



CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

Peter MacKeith, Washington University in St. Louis

Candidate Statement

I am honored by this nomination to serve as the President of the ACSA and appreciate the consideration of the ACSA member schools and faculties.

The critical moment we live in now – characterized by economic, social and environmental challenges – calls for vigorous academic leadership in architecture and design education, founded on clear vision, sound judgment, dedicated intelligence, and deep empathy. The ACSA, constituted by our schools' membership, effectively provides this leadership at a national and international level. If elected, I will work with the ACSA Board, constituent members and our collateral partners to advance the mission of the ACSA and to represent the interests of the member schools.

But with the 100th anniversary of the ACSA now marked and celebrated, we have a new century of architectural education to envision and to educate for – a global, urban, frenetic, technology-driven, bottom-line, climate-changed century which already needs thoughtful leaders in architecture and design. What will an architectural education need to be in 10 years? Even in 5 years? What will our schools be – physically, intellectually, and socially?

In this challenging moment, an essential agenda for our work as educators is the emphatic demonstration of the deep identity and value of an architectural education – to our students and their families, to our schools and universities, to our professional colleagues and to our national and international audiences. As academic leaders, we work to assist faculty and students to understand, develop and deepen their own identities and abilities, so as to work ultimately and effectively on behalf of others. As an organization, we must work collectively to demonstrate the economic, social and environmental value an architecture education both possesses and creates, and advocate not simply for the substance and quality of that education but for its transferable value to the good of the profession and the public.

In the course of the past thirty years, as a faculty member and as an administrator, I have moved from public university settings to private ones, from locations in rural landscapes to ones in urban locations, from educational institutions in the United States to those in Europe – and back again in all categories. Throughout these many and diverse experiences, I have come to know well the calculable financial dimensions of architectural education, undeniably important in the contemporary atmosphere of austerity-packaged budgets and student loan debt burdens. But I have always understood the authentic value of that same education to be incalculable in manifold qualitative ways. In this teeter-totter of costs and benefits, we must advocate passionately and persuasively across multiple constituencies and audiences for a productive balance, and for a full description of the value of our work.

It has been a privilege to work with the ACSA Board, the ACSA staff, and many members of ACSA member faculties throughout successive administrative, national, and international conferences in a number of capacities. As co-chair of the 2009 ACSA Administrators' Conference here in St. Louis, I came to know directly the intellectual and collaborative rewards of the ACSA's work on behalf of architectural education. I am pleased now to further serve the ACSA as a representative on NAAB accreditation teams. But: throughout these productive, supportive structures for faculty and schools, we must also be emphatically focused on enhancing and promoting the full range of value for our educational work.

Over the last thirty years, I have also come to know well many, if not most, of the schools of architecture throughout North America by virtue of my administrative and academic activities and travels for Washington University in St. Louis, the University of Virginia, and Yale University, as well as for the Helsinki University of Technology (now Aalto University) and the DIS Architecture program in Copenhagen, Denmark. I am mindful of the spectrum of degree and curricular structures, and the diversity of instructional approaches, contained within the ACSA. If elected President, I would be grateful and privileged to expand and deepen that knowledge and employ it actively on behalf of the ACSA member schools, working within the ACSA Board and our collateral organizations. But: amidst that diversity, we must also construct and sustain a collective and focused public value for our educational work.

How, then, can the ACSA work to demonstrate more openly and more productively the value of an architectural education? As is often the case, by strengthening existing initiatives and building energetically upon them:

1. Promotion and continued enhancement of best practices in architectural education: design teaching workshops for engineering and business, design awareness in the K-12 schooling, and course syllabus collection and publication, for example;
2. Promotion and continued enhancement of academic networks of research and design expertise on critical issues: in design for aging, energy efficiency, site and water management design, digital fabrication techniques, for example;
3. Promotion and continued enhancement of national/international inter-disciplinary discussions in urban design, landscape architecture and the visual arts: with CELA, with CAA, with SAH, with ULI and APA, for example;
4. Promotion and continued enhancement of diversity in architectural education: increasing access and broadening appeal;
5. Promotion and continued enhancement of international engagements with parallel organizations: structured discussions of the future of architecture education in China, India, Africa, the Americas and Europe; discussions of pedagogy in an international classroom, for example.

While I believe that these understandings of value are transferable sensibilities across the realms of the design disciplines and professions, I believe that the ACSA can take the lead in advancing this sense of value most effectively. Thank you again for your consideration.



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Curriculum Vitae

TEACHING / ADMINISTRATION

Washington University in St. Louis	
Professor of Architecture	2008 (tenure)-
Associate Dean, Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts	2006-13
Associate Dean, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture	1999-2005
Denmark Institute for Study Abroad (DIS), Visiting Faculty in Architecture	2010, 2013
Helsinki University of Technology (Finland) Department of Architecture	
Director of Studies, Master of Architecture – International Program, Lecturer	1995-1999, 1990-1992
University of Virginia School of Architecture, Visiting Professor, Assistant Professor	1999, 1993-95
University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) School of Architecture, Visiting Professor	1998-1999
Yale University, Critic in Architectural Design, Dean of Trumbull College, Yale College	1985-1989

