



Lee Anderson

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**  
2024-25 CANDIDACY PACKET



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Cooper Moore, AIAS, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, GRP  
Past President  
Elections Committee Chair  
1012 14th Street, NW  
Suite 415  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Past President Moore,

The people in AIAS have played an integral role in my feeling included in and hopeful for the future of architecture. I write to you today to share my appreciation for the opportunities and people that this organization has brought into my life and to express my interest in playing a larger role in making this organization what I believe it can become.

**It is this mentorship, passion, and investment in the people that embody AIAS that inspire me to run for Secretary/Treasurer in the 2024-25 election cycle.**

Serving on the Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Task Force for the past two years and now chairing it this year, I am able to learn about the organization behind the scenes. In this leadership role, I've shared several ideas on how to improve AIAS, for example, revamping the AIAS drive to make the work of past leaders more accessible. Some of these, to my excitement, have already been discussed! Going into this next year, I'd love to be able to bring these ideas to the board myself in addition to getting to sit in on these conversations. I believe that I am a strong organizer and curator of words which I would like to bring to this organization as a secretary and treasurer.

I am a naturally inquisitive person, and I am thankful that this inclination has been celebrated by the people I have encountered here. I want to make this space more equitable, easily accessible to all, and improve upon the value of membership throughout all chapters and especially minorities in the field. I would be honored to be a part of the board as a secretary-treasurer especially knowing that there is opportunity to shape the role as it's a recently added one.

I am honored to be considered for this position and hope you see my potential, too.

Sincerely,  
Lee Anderson, AIAS, NOMAS, LEED GA  
Northeastern University AIAS Senior Advisor  
B.S.Architecture Candidate, 2025  
*they/them/theirs*

# LEE ANDERSON

Anderson.Li@Northeastern.edu | They/Them/Theirs  
+1 (612) 759-5997

## EDUCATION

### Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Candidate for BS in Architecture  
with minor in Graphic and Information Design  
May 2025

Relevant coursework—Urban Institutions,  
Architectonic Systems, Modern Architecture,  
Advanced Architectural Communication,  
Site, Space, and Program, Architecture Conservation,  
Architecture of Social Reform,  
Color and Composition, Typography I, Principles of  
Graphic Design

### IE University, Segovia, Spain

Architecture Study Abroad Program  
January 2023—May 2023

Relevant coursework— Design Studio IV: Program,  
Architecture and Urbanism in Iberia, Intro to Urban  
and Regional Studies

### The Blake School, Minneapolis, MN

High School Diploma with Thespian Honors  
May 2020

## EXPERIENCE

### Perkins&Will

Architecture Intern  
Boston, Massachusetts  
July 2022—December 2022

### Northeastern Summer Bridge Program

CAMD Peer Mentor  
Boston, Massachusetts  
July 2023

### LIBRE - Leading Inclusion and Belonging with Resources and Education Spring 2022 Cohort

Boston, Massachusetts  
January 2022— present

### Northeastern University

ARCH 1000 Peer Mentor  
Boston, Massachusetts  
September 2021—December 2021

## ACTIVITIES

### American Institute of Architecture Students at Northeastern University

Senior Advisor 2023—present  
Vice President of Special Events 2022—2023  
Social Media Director 2021-2022

### AIAS National

Student Health and Well Being  
Task Force Chair 2023—present,  
SHWBTF Member 2021—2023

### National Organization of Minority Architecture Students

AIAS Liaison, Chapter member  
June 2022—present

### Northeastern School of Architecture Representative Student Council

B.Arch Class of 2025 Council Member  
September 2021—2022, 2023—2024

### Northeastern College of Arts, Media, and Design Dean's Advisory Board

Appointed Representative for the  
School of Architecture  
September 2023—present

## AWARDS / CERTIFICATIONS

### LEED Green Associate

United States Green Building Council  
December 2022—present

### Northeastern University Dean's List

Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

## SKILLS

Adobe Suite  
Rhinoceros 3D  
Revit  
AutoCAD  
Enscape  
French





# Northeastern University

## College of Arts, Media and Design

November 28, 2023

Dear Mr. Cooper Moore,

I write to offer my most enthusiastic support for Lee Anderson in their candidacy for the position of Treasurer/Secretary of the National AIAS Board of Directors. In my fifteen years of teaching and working with undergraduate architecture students I have rarely come across a student more qualified for such a position and committed to working with organizational structures.

I have had the privilege of knowing Lee first as an exceptional student in my architectural history course on Modern Architecture, and later as a student leader within the School of Architecture at Northeastern. As interim director of the school I have worked closely with Lee in their capacity as an elected member of the Student Advisory Board, where they serve as the Appointed Representative for the School of Architecture to the Dean's Advisory Board in the College of Arts, Media, and Design. They are also a council member of the School's Student Council and a member of the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students. Most important and relevant to their candidacy for this AIAS National role is the leadership positions that they have held in AIAS Northeastern; they have served as Social Media Director, Vice President of Special Events, and Senior Advisor.

