

MEETING NOTES

Operation: Reach, Retain, and Develop

Friday, October 22, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. EDT | Via Zoom

Corey Clayborne, EVP of AIA Virginia welcomed our mentors and mentees and introduced our partners, AIAS President, Shannon DeFranza, and AIAS Executive Director, Ashley Ash.

Upcoming sessions:

November 12 | Role Reversal: Practitioner Pin-Up | Mentee Critique

January 21, 2022 | Path to Licensure: Education, Experience, and Examination

February 4 | Making the Most of Your Opportunity: Resumes, Portfolios, and Interviews Panel

March 4 | Behind the Scenes: Life in a Small, Mid-Size, and Large Firm

April 29 | Alternative Careers and Program Celebration [In-Person]

Why did you sign up?

Students/Emerging Professionals

- Need an academic coach like my sports coach. Someone to track benchmarks
- Learn about East Coast opportunities
- We can read architect biographies, but the last 2 years have changed the industry so much, I need up-to-date info and help navigating everything
- Learn about U.S. Culture and profession
- Figure out what to do after graduation in terms of finding the specific field I want to be in

Architects/Mentors

- Share passion with students and give back to the profession
- Share how to run a business which is not taught in architecture school
- Talk about the path and how to be the “architect” of your own career
- The most fun! A joy to get to know young people
- Helps improve my interactions with my own staff
- I love being an architect and want to make sure profession is in good hands
- If you love the profession you want to show how to shop for the correct employer and community you want to live and work in
- COVID exposed inequality in the pipeline between students and the profession

Defining Success by Shannon DeFranza

1. Communications: every pairing is unique! Find your communication niche. Talk about non-architecture things!
2. Goal Setting: share expectations and desired outcomes
3. Checking in: how are your goals changing throughout the process
4. Reciprocity: respect & appreciation for each other. Share openly for meaningful experience