May 2025

Report

from the Strategic Council

From:
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To:
AIA Michigan

Mission: *The AIA Strategic Council advances the architectural profession by informing the AIA Board and other Institute bodies about important professional issues, opportunities, and threats. The Council has an outward and forward-focused vision with an emphasis on long-term goals and outcomes.*

What Does the Strategic Council Do? *To learn more about the role and activities of the Strategic Council, click HERE.*

From the Councilor

Architect of the Future Video

Architect of the Future Survey

Please check out the work of my study group using the QR codes above. The first is a thought-provoking video interview with imagined future architects, and the second is a survey to gather your thoughts on architects of the future.

The Strategic Council is focused on wrapping up study group efforts and engagement activities at AIA25. Starting in August, study groups will begin sharing internally the initial findings and reports from their efforts. Input from the full Council and coordination across groups will be integrated in the final reports.

I'll offer another reminder that this is the last year of my three-year term serving as AIA Michigan's Strategic Councilor. Later this year, the next Michigan Strategic Councilor will be determined. If you are interested in understanding more about serving on Strategic Council, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

I will be in Boston for AIA25. Strategic Council members present at the Annual Meeting serve as Delegate-at-Large, with a single vote. If you would like to share your thoughts on any of the candidates, proposed resolutions or bylaws amendments, please reach out.

Patty Boyle, AIA

From the Moderator + Vice Moderator

We are looking forward to our in-person meeting at AIA25 and Annual Business Meeting where voting will occur on the Council sponsored AI resolution.

As a reminder, we hope to see you **on Friday 6/6 at 11am ET at the AIA booth**. Study groups are preparing insightful discussion topics for your input. All are welcome to attend – no registration is required.

We are excited to share that we have Strategic Councilors participating on the recently appointed AI Task Force and AIA Strategic Plan Committee, and that applications for At Large Representatives to the Strategic Council can be submitted through the AIA Call for Volunteers by 6/16/25. More information on AIA25 and the Call for Volunteers can be found below in the Institute News portion.

Councilors featured on AIA Architect include Shannon Christensen, FAIA with "Building philanthropy into your firm's plan for growth' and Rex Cabaniss, AIA with " Architects can strengthen their communities through strategic volunteering.' Be sure to check them out!

Study groups are continuing to refine their efforts and our internal report-outs have been scheduled for August through September, 2025. Stay tuned!

Jessica M. O'Donnell, AIA 2025 Moderator + **Abigail R. Brown**, FAIA 2025 Vice Moderator
*Special thanks to our **committee chairs** who help guide our work and inform our decision-making process: **Jeff Seabold**, **FAIA** (Best Practices Committee Chair), **Mary Womble**, **AIA & Marc Mondor, AIA** (Communications **Co-**Chair**s**), **and Mike Daly**, AIA (Elections Chair).*

Council News

STUDY GROUP UPDATES

AIA OF THE FUTURE

This group is synthesizing and assessing the data from their SWOT study and will start digging into discussions on guiderails to help define 'broadening the umbrella' in the coming weeks.

ARCHITECT OF THE FUTURE

With their persona exercise completed, this study group is now focusing on crafting a 'common persona' that will inform their next efforts.

CLIMATE RESPONSIVE DESIGN & LEADERSHIP

ENHANCE YOUR SUSTAIN-ABILITIES this May with 'Why Energy Codes."

Link to the PDF can be found here.

Future topics under consideration include Resiliency, Circularity, and Adaptive Reuse.

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

The subgroups have identified a common theme revolving around the Chief Architect Initiative and will be conducting additional explorations on different housing initiatives as well as how technology can help / hinder community connectivity.

DIGITAL ARCHITECTURE

The three sub groups are continuing their research into the impact of AI on business practices, equity between large and small firms and resource availability, and wellbeing both in practice and how AI is impacting the environment and how this is connecting between a couple other study groups. AI Resolution outreach is also underway.

RESILIENT PRACTICE MODELS

This group is coordinating efforts with the AIA Research department and continuing their exploration of external pressures, internal pressures, and professional pressures on practice. An additional layer to their research is looking into the impact of the recent executive orders on practice.

10-YEAR VALUATION & FUTURE BLUEPRINT

The group is working through their series of interviews, which are slated to wrap up this month. The coming weeks will be focused on analysis of that information to inform next steps.

Institute News

AIA25 – CONFERENCE ON ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The AIA Annual Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 from 1:30-3:30pm to consider amendments to AIA Bylaws and resolutions and candidates for national leadership positions.

- The AIA official delegate booklet is now available and contains important information for all accredited delegates to the AIA Annual meeting.
- One resolution will be discussed during the AIA Annual Meeting. The AIA Strategic Council sponsors the AIA Artificial Intelligence Policy Resolution, which aims to prepare AIA members for the evolving landscape of artificial intelligence (AI) by establishing clear policies and promoting the responsible adoption of AI technologies. More information can be found on Pages 14 and 15 in the AIA official delegate booklet.
- Eight members have declared their intent to pursue the offices of At-large Director, Treasurer, or President-elect .The candidate information can be found in the AIA official delegate booklet starting on Page 20, and their videos can be found on the AIA YouTube page found here.

GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE UPDATE

The Governance Task Force has released its recap memo from its second meeting. This has been distributed to various AIA Community Hubs, including CACE and AIA Leadership Network. The next major milestone is a series of stakeholder interviews to be conducted in collaboration with governance consultants from McKinley Advisors. These interviews will ensure a diversity of perspectives – across geography, career stage, and member type – are incorporated into the assessment. If you have any questions, please direct them to boardofdirectors@aia.org.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2025 – CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Women's Leadership Summit 2025 will be from November 3-5, 2025, in Atlanta, GA. The Call for Proposals is now open until June 6, 2025. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals for CE

sessions that explore visionary leadership, professional growth, and transforming the future, as well as proposals for guided walking tours and wellness activities. More information can be found here.

AIA CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Explore AIA volunteer opportunities—a great way to support the work and shape the future of the architecture profession, develop and grow leadership skills, and help advance AIA's mission. Volunteer opportunities range from short-term to long-term roles at both the state and national levels.

The call for volunteer applications is now open until June 16, 2025. More information can be found here.

Upcoming events

Date	Event	Location	Link
June 4-7	AIA Conference on Architecture & Design 2025	Boston, MA	Registration
July 16-17	Architects in Action	Virtual	
November 3-5	Women's Leadership Summit	Atlanta, GA	
December 3-5	AIA Governance Week	Washington, D.C.	

For more events, visit the AIA events page at: https://www.aia.org/community/events

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Feedback

We value your input! If you have questions or ideas for the Strategic Council, email us at StrategicCouncil@aia.org.
To learn more about the work of the Strategic Council, please visit the Strategic Council webpage at AIA.org.
