



Australian  
Institute of  
Architects



Student Organised Network for Architecture

2018

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***'SONA represents the future,  
and through the promotion  
of students aims to develop  
a culture of leadership and  
community for the advancement  
of Australian architecture'***

### **position description**

position title

(University Name) SONA Representative

position focus

To deliver relevant and engaging services to local SONA members and students across Australia. To encourage a student studio culture, of critique and camaraderie. To intensify student's university study and social experiences, providing opportunities for professional networking + career development.

To provide a student perspective to Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute) committees and focus groups. To advocate for student talent through publications, competitions + prizes.

### **relationships**

This position reports to SONA Executive, consisting of the SONA President and the SONA Vice Presidents.

There is significant contact with the National Manager of Emerging Professionals and the Emerging Professional Administration Assistant at the Institute.

There is significant contact with your local chapter staff at the Institute.

This position has significant contact with other SONA Representatives from universities around Australia and architecture (and associated degree) students in general.

### **detailed responsibilities**

Develop an understanding of what SONA offers and communicate this effectively to students.

Work successfully as a team with other SONA reps to achieve successful events, publications and competitions.

Work successfully as an individual to achieve successful events, publications and competitions.

Represent yourself, SONA, the Australian Institute of Architects, your university colleagues, and your university.

- You will be responsible for new membership recruitment
- You will be required to organise events (local and national)
- You will be required to attend events (local and national)
- You will be required to communicate and participate in meetings, teleconference calls, as well as email correspondence and social media!

### **position requirements**

educational competencies

You should be currently enrolled in an architectural bachelor or master's degree at an accredited Australian university.

personal competencies

- You are an effective communicator
- You are organised and you complete tasks in a timely manner
- You are a team player
- You are an innovative thinker
- You are committed to doing your best!
- Be good with time management to juggle your role with university priorities.

### **benefits of the SONA Rep role!**

- Free SONA membership
- Make new friends
- Learn more about the Australian architecture profession
- Become a leader at your university
- Enliven your campus culture
- Help other students become involved in the profession
- Meet and work with new people
- Learn new organisational skills
- Travel around Australia
- Be part of a great community interested in design

### **what do you stand for?**

Tell us what you believe you can contribute to the role, how will you make a difference to students and architecture through your involvement as a SONA Rep in 2018?

\*If the Institute feels that you aren't appropriately meeting these responsibilities you may be asked to step down at any time.

**don't forget we'll be here to help  
you throughout the year.**





**Troy Borg**

— SONA Vice President 2017



**Chantelle Fry**

— SONA Vice President  
The University of Adelaide 2017



**Ms Gina Engelhardt**

— SONA Representative  
University of Melbourne 2017

Being a SONA Representative opens so many doors for potential networking with industry leading architects and helped me build confidence when speaking with potential employers. It gave me the opportunity to understand the architecture profession in a way that wasn't text book and provided so many opportunities for me to meet other students studying architecture across Australia.

Representing students of architecture I was able to attend various meetings with the Institute on the education committee, media and communications committee and also hosted events at my university. Every opportunity led to building a stronger network amongst my peers, which have now become friends in the profession.

If you love all things architecture and want to meet like-minded individuals to make a difference for the next generation of architects, then I suggest applying today, you might just surprise yourself with where it could take you!

I have been involved with SONA since my first year of University, and it has been the most rewarding experience in my short career in Architecture. For the last two years I have become a leader to students across Australia, and have experienced a confidence in public speaking, leadership and organisation that I didn't think I had. I have had the opportunity to make conversation, suggestions and have been able to voice the opinion of students across Australia. I have made lifelong friendships with people all over the country, with not just students but Architects, Graduates and Academics. SONA is a big commitment, has its challenges, and can be daunting at times, but it is what YOU make it. If you become a SONA rep you have the opportunity to make it fun, and make a difference in your university state and Australia.

Having been with SONA for two years now, I know a little bit about how things work around here. At this point of your application, you're bursting with ideas and we are waiting to hear them! Your year as SONA Rep will give you the opportunity to engage with your fellow students and professionals in our industry to new depths.

I have been able to organise a plethora of events which have fostered interconnectivity between architecture universities, and given students their first tastes of the profession. Through these events, we have been able to inspire and motivate a host of students, some of which have never reached out to networking occasions before. We can help individuals engage with the profession, and aid them in figuring out how to turn their passions into a career.

SONA has given me the ability and the skill set to shape the student culture and create a more positive university environment. I have been able to represent the student body to architects at a state and national level, and have given a voice to our concerns. SONA has enabled me to advocate for students, and has given me a voice which will be heard.

SONA is a great experience as a student, but as a representative or committee member you have the opportunity to bring your visions to life. Let me encourage you to apply and help provide direction to the future of Australian architecture.



**Nikolce Nikolovski**

— SONA Representative  
Deakin University 2017



**Lily Parsons**

— SONA Vice President 2016  
— SONA Representative  
University of Queensland 2015

Through SONA, students have the opportunity to shape events and student culture at their university. Being a rep is extremely rewarding and with the budget and support from the Australian Institute of Architects to run social and professional events, you can help enhance the architecture experience at your university for the cohort and yourself, creating opportunities and connections that might not be apparent from just going through your degree.

If you feel like you want to engage more with the profession and see the opportunity to get things done at your school I highly recommend you apply!

Becoming a SONA rep is an opportunity like no other. It allows you to be a representative student voice and garner new perspectives on what it means to be part of the Australian architecture community. Being a SONA rep is an opportunity to impart real change within your university and engage students with a vibrant profession. By opening up a world that many students may let slip by, you can truly make a positive impact on the people around you. In addition, the support and relationships formed with other reps from across the nation has been astonishing and nothing less than inspiring to watch others excel.

With SONA comes a unique sense of confidence. Just as readily as you are taught invaluable skills, you come to recognise and value your own personal strengths. With passion and energy in tow, SONA shows you just how much you are truly capable of.

# We want you!

2018



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Would you make a fantastic SONA Rep? Please tell us about yourself now and apply for the position of SONA Rep at your university.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

First Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

D.O.B: \_\_\_\_\_

SONA membership number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

University: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Referee: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Platform Statement (max 200 words) - please attach

Photo - please attach high res jpeg (this will be for use on the website)

Please submit this form via email, attaching a current photo along with your platform statement (max 200 words) to: [sona@architecture.com.au](mailto:sona@architecture.com.au)