

MARIANO CASCIOTTI

2024-25 CANDIDATE FOR AIAS NORTHEAST QUAD DIRECTOR



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LETTER OF INTENT

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

Elections Chair Cooper

As I sit down to write this letter to you I can't help but think of myself back in my freshmen year. I faced many obstacles and I couldn't picture myself as a fifth-year architecture senior this year, let alone the varied and interesting path that I have come down.

Today I am serving my second term as Vice President at Marywood University and a member of my first committee, the Ethics Committee. It has been a fun-filled learning experience, continually making new friends, and creating new connections throughout the organization and the greater community of architecture. AIAS has become a part of me that I hold dear to my heart. When I joined, I jumped in head first. At that time, little did I know the amount of leadership and responsibility experience I would gain in just one short year. The experience of planning and implementing a quad conference, helping our chapter grow, and creating welcoming environments for all students through events, keeping me problem-solving and growing with each challenge.

Now, as I get ready to enter my third year with the AIAS, culminating my undergrad experience, and getting ready for grad school I am ready to embrace even more. I am humbled to inform you of my intent to run for the 2024-2025 AIAS Northeast Quad Director.

Thank you, Cooper. I hope I have the opportunity to help bring a new perspective and keep helping AIAS move in a direction of success.

Sincerely,

Mariano Casciotti

Mariano Casciotti, AIAS
Marywood University, Vice President

MARIANO CASCIOTTI, AIAS

CONTACT

(607)742-0556

marianocasciotti55@icloud.com

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Architecture
Marywood University
Scranton, Pennsylvania
GPA 3.78
August 2019 – Expected 2024

International Studies Institute
Florence, Italy
Study Abroad
Fall 2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Labella Associates Ithaca, New York
Intern, 40 hours a Week, May 2022 to August 2023

- Conducted site surveys for K-12 campus improvement plans.
- Documented K-12 site survey project data.
- Catalogued existing site plans and office material.
- Created models in Multi-family, K-12, and Small scale projects.
- Participated in editing plans for ADA compliance.
- Facilitated tasks for interns to complete on a scheduled basis.

Target Big Flats, New York
Cashier & Fulfillment, Hours – On-Demand, August 2018 to Present

INTERESTS

- Historical Preservation
- Urban Planning
- Sustainability
- Adaptive Reuse

SKILLS

DESIGN SOFTWARE

- Revit
- Enscape
- Sketchup
- Adobe Photoshop
- Adobe InDesign
- Adobe Illustrator
- Rhinoceros
- AutoCAD

MANUAL

- Hand Drafting
- Sketching
- Model Making

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

American Institute of Architecture Students
Marywood, Vice President, Spring 2022 – Present

- Interdisciplinary networking for school activities and events.
- Coordinated fundraising events.
- Advocated and established events such as “World Architecture Day”

American Institute of Architecture Students
Northeastern Quad Conference, Spring 2023

- Program staff leader
- Coordinated keynote speakers, panelists
- Scheduled and coordinated architectural firm tours

XC, Track & Field
Marywood University, Fall 2019 – Spring 2023

RECOGNITION

○ American Institute of Architecture Northeastern PA,
2023 Scholarship, Portfolio based selection

○ American Institute of Steel Construction,
2023 Scholarship

○ Tau Sigma Delta Marywood University
Inducted Spring 2023

November 13, 2023

Nathan Robey, LEED Green Associate

Marywood University AIAS Chapter President

5th Year Student Council Representative - Architecture

5th Year Bachelor of Architecture Student

ntrobey@m.marywood.edu | nathanrobey62019@gmail.com

443-617-8127

Dear Elections Chair Cooper Moore,

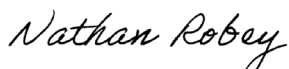
It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Mariano Casciotti for his ambition to be elected as the 2024-2025 Northeast Quad Director. In the 5 years that I have been at Marywood working alongside Mariano, two of which where he has been serving as the vice president for our AIAS chapter, I have only had the pleasure of encountering a handful of students that are as hardworking, dedicated, and passionate as he, in addition to having a character which welcomes all.

When Mariano approached me regarding this letter, I was ecstatic to hear that a member from our chapter would be attempting to be even more involved in what the AIAS is and does. This organization not only leaves an impression on us, but we also leave an impression on it. To be taking the step into a role that would not only support his own growth but that of those we will look after is admirable.

