



## CANDIDATE for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR (3-year term)

Ahmed K. Ali, Ph.D., Texas A&M University

### Candidate Statement

One of my graduate students recently asked me, *what made you interested in architecture?* This is a question that most of us regularly ask our students, but rarely ask ourselves. As I pondered my answer, I realized that the seven-minute walk from my school at the Don Bosco Institute to my father's hardware store in the heart of Alexandria, Egypt, was where it all started. During that walk, which I usually stretched to an hour or more, I meandered through his clients' workshops, manufacturing facilities, and industrial plants. Later, driven by a sense of curiosity and an abundance of hand and power tools, I developed a deep sense of affirmation and understanding for the relationship between tools, making, and craftsmanship.

Since my formal pursuit of architectural education that began almost twenty-five years ago, I have lived, studied, and worked on nearly every continent. These diverse and rich experiences (notably, developing a deeper understanding of the two primary schools of thought in two different countries, the Beaux-Arts and the Bauhaus) broadened my outlook and prepared me to live as a citizen of the world within the architectural design studio. Ultimately, I offer the notion of a universal citizen as a testament to how different cultures can come together to create a beautiful work of architecture.

The recent governance changes within ACSA, which address geographic hurdles in communication, transparency, and the connection between intentions and outcomes, affirms this ideal and convinced me to seek a seat on the board. The move from a location-based service to a diverse, international structure definitely broadens the organization's mission and strengthens its ability to lead and advocate for the betterment of architectural education. More than ever, and especially in this era of divisiveness, I stand inclusively with all my colleagues from all schools of architecture. As an international faculty member, I understand, and am an advocate for, enhancing the diversity and international climate in architecture. After all, the different—indeed, unique—paths that led each of us to our current roles are reflected in our numerous and diverse contributions to the profession. Given that the ACSA represents over 5,000 architecture faculty and more than 300 supporting members, I believe that my ideas, experience, and background would help position the organization at the center of the ever-evolving discourses on education, research, practice, and civic engagement in the designed, and constructed environment.

I have learned from architectural practice, and in particular from campus planning that a successful master plan always starts with a good strategic plan. My priority will be to carefully connect ACSA's strategic plan's goals and objectives (as well as its core values) with its members, staff, and volunteers. The new ACSA strategic plan clearly supports its leadership mission by underscoring the value of architectural education and research to practice and society, advancing architectural pedagogy, and serving as the voice of architectural education. I fully intend to support, advocate for, and collaboratively execute the plan while disseminating ACSA's core values. As the recently elected ACSA Councilor for Texas A&M University, one of the largest universities in the United States, I am well positioned to serve both my institution and the organization with an elevated awareness of the importance of supporting the discipline in all aspects of education, research, and practice. Among the critical issues I am most passionate about, and which I intend to address collaboratively on the ACSA Board of Directors, are the following:

- Enhancing applied design research in architecture through interdisciplinary practice.
- Strengthening the role of construction as a medium in architectural education.
- Advocating for inclusiveness and diversity within our programs and the profession.

I also bring broad and relevant experience in research and scholarship, serving as a peer reviewer for the *Journal of Architectural Education* (JAE), the *International Journal of Construction Education and Research* (ASC), the *Journal of Technology | Architecture + Design* (TAD), and the *International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability*. I also serve as an active member of the World Building Congress (CIB) task group on construction materials and stewardship, an associate member of the European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE), a member of the Building Technology Educators Society (BTES), and a member of the Construction History Society of America (CHSA).

I am delighted and honored to be nominated as a candidate for the at-large director position on the ACSA board and with determined passion, vision, and dedication, I pledge to work alongside all my colleagues and represent you in this position for the betterment of architectural education.





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## Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Architecture and Design Research	School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech, United States	2012
Master of Science in Architecture	School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech, United States	2012
Master of Architecture with Honors	School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech, United States	2004
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Architecture	Department of Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts, Alexandria University, Egypt	1997
Scuola Primaria (sezione asilo-elementari)	Diploma Istituto Don Bosco Alessandria, Egitto	1986

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor (Tenure Track)	Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University, United States	2015 – Present
Assistant Professor	Department of Architecture, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey	2013 – 2014
Adjunct Professor	School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech, United States	2004 – 2012
Visiting Professor	Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST), Alexandria, Egypt	2007 – 2010
Instructor	Department of Architecture, Faculty of Fine Arts, Alexandria University, Egypt	1998 – 2001

### SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING AWARDS (selected)

ARCC New Researcher Award	Architecture Research Centers Consortium (ARCC)	2017
J. Thomas Regan Interdisciplinary Prize	College of Architecture Dean's Advisory Council, Texas A&M University	2016
ACSA Architectural Education Award	ACSA (team member of the cube project at Virginia Tech)	2016
Distinguished Design Research Award	School of architecture + design, Virginia Tech	2012
ARCC King Medal	Architecture Research Centers Consortium (ARCC)	2011

### FUNDED RESEARCH AND PROJECTS (selected)

Tier One Program, Texas A&M University	(PI) Circular economy design, engineering & fabrication, \$299,336	2017
CoA Texas A&M Real Projects Initiative	(CO-PI) Modular mobile health clinics for border communities, \$24,600	2017
General Motors	(PI) in-kind donation of sheet metal for building research, \$21,495	2017
AVPA Arts Enhancement Grant	(CO-PI) Light fixtures from surplus and by-product materials, \$7,500	2016
GM, Zahner, USBCSD, Lake   Flato, and Corgan	(PI) Second annual students design competition at Texas A&M, \$6,000	2016
Coulter & Lily Rush Hoppess Foundation	(PI) First annual students design Competition at Texas A&M, \$3,000	2015
Interdisciplinary Design+Build community service	(PI) Bryan Urban Farmers Market and Hoppess Master Plan, \$23,000	2015

### ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS (selected)

- Ali, Ahmed K. (2017). The War-hole Wall: Between the Ridiculous and the Profound. 2017 ACSA Fall Conference, Crossing between the Proximate and the Remote. October 12-14, 2017. Marfa, Texas. In press
- Ali, Ahmed K. Peterhans, B., (2017). Robert Turner 1947-2014. Tempietto in the Wilderness. In collaboration with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill & Jeff Goldberg / ESTO Architectural Photography. ISBN: 978-0-692-86602-3. PUBLISHING XPRESS, Michigan. 2017
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2017) Unconventional Engagement: Reviving the Urban Marketplace. THE PLAN Journal. Vol. 1, Issue 2: Design for Social Impact, 117-141. doi:10.15274/tpj.2016.01.02.08. 2017
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2017). Building Posture: Glasgow School of Art's Driven Voids of Light and Body Dynamics. In Maver, T., Chapman, P., Platt, C., Portela, V., and Eaton, D., (Eds.) Paper Proceedings of Envisioning Architecture Space, Time, and Meaning. The 13th European Architectural Envisioning (EAEA) Conference. (pp. 138-145) Freight Publishing, Glasgow, UK. ISBN: 9780957666085. 2017
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2017). Architecture (disambiguation): Mapping a Resource-Based Design Process System. In the Architecture of Complexity | Design, systems, society & environment. Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC) Conference. (pp. 402-410) ISBN-13: 978-1-935129-22-6 ISBN-10: 1-935129-22-8. 2017
- Ali, Ahmed K., Ko, J. (2017) The La'mella House | Tiny Efforts: Big Impacts. In L.F. Rico-Gutierrez & M. Thorne (Eds.), Project Proceedings of the ACSA 105th Annual Meeting, Brooklyn says, Move to Detroit. (pp. 026-027). Detroit, Michigan. ACSA Press. ISBN: 978-1-944214-07-4. 2017
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2017). Transforming Architectural Education at the Cross Roads of the World. In da Costa, M. J. R. C., et al. (Eds.), Architectural Research Addressing Societal Challenges: Proceedings of the EAAE / ARCC 10th International Conference. (pp. 1207-1214). Lisbon, Portugal, Taylor & Francis Group CRC Press. Print ISBN: 978-1-138-02966-8, doi: 10.1201/9781315226255-185. 2017
- Ali, Ahmed K., & Badinelli, R. (2016). Novel Integration of Sustainable & Construction Decisions into the DBB Project Delivery Method Using BPMN. Procedia Engineering, 145, 164-171. doi:10.1016/j.proeng.2016.04.038, ISSN: 187770588. 2016
- Dvorak, Bruce D., & Ali, Ahmed K. (2016). Urban Agriculture Case Studies in Central Texas: From the Ground to the Rooftop. In M. Samer (Ed.), Urban Agriculture (pp. 3-21). InTech. doi: 10.5772/62350. ISBN 9789535124047. 2016
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2016). Paradoxical Territories between Traditional and Digital Crafts in Japanese Joinery. In R. Corser & S. Haar (Eds.), Shaping New Knowledges: Paper Proceedings of the 104th ACSA Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington (pp. 359-364). Washington, DC: ACSA Press. ISBN: 9781944214036. 2016
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2016). Transformation of Emerging Building Materials Reuse Industry through Mapping Sustainable Architectural Design Processes using BPMN. In K. Kähkönen & M. Keinänen (Eds.), Proceedings of the CIB World Building Congress 2016: Volume I - Creating built environments of new opportunities (Tampere University of Technology. Report; Vol. 18). (pp. 552-564). Tampere, Finland: ISBN: 978-952-15-3741-7 (vol. I). 2016
- Ali, Ahmed K. (2015). Hugs and Kisses in Turkish Religious Architecture. In ARCHITHEO '15 IX: Theory & History of Architecture. (pp. 471-477) Istanbul, Turkey: Eastern Mediterranean Academic Research Center (DAKAM) ISBN: 978-605-9207-10-2. 2015
- Ali, Ahmed K., Badinelli, R., & Jones, J. R. (2013). Re-Defining the Architectural Design Process through Building a Decision-Support Framework for Design with Reuse. The International Journal of Sustainability Policy and Practice 8(1), 1-18. doi:10.18848/2325-1166/cgip/v08i01/55385. 2013

### SERVICE

ACSA Councilor	Texas A&M University, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture	2016 – Present
Scientific Committee Member	Construction History Society of America	2017
Editorial Advisory Board Member	Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle, United Kingdom	2017 – Present
Reviewer	Journal of Architectural Education (JAE)	2016
Reviewer	Journal of Technology   Architecture + Design (TAD)	2017
Reviewer	Journal of Construction Education and Research (ARC)	2014
Associate Editor	Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability	2014

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (selected)

Research Associate	Center for Sustainable Mobility, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute	2012 – 2013
Architectural Designer	Hanbury Evans Wright Viattas   architects+planners, Virginia, United States	2003 – 2009
Project Manager and Team Leader	Community Design Assistance Center, Blacksburg, Virginia, United States	2002
Architect Intern	Weaver Architecture Studio, Bristol, Tennessee, United States	2001
Project Architect	House of Environmental & Architectural Designs Studies Alexandria, Egypt	1999 – 2000
Architect and Project Manager	Amr Rifaat Architects, Alexandria, Egypt	1998 – 1999

### LICENSURE

Registered Architect, License Number 13/04169	Egypt Engineers Syndicate, Architecture Section, Alexandria, Egypt	1997 – Present
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