ACSA Distinguished Professor

2016-2017 Winner Submission Materials

ROGER SCHLUNTZ University of New Mexico

Roger Schluntz, FAIA Academic Summary/Overview

Throughout his career Prof. Roger Schluntz has provided critical leadership to the academy and the profession in advancing architectural education – through a combination of teaching, scholarship, advocacy, civic activism, and mentorship. He has a multi-faceted record of "making things happen."

Beyond the classroom, his tireless efforts have nurtured a broader context for the achievement of design excellence with universities, public institutions, and governmental agencies. Encouragement, support, and oversight of faculty colleagues and students have provided opportunities for others to excel in demonstrating their own unique capabilities.

Initiatives at four universities - Nebraska, Arizona State, U. of Miami and most recently, New Mexico - have resulted, in each instance, of a formally recognized outreach center capably engaging faculty, students, professionals, and community stakeholders in collaborative urban design and planning studies and charrettes. While a faculty member at the University of Nebraska, a **First Honor Award in Urban Design** from *Progressive Architecture* was received for a landmark study of Goodhue's Nebraska State Capitol and Environs (precinct and region) co-authored by Prof. Schluntz. Subsequently, many of the study recommendations were adopted by the City of Lincoln as well as the State.

These and other efforts have enhance the public understanding of the importance of design while effectively demonstrating the presumption that a school of architecture ought to be a vital, if not indispensable, part of both the university and its community. Schluntz has been a long-recognized voice in underscoring the importance of viable linkages between the profession, firms, agencies, and schools of architecture. He has twice served as a Juror for the national AIA awards program, as well as *Progressive Architecture* magazine. More recently his service as a juror was requested for the prestigious AIA College of Fellows Latrobe prize and the AIA Upjohn Research awards program.

Parallel with his academic teaching and leadership, for fifteen years the National Endowment for the Arts involved Schluntz in several advisory and professional consulting roles. For over twenty-five years he has also represented the profession and academe as an appointed member of the *Peer Review Panel for Design Excellence* by the GSA. As one of a select few professional advisers for major design competitions, he has directed over 25 nationally significant competitions, including award-winning, now completed, facilities for schools of architecture at Arizona State University, Florida International University, and, more recently, the University of New Mexico.

At a critical juncture in the history of ACSA, Schluntz served as its Executive Director (1997-1980). During this timeframe the organization became independent of the AIA, undertook its initial Federal grants/contracts (from both the US Department of Energy and National Endowment of the Arts), and received corporate sponsorships for ACSA's initial student design competitions. An endowment was established to provide continuing financial support for the JAE, this a quarterly publication that Schluntz also served as its Executive Editor. And for the first time, the *ACSA Annual Meeting* (Savannah, 1980) began its now well established, central activity of refereed papers submitted by faculty members from the US and Canada.

His selection by the ACSA to the Board of Directors of the NAAB followed his service as a visiting team member for over a dozen visits to schools of architecture. Subsequently he undertook the pilot visit to Istanbul Technical University that provided the initial test of the NAAB pilot program for "equivalency accreditation" of programs outside the US. Additionally and more recently, he has served as a visiting team member for the LAAB for accreditation visits to seven landscape architecture programs.

As a tireless advocate for students and their recognition, Prof. Schluntz played a critical role in the expansion and visibility of *Tau Sigma Delta National Honor Society*. During his recent Presidency, this venerable organization has expanded to now include over 85 chapters at architecture schools across the country.

Of noteworthy consequence are the three "Deans of the Americas" conferences that Schluntz has initiated and cochaired for administrators from North and South America. These highly successful, hemispheric meetings for academic heads of architecture occurred first in Miami (1994), Panama (2004), and ten years later in Antigua, Guatemala (2014). In the summer of 2016 Prof. Schluntz undertook the organization and co-chairmanship of the "Administrator's Track" as part of the ACSA International Conference in Santiago, Chile.



The award winning facility for the UNM School of Architecture and Planning. Orchestrated by Dean Roger Schluntz and despite nearly insurmountable odds including approvals for the project, the gateway campus site, funding and fund-raising, and the national design competition that resulted in Antoine Predock receiving the commission - the resulting project dramatically elevated the culture and visibility of the School.

