

CANDIDATE for FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (3-year term)

Luis Francisco Rico-Gutierrez, Iowa State University

Candidate Statement

"An idea is salvation by imagination." – Frank Lloyd Wright

I am fortunate to call architecture my profession. The ability to shape the intimate relationship we have with the world around us is a privilege and a responsibility that I share with all of you. The combination of knowledge and skills at the core of our work uniquely positions architecture to address and contribute to the solution of some of the most important challenges our civilization faces: restoring the balance with the natural environment and improving quality of life for all in a way that is respectful of our differences and celebrates our collective aspirations.

I am fortunate to have the opportunity every day to learn and help others learn how the practices and pedagogies of architecture bring together the products and processes of science, technology, art and the humanities in order to address issues critical to achieving more equitable social, economic and environmental ends. Our classrooms are full of visionaries, provocateurs and iconoclasts who study the past and question the context to imagine the future, and are able to synthesize the constantly changing technology, viewpoints and culture through their creative inquiry.

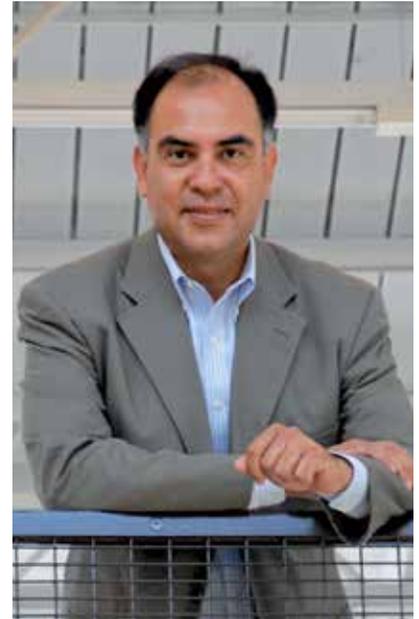
Today I feel extremely fortunate to be a candidate for the position of president-elect. My interest in the position stems from a personal commitment to creating an amazing learning environment for students and nurturing the careers of my peers. I believe that with your support I can effectively help move forward the stated mission of ACSA to advance architectural education by facilitating dialogue between member schools, their faculty and students; fostering public awareness of the value of architectural education; and identifying resources to promote excellence in teaching, research, scholarly and creative works that collectively inform our understanding of the critical issues shaping the context of architectural education in a globalized world.

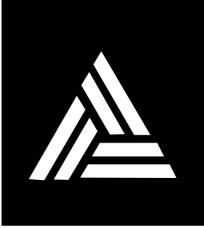
I look forward to working with Michael Monti and the ACSA staff, current president Marilyns R. Nepomechie, Vice President/President-Elect Bruce Lindsey, and Past-President Hsinming Fung, to name only a few, to advance their efforts to develop an organizational structure that supports innovation in our respective institutions. The *"Path-Forward"* presented at the November Administrators Conference in Puerto Rico asserts the role of educators in the accreditation process and clearly articulates ACSA's interest in developing a fair and transparent funding structure for accreditation. The development of *StudyArchitecture.com* will increase awareness of architectural education and better inform future students. JAE continues to support faculty careers as the primary venue for research and commentary on architectural education, design, theory and practice.

Together, all ACSA resources are well poised to resolve a series of *"creative tensions"* critical for our future. The tension between a credible accreditation system and the need to provide room for institutions to differentiate themselves through local expertise and programing. The tension between a commendable effort to expedite the path to licensure and the value of a slower path that affords students the opportunity for further academic exploration. The tension between our perennial budget challenges (the new normal) and the need for a robust organizational structure that supports innovation in our respective institutions. The tension between preparation for emerging modes of practice and present needs of firms that require talent to perform immediately. Finally, the tension between traditional quantitative metrics of scholarly productivity and the value of nontraditional venues where design better demonstrates its capacity to make meaningful contributions to society and nurture our capacity to propel architectural education into the future.

The Spanish philosopher Ortega y Gasset wrote: "Life is a series of collisions with the future; it is not the sum of what we have been, but what we yearn to be." My background includes teaching, research and administrative experience. I've taught architectural and urban design for 15 years prior to my administrative appointments. My research includes the use of information technology in the design process and grassroots participatory practice in urban design. These experiences inform my understanding of the incredible capacity of all design disciplines to pursue different forms of making knowledge *about*, *for* and *with* diverse publics and communities. I became dean of the Iowa State University College of Design on July 1, 2009. Previously, I spent 13 years as a member of the architecture faculty at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I served in different administrative positions, including associate chair of the School of Architecture, associate dean of the College of Fine Arts and chair of the steering committee of its multidisciplinary arts research center, the Studio for the Creative Inquiry. I also had the privilege to be co-founder and first director of the Remaking Cities Institute, dedicated to bridging the gap between communities and the university's academic strengths in research and studio teaching.

