



The American Institute of Architects

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Hello All –

Happy New Year! I'm looking forward to returning as your 2020 Associate Director for AIA Michigan. I know we are going to have another great year here in Michigan for associates, and all members alike. Since we last spoke, I have returned from representing Michigan at the National Associates Conference (NAC) in Austin, TX. Below I have outline some of the key points and takeaways in order to keep us all on the same page.

The NAC was a great success and allowed us to make some meaningful connections with other RADs from around the country. I am happy to announce that Michigan has opted to return to the Future Practice NAC committee - now called Innovation and Influence - to look at means to increase diversity and equity in our profession, in addition to highlighting the importance of architecture as a profession as we move towards 2030. This year the workgroup will also focus on emerging technology that associates are encountering in the workplace, and the role this may play in practice going forward. We are currently drafting proposals and will be reconvening in a month to discuss desired outcomes – stay tuned!

On a state level, I am meeting with our excellent AIAMI team to start planning a series of ARE events – including workshops and study sessions. As in last year, we look to offer events throughout the year that will be cost-effective, offer practical advice from recently successful licensure candidates and cover all portions of the exams in digestible portions. More information with regards to dates, cost and locations will be sent out shortly.

In closing, it looks like it is going to be an exciting second year with you! I look forward to taking the experience I gained last year, and working towards serving all our associates even better this year. I ask that you please feel free to reach out with me with any questions or concerns that you might have. I look forward to acting as your conduit to the state board, and wish everyone a happy and healthy year!

Christopher Stefani, Associate AIA