ASU College of Architecture & Environmental Design

CITATION

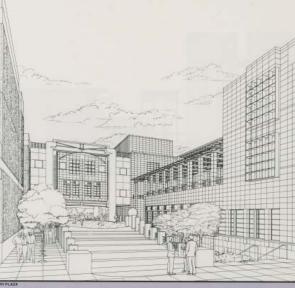
The Hillier Group

Project: College of Architecture & Environmental Design, Arizona State University,

Tempe. Site: At the edge of the campus where A.S.U. abuts the city of

Site: At the edge of the campus where A.S.U. abus the city of Tempe. **Program:** To provide a new 100,000-square-foot building, with lecture halls, studios, and faculty offices, completing a complex for the College of Ar-chitecture and Environmental Design. The complex includes a 50,000-square-foot building (circa 1967). **Solution:** Winner of a limited design competition (PA, Jan. 1987, p. 35), this 39's story build-ing, with floor heights matching the 1967 building, approxi-mately fills its ite. It does, how-ever, leave room for a new plava defined by the existing structure on one side, the new building on the opposite side, and a new bridge building on the plava's third side. The bridge contains school commons for exhibitions, reviews, and other activities. The plava is the major element reinforcing the ideas of commu-nity and learning, the two essen-habout two confrontation with the building on the plava's first is the building entrance (placed in confrontation with the biharry entrance to symbolize be importants to promote 'com-muty,' the lower one serving as boby for the lecture rooms, the upper our, roolless, in:

118 Progressive Architecture 1:88

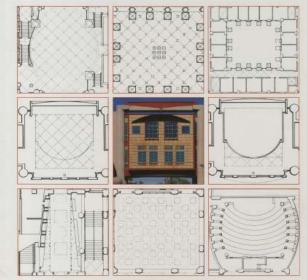


rended for faculty use. The pat-tern of the oversized concrete masonry wall surfaces is scaled to create a transition between the monoliblic concrete of the 1967 building and the smaller-scaled brick texture of other surrounding buildings. The large-scaled, gridded windows of the upper stories serve and express the studios; the smaller windows at the lower floors create a human scale and express the open, public nature of the building. Finely scaled metal-work refers to the building's classical origins and the South-west region's traditional herit-age. 1100

Jury Comments Maki: This building establishes a mass, a presence in the campus. It creates a plaza and bridges with existing buildings. Quigley: It's resolved in almost every aspect. The circulation is good, and there are wonderful has Classician to do with Arizona State University Covathmey: I argue that this is a Southwest building type, the courts and building. Maki: There is also a lot of lowing care given the interiors, reflected in the quality of space.

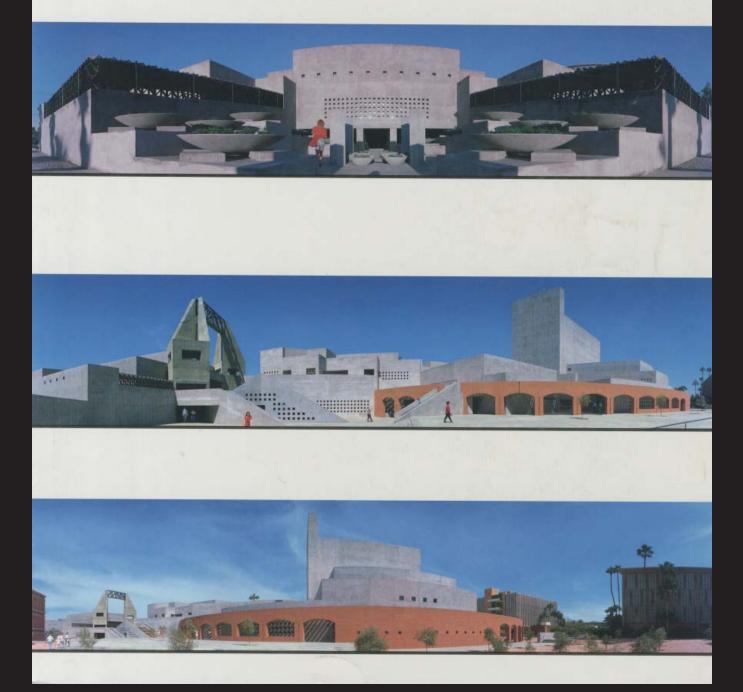
Architeets: The Hillier Group, Princeton, N.J. (Alan Chomacoff, project architect, design; Geord F.X. Geier II, project architect, anan-agement; Douglas P. Harvey, project architect, coasimation; Eric D. Baber, Keat G. Tan, design town, Joil C. Spach, princefola to charge). Associated firm: Architecture One, Lui, Phoems, Arsa, (Will Craig, project architect; David Brandt, landscape architect; David Brandt, landscape architect; Modelmahc, are Studios. Model photographer: Taylor Photographics. Client: Arizona State University, Tempe Ariz