As I reflect on the sum of my academic and administrative experiences, I feel prepared to fully appreciate the challenges and responsibilities that come with the position of president of ACSA. Thanks in advance for your support.





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Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

Teaching and Administration

Iowa State University Dean and Professor, College of Design [2009 – present]
Carnegie Mellon University Associate Dean, College of Fine Arts [2001 – 2009]
Associate Head, School of Architecture [2001 – 2004]
David Lewis Director, Remaking Cities Institute. School of Architecture [2006 – 2009]
Chair, Steering Committee. Studio for the Creative Inquiry [2001 – 2006]
Visiting Professor [1996]

Service

Iowa State University Capital Projects Advisory Council – Member [2010 – present]
Search committee, Dean of the College of Engineering – Chair [2012]
Search committee, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Personnel – Chair [2010]
Search committee, Vice President of Extension and Outreach – Member [2010]
Diversity Advisory Council – Member [2009 – 2013]
Student Innovation Center building steering committee – Member and co-sponsor of the project

National

Urban Land Institute Iowa Chapter – Steering committee member [2013 – Present]
AIA Iowa – Awards committee member [2013 – Present]
2012 ACSA International Conference (Barcelona) – Academia track co-chair
Design Futures Council – Institutional member
Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities – Board member
NSF Workshop “Driving Innovation through Design” (Northwestern) – Deans’ Panel [2010]
AIA Large Firm Round Table Dean’s Forum – Guest Dean [2009 – Present]
Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation – Trustee
NIH – Obesity and the Built Environment – Scientific Review Board member (2005)
2003 ACSA Helsinki Conference – Paper review board member (2003)

Education

- Harvard University. Institute for Management and Leadership in Education [2015]
- Carnegie Mellon University. PhD (ABD) [1997 – Present]
Research area: Computer-supported collaborative design
- Carnegie Mellon University. Master in Building Performance [1996–1997]
- Rafael Leoz Foundation (Madrid) Graduate degree [1987–1988]
Modular design and isotropic space arrangement
- ITESM (Queretaro, Mexico) Bachelor’s degree in Architecture [1982–1986]

Selected Funded Research Work, Publications and Awards:

- 2012 – Iowa State University exhibition in the Smithsonian Folklife Festival – Co-author (“Rise with the occasion: Land-grant institutions as platforms for knowledge, infrastructure, social innovation and entrepreneurship”) and Co-chair of the steering committee.
- 2008 – \$500,000 Grant. Urban Design recruitment actions for minorities (UDREAM). Program dedicated to increasing the number of minorities in the profession.
- 2008 – ACSP Conference (Chicago). Rico-Gutierrez, Luis & Roy, Renee. “The Urban Design Studio and its Implications for Place-Making Processes: The Case of Carnegie Mellon’s Urban Laboratory Studio and Remaking Cities Institute.”
- 2008 – The Urban Project International Conference (Delft). Rico-Gutierrez, Luis & Roy, Renee. “Affecting Urban Transformation through Knowledge-Building: The Case of Carnegie Mellon’s Urban Laboratory Studio and Remaking Cities Institute.”
- 2007 – \$300,000 Grant. Heinz Foundation. “Technology, Community and Development. Supporting the creation of a redevelopment framework for the LTV site in Hazelwood.”
- 2005 – First Prize: J.P. Morgan-Chase Community Development Competition – “Centre Food: Bringing a Non-Profit Food Store to Pittsburgh’s Hill District.” Faculty Advisor. The Hill District, received \$25,000 in seed money to pursue the students’ plan.
- 2004 – \$50,000 Grant. Heinz Foundation. Planning Grant “Creating the Remaking Cities Institute: education, research and communication/ decision-making tools that ensure action for a sustainable region.”
- 2003 – \$5,000 Grant. Steinbrenner Institute. “Advanced Visualization of Urban Systems and Infrastructures.”
- 2003 – Institute for International Education Andrew Heiskell Award for Technology Enhanced Learning in International Education.
- 1997 – “Borrego Dorado” ITESM, Mexico. National award for educational innovation.