



November 14, 2016

To BSA Members:

This year's election has clearly demonstrated the sharp divide facing our country. We trust in the democratic principles this country was founded upon. And while some people are pleased by the results, there are many struggling to understand what has happened and what future lies ahead. The BSA Board and staff are committed to seeking a path that will heal these divisions. And, as always the BSA welcomes people of all backgrounds and abilities regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or political persuasion.

While on this path, however, we will not compromise on the core values that are fundamental to the BSA, and, we believe to the AIA. We are firm in our role advocating for policies that foster these values in our work with government, businesses and our national AIA.

- These values begin with respect for all people. We believe the principles of diversity and inclusion are fundamental to building a just, fair and vibrant country. We will continue to advance the cause of equity within our profession, while advocating for public policy that assures equal access to society's benefits for all people. And, as always the BSA welcomes people of all backgrounds and abilities regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or political persuasion.
- We believe that climate change is an existential threat to human civilization as well as most life on this planet. We promote the principles of sustainable design including increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy, materials building standards, and green waste management systems. We also see the impacts of climate change inequitably burden less privileged members of our communities. To be a truly sustainable society, environmental justice must shape the public policy and long-term vision of our cities, our region, and our nation.
- We believe that the skills and resources of our profession will always serve the greater needs of our community. Affordable housing, transit equity, accessibility and universal design, historic preservation, beautiful public open space and parks, community-based planning, walkable and livable cities and towns, and design excellence are necessities. Our pursuit of these essential needs will continue to be paramount.

In the coming weeks you will be hearing more from us about this, but more importantly we want to hear from you. We've set up a comment area on our website and social media pages. We also invite you to join us at ABX and talk with Eric, the staff and Board members. This is your BSA. Please share your thoughts by emailing president@architects.org or posting your comment directly to The BSA's Facebook page. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tamara Roy".

Tamara Roy AIA
2016 BSA President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric White".

Eric White
Executive Director