google Drive; therefore, focusing on this would allow incoming officers to find past documents and other resources quickly. Additionally, as the Treasurer of the organization, I plan to work closely with the Finance Committee and AIAS Executive Director to be transparent about the inner workings of the organization. Having taken classes in Business Management and Practice Management, I plan to use my skills to support the organization and allow for insightful communication between directors and officers of the national board. Lastly, as the Secretary/Treasurer of AIAS, I seek to be a reliable source, willing to listen and adapt to the needs of the officers and directors while offering support and connecting with members.



## 04 Peer Letter of Support

27 November 2023

Cooper Moore, AIAS, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, Elections Chair and Past President  
American Institute of Architecture Students  
1735 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington DC,  
20006-5292

Dear Past President Moore,

I am excited to write this in support of Juanita Libreros Foronda for the Secretary/ Treasurer position. I have had the pleasure of getting to know and work with Juanita over the past few months in the Boston Architectural College chapter.

I am the president of the Boston Architectural College chapter and met Juanita at her orientation this fall. I was still rebuilding this chapter and the minute I heard she was a part of AIAS in her undergraduate, I wanted to talk with her. When we started talking, I knew she would be a great fit for not only my chapter but for more leadership if she wanted to.

Juanita came to a new college and was nice enough to help out a person she never met on the very first day she met them. She supports the Boston Architectural College chapter by always being at every event and always helping as much as she can. She is not currently on the Executive Board, but she is our most active member, just starting this semester.

Working with Juanita, even for a short amount of time, I have seen firsthand how hard-working and empowering she is. She provides help and encourages people to get to their goals. Her always being at our chapter's events has encouraged me to keep going and plan bigger and better events. She has even helped develop ideas on what could be going on. She never says no to a challenge, and that is something that is needed within AIAS.

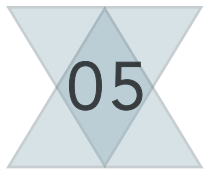
I conserved myself lucky enough to have met and worked with a wonderful person. I am excited to see what this very motivated woman will bring to the AIAS National Board.

Sincerely,

*Allyson Middleton*

Allyson Middleton  
BAC AIAS Chapter President  
allyson.middleton@the-bac.edu  
502-648-4162





# 05 School Letter of Support

## BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE

SINCE 1889

November 27, 2023

Dear Elections Chair Cooper Moore,

On behalf of the Boston Architectural College (BAC) and as the Director of Career Services at the BAC, it is with great pleasure that I recommend Juanita Libreros Foronda to be the new Secretary/Treasurer of AIAS.

Before Juanita began her studies at the BAC, she gracefully made her presence known. I met Juanita during New Student Orientation– which takes place the week before classes begin–and Juanita stood out amongst the rest of her classmates. She was proud to share with me her involvement in AIAS when she attended Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), and I soon saw her thereafter in the resume, cover letter, public speaking, and portfolio preparation workshops that I hosted. Needless to say, Juanita takes advantage of the multiple resources at the BAC.

As someone who has worked at the BAC for 7 years, I can tell that Juanita will be very successful in her career as a designer. Less than a month into her classes, Juanita took the initiative to meet with me one-on-one and discuss her career goals. Her impressive life experiences living and learning in different countries coupled with her diverse, design internships paints Juanita as a natural born scholar and leader. I am sure that Juanita's time in Qatar, Jacksonville, Florida and Savannah, Georgia will positively influence the decisions she makes and the opinions she will provide if she is fortunate to be the Secretary/Treasurer.

As evidenced by Juanita's impressive ability to make every career services workshop in her first semester, Juanita enthusiastically likes to get involved and make what matters to her most a top priority. I cannot recall any other student who has come to all of my workshops in their first semester, and this is a great indication of her ability to manage her academic and personal interests well.

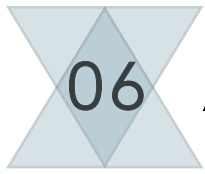
In my career coaching session with Juanita, I recall her SCAD capstone project regarding a refugee welcome center. I believe her desire to design such a center is important, and I was also impressed with Juanita being able to confidently identify her interest in healthcare.

Certainly Juanita's experience and passion for helping others is an asset to her career and to the design profession at large. Juanita is the type of individual for whom accomplishing the bare minimum is unsatisfactory. Her enthusiasm and willingness to do more than what is expected of her and to become the Secretary/Treasurer of AIAS is commendable. This is why I fully support Juanita's candidacy.

Best regards,

**María Sardiñas**

**BAC Director of Career Services**



# 06 AIAS Policy on Intern Compensation

## 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).

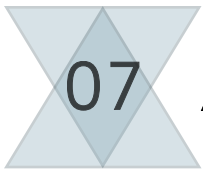
Name: Juanita Libreros Foronda

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: Juanita Libreros Foronda

Date: 30 NOVEMBER 2023





## 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.

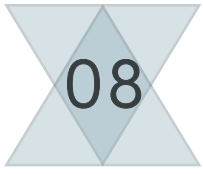
Name: Juanita Libreros Foronda

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: *Juanita Libreros Foronda*

Date: 30 NOVEMBER 2023

Please submit this form with your confirmation for participation.



## 08 Contact Information

### **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): Juanita Liberos Foronda

Chapter: Boston Architectural College

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: juanis.libfo@gmail.com

Mobile Phone Number: (912) 503-5847

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

o Facebook: \_\_\_\_\_

o Twitter: @\_\_\_\_\_

o Instagram: juanislibfo\_\_\_\_\_

o Other: \_\_\_\_\_