



# CANDIDATES for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR - Position 1 (3-year term)

Courtney Crosson, University of Arizona

## Candidate Statement

Architects produce integrated solutions to multifaceted challenges. We work to reconcile layered contradictions – physically setting limits while creating openings, formally seeking unity while serving multiple functions, culturally protecting unique places while providing for diversity. Our job is thrilling when a holistic answer is created for a seemingly intractable problem – or even when we are just able to frame clearer questions. As a licensed architect and urban researcher, my work integrates layered variables into cohesive, physical solutions. Architects turn tested ideas into tangible things. In this role, they are essential to translating academia into action.

ACSA is the unifying organization of our diverse talents within research, education, and practice. As an At-Large Director, I will be committed to the strategic initiatives and goals of ACSA. We can foster a pipeline of architects that reflect the diversity of the populations we serve, support the learning of ever-evolving skillsets, and advocate for our essential value as innovators and solution-creators within society.

It is a challenging time for architecture and for our world. My preparation for candidacy includes both professional service and academic experience in research, service, and teaching.

**Bio:** My work has spanned many scales and locations including Europe, Africa, Asia, and North America. I have worked for Foster + Partners in Hong Kong, Muf Architect+ Art in London, and UN Habitat in a Nairobi informal settlement called Kibera. As a senior sustainability consultant for BuroHappold Engineering, I collaborated on projects with Peter Zumthor, Kieran Timberlake, and Grimshaw Architects. My first net zero design has been in operation since 2009; a seven-acre secondary girls boarding school in Muhuru Bay, Kenya. My current research advances decentralized water systems to address pressing urban challenges – from water scarcity in the US Southwest to safe and affordable water access in informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya.



**Service:** During my three years of service on the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Los Angeles Board, I learned the importance of clear communication, transparent processes, and collective goal formation for a large and diverse membership. Now in academia, I strive to translate the value of architecture and design to other disciplines across campuses and communities through interdisciplinary service. These positions have helped to elevate architectural research and reinforced my belief in the vital role architects can serve within the academy. ACSA serves its broad membership by fortifying strong links with our profession and expanding connections to other disciplines. The white papers on Tenure and Promotion and STEM are two examples of this leadership.

**Research+Practice:** Supporting faculty advancement means fostering a culture of scholarship, expanding research mentorship and training, and increasing peer-reviewed publication opportunities. Stronger partnerships with practice and collaboration with associated disciplines are needed. Through my work at international architecture and engineering firms, I gained a deep ethos of collaboration and interdisciplinary design. I have brought this approach into my current research work. My research collaborations and PhD advising are with geography, engineering, and international development. While practicing at Foster+Partners and BuroHappold Engineering, I worked to bring academia into the research questions faced on projects. Now in academia, I am passionate about creating opportunities for greater linkages with practice for mutual benefit.

**Education+Diversity:** It is imperative that our discipline broadens the populations it serves and educates. At the University of Arizona, our B.Arch graduating class reflects the over 25% Hispanic student body at our institution. I see the positive effects in the breadth of work produced and the issues under study. As the former co-chair of our college's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, I believe diversity is strengthened through an expanded pipeline of applicants, a committed culture of mentorship, and breaking systematic barriers of exclusion. Initiatives like StudyArchitecture are tools to widen recruitment, increase accessibility, and communicate the value of an architectural education.



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## Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

### EDUCATION

Masters in Architecture	Yale University   School of Architecture   New Haven CT	2007-2010
BA Art History	Duke University   Durham NC	2000-2004

### APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor	University of Arizona   School of Architecture	2016-present
Assistant Professor	University of Arizona   Global Change Interdisciplinary PhD Program	2017-present
Senior Sustainability Consultant	BuroHappold Engineering   Los Angeles CA	2012-2016
Designer	Foster + Partners   Hong Kong China	2010-2012
Designer + Project Manager	MUF Architecture Art   London UK	2009
Researcher	United Nations Habitat   Nairobi Kenya	2004-2005

### PUBLICATIONS (selected)

**Courtney, Crosson.** "Agency and Adaptation: the built environment of the Kibera Slum Upgrading Project." Planning Theory. Revise and Resubmit (minimal revisions - forthcoming). 2019

**Crosson, Courtney.** "Innovating the Urban Water System: Achieving a Net Zero Water Future Beyond Current Regulation." Technology | Architecture+ Design. Vol 2, no. 1 (2018): 68-81. 2018

**Crosson, Courtney.** "Creating Our Own Ladders to Climb: Architects Setting Sustainable Policy." Proceedings of the ARCC-EAAE International Conference, 2018. 2018

**Crosson, Courtney.** "A Model for Public-Private-Academic Partnership: Supporting Climate Planning Imperatives in Cities." Proceedings of the ARCC-EAAE International Conference, 2018. 2018

**Crosson, Courtney, D. Tong, Y. Zhang, Q. Zhong.** "Rainwater as Potential Resource for Water Independence in Tucson." Making Action Possible for Southern Arizona. University of Arizona, 2018. 2018

**Crosson, Courtney.** "Shades of Green: Modifying Sustainability Rating Systems for Transit Center Functionality." Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board (2017):88-96. 2017

**Crosson, Courtney.** "Achieving Net Zero Water in Severe Drought Prone Areas: A Case Study of Catchment, Storage, and Infiltration Optimization." Procedia Engineering 145 (2016): 782-789. 2016

### SERVICE (selected)

Dean's Strategic Planning and Operations Advisory Committee   Member (by appointment)   College		2018-ongoing
Water, Society, and Policy   Executive Committee (by invitation)   University of Arizona		2017-ongoing
Center for Climate Adaptation Sciences+ Solutions   Associate (by invitation)   University of Arizona		2017-ongoing
Diversity and Inclusion Committee   Co-Chair (by appointment)   College		2017-2018
Association for Collegiate School of Architecture (ACSA)   Faculty Councilor (by appointment)   School		2016-2018
Architectural Engineering Degree Advisory Committee   Member (by invitation)   University of Arizona		2015-ongoing
American Institute of Architects (AIA) Los Angeles Board   Associate Director (by election)   Los Angeles CA		2012-2015

### AWARDS (selected)

Practice + Leadership Award	ACSA and AIA   National award for teaching, scholarship,+outreach	2018
Darryl Dobras Award for Excellence	UA CAPLA   Dean annually selects recipient for outstanding service	2018
President's Award	Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences   National Award	2017
Urban+Regional Planning Award	AIA Arizona State Chapter   Annual Design Awards   Citation	2017
Crescordia Award	Arizona Forward   Environmental Excellence Awards	2017
Design Pedagogy Award	AIA Arizona State Chapter   Annual Design Awards	2016

### GRANTS + CONTRACTS (selected)

Tucson 2050 Vision Contracts, PI	GLHN Architects + Engineers	2017-2020
Multi-Use Basin Study Contract, PI	City of Tucson and Pima County Regional Flood Control District	2018
Small Starts Grant, PI	National Institute for Transportation and Communities	2018
Faculty Seed Grant, PI	UA Office of Research, Development, and Innovation	2017
Making Action Possible Grant, PI	UA Economic+Business Research Center	2017
Emerging Leader Fellow	American Institute of Architects (AIA)	2015

### LICENSURE

Registered Architect, Arizona registration number 58857, LEED AP ND, LEED AP BD+C

For full biography, please visit: <http://capla.arizona.edu/users/courtney-crosson>