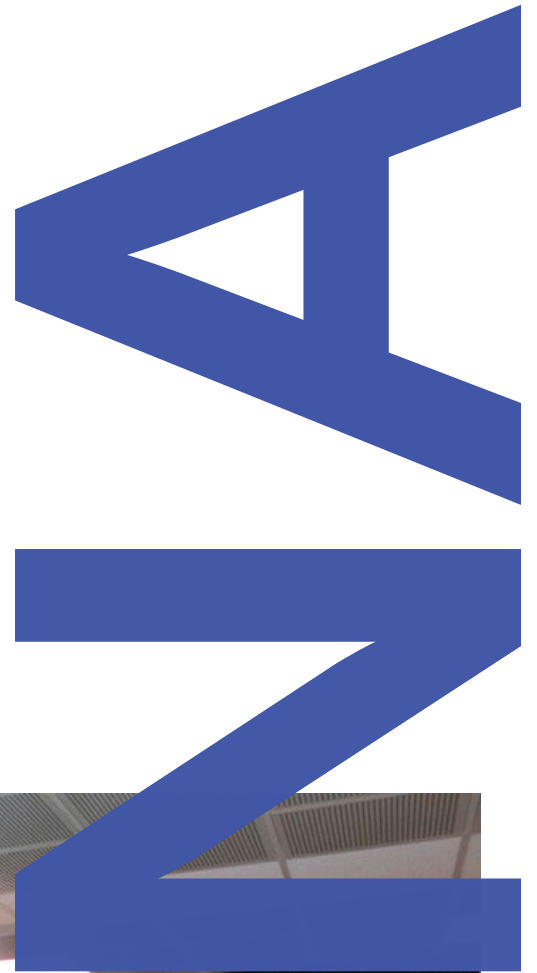


Australian
Institute of
Architects

2022 SONA President Role Description



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

Should there be a Co-President 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.

TERM OF APPOINTMENT

One calendar year. Official handover taking place in January.

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The SONA President leads the Student Organised Network for Architecture (SONA) National Committee and is a member of the Institute's National Council. The SONA President effectively communicates and advocates on behalf of students across Australia.

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.
- Previously held a SONA Vice President role.
- Must not have previously held a role as SONA president.
- willing to dedicate 4-10 hours a week where needed to the program

ACCOUNTABILITIES

The SONA President represents the interests of students by:

Advocating for students on National Council

- SONA President is required to participate in National Council meetings to ensure key needs, interests and concerns of this demographic may be considered and addressed.
- SONA President is required to prepare a written report for National Council meetings. National Council meetings are typically virtual and will be scheduled 4 times a year, with the potential for one face to face meeting, (interstate travel may be required, these meetings are typically of two days duration). Expected time commitment for the virtual meetings is approx. 4-5 hours per meeting. From time to time, additional National Council meetings may be convened to discuss issues outside of the regular meeting schedule.
- SONA President may be required to participate in National Council Working Groups in addition to standard National Council duties. These working groups will typically meet every two weeks for the duration of their operation. Expected time commitment for the virtual meetings is approx. 2 hours per meeting.



- SONA President is also required to respond to Circular Resolutions from National Council in a timely manner.

Advocating for students on National Institute Committees and working Groups,

- SONA president is required to participate on the National Education Committee.
- National Education Committee meetings are typically scheduled to meet 2-3 times a year, expected time commitment for the virtual meetings is 3-4 hours approx.
- The SONA President may be invited to participate to represent SONA in 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

- SONA President prepares the agenda and chairs the National SONA Committee meetings. National SONA Committee meetings typically occur virtually every 2 weeks. Expected time commitment is 1 hour per meeting.
- SONA President prepares the agenda and chairs the National SONA committee mid-year meeting. National SONA Committee midyear meeting typically occurs virtually once per year. Expected time commitment is 1 full day.
- With support from the Institute, plan and facilitate the SONA induction meetings for incoming SONA representatives

Representing SONA as a jury member for national Institute prizes and awards

- SONA President is required to participate as a jury member for the Student Advancement of Architecture Prize (2 hours commitment) and The Education Prize
- SONA President is also invited to participate as a jury member for the Paula Whitman Gender Equity Prize (3 hours commitment).

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



- SONA President will be guided by the Immediate Past SONA President, be mentored by the National EmAGN President, encouraging stronger partnership and collaboration between the SONA + EmAGN branches of The Institute.
- SONA President will be a mentor to the SONA President Elect, slowly introducing the responsibilities of the role throughout the year.
- Working collaboratively with the Institute staff in an advisory role to assist with developing relevant and engaging programs and initiatives for students.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