Arizona State University, new facility for the College of Architecture and Environmental [Alan Chimicoff, lead designer; for the Hiller Group] The first of four major Design. design competitions for schools of architecture organized and directed by Roger Schluntz was conducted in 1987.

Progressive Architecture



The Art Museum and Performing Arts Center (now the Nelson Center for the Arts) at Arizona State University. [Antoine Predock, Architect.] As director of the School of Architecture, Prof. Schluntz was engaged by President Nelson to enhance design excellence on the campus. The organization of the national design competition that resulted in this landmark facility was one of the initiatives.













DESIGNS FOR A NEW SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Architecture Art Planning

> Competition entry finalists for the new School of Architecture at Florida International University, won by Bernard Tschumi -upper left image. [Professional Advisor, Roger Schluntz.]

DECEMBER 1993 • SIX DOLLARS

ARCHITECTURE

INCORPORATING ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY

National design competition winning scheme for the American Heritage Center and Art Museum at the University of Wyoming. Antoine Predock, Architect and AIA Gold Medalist; Roger Schluntz, Competition Adviser. In addition to projects at a number of public and private universities, Schluntz served as the Professional Advisor for competitions of three major public libraries – Denver, Nashville, and Jacksonville, Florida; as well as three US Federal Courthouses (Mobile, AL, Las Cruces, NM, and El Paso, Texas).

GRIMSHAW

Projects

Practice

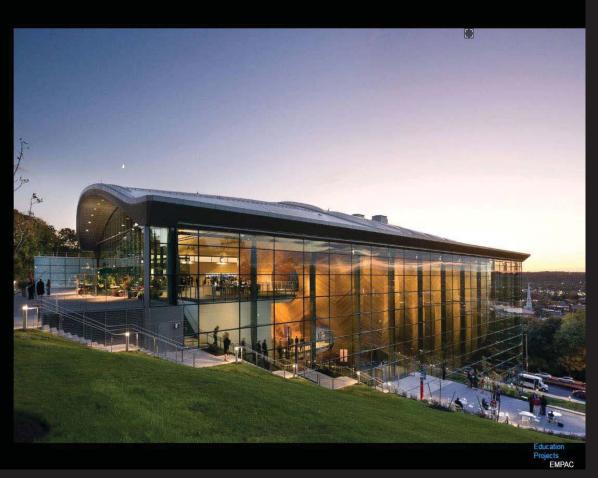
People

Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center at Renssalaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) Troy, NY, USA

The Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC) is a nexus of technological and artistic innovation and optimised performance space, where the intersection of science and the arts is explored through sound, movement and light.

Grimshaw's appointment to the project was the result of an international design competition. Sited on a steep hillside overlooking the Hudson River, the 200,000 sq f building extends the existing RPI campus westward. It provides five different performance environments: an elegant 1,200-seat concert hall, a 400-seat theatre, two adaptive performance studios, and a dance studio. It also houses audio and video editing suites, artist-inresidence studios, and the campus radio station. Grimshaw has designed a multi-functional building in which performances and other activities can take place concurrently without absolute segregation of building users. Key to the design is the atrium space, which acts a hub for informal social interaction and as the lobby to the major spaces.

