



For 2019 AIA Rhode Island Board of Directors

Following candidates have been nominated by the 2018 Board:

Officers

Vice President/ President-elect

Jonathan M. Taylor, AIA (2019)

Secretary

Nick Koulbanis, AIA (2019-2020)

Directors

Directors at-large

Kara Babcock, AIA (2019-2020)

Jonathan Bell, AIA (2019-2020)

Mark Hallee, AIA (2019-2020)



Jonathan Matthew Taylor, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP

Vice President/President-elect (2019)

Jonathan is an Associate at LLB Architects in Pawtucket RI; he is a senior project manager, and the firm's Director of Design Implementation. He is licensed to practice architecture in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, is NCARB certified, and is LEED accredited. Current projects include he Creative Class in Fall River, MA, renovations at Bryant University's Unistructure Building, and residence renovations at Brown University.

He has over 16 years of extensive experience in planning for governmental and institutional clients, including courthouses, office buildings, and academic facilities. He is a successful coordinator of both small and large scale, complex projects and programs, managing them through construction contract administration until completion, close-out and occupancy.

Jonathan graduated from Syracuse University with a BArch, and a minor in architecture history. While at Syracuse, he was actively engaged in the University Senate, Student Government, and was a founding member of the Syracuse Community Design Center. Jonathan worked for George Hodosh Architects (New City, New York) while at Syracuse, and Gorman Richardson Architects (Hopkinton, Massachusetts), the immediate year after graduation.

Prior to joining LLB Architects, Jonathan practiced in Boston at Goody Clancy. Clients included: Babson College, Bridgewater State College, Georgetown University, Harvard University, Yale University, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the General Services Administration. Federal projects with the G.S.A. included work on the St. Elizabeths Campus for U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, and most notably a seven-year role managing the award-winning \$160 million-dollar renovation/restoration of Cram and Ferguson's 1932 John W. McCormack (POCH) Building, Boston. Federal tenants of the POCH included U.S. Dept. of Education, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Bankruptcy Courts.

Jonathan has been a member of the AIA since 2000, and an active member at the chapter level, through both the Boston Society of Architects/AIA, and AIA Rhode Island, and at the regional and national levels in numerous roles. He is an inaugural recipient of the AIA Associates Award (2008), and was awarded Richard Upjohn Fellowship (2012) for service on the AIA Board of Directors. He joined the AIA Rhode Island Board in 2014 as a Director and was the 2017-2018 Secretary. Jonathan is also active with the Syracuse University Alumni Association, and SU Student Association/Government alumni group.

He and his wife Kelly L. Swan Taylor, Esq. reside in Providence, with their spoiled cats: Otto & Kona.

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Nick Koulbanis, AIA, LEED AP
Secretary (2019-2020)

Nick is a senior associate and leader in the Higher Education Studio at SMMA. He joined SMMA in 2017, bringing over 16 years of experience in the Higher Education, Life Science, Healthcare, and Medical Simulation sectors. Prior to joining SMMA, Nick led Tsoi/Kobus & Associates' national Higher Education studio, leading the design and programming of a number of projects across the country as well as several projects for area institutions which include the design of The Center for Culinary Excellence for Johnson & Wales University as well as the newly completed South Street Landing and Rhode Island Nursing Education Center, a joint medical simulation project for Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island's nursing programs in the old Narragansett Electric Power Station.

Nick has done extensive research, writing, and presenting on active learning pedagogy and has also spoken at a number of leading conferences including the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) in New York City last March.

Nick graduated from Roger Williams University School of Architecture in 2001 earning a Bachelor of Architecture Degree as well as a Construction Management Minor. He is licensed to practice architecture and a LEED accredited professional. Nick's research has led to the incorporation of a number of innovative Sustainable Strategies into his projects as well as creating designs that are a model for Resiliency. In addition to his professional work, Nick is an active member of The Boston Society of Architects and The Society for College and University Planning.

Nick was born in Westerly, Rhode Island where he still maintains a residence and enjoys his time in South County with his 2 children.