DESIGN PRACTICE / DESIGN COMPETITIONS / DESIGN EXHIBITIONS

Curator/Designer, The Nordic Pavilion, 13th Biennale of Architecture, Venice, Italy	2012-13
Venice 2012 / Helsinki, Finland 2013 / Stockholm, Sweden	2013
Designer/Curator (St. Louis), "Design with the Other 90%: CITIES"	2012-13
Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis (w/Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum)	
Design Principal, Studio Finn	2011
"Archipelago," Helsinki South Harbor International Competition	
Design Consultant, Behnisch Architekten/Jan Gehl Architects Design Team	2010
"Framing a Modern Masterpiece" International Competition, St. Louis, USA / Finalist	
Design Consultant, Peter Rose/ARO/Michael Van Valkenburgh Design Team	2009
"LOW2NO" INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION, Helsinki, Finland / Finalist	
Curator/Designer, "On the Riverfront: St. Louis and the Gateway Arch"	2009
School of Architecture, Washington University in St. Louis	
Curator (St. Louis), "Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future"	2009
Kemper Art Museum, St. Louis (w/MFA, Helsinki, Yale Architecture)	
Juhani Pallasmaa Architects, Helsinki, Finland, Designer	1990-1992

EDUCATION

Master of Architecture, Yale School of Architecture	1985
BA, with Distinction (English and International Relations), University of Virginia	1981

SERVICE

Honorary Consul of Finland, State of Missouri	2012-ongoing
ACSA Administrators Conference, Panelist, Moderator	2012
Fay Jones School of Architecture, U of Arkansas, Professional Advisory Board	2011-on going
Finnish Cultural Institute, New York, Advisory Board Member	2009-ongoing
ACSA Annual Administrators Conference, Co-Chair	2009
ACSA Visiting Team Member, NAAB Accreditation Reviews	2008 – 2016
ACSA Administrators Conference, Topic Session Chair	2008
EAAE/ACSA Research Conference, Copenhagen, Moderator	2008
ACSA National Conference, Philadelphia, Panelist	2007
Nominator, Phaidon World Encyclopedia of Architecture (Nordic region)	2006
Nominator, National Design Awards, Cooper-Hewitt Museum Program	2005-ongoing
ACSA National Conference, Chicago, Topic Chair	2005
EAAE Conference on Architectural Education, Copenhagen, moderator	2004
EAAE Competition Jury, Copenhagen, Denmark	2003 – 2005
ACSA International Convention, Helsinki, Finland, Topic Chair	2003
ACSA National Convention, Los Angeles, Session Moderator	2000

PUBLICATIONS

<i>The SOM Journal, editor (numbers 8, 9, 10)</i>	2010 - 2014
Editorial board: R. Duffy, K. Frampton, L. Galliano, J. Ockman, J. Pallasmaa	
<i>LIGHT HOUSES: On the Nordic Common Ground</i> (Venice Biennale catalog)	2012
Helsinki, 2012: The Museum of Finnish Architecture	
<i>Encounters II: Architectural Essays (by Juhani Pallasmaa), editor</i>	2012
Helsinki, 2012: Rakennustieto, Building Information Ltd.	
<i>Archipelago: Essays on Architecture, author and editor</i>	2006
Helsinki, 2006: Rakennustieto: Building Information, Ltd.	
<i>The Dissolving Corporation: Contemporary Architecture, Corporate Identity in Finland</i>	2005
Helsinki, 2005: EVA: The Finnish Institute on Business and Economic Policy	
<i>Encounters: Architectural Essays (by Juhani Pallasmaa), editor</i>	2005
Helsinki, 2005: Rakennustieto, Building Information Ltd.	

<i>Alvar Aalto: Between Humanism and Materialism</i> (Peter Reed, editor) Contributor of analytical drawings of Alvar Aalto's works New York, 1998: The Museum of Modern Art.	1998
<i>THE FINLAND PAVILIONS: Finland at the Universal Expositions 1900 – 1992</i> , co-author Helsinki, 1993: City Kustannus Publishers Ltd.	1993
<i>PERSPECTA 24: The Yale Architectural Journal / On Materiality</i> , co-editor New York, 1988: Rizzoli International Publications.	1988

Critical essays, introductions and articles on contemporary Finnish/Nordic architecture and design 1991-ongoing
 ARCHITECTURE, ARCHITECTURAL RECORD, ARKKITEHTI-LEHTI (The Finnish Architect's Review), The ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW, ARKITEKTUR-N,
 CASABELLA, COMPETITIONS, FORM FUNCTION FINLAND, GLOBAL DANISH ARCHITECTURE, KOREAN ARCHITECTURE REVIEW, MONUMENT,
 PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE, SPAZIO e SOCIETA, WORLD ARCHITECTURE

AWARDS / GRANTS / HONORS

Knight, First Class, Order of the Lion of Finland	2013
St. Louis AIA Honor Awards (two, in Design, in Unbuilt Projects)	2013
Brookings Institution/Washington University Venture Fund Grant	2012-13
ACSA Service Award - ACSA/NCAA Administrators Conference	2009
ACSA NATIONAL AWARD FOR CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT IN DESIGN EDUCATION	2008
Graham Foundation for the Visual Arts Grants	1996, 2001, 2008
Washington University I-CARES Grants	2007-2008, 2012-13
National Science Foundation, School of Engineering development grant	2007
FINALIST, RIBA Bookshops International Book of the Year (for Encounters)	2005
AIA-VIRGINIA MERIT AWARD, Klockner Soccer Stadium, University of Virginia	1993
Finnish Cultural Foundation Grants	1991, 1996
Fulbright Fellowship (Finland)	1990
Alpha Rho Chi Medal, AIA Scholarship, Yale School of Architecture	1985
Echols Scholar, University Honor Award, University of Virginia	1977-81