Project Details



The completed performing arts center, EMPAC, at Rensselaer. Designed by Nicholas Grimshaw, Architect. Roger Schluntz served as the Professional Advisor for this landmark international design competition, as well as Denver's iconic Art Museum expansion, won by Daniel Libeskind. College of Architecture and Environmental Design

Arizona State University

The College of Architecture and Environmental Design,

Arizona State University,

Confers on this 4th day of December 1992

to Roger L. Schluntz

this certificate of commendation for

his outstanding service as Director of the School of Architecture from 1980 to 1989 and as founding Director of the Joint ASU/City of Phoenix Urban Design Program from 1990 to 1992.

Dean College of Architecture and Environmental Design

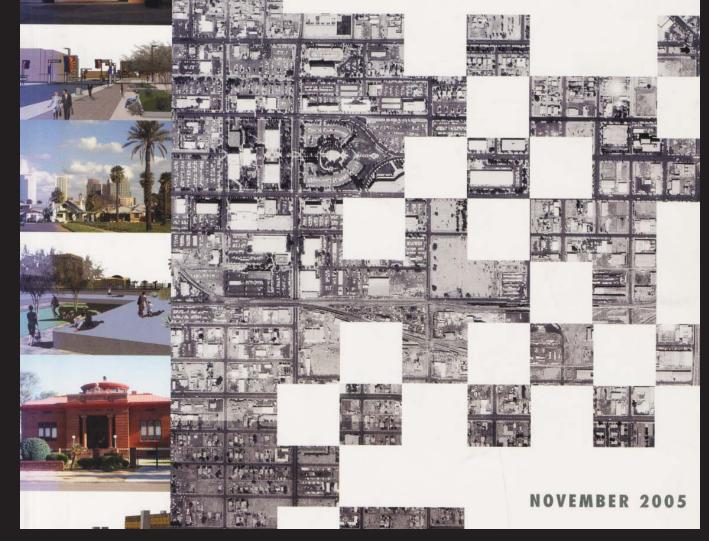
President, College Faculty Assembly

intra

Following his successful nine-year term as chair and director of ASU's School of Architecture, Schluntz initiated and then directed the Joint ASU/City of Phoenix Urban Design Program, a studio funded by the City of Phoenix to engage in projects of mutual interest to the City and the School.

Delivering Community Embeddedness

ARIZONA Capitol Mall District Revitalization Plan



The legacy of community engagement at ASU continued long after Schluntz's departure, as well as his involvement as a charrette team member of projects undertaken by the Joint Urban Design Center (shown here the cover of the Arizona Capital Mall/District Revitalization Study). The State of Arizona undertook a series of planning design charrettes for historic towns (Bisbee, Jerome, Winslow, and Globe) that Schluntz was invited back as a team member.



THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

is pleased to announce

ROGER SCHLUNTZ, AIA PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

as the appointee to

THE HYDE CHAIR FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURE

Professor Schluntz will conduct studios and lectures of his work in Lincoln during the fall semester, 1995.

HYDE CHAIR FOR EXCELLENCE

Established in 1986, the Hyde Chair of Excellence allows the College of Architecture to attract visiting faculty of national and international distinction. Through this endowment, renowned scholars and practitioners will be invited to spend a semester or more in residence at the College, working with and teaching architecture, interior design and planning students in studios, in seminars, and in an informal mentor role.

The Hyde Chair of Excellence was made possible by the generosity of Mrs. Flora Hyde in honor of the memory of her late husband, A. Leicester Hyde. Mr. Hyde was a 1925 graduate of Architecture and Engineering.

Returning to the University of Nebraska, this time as the Hyde Chair for Excellence, Schluntz engaged students, professionals, faculty, and key stakeholders in urban design issues of the metropolitan region.

