Candidate Statement

Education of Future Architects

In 2014 I had the honor of delivering opening remarks at the "Education of Future Architects" conference organized by the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB), the Canadian equivalent of NAAB. (I was President of CACB at the time.) That event brought together leaders from academia and practice to discuss what should be learned, when and where, recognizing that the roles of architects and the face of the profession are changing.

The current practice does now, and future practice will, require new knowledge and skills. How we prepare graduates for success in our evolving and expanding discipline is critical to our collective futures. The education of architects starts in schools but it doesn't end there. It continues in professional offices, where young graduates become interns, who then eventually become licensed architects. And the learning does not stop there – it is a lifetime process, as continuing education.

At CACB, we recognized that it was time to take a fresh look at how the delivery of architectural education at schools and the expectations and requirements of post-graduate internship could be better related and how collaboration between educators and those in professional practice could support a shared outcome. Seeing the education of architects as a partnership between academic and professional institutions, the intent was to create a forum for general discussion of the architectural education and practice, and the challenges they may face in the future.

A similar agenda, with a focus on future, is often present at the annual gatherings of ACSA, AIA, AIAS, NAAB and NCARB. The collateral organizations, however, rarely meet under one roof to look at the educational process in its entirety, holistically and collectively. NAAB's periodic Accreditation Review Conference (ARC) does bring together the representatives of the collateral organizations but with a singular focus on accreditation and possible changes to it. After attending the 2013 ARC held in Utah, I believe the conversation needs to be broadened to cover the entire educational journey from what is learned at schools and then in internship, followed by continuing education after licensure. This should be done initially in a single forum that would bring together all of the collateral organizations; ACSA should play a leading role in that conversation – after all, it is the schools who first teach future architects how to think and learn.

My Teaching Experience

My academic career spans over two decades at several universities, on three continents and in different cultures, and in both state and private institutions. I started teaching 25 years ago as a Teaching Fellow at Harvard GSD, working alongside late Bill Mitchell, who was my mentor (and role model). I taught then in different capacities at Northeastern University in Boston, Calpoly Pomona, University of Miami, University of Hong Kong, University of Pennsylvania, NCSU in Raleigh, Ball State in Indiana, before joining the University of Calgary in 2007, where I am now a Professor and Chair in Integrated Design. I have taught both undergraduate- and graduate-level courses and design studios in architecture and have supervised Master's and PhD students at several schools. I have been recognized twice for teaching excellence early in my career, first at the University of Miami and then at the University of Hong Kong.

Past Leadership Roles

I held elected leadership positions as President of the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB), which has a broader mandate than NAAB, and as President of the Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA). I have also served a two-year term as an elected Secretary of the Canadian Council of University Schools of Architecture (CCUSA), which brings together directors of eleven schools of architecture in Canada. At the University of Calgary, as Associate Dean (Academic) I had the overall responsibility for the functioning of our professional Master of Architecture program; I served in that role for a three-year term, from 2010 to 2013.

Contribution to ACSA Board

I have attended a number of ACSA Annual Meetings and International and Administrators Conferences, chairing sessions and participating in various panels. I bring with me a wealth of academic and administrative experience, an excellent research and scholarly record and reputation, and also an interest in broadening the conversation about architectural education.

Although it may seem obvious to us in academia that the schools can't teach everything that graduates need to know to practice, many of our colleagues in the profession don't share such a view. To address this "expectations gap" we need to work closely with the collateral organizations representing the profession to determine what is best learned in that context so the schools could focus on what they excel at. If elected to ACSA Board as Second Vice-President, I would work with the fellow board members in exploring how best to engage our practicing colleagues and the collateral organizations in such a conversation.

CANDIDATE for SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (4-year term)

Branko Kolarevic, University of Calgary

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

TEACHING / ADMINISTRATION

Warsaw Univ. of Technology	Visiting Professor	2015
University of Calgary	Chair in Integrated Design & Professor/Associate Professor	2007-
	Associate Dean (Academic-Architecture)	2010-2013
Ball State University	Irving Distinguished Visiting Professor	2005-2007
North Carolina State Univ.	Visiting Professor	2005
University of Pennsylvania	Associate Professor	1999-2005
University of Hong Kong	Associate/Assistant Professor	1996-1999
Hong Kong Polytechnic Univ.	Visiting Lecturer	1997
University of Miami	Director of Computing/Adj. Professor	1993-1996
CalPoly Pomona	Lecturer (part-time)	1992-1993
Northeastern University	Lecturer (part-time)	1990-1991
Harvard University	Teaching Fellow	1990-1991

EDUCATION

Harvard University	Doctor of Design	1993
Harvard University	Master of Design Studies	1989
University of Belgrade	Diploma Engineer in Architecture	1986

SELECTED SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB):
  Director (2010-2014), Vice-President (2012-2013), President (2013-2014)
Canadian Council of University Schools of Architecture (CCUSA):
  Member (2010-2013), Secretary (2011-2013)
Alberta Association of Architects (AAA):
  Council Member, ex-officio (2010-2012)
Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA):
  Steering Committee Member (1995-1999), Vice President/President-Elect (1997), President (1997-1998), Vice President/Past President (1998-1999)

HONORS and AWARDS

Society Award of Excellence, ACADIA	2015
Award for Innovative Research, ACADIA	2007
University Teaching Fellowship, University of Hong Kong	1999
Professor of the Year, University of Miami	1996
Dean's Award for Outstanding Service, University of Miami	1995
Cadence Scholarship	1990
Teaching Fellowship, Harvard University	1990
Fulbright Scholarship, United States Information Agency	1988

BOOKS

Building Dynamics: Exploring Architecture of Change (with Vera Parlac), Routledge, 2015
Integration Through Computation (with J. Johnson, J. Taron & V. Parlac), ACADIA, 2011
Manufacturing Material Effects (with Kevin Klinger), Routledge, 2008
Performative Architecture: Beyond Instrumentality (with Ali Malkawi), Routledge, 2005
Architecture in the Digital Age: Design and Manufacturing, Spon Press/Routledge, 2003
Architectural Modeling and Rendering, John Wiley & Sons, 1998
Computing in Design (with Loukas Kalisperis), ACADIA, 1995

RECENT KEYNOTE LECTURES

"Building Dynamics", SIGraDi Conference, Florianopolis, Brazil	2015
"Design Democratization", Reworking the City Conference, Belgrade, Serbia	2015
"Architecture of Change", Facing the Future Conference, Belgrade, Serbia	2014
"Design Democracy", Design Driven Manufacturing Symposium, Univ. of Virginia	2015
"Exploring Architecture of Change", ASCAAD Conference, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	2014
"Integrability in Design Education", ADU2020 Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	2013
"Design Democracy", SIM Conference, Lisbon, Portugal	2013
"Architecture of Change", MC Symposium, Lyon/Grenoble, France	2012
"Complicity and Simplexity", TexFAB 2.0 Conference, Univ. of Houston	2011
"Integrated Design: From Digital to Material", ASCAAD Conf., Manama, Bahrain	2009
"Performative Architecture", SIGraDI Conference, Mexico City	2007