

October 5, 2014

John Castellana FAIA, Chair 2015 Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington DC 20006-5292
Sent via Email to HonorsAwards@aia.org

Re: Michael F. Malinowski AIA

Mr. Castellana:

I have known Michael Malinowski for over two decades and have worked closely with him during this time at all levels of the AIA. I served with Michael on the AIA National Board, on the AIACC Executive Committee, and in the leadership of the AIA Central Valley Chapter. As a matter of fact, Michael's office and home are but a few blocks from my own here in Sacramento; our paths cross regularly - collaborating on both personal and professional endeavors.

Michael's long list of accomplishments speaks for itself and, as a fellow Architect and Sacramentan, I can personally attest to his impact on our profession and community. He personally played a key role in developing important and enduring relationships between our local AIA component and regional government. These relationships have considerably benefited the public and the profession alike. So much so, that the process Michael employed in the development of these relationships was the subject of a white paper commissioned by the California Council that was distributed - and is still available - to components across the country.

Then there's the "Code Conversation" event that Michael launched as a personal initiative over a decade ago. As one of our Chapter's longest running and most successful programs, Michael's Code Conversation has led to lasting connections between our region's Architects and code officials from the more than two dozen cities and counties in our Chapter's geographic territory. This has led to better consistency in the application of codes and regulations and - most importantly - greater cooperation and understanding between Architects and code officials. Michael has shared this template around the country in presentations for WoodWorks and at the 2013 and 2014 AIA Conventions.

In a very recent demonstration of Michael's impact - one which looks to the future, Michael has been instrumental in establishing our region's first school of architecture, which opens next month. This school will be the only professional degree program in California's Central Valley and its opening is the culmination of many years of effort on Michael's part. In addition to personally undertaking the design of the new school, Michael has championed the value of a program that will focus on the communities, climate and context of the Central Valley. As a case in point regarding the importance of regional context, the school is only a few blocks from one of Michael's most acclaimed (and rightly so) projects: The Globe Mills. A once blighted, abandoned, and historically significant site, Michael transformed this local landmark into a nationally recognized model for Transit Oriented Design.

Michael's contributions to the AIA have been equally as impactful. Serving on the Communications Committee during his tenure on the National Board, Michael had a direct hand in the AIA's largest-ever data gathering effort, which became the driving force behind Repositioning. Additionally, Michael recruited many of California's Repositioning Ambassadors and initiated the concept for the Innovation Grants, bringing funding directly back to components. At the state level Michael launched Basecamp, an online platform to communicate National trends and initiatives to AIACC leaders, fostering open dialogue and the sharing of ideas.

In closing, Michael Malinowski's deeply held passion and proactive leadership on behalf of the profession, his seemingly limitless efforts to communicate the value of Architects to the public, and his many years of extraordinary leadership, achievements and experience - at all levels of the AIA - make him unquestionably qualified for elevation to AIA Fellowship.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Docous, AIA, NCARB, LEED® BD+C, MBA
Principal