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Kara Babcock, AIA
Director (2019-2020)

Since joining Union Studio in 2010, Kara has provided her expertise on a variety of project types, including the new Tiverton Public Library, the adaptive reuse of an historic courthouse in Bennington, VT, and as team leader for a winning competition for workforce housing on Cape Cod.

She was recently involved in a research project focused on the effects of sea level rise in historic neighborhoods. Working closely with a small team to research sea level rise in the historic Point Neighborhood of Newport, they proposed short-term, mid-term and long-term solutions which the City could begin to implement to protect and preserve the historic architecture.

Kara is currently serving as the project architect for the Hammetts Wharf hotel in downtown Newport, RI. With her background in both architecture and fine arts, Kara takes great pride in the design aesthetics of a building, working closely with large project teams to shepherd a design from concept through to completion.

Prior to joining Union Studio, she interned for a healthcare design firm in Maryland, and she worked as a consultant to a Rhode Island-based architectural firm focused on residential projects.

Kara received both Bachelor and Master of Architecture degrees from Roger Williams University. She frequently returns to her alma mater to serve as a guest critic at architectural studio design reviews. She also spent time as an ACE mentor when she first joined Union Studio. Most recently, she was accepted into and completed the DESIGNxRI Fall 2017 Design Forward Advance program.

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Jonathan Bell, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP

Director (2019-2020)

Jonathan is an architect and educator who has practiced in Rhode Island since 2000. Jonathan believes that architecture is a collaborative, social art, and that quality design should exemplify our cultural goals.

Jonathan and Ian Baldwin are the principals at DUAL, an architecture studio in downtown Providence founded in 2015. DUAL's project portfolio ranges from single-family residential renovations to adaptive reuse of large industrial buildings.

Prior to co-founding DUAL, Jonathan worked in several offices in Rhode Island and New York, completing projects for individuals, universities and mission-oriented nonprofits.

A native of Wooster, Ohio, Jonathan has a B.A. from Wesleyan University and an M.Arch. from Princeton University. Jonathan is a registered architect in Rhode Island, a member of the AIA Rhode Island chapter, holds an NCARB certificate, and is a LEED Accredited Professional. He also serves as Vice President for Buildings and Grounds on the board of the Providence Athenaeum Library. He teaches in the Interior Architecture Department at the Rhode Island School of Design and has taught at Roger Williams University. His research includes publications on infrastructural reuse and film theory.

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Mark Hallee, AIA, NCARB

Director (2019-2020)

With over 20 years of experience in architecture, Mark has helped shape multiple award-winning projects around New England. His experience has included a diverse collection of significant projects at both large and small scales focusing on meticulous, detailed design work. Mark brings a tremendous amount of passion and enthusiasm to every project. He is thoughtful, responsive and hard working with an eagerness to create great architecture.

After graduating from Roger Williams University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Architecture, Mark's work has been focused around institutional, educational and commercial projects with additional residential expertise in multi-family housing. It has included a range of project phases and types, including master planning, new construction, additions & renovations, adaptive reuse, historic restoration. His experience has encompassed all phases of the design process, from early conceptual studies to complicated construction administration and everything in between.

Mark has had the great fortune of working for fantastic firms over the years starting out with a residential design build firm in Vermont, Williams & Freese. This was followed by several years at HMFH Architects in Cambridge concentrating on K-12 educational work and was highlighted by the Beaver Country Day School Performing Arts Center which received various accolades including the Excellence in K-12 Educational Facilities Award from the BSA. More recent experience was as a Senior Associate at LLB Architects in Rhode Island. The URI Hillside Residence Hall project was a notable accomplishment which was given the 2012 AIA RI award for Best Institutional Building Design.

In 2016, Mark founded the company Up Architecture and is actively in search of unique / special architectural opportunities. Mark is NCARB certified and holds registrations in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. He has been a member of the AIA since 2004. Mark is originally from Maine, but has lived in Providence for the past 14 years with his wife (also an architect) and their 9 year old son (who wants to be an architect...) When not obsessing about buildings, Mark enjoys seeing the world and spending time with friends & family.

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Jonathan Bell, AIA (2019-2020)

Mark Hallee, AIA (2019-2020)

Paul Hauser, AIA (2018-2019)

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