

NOMINATION LETTER

September 18, 2023

AIA California
Via e-mail: mdouet@aiacalifornia.org

Re: Nomination of Ginger Thompson, AIA: VP of Strategic Planning and Research

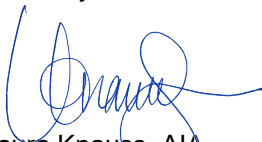
To Whom it May Concern:

Please accept this nomination of Ginger Thompson, AIA, for the position of Vice-President of Planning and Research for the AIA California Board of Directors. I have known Ginger for a number of years and have found her to be an enormous asset to our Chapter, the profession and especially to the emerging professionals and students of our state. Her involvement in the AIA Leadership Conference, where her work on the “value” of an architect inspired the video series that premiered at the A’23 opening session, is just one demonstration of the passion she brings for the profession. She has been a significant voice in identifying the “gaps” between the expectations of established practitioners and those of our emerging professionals. That “next generation” voice is one that will be essential to the health of our profession. In addition:

- She serves as the AIA California’s Associate Director (North) 2021-2023, executing two Emerging Professional Summits in collaboration with the Associate Director (South). These summits identified core concerns from emerging professionals across the state, defining the value that our EPs provide to the profession. This work resulted in a Task Force and a National conversation on this topic.
- Ginger serves as the Vice-Chair of the CREATE Mentoring Program’s advisory board since 2021. The CREATE program introduces high school students to all career pathways within the built environment. Ginger also serves as a mentor in this inspirational program.
- As Commissioner on the Sacramento Planning and Design Commission, Ginger is supporting the city’s Long Range plan, the 2040 Electrification Plan as well as engaging in the conversations surrounding the housing policy and strategies of the city.

Ginger brings to the position a 12-year background in Applied Behavioral Analysis, with a focus on data collection, documentation, and analysis. This background is sure to add value to the Vice-President position; meaningful data will be essential to strategic planning and the future of this industry. However, it is Ginger’s energy, passion and commitment to the profession that will ensure that she becomes a significant and meaningful part of the Board of Directors. It is without hesitation that I recommend Ginger Thompson for the VP of Strategic Planning and Research. Please feel free to reach out should you need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Knauss".

Laura Knauss, AIA
Principal | Chief Practice Officer

President, AIA Central Valley
AIA CA Board of Directors