



CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

Hsinming Fung, AIA, Southern California Institute of Architecture

Candidate Statement

Architectural education has often been cited as exemplary. And it is. The problem-solving discipline which lies at the core of nearly all architectural curricula can, and often does, create the foundation for success in innumerable corollary careers. And yet, as the challenges of a rapidly changing political and economic context encounter the urgency of global environmental and energy demands, it is clear that the role of the architect has never been more critical and sadly, at the same time, less consequential.

It is time to re-tune the expectations of our programs. As the practice of architecture transforms, and it will, it is the schools and their programs which must look ahead to exploit the opportunities of new, practical and effective roles for the profession.

We need to address the following questions:

- How can schools of architecture mirror the increasingly ethnic diversity of the communities in which architects do their work.
- How can schools of architecture help to bridge the gap between “sustainable” design and “high” design?
- How can schools of architecture help to extend the spirit of innovation into the professional sphere?
- What should be the curricular response as the availability of new design tools challenges traditional design methodology?
- Should there be a means by which accreditation and innovative programs might be reconciled?

Coming as I do from the extraordinary opportunity to help lead SCI-arc along the path to become the mature institution it now is, I have been exposed to a great many of the transitioning issues that many in the ACSA community will be facing in the next few years. From the realization that design is likely to become a fully digital process to the challenges brought about by profound changes in architectural culture, my tenure at SCI-arc during a crucial period of growth has opened a window on the future of our profession, and equipped me with critical insights into the training of young architects in the post-analogue era.

Two things are clear: there is a generation of recent graduates who have developed extraordinary skills in rendering and presentation often to the detriment of developing a more thoughtful, culturally sensitive design process. And there is an increasingly competitive profession which is often motivated to exploit those skills in the struggle to find work.

Clearly, we, the schools of architecture, must forge a path to re-connect our graduates with the values and shared responsibilities which have made such significant contributions in the past, yet continue to pursue new technologies, new challenges, and new professional models.

We are at a crossroads. The debate over sustainability, the role of technology, the pressing needs of developing countries, and the challenges to our profession's role in addressing these concerns will determine our profession's role in helping to create the campuses, cities, and habitations of the future.

I have been committed to architectural education for nearly thirty years, and in that time have become acutely aware of the institutional challenges faced by both private and public programs in architecture. Contrasting the supple, innovative approach favored by independent schools with the disciplined curricula of public institutions has taught me a great deal about the necessity for balance and the judicious adoption of currently “fashionable” agendas. Looking back at the fifteen years of my tenure at Cal Poly, it is clear that Schools of Architecture must strive for balance between autonomy and the restraints imposed by an overarching institutional base.

During that time I have also had the opportunity to lecture and visit numerous schools around the country as well as overseas, and have developed a well-rounded perspective on the methods and values we presently employ. Many young architects from a number of schools have worked with me at the firm I founded with my husband, and this full immersion in our profession, from teaching, to practice, to mentoring, has taught me a great deal. It has also illuminated the often frustrating, sometimes exhilarating, and always meaningful relationship between academia and professional practice.

Should you elect me to be your president, I intend to let that experience “do the talking” and help to re-align our shared purpose with the challenges of the future.



2013 ACSA Board Election Timeline

January 7, 2013	Ballots mailed to all Full-member Schools
February 6, 2013	Deadline for receipt of ballots in ACSA office
March 22, 2013	Winners announced at ACSA Annual Business Meeting in San Francisco, CA

The Faculty Councilor from each ACSA full-member school is the voting representative.
For candidate statements and curricula vitae, please visit acsa-arch.org.

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Curriculum Vitae

TEACHING

Southern California Institute of Architecture	
Director of Academic Affairs	2011 – Present
Professor and Thesis Advisor	2002 – Present
Director of Graduate Programs	2002 – 2010
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Department of Architecture	
Graduate Program Coordinator and Professor	1999 – 2002
Associate Professor	1990 – 1999
Assistant Professor	1986 – 1990
Lecturer	1985 – 1986
Yale University School of Architecture	
Saarinen Visiting Professor	1995 & 2000
State University Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture	
Herbert Baumer Distinguished Visiting Professor	1996
University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Fine Arts	
Visiting Lecturer	1992
University of Arizona School of Architecture	
Visiting Critic	1990

PRACTICE

Hodgetts + Fung, Principal and Co-Founder	1984 – Present
Charles Kober & Associates, Designer	1980 – 1984

REGISTRATION

Registered Architect in California	1993 – Present
N.C.A.R.B. Registration	1999 – Present

EDUCATION

M. Arch, University of California, Los Angeles	1980
B.A. Behavioral Sciences, California State University, Dominguez Hills	1977
Architecture, Miami University, Ohio	1973 – 1974
Fine Arts, Oxford College, Ohio	1971 – 1973

HONORS

AIACC Firm Award	2008
AIA/LA Gold Medal	2006
Architectural Foundation of Los Angeles, LA Winners	1999
Architectural Foundation of Los Angeles, LA Winner	1997
Chrysler Award for Innovation in Design, Chrysler Corporation	1996
Pacific Design Center “20 Stars of Design”	1995
The I.D. Forty, The International Design Magazine	1994
American Academy of Arts and Letters, Architecture Award	1994
American Academy in Rome, Rome Prize winner in Design	1992

PUBLICATIONS

Hodgetts + Fung, United Asia Art and Design Cooperation, China Architecture and Building Press, Beijing, 2005
Hodgetts + Fung: Scenarios and Spaces, New York: Rizzoli International Publications Inc., 1997

SERVICE

American Institute of Architects	
AIA/LA Board of Directors	2006 – Present
AIA/LA President	2011
AIA/LA Vice President	2010
AIA/LA Board Secretary	2008 – 2009
General Services Administration Office of the Chief Architect	
National Peer	2008 – Present
California State University, Dominguez Hills	
President's Council Member	2005 – 2007
Institute for the Humanities, University of Southern California Fellow	2004 – Present
Southern California Institute of Architecture, Board of Directors	2002 – 2009
National Endowment for the Arts, Council Member	2001 – 2003
Westside Urban Forum, Board of Directors	2002 – 2004
Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design, President	1994 – 1997
Los Angeles Urban Design Advisory, Officer	1994 – 1995
The Society of Fellows of the American Academy in Rome, Fellow	1992 – Present