I am confident that they would work collaboratively and effectively with the Officers, Executive Director, and Board of AIAS.

In short, I offer my highest recommendation and unequivocal support for Lee Anderson as an ideal candidate for this position.

School of  
Architecture

151 Ryder Hall  
360 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02115

617.373.4637  
fax 617.373.7080  
[neu.edu/camd/architecture](http://neu.edu/camd/architecture)

Sincerely,

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

Dr. Amanda Reeser Lawrence  
Interim Director  
Associate Professor

Dear Past President Moore,

My name is Ritika Iyer, and I am writing this recommendation for **Lee Anderson**, whom I had the pleasure of working with during our time together at Northeastern. Lee and I have collaborated on several endeavors over the last three years, and I am delighted and honored to write this recommendation in support of their candidacy as the **National Secretary/Treasurer**.

After our time serving concurrently on the Northeastern AIAS E-Board, I confidently say that Lee is one of the most passionate and talented leaders at Northeastern. Having Lee on the team as a Webmaster, Vice President, and Senior Advisor has been quite an asset to our chapter. Lee is a natural leader; they are a clear communicator, excel at conflict resolution, and are a resource for all students.

Lee's passion for service and advocacy has made them invaluable to our organization. Lee has the unique ability to connect with students of all class years; this year, they truly made an effort to get to know younger students and welcome them to AIAS and Northeastern. It is no surprise that Lee was nominated by the School of Architecture's faculty to sit on the College's Student Advisory Board, representing hundreds of students in the School of Architecture. Their involvement within the school and the chapter clearly conveys their passion and interest in advocacy.

Over the last few years, Lee has also demonstrated their vested interest in the success of the organization, having participated in (and led) committees, advocacy programs, and conferences during their time in the AIAS. Lee recognizes and appreciates the benefits of the national organization and goes above and beyond to increase chapter membership every year. This year, they singlehandedly organized a group of students to send to FORUM and increased our chapter's membership in the process. This heavy involvement and passion for the national organization is widely recognized on our campus, and Lee has been commended for their extracurricular involvement on the national level. I cannot imagine a more perfect fit for a National Board position.

I am confident that Lee would excel if elected as National Secretary/Treasurer. Lee's leadership background and their genuine dedication to the success of both the local and national organization make them a great fit for the role.

Thank you for considering Lee for the role of National Secretary/Treasurer. I wholeheartedly recommend them for the position and am excited to see them take on more leadership within the organization. Please feel free to reach out if you need any more information.

Best,  
Ritika Iyer, AIAS  
Northeastern University AIAS Chapter President  
Candidate for B.S. Architecture, 2024  
[iyer.ri@northeastern.edu](mailto:iyer.ri@northeastern.edu)





# 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 want to leverage our position as a student-run organization.**

AIAS is a student organization with strategic plans reflecting the changemaking demands of its young member group which interfaces with a number of more stagnant established professional organizations. Being a leader at this level is not an everyday opportunity, and I hope to help us positively influence our non-student allied organizations alongside NOMAS.

**I want to pass on the mentorship torch.**

I have made lifelong connections with people in this club, and I want to continue to interact with and continue their legacy serving in a leadership role. I've been a mentee since the ripe age of three years old, and a mentor since fifth grade; these are values I hold incredibly dear to me and I believe AIAS has done an excellent job in continuing this framework, formally and informally. My current leaders' dedication to the organization, as well as the "it's your turn now" shoulder-tapping culture our current NEQD Jordan mentions in her own 2023 candidate questionnaire, is something that I've benefited from immensely, and, if elected, want to continue. Working on larger goals is key to long term change, but so is a positive, inclusive culture in the profession.

**I feel empowered and able to collaboratively make change here.**

I make great effort to show up as my most authentic self to everything I do. Everyone in AIAS has accepted me for all that I am and bring to the table; that mutual respect and acceptance of our organization's shortcomings is what leads me to believe I can make change here. I believe no one issue operates in isolation from the rest, and the most underserved members of this organization are disproportionately likely to be impacted by all of the shortcomings of the organization. It is for these reasons that I think the way I am best equipped to advocate for the advancement of equity is through advocating for change in our LTCP/school curricula, in our mental health practices.

## 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?

**I want us to question the status quo.**

Though there are advantages to being such an established organization, I believe the AIAS should be striving to more consistently and more frequently decolonize the frameworks we operate within. As a white person, I believe it is essential to uplift and center more diverse voices and I want this organization to act as an accomplice for all that have historically been underserved by AIAS. I believe that we can create change by voicing our concerns for the future as it pertains to climate change initiatives, increasing diversity of architects and improving architectural education to be less Eurocentric and to prioritize the creation of equitable space. As treasurer, I will also work with our board and Executive Director to question how and where we invest our money so that our actions align with our values.