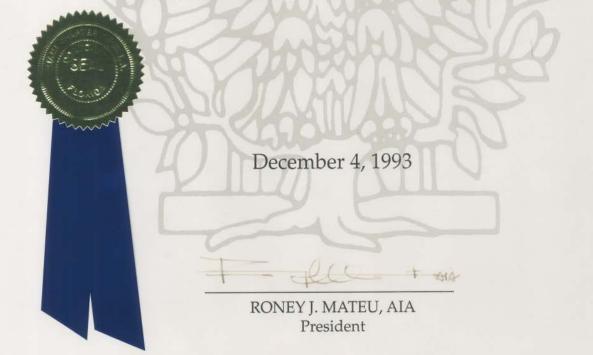
THE MIAMI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

IS PLEASED TO CONFER THE

PRESIDENT'S AWARD TO DEAN ROGER SCHLUNTZ, AIA

IN APPRECIATION

FOR YOUR EFFORTS TOWARDS IMPROVING THE PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE BY BRINGING TOGETHER ACADEMICS AND THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE THROUGH JOINT PROGRAMS BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI AND THE AIA



Recognition was granted, in part, for the leadership role that Schluntz provided the University of Miami following the devastation in South Florida resulting from Hurricane Andrew, the subsequent establishment of the School's Center for Design and Community Planning, and urban design charrettes engaging professionals, community leaders, and students.

Urban design and planning

J Michael Kirkland is an architect and principal in the Toronto firm of Jones & Kirkland, and of Coombes/ Kirkland/Berridge, Urban Design, he is a Professor of Architecture at the University of Toronto. Before locating in Canada, he was Director of Urban Design for Midtown Manhattan and Associate Chief of Architecture for the New York State Urban Development Corporation. He has been involved in numerous urban design studies of Harbourfront, Toronto, site planning studies for the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood development, Toronto, and low-rise, high-density housing prototype in Brooklyn

Roger Schluntz is an architect, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Architecture, Arizona State University, Tempe. Prior to his Arizona position, he was Executive Director of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and a Project Director for various grants from the U.S. Department of Energy. He has been a member of the AIA Urban Design & Planning Committee and a design consultant in urban design for various firms in Phoenix. He was a winner with associates, of a P/A First Honor Award in 1978 for The Nebraska Capitol and Environs Plan.



Roger Schluntz

Beginning with 99 submissions, jurors Michael Kirkland and Roger Schluntz set out some basic criteria outlining characteristics they were looking for in winning schemes. Starting with the definition of urban design and planning, Schluntz felt that the terms implied a clear evidence of a third dimensional component that is both comprehensible and meaningful, there must be a visual sensibility Kirkland asked that the scheme be physicalactually or demonstrably inductive. In addition, it must be didactic, capable of being instructive and generic, both agreed, as well as being credible and plausible. Both also called for the projects to extend beyond professional competence to exceptional, or even ingeniousness in either process or solution.

Kirkland: Urban design-in the North American sense-is a reaction to the morphological and typological vagaries of the Modern Movement in archtiecture. It seeks to posit a compelling notion of what the world might be-as deliberate and precise physically as the buildings it contains, and by which it is defined. The 19th-Century American city was not so bad, because buildings had a limited possibility of subverting the spatial system of the city Many schemes have been passed over in our evaluation. We should say why 1 Large buildings are not cities. 2) Decorated and landscaped residual space remains residual. 3) Planning policies without predictable formal consequences are not design. 4) Urban design necessarily conditions buildings.

Schluntz: A difficulty we had in reviewing these proposals was in understanding the constraints that will affect the probability of implementation. Some of the drawings are often

very seductive, and we know that the plans are a lot easier to draw than they will be to realize. We found ourselves guessing quite a bit, and I'm sure some very good solutions to difficult problems and circumstances were left on the table.

We also realize that many of the projects



J Michael Kirkland

we reviewed were for small communities that have minimal capabilities for public investment. The scope of design services is a fraction of that available to some of the large, world-class cities or entrepreneur clients. But an "idea," a commitment to purpose, must still evoke a sense of supreme accomplishment, no matter if the stakes are large or small.

Kirkland: Many projects appeared to suffer from some process of radical dissembling, no doubt a product of particular circumstances. Projects which obviously attempted to satisfy a vast array of opinion were invariably unsatisfying.

Schluntz: The submissions that I found most convincing were those that carried the planning process through to a physical reality that ultimately evoked a "sense of place." Imageability and legibility are not in evidence in most of our cities.

Progressive Architecture 1:84 129

Before arriving at the University of Miami, Schluntz served on the P/A Jury that permeated Seaside. He has also served twice on the NCARB student competition jury, twice on the AIA National Awards Jury, more recently the Latrobe Jury for the College of Fellows and currently the AIA Upjohn Research Awards Jury.

