




2023 Nominees to the 2024 Board of Directors

Name:	Ginger S. Thompson, AIA	
Position Nominated for:	VP of Strategic Planning & Research	
A 100-Word (maximum) summary of your background, education, professional history, and service to the professions.		
<p>I am a Senior Associate with Dreyfuss + Blackford Architecture where I focus on client engagement and creating methodologies for strong team collaboration.</p> <p>I am passionate about growing the profession, spending 5 years mentoring high school students in architecture through the CREATE program, and currently sit on the program's Advisory board. I am engaged in deepening the impact that architects have in our cities and serve as Commissioner on the Sacramento Planning and Design Commission.</p> <p>I have been involved with AIA Central Valley across multiple platforms and have had the pleasure of being the California AIA Board's acting Associate Director North since 2021.</p>		
A 200-word (maximum) summary of the candidate's philosophy, goals, and objectives in serving in this office.		
<p>I am passionate about being a part of the system for change and am driven to see our profession thrive in the future amidst the changes in technologies and client expectations. My background in behavior analysis along with the process of design thinking brings an understanding of how to break down challenges into manageable components while weaving behavioral motivations into how actionable steps are planned. I thrive in an environment of ideas and perspectives, where I can seek out the threads of continuity that unite us in vision and action.</p> <p>The work we do is in equal parts technical and relational and requires support that takes both aspects into equal consideration. Uniting all architecture professionals as we design for our future will benefit from a perspective that understands the practice while also understanding the people who engage in it every day.</p> <p>I am proud to be here and proud to call myself architect, would be honored to serve the members of California to be a part of uniting us all as we address the economic, environmental, and social challenges in front of us.</p>		
Candidates are also permitted to submit a letter of support for their nomination from any individual, AIA member or otherwise. This letter shall not be longer than 2 pages in length, including letterhead. Letters exceeding this requirement will not be accepted.		Nomination and additional supporting documents attached.

Next Steps:

- Candidates have received the virtual meeting invitation for the Friday, November 3, 2023 Board of Directors meeting.
- Candidates will give a speech not to exceed 3 minutes during the November 3, 2023 board meeting.

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

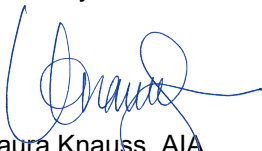
To Whom it May Concern:

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,



Laura Knauss, AIA
Principal | Chief Practice Officer

President, AIA Central Valley
AIA CA Board of Directors