I believe one instance that will speak the greatest about Mariano is when he took that initiative to organize and lead a significant portion of the 2023 Northeast Quad Conference – SP[ARCH]. While the whole process for everyone involved was a learning experience, I can proudly say that without a doubt that Mariano has developed such a set of skills that any organization or employer would be happy to have him on board. Through networking, program development and effective communication, Mariano has done it all and made a significant impact in making the conference as successful as it was. As an individual Mariano is exactly the kind of person that the AIAS can look up to and rely on as well as further the goals and missions of the AIAS to ultimately leave the organization better than when he first joined.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or clarifications regarding my perspective on Mariano. I would be glad to provide any additional insights into Mariano's qualifications and character.

Sincerely,



Nathan Robey, LEED Green Associate



Elizabeth Andrzejewski
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture
Marywood University
Scranton, PA

November 13, 2023

Re: Letter of Support for Mariano Casciotti

To whom it may concern,

My name is Elizabeth Andrzejewski and I am Assistant Professor of Architecture at Marywood University and the Marywood University Chapter of the AIAS faculty advisor. I am delighted to write to you in full support of Mariano Casciotti serving as the Northeastern Quad Director of AIAS in the 2024-2025 term. Mariano has qualities of a great leader and is an essential member of our AIAS Chapter in his role as Vice President. Throughout the planning and execution of the 2023 AIAS Quad Conference SP[ARCH] hosted at Marywood University, Mariano has remained professional, caring, enthusiastic, and genuine when promoting AIAS and events to our student body.

Mariano continually impresses me with his energy and dedication to his role in the AIAS. This is second year serving as our AIAS Vice President. During this time, Mariano has planned and carried out new fundraisers and good will events at our University. He coordinated a successful book sale for University students as a fundraiser for the AIAS. Just this past semester, he spearheaded a new event at our school honoring National Architecture Day. This event saw participation by multiple teams of students from every year level to construct the tallest tower possible out of provided popsicle sticks and tape. During the 2023 AIAS Quad Conference, Mariano organized the programming and speakers for the event. I was impressed by his willingness to step into this role, contact professionals, and organize them for the conference. In addition to his work with AIAS, Mariano is invested in sharing his love of architecture with the next generation. In his work with Architecture in Schools, Mariano developed a lesson plan for the 4th year STEM students at Valley View. The students learned about the building blocks of architecture through the construction of little paper houses, careers related to architecture, landscape, and civil engineering, and finally connected their individual houses together in a city. The Northeastern Quad would be in good hands with Mariano at the helm.

Please accept my enthusiastic support of Mariano Casciotti for the 2024-2025 Northeastern Quad Director of AIAS. Mariano is ambitious, professional, and passionate. If elected, he will work to strengthen the Northeastern Quad. I would be happy to discuss this recommendation with the committee at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth Andrzejewski'.

Elizabeth Andrzejewski

Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, Marywood University

AIAS Faculty Advisor

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?

You can only make so many connections in one place. My love for the AIAS and the reason for running comes through the personal connections made within conferences, Hub hangouts, and other events. When I first entered school I felt like I was trying to capture what it was like to be in college and wanted to get the lay of the land and didn't want to jump right into things. Then having a pause on friendships and connections with Covid I knew I needed more than my single university could provide. I branched out and found a community through AIAS, my experiences have been transformational.

My connections and experiences led me to help organize the Northeast Quad 2023 conference. I am motivated to continue with these connections and therefore seek the position of Northeast Quad Director. The planning of the conference gave me a glimpse of what happened outside of the local level of my school and the local chapter of AIAS. It was these powerful connections to a national community of architecture that have opened doors to a new connected vision for my design. This new vision and wealth of possibilities is exciting and one I want to embrace by seeking a position on the Board of Directors.

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?

