



AN INDEPENDENT, NON-PROFIT, STUDENT-RUN ORGANIZATION

Letter of Intent

To Charlie Klecha, Assoc. AIA, Elections Chair,

The American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) is an independent, 501c3 non-profit, student run organization that has been working for the improvement of the Architectural Education Community for over 50 years. A main goal of the UW-Milwaukee chapter of AIAS is to promote personal development so its members can successfully go on to pursue other ventures.

I am writing this letter of intent in response to the annual call for candidates for the AIAS National Board of Directors which shall take place this year at the Forum Conference in San Francisco, California. Through much thought and careful consideration, I humbly submit this letter for the position of Director of the Midwest Quad.

Sincerely,

President
AIAS at UWM

Po Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201

www.facebook.com/aiasatuwm

Julian DiMaio
President

Rachel Spek
Vice President

Jen Hohol
Treasurer

Cody Schueller
Secretary

Isabella Finney
Events Coordinator

Jiwei Zheng
Freedom By Design

Alex Gordon
SOAP

Alisa Huebner
Graduate Rep.

Jason Skowronski
Senior Class Rep.

Will Rehling
Junior Class Rep.

Jude Mariutto
Sophomore Class Rep.

David Katz
Freshman Class Rep.

Julian DiMaio

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Overview

I am a senior undergraduate architecture student at the School of Architecture + Urban Planning at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, eager to enter the profession of architecture upon graduation. Prior to college and on summer and winter breaks in college, I have interned full-time at two Chicago businesses in the architecture field over the course of three years. During the school year, I remain very involved in my school and the profession through the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) by spending three years on the board, the most recent, as President.

Experience

The American Institute of Architecture Students

Chapter President

May 2015 – Present

The American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) is an independent, nonprofit, student-run organization dedicated to providing unmatched progressive programs, information, and resources on issues critical to architecture and the experience of education. The organization represents the collective voice of architecture students across the U.S., through its chapters. As President and chairman of the board at the UWM chapter, I oversee all operations, internal and external: I conduct weekly board meetings, monthly general membership meetings, initiate chapter events, and act as the spokesperson to AIA Milwaukee and the AIAS National Board.

The American Institute of Architecture Students

Chapter Vice President

May 2014 – May 2015

Hold all of the responsibilities of the President in their absence. Participate in monthly planning meetings with the executive committee on events, tours, workshops, and conferences. Head the student-mentoring programs called MentArch and ArCulture that are apart of AIAS to bridge students with professionals to further immerse themselves into their chosen path.

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

Architect Licensing Advisor

January 2014 – Present

NCARB is a nonprofit corporation whose mission is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by leading the regulation of the practice of architecture through the development and application of standards for licensure and credentialing of architects. The IDP is a comprehensive training program that was created to ensure that interns in the architecture profession gain the knowledge and skills required for the independent practice of architecture. As an architect licensing advisor for my school, I guide and educate my peers through the IDP process and answer any questions regarding NCARB and its changes.

Urban Ecology Center,

Volunteer

February 2014 – May 2014

The Urban Ecology Center is a nonprofit organization in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Their mission is to educate the Milwaukee community about the environment, conservation, sustainability, and other issues related to urban ecology, as well as to preserve and protect the natural areas in the city. Through volunteer efforts that included recycling, river cleanup, grounds maintenance, and papermaking, I was able to see through experience how the human imprint impacts urban ecological efforts.



The American Institute of Architecture Students,

Chapter Secretary

May 2013 – May 2014

As a marketing committee member my freshman year, I transitioned to a board position sophomore year to lead it as Secretary. Managed all aspects of marketing and media including social media and posters. I recorded and distributed minutes of the weekly board meetings.

Rise | ARCADIS, Intern

June 2012 – August 2013

The Rise Group is a renowned Chicago project management firm, which merged with ARACDIS, a global company that provides consultancy, design, engineering, and management services in infrastructure, water, environment, and buildings. I was stationed as a consultant at the Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC) at the Daley Center where I carried out many duties. Work included assisting the Director of Design in E & O analysis, participate in change order meetings with city executives, and manage the organization of the Design Team and project managers for the 2013 School Improvement Program (SIP) directed by the Mayor of Chicago. Work also included site visits and site documentation for city projects.