### **AIAS can build more robust bridges.**

I know we're not engineers, but metaphorically speaking AIAS has allowed me to advocate for my peers in a number of ways and I want to build on this strength and continue to improve our relationship with NOMAS. Aligning our goals by putting our heads and wallets together will enable us to unite and leverage our collective bargaining power. As chair of the Finance committee, I'd increase financial literacy resources for all AIAS members and encourage collaboration with local NOMAS chapters, too.

### **We need to put AIAS' accessibility and wellbeing first.**

This isn't just the wellness task force talking: I believe AIAS leaders are some of the most kind and constructive people I've met in architecture *and* they are also some of the most burned out and tired people. I want that to stop being an expectation going forwards. Providing healthier norms can make the AIAS more accessible to people who are already under stress outside of their schooling. Another element of accessibility is that I want to make the AIAS' events and online presence more physically accessible as well. Through advocating for better mobility aid resources during conferences as well as making our instagram posts more accessible for people with vision or hearing related access needs. Financial Access is also essential, but I'll touch on that in question 5.

## **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 is my priority.**

I believe firmly and resolutely that any group of people are only as strong as our weakest link, and AIAS is no exception. I want everyone who enters into the field of architecture to face as few obstacles as possible, but that starts with making the field accessible to BIPOC, to disabled people, to people of all genders, income levels, religions, and individuals of any other marginalized identity groups. Once in the field, I want promotion and retention rates to be the same regardless of the above factors or even better supporting the voices of the underserved and promoting them even more than others. I want burnout rates to be decreasing steadily due to better mental health practices and due to better culture in school before entering the workforce.

### **I would make progress by changing the system itself.**

I believe that the best accomplices in creating a more equitable space is the accomplices that actually enacts change, and changing the world overnight isn't realistic. My current priorities are making the work that is already being done more accessible, making events more accessible, and creating a safer environment to have open dialogue about effective changemaking.

## **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?

### **We can better engage and unite by being given a better network to do so.**

One great thing about the AIAS that we should really be appreciating more is the amount of chapter leaders that go above and beyond what is asked of them to create resources for their incoming leadership.



I intend to make these resources more accessible to everyone, both internal and external facing, redesigning the Google Drive™ with clear and easily updatable locations for members to find “how-to”s as incoming presidents or in leadership in general in their chapters. I also want to create a guide for onboarding new leaders with how to access the drive. Drawing from this diverse group, I believe we can also use our resources to quantify the common struggle many of us face with burnout in our individual chapters. My goal would be for a sense of solidarity and also documenting our demands through data.

## 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.

### **I'll embrace the potential to shape the position of Secretary/Treasurer!**

In recent history this position hasn't been a distinct role, so I believe I'm in a unique position to help shape it. I have inquired about documents several times if there was someone managing the drive, or if there was a way to better keep track of information in the organization overall so I see myself helping us add in that structure to the organization. I'm also excited to bring my current experiences of chair to being chair of the Finance committee.

### **I'll advocate for increased access to financial resources for underserved students.**

In an industry that relies heavily on interpersonal connections, AIAS conferences are a great opportunity but are also expensive. As treasurer, I hope to be able to positively influence the allocation of our resources to go towards the most underserved members of the organization. I look forward to applying what I've learned through my own funding efforts because we don't want anyone left behind because of wealth inequities.

### **I'll prioritize the wellbeing of us all.**

From my past positions, I believe I can assist us to strive to promote healthy working habits. Everything I want to do, I want to do in a way that is sustainable, which involves rest and fun and making the most important changes first while being clear about intentions and fostering a supportive working environment. Wellbeing goes hand in hand with the idea that we can't be free until we are all free, and I believe my advocacy in more than just student wellbeing innately shapes my positions in decision making for the benefit of our most vulnerable members.

### **I'll eliminate unnecessary not needed superfluous redundancies that we don't need.**

I'm sure no one likes the feeling of completing a task that they wished someone had already figured out, only to find that someone had already done the work! In my time in AIAS task forces, I've been able to reference our past work yet this information wasn't available to current task force members. I believe having access to the cumulative knowledge of past leaders without them having to compile it manually should be the standard going forward for all roles. I'll also be working to create a qualitative record of student voices, creating a space in the Drive dedicated to student feedback. Feedback from past committees and national directors as well as local chapter leadership roles can aid us all in changemaking and measuring progress.

## 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: Lee Anderson

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: 11/25/2023



## 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: Lee Anderson

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: 11/25/2023

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): Lee Anderson

Chapter: Northeastern University

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Senior Advisor

Email Address: anderson.li@northeastern.edu

Mobile Phone Number: (612)-759-5997

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: \_\_\_\_\_
- o Twitter: @\_\_\_\_\_
- o Instagram: leee.xyz
- o Other: If you Slack me pet photos or your favorite recipe or snack, I'll happily reciprocate :)





Thank you for your  
consideration!