DESIGN EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

The U.S. General Services Administration, Public Buildings Service, presents this Certificate of Appreciation to

oger Schluntz

for contributions to quality and lasting achievement in Federal design

Commissioner, Public Buildings Service

October 11, 1995 Date



Dating from the early '90s, Schluntz is one of the GSA's longest serving National Peer Reviewers. Serving in a consulting capacity he also developed resource materials for the US GSA Design Excellence Program and Peer Panelists, and served has a consultant and professional advisor for three major federal courthouses.

An Urban Oasis for the 21st Century

THE SoLo PROJECT

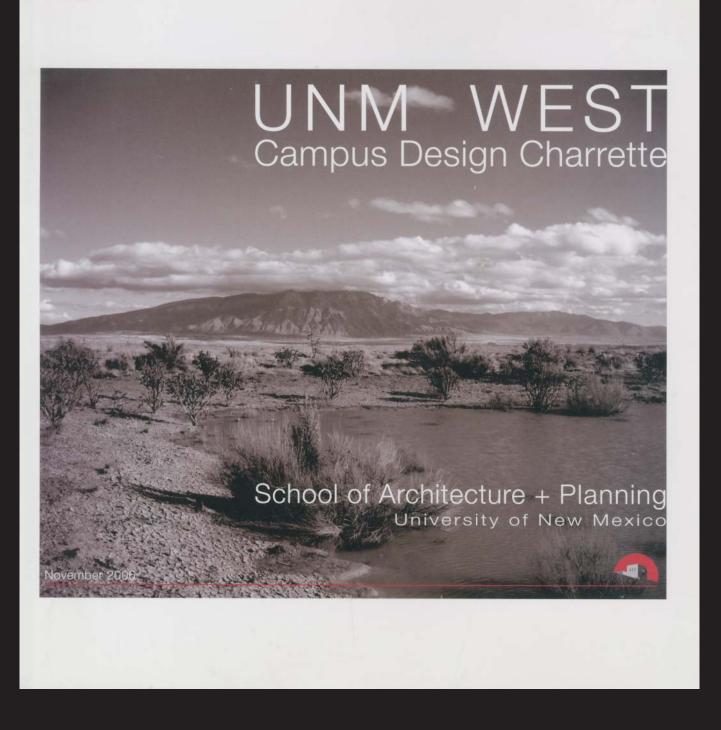
Conceptual Designs for the Area South of Lomas Between University Boulevard and I-25 Advanced Urban Design/Urban Planning Studio University of New Mexico School of Architecture and Planning Spring Semester, 2000

Continuing his teaching and outreach efforts as the new Dean at the University of New Mexico, Schluntz was quick to engage his students with professionals and community stakeholders with funded and unfunded studio design charrettes. The "South of Lomas" (SoLo) project pre-dated a ULI study for the same urban corridor.

NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS Site Planning + Design Workshop



An externally funded design charrette for a new campus for the New Mexico School for the Arts engaged four teams comprised of external urban designers/academic, UNM faculty, and students was organized and directed by Prof. Schluntz. Four alternative plans were presented to the NMSA and Santa Fe leadership.



Prior to engaging a professional planning firm, the University asked Prof. Schluntz to undertake a massive planning and design charrette for its proposed new campus, UNM West, to be located in neighboring City of Rio Rancho. Immediately following this highly visible and well-received study, the City of Rio Rancho provided a major grant to the School for Schluntz to lead a similar design charrette for its new urban center.



State of New Mexico Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson Governor

December 14, 2005

Dean Roger Schutz UNM School of Architecture 2414 Central Ave. S.E. Albuquerque, NM 87131

Dear Roger,

I am pleased to take this opportunity to appoint you to the Our Communities Our Future Task Force and do authorize and empower you to execute and fulfill the duties of that office according to law, and to hold said office with the rights and emoluments thereto legally appertaining unto you. I am confident you will be a valuable member of this task force and will fulfill your responsibilities with integrity and dedication.

Your term commences immediately and will expire April 30, 2007

Thank you for your willingness to serve the State of New Mexico through my administration.

