

Sustainability Action Plan Project with Master of Architectural Science students at the University of Sydney

What

The AIA and University of Sydney is looking for small to medium-sized practices to participate in a project to develop Sustainability Action Plans between March and May 2023.

Background

We realise many practices want to develop sustainability action plans but have not yet managed to do so. At the same time, students of sustainable design need to understand the challenges practices face when implementing sustainable design. This project will help advance your practice's ambitions for sustainability and enable students and practices to share knowledge. Students are all at masters level, in the final stage of their program and specialising in sustainable design. The unit coordinator, Daniel Ryan is also a member of the AIA NSW Chapter Sustainability Working Group.

Structure

We are looking to pair up groups of students with practices to help advance sustainability action plans. The project forms part of the capstone unit, Sustainable Building Design Practice, in the Master of Architectural Science (Sustainable Design) at the University of Sydney. Students are informed by the Australian Architects Declare approach to developing Sustainability Action Plans.

1. Students will work with the practice in the first phase in March to undertake a best practices review and help develop an in-house workshop looking at the firm's values and goals, design process, standards, structure and challenges.
2. In the second phase in April and May, students will work with the practice to undertake a review of one of the following areas: Design & Approach, Evaluation & Reporting, Outreach & Advocacy, Training or Operations & Outlook.

Timing and Outcomes

Phase 1

- Briefing & pairing up student pairs with practices at USyd or via zoom: Friday 03 March 2023 3pm-4pm
- First meeting with students in office or via zoom: Friday 10 March 1pm-2pm or TBD
- In-house workshop in office or via zoom: Friday 31 March 1pm-2pm or beforehand
- Students submit first phase report: 05 April 2023

Phase 2

- Students to meet with practices twice to undertake a review:
- Meeting 01 in office/zoom: Friday 28 April 4-5pm or TBD
- Meeting 02 in office/zoom: Friday 05 April or TBD
- Student presentation of findings at University of Sydney: 19 May 3-5pm
- Students submit second phase report: 10 June 2023

Outcome:

- Students will produce two reports and develop 1 workshop.
- The reports will be uploaded to the university's learning management system and students will share a copy of the report with the practice.
- We may publish a project summary which practices will have the right of review.

Confidentiality: We ask practices to brief students on their confidentiality requirements.

Contact

If interested, please contact the program director of the Master of Architectural Science, Daniel Ryan by 24 February 2023

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