Chicago Architecture Foundation, Intern

July 2011 – August 2011

Researched, observed, and explored the South Shore neighborhood of Chicago to carefully curate a timeline of architectural landmarks. Designed a series of iterations and constructed a tour center for the historic South Shore neighborhood in Chicago, IL.

Education

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

2012-2016

Bachelor of Science, Architectural Studies (BSAS)

SARUP Paris-Italy Study Abroad Program

Summer 2015

9 credits

Lane Tech College Prep High School

2008-2012

Architecture major



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29 November 2015

Elections Chair
AIAS

Dear Elections Chair,

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Julian DiMaio's election to the position of Director of the AIAS Midwest Quad at FORUM.

Julian DiMaio directs a robust AIAS chapter at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee that supports an active agenda of professional events and activities for its membership. As 2015-16 President of AIAS at UWM, he has taken on a leadership role in established programs that provide mentoring to students from professional architects, professional office visits, and construction site tours. DiMaio is active with regional service as an invited participant in meetings of the AIA Milwaukee Board of Directors and the AIA Wisconsin Board of directors, where he advocates for collaboration between the academy and the profession as well as providing perspective on other pressing student issues. DiMaio demonstrates initiative and leadership as he tailors his tenure in office to respond to the exigencies of his student constituents to participate in the wide-ranging conversation about the environment of rapidly evolving professional standards defining our futures.

DiMaio is curious and motivated. His peers like him, but also respect him for his accomplishments, and interest in their works. I give Julian DiMaio my strongest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Gil Snyder, AIA
Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Architecture

ELECTIONS QUESTIONNAIRE

The Election Questionnaire is for all Officer and Quadrant Director candidates. Please limit your responses to two pages total, and submit responses as a .PDF file, compiled with all other election materials, to the Elections Chair, Charlie Klecha, at CharlieKlecha@aias.org.

1. **Describe your origin story as a student leader.** What prompted you to get involved? What advice would you give others who have yet to realize their potential for leadership?

My story begins when I first toured the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's School of Architecture and Urban Planning as a high school senior. The person showing me around was the future chapter president and was very helpful in my college decision. As a freshman, AIAS had an immense presence at my school and I became involved through the marketing committee, simply to be a helping hand and to have a part in AIAS. It was the end of my freshman year that the current Secretary told me she wanted me to run for her position (since she was graduating). It's something I would have never considered, but sure enough I ran and won. Secretary led to Vice President, and today President. My advice for others is to simply get involved and if you enjoy it then great! And if the call for leadership happens, take the leap.

2. In recent years, the AIAS has increased its efforts in advocacy for architecture students on issues including but not limited to student loan debt, studio culture, intern development, leadership, technology, and diversity. **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 have always found the intern development program as daunting as it is confusing and ever changing. I have had an active NCARB record since I was 17, recording hours under supervision during my internship out of high school. The knowledge I gained from that hands on experience I have brought back to my school and have been NCARB's Architect Licensing Advisor since FORUM Chicago. On the National Board I would continue to advise students about the licensing process while letting them know what their options are based on the kind of work experience and career they want.

3. The AIAS has over 160 chapters across the U.S. and around the world, ranging in size from just a few students to hundreds. 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?

As a chapter leader at my school, one of the hardest skills to fine tune is communication. As Quad Director, I would actively seek open methods to communicate with chapters and their leaders such as social media, email, and google hangouts. Furthermore I would work to develop relationships with the chapters and their leaders so they feel comfortable enough to contact me .

4. Describe one area in which you see an untapped opportunity for the AIAS to engage in a new way, either with other organizations (ASLA, AIGA, etc), with school faculty and administrators, with the profession, or with the international design community.

I think AIAS has a large and collective voice, and we tell our members that. However to be even more nationally recognized, we have to be considered as serious as other pre-professional institutes. I know AIAS has been thinking of combining events with other organizations in the past, and I think collaboration is key. Let people outside or near to our profession know what we are doing and what we are capable of.

**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: _____

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: Julian R DiMaio
Date: _____

**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, Board members and elections committee 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 Elections Committee.

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 Elections Chair.

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: _____

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: Julian R DiMaio

Date: _____

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 Elections Committee 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): _____

Chapter: _____

Chapter Leadership Position (if any): _____

Email Address: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Social Media Account Handles (optional):

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

For me, AIAS has evolved from a supplement to my education to an agent of change.

Julian DiMaio
Midwest Quad Director

School of Architecture & Urban Planning
University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