Throughout my time with AIAS, I have seen the need for connections and interaction with other students between our conferences and hub hangouts. How do we move forward in a world where people aren't looking at their emails as much and maybe not responding to messages like in Slack or other applications? This in-between space is similar to how universities facilitate student engagement activities. Covid opened the door to different ways to connect and interact with students and colleagues. We can use this to our advantage. I do feel that this comes from an aspect of the hub hangouts being important, but focusing only on the health of the club and not giving students the image that this is also an event that others can come to, not only the officers of their local chapter go. "I'm not supposed to do that" or "I don't go to that" mentality is prevalent around Hub hangouts. We need to break through this attitude, and as a quad Director, or a leader, we stand in a position where we can help bring students together; by facilitating the interactions that have been obstacles in the past and creating modes for change and development. Working together to create new activities, connections between local chapters, and even trying to create connections across the different quads would allow each member to find a special connection to AIAS.

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 and 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?

AIAS does many great things for students. It is easy to be grateful for all AIAS offers to architects in training. However, change will happen and there are ways that we can help serve students in different ways. One area that I would like to see a great emphasis on is practice experience. Internships and other practical experiences are key for moving forward from school into a firm. I envision a national-level initiative, helping chapters create plans with local firms as well as the school to make connections with potential job experiences. The agenda would be to teach how practical experience helps accelerate student learning. An architecture degree can be used in many ways. For example, Jake Day, the keynote speaker for 2023 Grassroots, has an undergraduate degree in architecture. He has used the degree when being Mayor of his hometown, Salisbury, MD, and current Maryland Secretary of Housing. We can help students see how they might graduate with a degree in architecture and how this could help them move forward in different ways. Finally, we can support students to see how different degrees can match up and what jobs are available today for people with a degree in architecture.

4. The AIAS has over 250 chapters across the U.S. and worldwide, 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 serve better Chapter leaders seeking to grow their chapters and connect to other students around the world?

Communication between people is one of the hardest tasks, in the world today we have people communicating in different ways geographically and culturally. Let's look at how our communication between different ethnicities helps build us as people and how in the activities and events we plan. We are thinking of how we are going to work in a way that allows for all people to enjoy and have the same experience; People might not respond or have a hard time getting peers to attend chapter meetings. It is a key component and one has to consistently work at ways to reach others. How do we realize as an overall organization and at the clubs and chapter's levels how to hook students and get them excited for activities? What would be the resources that help out current chapter leaders? Let's take a step back and see what was done in the past. I feel that we could have an archive resource that gives leaders a look at what has worked and not worked in the past to help move us forward. There are a lot of new leaders starting and veteran leaders within our organization, how do we transfer the info from one another to help all of us be successful. I think one of the biggest takeaways for a leader of the Marywood University chapter is learning what grabs the student's attention. We created transparency with everyone on how and why to join AIAS. Many students think that they're just paying a fee and not getting some benefits from it. Recently we organized a tower building competition for the entire school of architecture, approximately 500 students.

QUESTIONNAIRE

We helped engage other classmates with the club, interacting with other students and pushing for a better studio culture, and partnered up with other organizations, (TSD and OMAS). It is to AIAS's advantage when you notice students being in the building and communicating with professors.

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 your primary goals for your one-year term.

When I envision the position of Quad Director, the number one priority is communication with chapters. This seems like a common answer, but I am unique in my approach, as I see this as a need to connect with a new generation of architecture. We need to approach the situation with clear goals, test our attempts, and change quickly when they are not effective.

My focus as Quad Director would be assisting chapters in connecting across chapters. By working with peers who are looking for new ways of reaching out already, but don't have a set path. I would start on a small scale to figure out ways to get practice experience to be helped throughout the quad facilitated through meetings and trying to assist in the creation of school-based plans. Helping with the planning of meetings that give the chapters as much help as needed. Seeing how to work with professors and faculty to create school-wide architecture activities to gain traction and interest in what we do as an organization.

Finally, as the Northeast Quad Director, I hope to create a year filled with fun and connection. My focus will be on kickstarting new events and group hangouts that can become traditions for years to come. I look forward to this new chapter and all of the possibilities I can contribute to the AIAS.



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

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: Mariano Casciotti

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: Mariano Casciotti

Date: 11/29/23



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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: Mariano Casciotti

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: Mariano Casciotti

Date: 11/29/23

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): Mariano Casciotti

Chapter: Marywood University

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): Vice President

Email Address: macasciotti@m.marywood.edu

Mobile Phone Number: (607)742-0556

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

- o Facebook: Mariano Casciotti
- o Twitter: @
- o Instagram: @mari_casciotti @casciotti_studio
- o Other: