



August 22, 2024

Report

from the Strategic Council

From:

Jason DeMarco, AIA
Strategic Councilor, AIA Hawaii
jason@polyline.design

To:

AIA Hawaii, AIA Maui, AIA Honolulu
August Board Meeting

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](#).*

Council News

FROM THE MODERATOR + VICE MODERATOR

The Council conducted elections for the 2025 Moderator and one Director At-Large to the Board were completed last month – please see below for full results. We extend our congratulations to those elected and look forward to their leadership in the year ahead. Thank you to all the candidates who participated in the Council elections process for their commitment and service to the AIA.

During July, the study groups continued their work on the five study areas. The Climate group presented their findings about ***Climate Action Water and Equity: Challenging the Global Water Crisis Through Design***. A synopsis of their findings is included in this report.

The Best Practices Committee and Communications Subcommittee continue working on ways to share the Council's efforts with the broader AIA community, via the Monthly Reports and Social Media posts.

As a reminder, please share any questions for the AIA Board of Directors. Questions may come from Council state and local constituents or from the councilor directly. Questions and feedback will be shared with the Board as part of our monthly Council reports.

Graciela Carrillo, AIA 2024 Moderator + Josh Flowers, FAIA 2024 Vice Moderator

Special thanks to our Steering Committee members who help guide our work and inform our decision-making process: Brad Benjamin, AIA (Best Practices Committee Chair), Alyssa Murphy, AIA (Communications Chair), Bruce Herrington, AIA (Elections Chair).

COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Jessica O'Donnell, AIA, a current At-Large representative on the Council, has been elected as Strategic Council Moderator for 2025. Jessica selected **Abigail Brown, FAIA**, as the 2025 Vice Moderator. Abigail is the Washington, D.C. representative on the Council.

The Council also elects one At-Large Director to the AIA Board of Directors each year. The Elections Subcommittee received three nominations, and the Council has elected **Graciela Carrillo, AIA**, as a 2025-2027 Director At-Large to the Board.

CLIMATE ACTION STUDY GROUP REPORT: WATER

On August 5 the Climate Action: Water working group presented to the larger Strategic Council. The working group has been meeting regularly to finalize research and documentation and developed several questions to be discussed in breakout groups during the presentation. The intent was to engage the full Council perspective to inform the final report and possibly direct future working groups. Key takeaways from this working group are that architects can take a stronger leadership role in addressing water scarcity in our designs and advocating for policy changes.

Institute News

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Registration is now open for the [Women's Leadership Summit](#). This year it will be held October 8-10 in Chicago.

2025 AIA AWARDS

Submissions are currently open for the 2025 AIA/ACSA Topaz Medallion for Architectural Education, Architecture Firm Award, Edward C. Kemper Award, Fellowship, Gold Medal, Honorary Fellowship, and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award. Many other awards open on September 2nd. View all award opportunities [here](#).

Upcoming events

Date	Event	Location	Link
October 8-10, 2024	Women's Leadership Summit	Chicago	Registration

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

Feedback

We value input! If you have questions or ideas for the Strategic Council, reach out to us at StrategicCouncil@aia.org. To learn more about the work of the Strategic Council, please visit the [Strategic Council webpage at AIA.org](#).