Dear BAC student community,

I know each of you are confronting challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. You and your family’s daily life have been impacted — many are facing financial difficulties and struggling to make ends meet.

Helping you, our students, is our number one priority. We want to ensure your learning can continue during our recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, and we want to strengthen your position to continue learning now and well into the future.

Therefore, the BAC team acted quickly in applying to access the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding available from The U.S. Department of Education. The CARES Act funding will go toward assisting Title IV eligible students with education-related costs, which have arisen as a direct result of the current crisis.

Although not all BAC students will qualify under these terms, the entire BAC is committed to understanding the needs of each student. With your help in completing this form, we will work collectively toward finding other means to assist those students who will not have access to the CARES funds.

As the spring semester winds down, and we look toward the future, I encourage you to take a few minutes to complete this form. With your assistance, we will be able to act as quickly as possible in distributing the much-needed aid to all those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stay well,
President Mahesh Daas
You are **fierce** — the hardest working bunch of human beings I have ever encountered in my 20 years in the design profession. You are **resilient** — you will find a way to emerge from this uncertainty as better designers, citizens, and leaders. We are with you — through the struggle, through the change, through the unfailing hope. We believe in you and couldn’t be more confident in your fierce, resilient, **bright future**.

- Beth Lundell-Garver
  *BAC Director of Applied Learning*
As previously announced, the BAC has adopted a special set of grading policies for all students in light of the COVID-19 crisis, which resulted in all spring classes transitioning to online learning. For those courses designed to be assigned a letter grade, students will be given a final letter grade; however, students have the option to designate any, all, or none of their courses as Pass/Fail courses.

A form has been created, and is available in the Student Forms Portal called the ‘Spring 2020 Pass/Fail Grade Selection’ form.

Once you have been given a final letter grade for a course, you will be able to log into the Student Forms Portal and select to have that class graded as Pass/Fail.

Please keep in mind the deadline of submitting your selection of Pass/Fail courses:

- **May 2020 Graduating Students** have until Wednesday, May 20, 2020 to inform the Registrar know if they are selecting any courses for Pass/Fail
- **Non-Graduating Students in spring 2020** have until Friday, June 5, 2020 to inform the Registrar know if they are selecting any courses for Pass/Fail

Before submitting your choice to select classes to be graded as Pass/Fail, you should speak with your advisor about any potential academic impacts to choosing Pass/Fail or letter grade.
• **Degree Students:** If you have an outside scholarship (non-BAC) make sure to check if that scholarship has any restrictions or rules about final grades prior to making your choice.

• **Continuing Education Students:** If you are taking classes for NCARB, transfer credit, or professional development through your workplace, make sure to check with that institution for any restrictions or rules about final grades prior to making your choice.

Please remember that once you submit a course to be graded Pass/Fail, that decision is final.

If you do not submit anything, your grades will stay as letter grades.

The full policy on Pass/Fail Grade Selection can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, contact registrar@the-bac.edu.

**Additional News + Resources**

All BAC students -- This is a weird, challenging time. We’re here to talk--about BAC life, or life in general, because not everything fits neatly into a department or category. You are not alone. Contact Richard Griswold, Richard.griswold@the-bac.edu to help direct your question or concern.

*Your voice matters!* By taking a few minutes out of your day to complete this student survey, we are able to make better decisions that impact the entire BAC student community. Thank you!

**T A K E S U R V E Y**

"It Always Seems Impossible Until It's Done"

— Nelson Mandela

**Congratulations to our 2020 graduates!**

Over the next several weeks, the BAC will be celebrating this year’s graduates across our website and social media channels. We encourage you to join us as we celebrate! We are looking for graduates to send us a picture of yourself and a brief bio (under 150 words) describing your accomplishments and experiences here at the BAC. **(NOTE: By sending us a photo and bio, you are consenting to have your photo and any other information you provide shared on a public forum)**
Please feel free to include pictures of your favorite works, be creative, and show off your personality! Please send your photo to studentlife@the-bac.edu any time before Monday, May 18th and keep your eyes peeled for some more virtual commencement activities in the coming weeks.

Join us for BAC Talks!
We have turned the BAC’s in-person Gala into an exciting virtual event, BAC Talks, featuring 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**. Please stay tuned for more exciting details!

$1,000 Scholarship from TheBestSchools.org
TheBestSchools.org is awarding scholarships to students currently enrolled in an accredited online degree program. Full-time and part-time students are eligible for the scholarships. [Click here to apply!](#)
ASLA is offering FREE student memberships for landscape architecture students! Click here to register.

**Virtual Watercolor Workshops this Summer**
Open to all students, staff and faculty free of charge. Participants will have to provide their own materials and a list will be circulated in advance. While they do not carry any credit, the workshops are intended to be academic (and fun!) events. Each workshop will consist of two 90-minute sessions on June 16 + 23 and July 8 + 15 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Please contact Scott Fulford if you're interested.

**Attend ExO World: Now! for FREE on May 12**
Up to 200 BAC community members will receive free admission to ExO World: Now! on May 12. Click here for BAC's special registration code.
How the Pandemic is Impacting Architectural Photography

Click here to check out this latest article on architectural photography by Archinect!

2020 ASLA Awards
Due to disruptions caused by the current pandemic, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is extending the submission deadline for the 2020 ASLA Student Awards to Sunday, May 31, at 11:59 pm PST.
CULTIVATE A MIND

Sign-Up to be a part of the Summer Academy teaching group this year in virtual playgrounds

ONLINE

Since 1973, the Summer Academy has complemented the education of High-School students with hands-on design and material exercises. Going online in 2020, enrolled students will receive the materials through the mail to follow simultaneously the full-scale example being executed by the faculty member. Daily discussions in synchronous webinars will lead the student exercises. Case study building and professional firm visits, for example, through virtual reality will parallel the design/build teams of students in developing and experiencing their projects online.

Be part of the teaching group this summer & earn Practice credits!

To learn more and sign-up, please contact: academy@the-bac.edu

DEADLINE MAY 10, 2020
Summer registration is open! Classes begin on June 1. Click here to complete your online registration! Please reach out to ce@the-bac.edu with any questions.

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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