SONA President Nomination 2027

About The Institute

The Australian Institute of Architects (The Institute) is the peak body for the architectural profession in Australia, representing more than 14,000 members across Australia and overseas. The Institute works to improve our built environment by promoting quality, responsible and sustainable design, promoting the architectural profession and being the public voice for architecture.

About SONA

The Student Organised for Architecture (SONA) is the official student body of the Australian Institute of Architects. SONA aims to foster a culture of community, leadership and collaboration between students for the advancement of architecture, this is achieved by bringing together students from across Australia to participate in national and local events, to advocate for students and to offer opportunities for professional development.

About the National SONA committee

The national SONA committee comprises the National SONA executive team (3 SONA Vice Presidents) and SONA representatives from each accredited university (approximately 22).

Purpose Of the SONA President Role

In the voluntary role, the SONA President leads the Student Organised Network for Architecture (SONA) National Committee and is a member of the Institute's National Council.

Position Focus:

- Strategic Leadership: Assist in implementing SONA's strategic plan by developing actionable strategies, setting milestones and targets, and overseeing progress toward achieving the SONAs goals.
- Collaborative Leadership: Collaborate closely with the students on the SONA executive and The Institute on national SONA initiatives
- Effective Representation: hold two positions: one on The Institute's National Council (NC) and The Institute's National Education Committee (NEC). Where you will serve as a crucial advocate, representing and communicating the collective voice and interests of students across Australia.

Responsibilities:

- Mentorship and Support: Offer guidance and support to the SONA Executive & SONA representatives, fostering regular communication and check-ins to ensure success.
- SONA Bootcamp Leadership: Collaborate with the SONA Executive team to design and lead the SONA Bootcamp, to welcome new SONA Representatives and provide them with a comprehensive understanding of SONA's goals, values, and upcoming initiatives.
- SONA Representative Engagement: Contribute to the enhancement of strategies for SONA representative engagement. Additionally, provide advice and assistance in developing training and guidance resources for SONA representatives.
- Membership Strategy: Offer a student perspective to The Institute on matters related to membership renewals and recruitment strategies. Work in collaboration with The Institute

to develop messaging and marketing materials that effectively highlight the benefits of joining SONA.

Eligibility

The SONA Representative must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Should have previously held a SONA Vice President role in any year.
- At the time of application and commencement of the role, be a current and financial SONA member.
- At the time of application and commencement of the role, be enrolled to study architecture or a related course.
- You can fulfil this role for a 12-month term commencing in January 2026.
- Willing to dedicate 3-6 hours a week to SONA activities.

A 2-day induction is scheduled for early February 2027. The SONA Exec team will attend in person at the VIC Chapter to facilitate the sessions. For 2027, we are adopting a hybrid format: SONA Reps will gather at their local Chapter to meet local staff and key members in person, joining the SONA Exec team online for the joint induction sessions.

How to apply

SONA Executive positions are nationally elected positions by SONA members. Apply online with your responses to the questions below:

1. What motivates you to seek the role of SONA President, and how do you envision making a positive impact on the student community during your term?
2. As a student of the built environment what issues matter most to you and how would you plan to use this role as a platform to address these?
3. The SONA President inspires students of the built environment through leading by example. How do you plan to foster effective collaboration and teamwork to achieve SONA's objectives?

Applications should declare if they have plans to reside overseas or have applied to reside overseas in the year, they take office.

Apply Now