



THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

2026-2030

STRATEGIC PLAN

WHAT IS THIS STRATEGIC PLAN?

WHAT IS
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS?



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WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE
2026-2030 **STRATEGIC PLAN**?

The **2026-2030 Strategic Plan** is a member-driven framework that guides the direction of the AIAS in making decisions, strengthening connections across chapters, and supporting the next generation of leaders.



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STRATEGIC PLAN STRUCTURE

MISSION

Why AIAS exists and the difference it strives to make.

VISION

What AIAS aims to become in the future.

VALUES

The core beliefs that guide decision-making for the organization.

AREAS OF INTEREST

The key priorities shaped by member voices and needs.

GOALS

The intended direction within each Area of Interest.

OPPORTUNITIES

The strategies and actions used to pursue each goal.



MISSION & VISION

MISSION

WHAT IS A MISSION STATEMENT?

Why does the AIAS exist? Why does the AIAS matter?

Advancing **leadership, design,** and **service** among architecture students.

VISION

WHAT IS A VISION STATEMENT?

What does the AIAS want to be in the future?

A more **sustainable, healthy,** and **equitable** future through the empowerment of student voices, ideas, and actions.



VALUES

IMPACT

Advocating for positive change that is student-driven and sustainable.

COMMUNITY

Fostering an inclusive network of collaboration and mentorship.

GROWTH

Inspiring students to reach their fullest potential through continuous discovery and opportunity.

PASSION

Elevating student voices and focusing on the current needs and desires of architecture students.

PERSPECTIVE

Bridging the gap between the architecture profession and academia.

BALANCE

Promoting an inclusive culture of belonging, support, and respect.



AREAS OF INTEREST

The **Areas of Interest** reflect experiences, perspectives, and needs of AIAS members. They highlight key opportunities for growth and direction across the organization.

The **Goals and Opportunities** delve deeper into how the organization can translate the **Areas of Interest** into targeted strategies and actionable steps that define how AIAS will operate and deliver value to its membership. Each explanation outlines both a strategic direction and the specific actions required to achieve it.



AREAS OF INTEREST

COMMUNITY & COLLABORATION

Fostering meaningful connections and belonging.

COMMUNICATION

Clear, accessible, and transparent relaying of information.

CHAPTER SUPPORT & STABILITY

Equipping chapters with resources, guidance, and structure.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP

Supporting personal, professional, and leadership growth.

ADVOCACY & REPRESENTATION

Elevating student voices and perspectives.



AREA OF INTEREST:

COMMUNITY & COLLABORATION

Fostering meaningful connections and a sense of belonging through shared experiences, mutual support, and collective engagement.

GOAL

Build a connected and inclusive community where members feel valued, supported, and empowered to contribute.

OPPORTUNITY

Expand possibilities for peer connection, cross-chapter collaboration, mentorship, and mentor engagement.



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AREA OF INTEREST:

COMMUNICATION

Clear, accessible, and transparent sharing of information, resources, and opportunities.

GOAL

Ensure members receive clear, accessible, and relevant information that helps them feel informed, supported, and connected.

OPPORTUNITY

Improve communication systems, increase transparency, and strengthen feedback mechanisms between members, chapters, and leadership.



AREA OF INTEREST:

CHAPTER SUPPORT & STABILITY

Equip chapters with the resources, guidance, and organizational structure needed to operate effectively and sustainably.

GOAL

Promote sustainable chapter growth, operational effectiveness, and leadership continuity.

OPPORTUNITY

Enhance systems of support that strengthen chapter success and organizational resilience.



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AREA OF INTEREST:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP

Supporting members in developing the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary for personal, professional, and leadership growth.

GOAL

Prepare members to lead with confidence, grow as professionals, and succeed in their academic, professional, and community endeavors.

OPPORTUNITY

Support growth through exposure to diverse perspectives, experiences, and networks.



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AREA OF INTEREST:

ADVOCACY & REPRESENTATION

Elevating student perspectives and voices by empowering members to shape conversations that impact architectural education, the profession, and the built environment.

GOAL

Ensure members have meaningful opportunities to influence decisions, contribute ideas, and be represented throughout the organization and profession.

OPPORTUNITY

Increase exposure to pathways that amplify diverse perspectives in organizational and industry discussions.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Thank you to all the members, leaders, and partners who contributed their time, ideas, and passion to shape this plan.