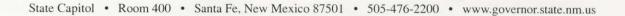
Sincerely,

Bill Richardson Governor of New Mexico

Attest:

Girn

Rebecca Vigil-Giron Secretary of State



In recognition of his contributions through UNM to the well-being of the State of New Mexico, then Governor Bill Richardson appointed Dean Schluntz to a Task Force charged with envisioning policy and legislative changes that could result in a better future for the communities and their citizenry.



International Union of Architects International Competitions Commission

GUIDELINES UIA INTERNATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITIONS

interpreting and implementing the

UNESCO "Standard Regulations for International Competitions in Architecture and Town-Planning"

As an appointed member of the International Competitions Commission by the UIA representing Region II (North and South America), Schluntz recently undertook a leadership role in the redrafting of the guidelines and regulations for the UIA and UNESCO endorsed competitions. Previously Schluntz served both the NEA and the AIA on their respective Design Competition task forces.

DEANS OF THE AMERICAS Conference on Architectural Education



DECANOS DE LAS AMÉRICAS Conferencia sobre Educación en Arguitectura

> UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI UNIVERSIDAD DE LOS ANDES



Latin Americas, U.S. Look to Future

by Rover Schluntz, AIA

Preceding President Clinton's "Summit of the Americas" in Mi-muit by a week, the University of Minmi (UM) and the Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, jointly husted the Denns of Americas Conference on Architecture Edu-cation in early December, Over 50 Upresentatives of schools from North, Central, and South Amer-on, as assembled at the Biltmere ica assembled at the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables for the Hotel in Coral Gables for the hiree-day presummit meeting. Keynote speakers included Ambler Moss, the director of the UM North-South Center; Arq, Mario Paredes Gaete, president of Associations of Architects; and Arq, Cesar Xavier Florez Garza, president of the Federation of Ar-chitects of Mexico.

Anticipating the needs of archi-tects in a future of dynamic change, the program underscored the "new world order" as free trade agreements become increastrade agreements become increas-ingly important to the economies of many Latin American coun-tries. Parallel to the concerns of the presidential summit, the three conference themes—multina-tional practice and licensure, sus-tainable development and the emtainable development and the en-vironment, and appropriate tech-nology/technology transfer-were conducted by panels that included deans from the countries represented. Among the major concerne using

concerns raised: • Catching up with CAD: The wide disparity in the resources available to schools throughout Latin America aised concerns by many delegates of how computer-



technologies are taught and incor-porated into practice. An obvious fear is a trend that would relegate the role of Lain Annerican archi-tects to little more than local rep-sentatives for an increasing num-ber of U.S. and Caundian firms. • Disparities in sustainable de-velopment policies: with a prolein and architecties with a pend on political astuteness and credibil-ty. Because is is probable that a number of emerging nations have to infine the ability nor the desire to impose constraints on environ-mentally detrimental practices, Incurrence on the year of common to impose constraints on environ-mentally detrimental practices, the ethical responsibilities and ob-ligations for the profession will be increasingly tested. A parallel concern centered on the desire to maintain cultural identities and local practices in building and construction in the face of multi-national practice and increasing.

local practices in building and construction in the face of multi-national practice and increasing standardization of client expecti-tions and building components. Growth in urban areas: Arq. Carlos Morales Hendy, confer-ence cooponors and dean at the University of the Andes, pointed to the likelihood that the lower-ing of trade barriers will acceler-ate the migration to urban centers. "There will be a large-scale need for housing and other institutional and urban infrastructure projects that should not panalyze the city as they get under way.... This growth may aggrowate existing ay aggr

of this in places like Bogota." Bologational and prefereional translayeds: The final session of the conference provided a broad over-view of accreditation processes and standards. Regrettably, a sig-ificant number of the South American countries provide no measure for controlling the qual-ity, size, or number of schools. Whether it wants to or not, the National Architectural Accreding graduates from Latin America ac-cess to Becamue in the U.S. the ad conference participant between Biola.

onference participant rel, FAIA, Puerto Rico, ng provided a timely

Tom Marvel, Fi

nue for seeking an me difficult question some difficult questions "Tradi-tionally, communication between North, Central, and South America has been full of stress, tensions, and misunderstandings," he said. "Yet we find ourselves en-vised in a future that is now, to-day, where the barture that is now, to-day, where the barture that is now, to-day, where the barture to trade, flow of people, ideas, investment, and cultural values are being low-ered. This conference, I hope, is the first of many that will help us all to bridge the differences and charms that exist between us. May use the first step toward that part-nership that we seek."

