A Message from President Daas Regarding Fall 2020 Semester

Dear BAC Community,

With the spring semester successfully behind us, I would like to share our plans for the next academic year in this special video message.

Thank you for your immense patience while we created a thoughtful and cohesive plan for fall 2020 and beyond.

I look forward to our discussions and collaboration together to ensure continued excellence in design education across the globe.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mahesh Daas, President

A big shout-out to the School of Interior Architecture! We appreciate your commitment to our students and this community. THANK YOU!

Additional News + Resources:

The BAC is thrilled to announce its Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) solution! We’re excited to roll it out to all of our currently enrolled students – and, all currently teaching BAC faculty are automatically assigned Apporto Access. Please stay-tuned for more information for this key BAC initiative. We truly will be... Here. There. Anywhere!
Faculty & Staff Congrats Video Montage
Thank you to all the faculty and staff who participated in making this montage for our graduates so special. Watch and share to help continue our celebration!

Delta Dental Updates
Because provider offices have been closed except for emergencies, many members have not been able to get the preventive care they need.

To help encourage members to receive preventive care, we are launching a new program for our fully insured groups. Every member who gets a preventive cleaning between June 1 and August 31 will receive an electronic toothbrush.

Enhancing Benefits, Supporting Members
To further remove barriers to care, we are adjusting time limits on benefits to allow members to get preventive care and other services for most of our fully insured clients who have not already made these changes. We will be changing frequency limits for things like oral exams, teeth cleaning, x-rays and fluoride from every 6 months to twice per year to allow members to catch up with their care.

CEU Weekend
Join us for our first Virtual CEU Weekend on June 13 and June 14! This year’s lineup boasts impressive presenters and timely topics. Licensed architects can earn up to 12 AIA approved HSWs from the 6 workshops scheduled over the course of the 2 days. Current BAC faculty and
Access to Campus Instructions
If you need access to campus during this time, please email Patti Vaughn and Ellen Yee at least one day in advance. Stay tuned for more updated information on accessing campus. Thanks!

MBTA Passes
The BAC will be suspending the option to purchase MBTA passes through bi-weekly payroll deduction until we are back to business as usual. If you are interested in purchasing a pass at that time, please contact Wendi Sachs directly.

Proclamation on the Suspension of Entry as Nonimmigrants of Certain Students and Researchers from the People’s Republic of China

President Trump signed a Presidential Proclamation on May 29 that may affect certain nationals from the People’s Republic of China (PRC) seeking entry to the US in F or J visa status to pursue graduate study or research at U.S. institutions. The proclamation does NOT apply to students seeking to pursue undergraduate study.

It is not yet known exactly who will be affected, or how the State Department intends to implement the proclamation, but the BAC is closely tracking this situation and will post updates to our community as more details become available.

The proclamation, effective June 1, 2020, suspends entry to the US of individuals affiliated with an entity that “implements or supports” the PRC’s “military-civil fusion strategy.”

Currently, the proclamation does NOT apply to individuals inside the U.S. pursuing study in F status.

The proclamation does not apply to U.S. Citizens, U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card holders), the spouse of a United States citizen or lawful
BAC Receives Cummings Foundation Grant

The BAC was chosen from a total of 738 applicants during a competitive review process. The grant will be $300k over 10 years. Click here to read more.

Important Time Off Updates

The BAC recognizes the importance of taking time-off to rest and connect with family and friends. Due to the restrictions brought upon by COVID-19, we understand many of you have not been able to use your well-deserved vacation hours. As a result, the Cabinet has approved an extension of vacation carry-over time to enable all employees to plan and take a vacation.

Rather than losing 50% of your vacation carryover hours on June 30, you will now have 100% of your available carry over time off extended for use until December 31, 2021. These carryover hours will be reflected in an “Other” time off category. If you have any questions, please contact Sydney Leo.

The BAC Library has created and updated several topical research guides to assist you!

**Architecture, Race and Culture**
This guide explores the legacy of racism, social movements and civil rights as they manifest in the built environment, at the intersection of housing, transit, density, urban development, decay and discrimination.

**LGBTQ Architecture**
This guide explores LGBTQ issues within the design world. Perfect for Pride month.
Cocktail Class this Friday
Join us Friday June 5th at 4:00 p.m. for a Cocktail Class with Mark Rukamathu!

Mark your calendars for BAC Talks!
We have turned our annual Spring Gala into an exciting virtual event, BAC Talks, featuring Thom Mayne as our keynote speaker! There will be several other thought leaders and panelists who will discuss topics of great relevance to the post-pandemic world. We will stream the event live on June 10th. Click here to register and learn more!

We are excited to present the work of the BAC 2020 degree recipients from undergraduate and graduate programs. Click here to see our Digital Graduation Exhibit!

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Resources
Click here to review some of the resources available to you through our EAP!
Stay updated with the BAC’s COVID-19 Webpage
As always, please visit our COVID-19 page for the latest information. If you have questions, please direct them to emergencymanagement@the-bac.edu. You can also follow us on Twitter @TheBACBoston for up-to-date and relevant information.

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