



## CANDIDATE for SECRETARY/TREASURER (3-year term)

Ulrike Altenmüller-Lewis, Drexel University

### Candidate Statement

The ACSA – exceptional in its mission to represent, advocate, advance and unite schools of architecture – has been a successful forum for innovating architectural and pedagogical thought. As we enter a new decade, we observe how our profession and the academy explore new avenues of engagement and collaboration. Now more than ever it is a crucial time for dialog as we calibrate the future of architectural education, research and practice. As Secretary/Treasurer, I look forward to joining the elected officers of the ACSA Board of Directors. I am poised to provide leadership in realizing the strategic goals and objectives of the ACSA.

ACSA engages the profession by expanding the impact of research within architecture; as a catalyst in this process, the ACSA is in the unique position to promote and advance the spectrum of research within our discipline, to find innovative ways to contribute and disseminate scholarship and enhance the relevance of our profession to society.

Across a decade at Drexel I have had the opportunity to innovate a non-traditional architecture program where students complete all or a large portion of their studies in an evening format while maintaining positions in practice. For many of our students, earning a professional degree in architecture would not be possible in a conventional program. This has sharpened my awareness for the need for educational alternatives. It has also raised my sensibility to provide more inclusive, diverse and flexible paths to education while deepening our engagement with community colleges and non-professional programs. With demographic changes coming, schools will need to address issues of socioeconomic, racial and gender equity in our field. I am excited by ACSA's vigorous effort to increase the number of students with diverse backgrounds, abilities and perspectives.

My global experiences have sharpened my awareness of cultural differences and led me to highly value different perspectives. The intellectual and educational backgrounds I have pursued are anchored in the philosophies of a humanistic education. As a tenured faculty member and Architecture Program Director at Drexel University, I bring the benefits of 18 years of educational and administrative experience in academia as well as a global perspective. I am a registered architect educated at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany, who has practiced in Europe and the U.S. My passion about design excellence forms the basis of my success as an educator, academic administrator and a design professional.

My professional experiences and cumulative academic record make me a strong candidate for the position as ACSA Secretary/Treasurer:

*As architect*, I have practiced in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Germany, serving private, corporate and governmental clients.

I believe that great design is based on the understanding of its cultural, ethical, ecological and technical implications, all of which are critical components that inform design and construction processes.

*As scholar*, I have published numerous research papers and have presented at a dozen international conferences; I strongly believe in the impact of design research on broader audiences.

*As educator*, I have been teaching at the university level on two continents since 2002 and have earned a reputation of an exceptional, rigorous and thorough professor. I believe that experiential learning has the strongest impact on students' ability to grasp concepts and develop their ability to synthesize. To me, the most significant aspect of architectural education is fostering critical and synthetic thinking that empowers students to master different and diverse design parameters.

*As administrator*, I have had increasing roles of responsibility within academia including Associate Program Director, Program Director and Provost Fellow. I possess strong communication and organizational skills as well as excellent abilities in analytic thinking, strategic planning and team building. This has allowed me to build a track record as an innovative and inclusive leader.

As Director of Drexel's Architecture Program, I understand that the ability to build community and consensus is an important key to success in an academic environment. However, without the ability to inspire and lead there would be no innovation. I am well versed in collaborating across levels and disciplines and working with groups of competing viewpoints. I create shared visions through dialogue, transparency, honesty and integrity. I believe strong leadership is the result of concerted efforts and shared governance. My previous positions have allowed me to hone my leadership and managerial abilities.

The ACSA has thrived under skillful leadership for many years. Having benefitted from ACSA and its quest to empower faculty and schools I am deeply honored to be considered for the position as Secretary/Treasurer at this exciting time. The opportunity to contribute to this organization and its vision for the future as a dedicated and committed member of the ACSA Board of Directors and both humbles and excites me.





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## Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

### TEACHING & ADMINISTRATION

Department of Architecture, Design & Urbanism, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA	2011 – 2013 & 2018 – Present
Architecture Program Director	2014 – Present
Associate Professor (with tenure)	2008 – 2014
Assistant Professor	2008 – 2011
Associate Program Director of Architecture	2015 – 2017
Co-Director, Drexel Smart Initiatives Program, Drexel University	2016 – 2017
Provost Fellow, Office of Faculty Affairs, Drexel University	
Washington Alexandria Architecture Center, Alexandria, VA, Virginia Tech,	
Adjunct Assistant Professor	2006 – 2007
Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture	2005
Department of Architectural Design & Interior Architecture, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany	
Assistant Professor, Researcher and Lecturer	2002 – 2006
Research & Teaching Assistant	1996 – 1998

### PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION and PRACTICE

Registered Architect in New York State (License No. 034331-1)	2010 – pres.
Registered Architect in Baden-Württemberg, Germany (Registration No. 015217)	2006 – pres.
Member, American Institute of Architects (ID # 30477341)	2009 – pres.
Registered Architect in Thuringia, Germany (Registration No. 2044-02-4-A)	2002 – 2006
Consortium on Design & Education Outcomes (CDEO) with Drexel University & Perkins Eastman	2019 – Present
Sunder-Plassmann Architekten, Greifenberg/Utting, Germany	2017
RTKL Inc., Washington D.C., USA	2006 – 2008
Alfredo De Vido Architects, New York, NY	1999 – 2001

### EDUCATION

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany, Doktor-Ingenieur (Architektur)	2008
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany, Diplom-Ingenieur (Architektur)	1999
Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid (ETSAM), Spain, ERASMUS-Scholarship	1996 – 1997
Architecture Design Summer Workshop at the Palazzo Doria Pamphili, Rome, Italy	1996

### SELECTED HONORS

Latrobe Prize of the AIA College of Fellows with Consortium on Design & Education Outcomes Drexel University/Perkins Eastman (Research Team Member)	2019 – 2021
Fellow, Mid-Career Faculty Institute, Drexel University	2019 – Present
Fellow, Drexel Center for Academic Excellence (DCAE)	2009 – 2017
Rankin-Scholarship-in-Residence Grant	2015
Westphal College Research/Creativity Fund	2013
Allen Rothwarf Award for Teaching Excellence	2011
Drexel Career Development Award	2010-2011

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

The City Crown by Bruno Taut. Translated and edited by M. Mindrup & U. Altenmüller-Lewis. Ashgate Publishing, Farnham Surrey, UK	2015
Designing Schools for Students on the Spectrum. In: The Design Journal, An International Journal for All Aspects of Design. Volume 20. Francis & Taylor	2017
School Buildings as Three-Dimensional Textbooks. In: The International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability, Volume 9. Common Grounds Publishers. Champaign, IL	2014
Concepts & Transferability of Contemporary Finnish School Design In: Architectural Quality in Planning and Design of Schools, E. Knapp & K. Noschis (Editors), Comportements, Lausanne	2010

### SELECTED SERVICE

Dean's Search, Committee Member, A. Westphal College of Media Arts & Design, Drexel University	2019 – Present
ACSA Representative, Visiting Team Member for NAAB Accreditations	2017 & 2018
Co-Chair, Architecture Program Assessment & Review (PAR), Drexel University	2019
Co-Chair, Drexel 2012 NAAB Accreditation	2012