



Australian
Institute of
Architects

2022 SONA President Elect

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SONA is the student member group of
the Australian Institute of Architects



ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Australian Institute of Architects (The Institute) is the peak body for the architectural profession in Australia, representing more than 12,000 members across Australia and overseas. The Institute works to improve our built environment by prompting quality, responsible and sustainable design, promoting the architectural profession and being the public voice for architecture.

The Institute works on behalf of its members and in the public interest to advocate for the value of the architectural profession and for architecture's contribution to a better-built environment and quality of life. Our work engages with Members, stakeholders, community, and government around a range of important public concerns, including:

1. Fostering thriving cities and regions
2. Housing a diverse and inclusive community
3. Improving building regulation
4. Addressing climate change
5. Capitalising on creativity
6. Supporting Australian skills and trade

Members are the core of what the Institute represents and the work it does. Support for Members and their contribution to a better-built environment informs the Institute's strategic plan, its advocacy efforts, its communications, its practice tools and professional development opportunities, its offerings to emerging practitioners and its support for the next generation of architects. 'Members first' is the lens through which all Institute decisions are made.

OUR VISION

Everyone benefits from good architecture.

OUR PURPOSE

To demonstrate the value of architecture and support the profession.

OUR STRATEGY

- Respected Leadership
- Advocacy with Impact
- Deliver Member Value
- Strong and Viable Institute

OUR VALUES

- One Community – embracing diversity and open communication
- Innovation – demonstrating leadership with courage and creativity
- Accountability – acting with integrity, responsibility, and sustainability
- Respect – relating with empathy and recognition for effort
- Collaboration – working together, with trust and transparency



SONA PRESIDENT ELECT / CO-PRESIDENT ELECT*

The SONA Co-President Elect is an optional position that is open to no more than two students. Should there be a Co-President Elect arrangement, it is expected the roles and the responsibilities outlined below are shared equally. How these duties are shared is to be consulted and agreed upon by the SONA Co-Presidents.

Where two eligible applicants agree to apply for the SONA Co-President Elect role together, it follows that these applicants will progress together to share the SONA Co-President role and Immediate Past SONA President role.

TERM OF APPOINTMENT

One calendar year. Official handover taking place in January.

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The SONA President Elect assists with leading the Student Organised Network for Architecture (SONA) National Committee. It follows that the SONA President Elect will progress to the SONA President role and Immediate Past SONA President role.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The SONA President must meet the following requirements:

- At the time of application and commencement of the role be a current and financial SONA member.
- Must have at least one year experience as a SONA Representative
- willing to dedicate on average 4-6 hours a week where needed to the program

ACCOUNTABILITIES

The SONA President Elect represents the interests of students by:

Advocating for students on National Institute Committees and Working Groups,

- SONA President Elect may be invited to participate to represent SONA on National Council or on other Institute working groups should special projects/initiatives arise.

Nurturing productive local level committees and facilitating cross pollination of ideas, resources, education, and energy nationally

- Assist the SONA President with preparing the agenda for National SONA Committee meetings. National SONA Committee meetings typically occur virtually every 2 weeks. Expected time commitment is 1 hour per meeting.
- Assist with planning and facilitating the SONA induction meetings for incoming SONA representatives.
- Provide advice, support and leadership to SONA Executive and SONA Representatives.



Leading from the front

- Upholding and promoting the Institute's values and culture and encouraging fellow SONA Members to do the same.
- Actively working on behalf of SONA Members to identify and respond to issues aligned to the Institute's strategy and policy.
- Promoting open and collegial communications between SONA Members, the National SONA Committee and Institute staff.
- guiding SONA's theme; national programs and—in collaboration with the SONA executive leadership team and the Institute staff—the implementation of SONA's strategic plan.

Fostering positive Relationships

- Working collaboratively with the Institute staff in an advisory role to assist with developing relevant and engaging programs and initiatives for students.
- Be mentored by the SONA President, slowly transitioning into the SONA President role throughout the year.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Institute places a high value on open, clear, collegial, and cooperative communications at all times. The SONA Vice President Competitions and Events is expected to work closely with others, as a unified Institute, advancing the collective interests of the Membership.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Please use the 'APPLY NOW' Button below to submit your nomination.

You will be asked to submit responses to the below questions to form your platform statement. Once eligibility is confirmed platform statements will be shared via the SONA website.

Candidates for the Exec positions are required to participate in a candidate Q&A session. This will be a virtual session open to all SONA members, candidates have an opportunity to address SONA members and participate in the Q&A with the SONA President.

SONA members nationally will vote for their preferred candidate. Positions are decided by the first-past-the-post voting system. the candidate with the plurality of votes is the winner of the position.

- SONA aims to advance the interests of students of architecture and the built environment, their education and the architecture profession as a whole through the promotion of student work and thinking. What will you bring to this role in achieving the aims of SONA?
- 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?
- The SONA President Elect inspires students of the built environment through leading by example and being actively involved around the country ensuring the SONA voice is heard. Why do you think you would be a good fit for this role?

APPLY NOW