Candidate Statement

As architects and academics, we work at a time when complex global problems challenge conventional disciplinary boundaries. Issues of climate change and inequality pose questions for the agency of architecture in addressing challenges that bridge many knowledge areas. This context requires new ways of teaching architecture with particular attention to the integration of diverse voices and backgrounds, collaboration skills, and opportunities for international experiences. The nature of the challenges faced by architectural practice also calls for an increased connection between academic research, practice, and the broader public, to be fostered through new approaches to the dissemination of research, and creative attention to the engagement of diverse stakeholders. I am honored to have been nominated for the position of ACSA Secretary/Treasurer at a time when the organization is putting into practice important initiatives that address these challenges.

In my involvement with ACSA as a part of the Steering Committee for the 2020 Annual Meeting and as a frequent contributor to its conferences I have admired the organization’s work towards more inclusive conference formats that expand access and bring together the broad range of research, pedagogy, and practice that shape our discipline today. As an administrator and educator, I am particularly drawn to ACSA’s goal to improve gender, ethnic, and socio-economic diversity in the student body through increased outreach and organizational partnerships. It is clear that ACSA’s 2019 strategic plan with its associated initiatives for enhancing research and networks of knowledge exchange, and for promoting equity and diversity, provide critical leadership vis-a-vis the contemporary challenges of architecture education and practice. If elected as Secretary/Treasurer, I would be excited to contribute to the implementation of these initiatives as a member of both the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, and would be committed ensuring that resources are allocated in support of ACSA’s prioritized goals.

I am confident that my accomplishments in academic and professional leadership roles have prepared me to serve in this capacity. In addition to experience in the management of fiduciary resources, my work as an administrator, educator, and creative practitioner has included various areas that align well with ACSA’s strategic goals and initiatives.

- As chair of the Bachelor of Architecture program at California College of the Arts (CCA), I have been managing program budgets at a time of complex transitions in the larger institution as the college’s two campuses unify. As an administrator at a urban school, I have worked to increase the gender and ethnic diversity of our faculty with the goal to better reflect the diversity in our city in the faculty body. In an effort to diversify the student body in our program, I have been building close relationships with community colleges and high-schools in order to facilitate access to a professional architecture degree for minority students. Beyond my own program, I am regularly engaged in think tanks and committees that shape college-wide curriculum for incoming students from diverse backgrounds.

- In my years as an educator, I have been fortunate to work with a diverse body of students whose needs and backgrounds have shaped my approach to teaching. In my studio courses, I have worked to leverage the breadth of student experiences towards enhancing collaborative peer-to-peer learning. Through studio topics on contemporary housing typologies and public space production, I aim to heighten students’ awareness of the agency of architecture vis-a-vis complex urban issues and construct pedagogical frameworks within which students engage diverse stakeholders. Through collaboration with local organizations and international partners, I foster interdisciplinary collaborations, preparing students for future practice in an increasingly interconnected and complex world.

- My creative practice has bridged research and built projects, and has shaped a keen awareness of the need to creatively connect both worlds. My research on contemporary forms of commoning in the domestic and public realm is, by nature, interdisciplinary, and aims to connect academic knowledge production and architectural practice with urban policy makers and non-expert audiences. As co-director of the Urban Works Agency research lab, I collaborate with the San Francisco Planning Department on funded research into typologies for collective living in a project that links housing studio curriculum, faculty research, and public outreach to local communities in support of developing group housing guidelines for San Francisco. Through such collaborations, and through symposia and public exhibitions, I have been testing formats for engaging a broader public with the questions and results of academic research.

With your support, I would be honored to serve ACSA in the implementation of its strategic goals towards enhancing relationships between research and practice, and towards models of architectural education and knowledge exchange that are more diverse and inclusive – models that will ultimately guide students towards engaged and collaborative forms of practice that can take on the challenges of today.
Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

TEACHING / ADMINISTRATION
California College of the Arts (CCA), Architecture Division
Chair, Bachelor of Architecture Program 2017-present
Associate Professor 2017-present
Assistant Professor 2011-2017
Interim Chair, Interior Design Program 2011-2012
Adjunct Professor 2006-2011
University of California Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, Department of Architecture
Lecturer 2002

CREATIVE RESEARCH / PRACTICE
Co-Director, URBAN WORKS AGENCY (UWA), California College of the Arts 2016-present
Founding Partner, Ideal X Design, San Francisco/Berkeley 2015-present
Studio URBIS, Berkeley (Principal since 2012) 2002-present
Braunfels Architekten, Berlin/Munich 1998

EDUCATION
University of California Berkeley, Master of Architecture 2002
Technische Universität Berlin, Vordiplom (Bachelor) in Architecture 1998
Hochschule für Technik Stuttgart, Diplom-Ingenieur in Interior Architecture 1995

SELECTED HONORS / GRANTS
San Francisco Planning / Friends of City Planning Research Grant 2019
ACSA/AIA Housing Design Education Award 2018
AIA San Mateo County Honor Award 2008
AIA Henry Adams Medal and Certificate of Merit 2002
John K. Branner Research Fellowship 2001

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
Steinmuller, Antje and Christopher Falliers, "One Size Fits All - Re-framing Collectivity in Extra-large Urban Buildings", in Bracket [On Sharing], Przybyski, Maia and N. Bhatia eds, (forthcoming) 2020
"Communes, Co-living and Cooperatives: Spatial Models for the Domestic Commons”, in AD: Housing as Intervention, Kubey, Karen ed. (New York: Wiley) 2018

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS
Steinmuller, Antje and Neeraj Bhatia (with UWA), “A Seat at the Table”: Research Exhibition as part of Bay Area Now 8, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco 2018-19
Steinmuller, Antje and Christopher Falliers, Co-Drawing: “All Covered With…”: Installation as part of the ACSA group exhibition “PLAY with the Rules”, Milwaukee Art Museum 2018
Steinmuller, Antje and Christopher Roach, “The City And The City - Housing the Next 100,000”: research exhibition, SPUR Urban Center, San Francisco 2016

SERVICE
Juror, EDRA Great Places Awards 2020
Steering Committee Member, ACSA 2020 National Conference, San Diego 2019-present
College-Wide First-Year Curriculum Task Force, CCA 2019-present
Co-Chair, Architecture Curriculum Committee, CCA 2017-present
Co-Organizer, Domestic Affairs Housing Symposia, San Francisco 2016-present

for bio, please visit https://portal.cca.edu/people/asteinmuller/