Roger Schluntz is dean of i School of Architecture, Univ sity of Miami, Coral Gables.

Deans of the Americas III Antigua, Guatemala

October 8-10, 2014

Jointly organized by the University of New Mexico, ISTHMUS (Panamá), and the Universidad Rafael Landívar (Guatemala City) we are extremely pleased to announce the 3rd Hemispheric Meeting of Deans and Program Heads of Architecture Schools in North and South America.

To be held in the magnificent Hotel Porta in vibrant and historic Antigua, the former colonial capital of Central America located about 25 miles from Guatemala City, the conference will be the third such gathering of architecture administrators.

Specific topics that are anticipated for the Antigua meeting include discussions regarding student/faculty mobility and educational flexibility (e.g., exchange programs and "study abroad"), portability of architecture education/degrees (e.g., accreditation), as well as distance education and collaboration.

With its "eternal spring" climate and well-deserved recognition as an UNESCO World Heritage Site, this will be an excellent opportunity to experience this marvelously unique city and cultural environment.



Registration and Information: www.tercerencuentrodecanos.com www.portahotels.com/hotel-antigua Conference Registration: \$ 275 US | Guests of Participants \$150 US Inquiries can be made to either Geraldine Forbes Isais, Dean (gforbes@unm.edu); or Roger L. Schluntz (schluntz@unm.edu); both at the University of New Mexico.

Three international "Deans of the Americas" conferences, at 10 year intervals, were undertaken and co-chaired by Prof. Schluntz, first in Miami, then Panama, and in 2014 in Antigua, Guatemala. These meetings provided a forum for academic leaders from North and South America. Subsequently, Schluntz organized and co-chaired the series of workshops for architecture administrators at the recently held ACSA Summer Conference in Santiago, Chile.



Cornell University

September 14, 2016

Porus Olpadwala Dean Emeritus

College of Architecture, Art and Planning

Professor Emeritus of City and Regional Planning 3927 Oxbow Village Lane, NW Albuquerque, NM 87120

(505).508.2822 (607).227.5827 (cell)

e. pdo1@cornell.edu

Selection Committee Chair ACSA Distinguished Professor American Collegiate Schools of Architecture 1735 New York Avenue, NW Washington DC 20006

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to support Roger Schluntz' nomination for ACSA Distinguished Professor.

I first met Roger in 2000 in a professional context when we engaged him as competition advisor for an international competition to choose an architect for a new building for this College. My colleagues in the College and in the Cornell Administration benefited substantially from his knowledge, guidance – and occasional arbitration – in what turned out to be a successful endeavor.

What struck me at that time, and what has been reinforced time and again in the intervening years, is his devotion to students and pedagogy. An important example is the scheme we developed to open the final presentations to students and faculty, not only of the College and Cornell, but of all regional schools of architecture who wished to attend. Thus Peter Zumthor, Thom Mayne, Todd Williams and Billie Tsien, and Steven Holl presented to a jury led by Jim Polshek and staffed by other design luminaries in front of six or seven hundred observers. I still hear from our alumni about the immense value of that experience.

Subsequently my wife and I purchased a home in Albuquerque in 2003 and eventually retired here in 2011. I have had an Adjunct Professor appointment at the University of New Mexico since 2005 and observed Roger in his home environs over the years. His concern for students, and his immense care in addressing them, is evident in all aspects of his pedagogy. Even with such high expectations, I regularly find myself surprised and impressed by his devotion to his classes and advisees. This aspect of his academic life is widely recognized and appreciated by students and faculty colleagues.

Roger is an exceptionally fitting candidate for this prestigious award. In honoring him the Association would also honor itself. With kind regards.

Sincerely,

Poms Olgadura

Porus Olpadwala Dean Emeritus

Cornell University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer.