



CANDIDATES for **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT** (4-year term)

- **José L.S. Gámez**, University of North Carolina Charlotte
- **Michael Zaretsky**, University of Oregon



CANDIDATE for SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (4-year term)

José L.S. Gámez, University of North Carolina Charlotte

Candidate Statement

Increasingly, I find myself asking what our students will recall of their time in college 20 years from now. I ask this question recognizing that we face projected declining numbers of traditional college age populations, lingering impacts of pandemics, and intertwined environmental and societal challenges. What do I recall from my past? A professor who focused on people rather than parti. That emphasis on people made architecture relevant for me and it continues to shape my interests in equitable social and physical environments.

ACSA's strategic commitment to racial equity and climate action reminds us that environmental and social justice are linked. ACSA's interests in fostering equitable learning cultures throughout its membership build on this commitment, which highlights architectural education's relevance to current and future students, faculty and staff. I am excited by the opportunity to re-engaging with ACSA's national leadership and to help reinforce the idea that architecture can be a form of civic and cultural leadership.

My personal and professional goals tie directly to ACSA's strategic commitments. As the son of immigrants, I have first-hand experience with the ways that identity can be used to reproduce difference; this continues to shape my interests in creative practices that actively resist marginalization. As a LatinX architectural educator, I have worked to address questions of culture and equity through my teaching, community-engaged research, and service for over two decades. This has involved efforts to: develop course content that intersects with issues relevant to under-represented groups; collaborative practices that build cultural competencies both in the classroom and beyond campus; and, more recently in my current role, to identify ways to decolonize our modes of research and creative inquiry.



This combined interest in equity, collaboration, and inclusive practice threads into my leadership experiences, which include developing choices in educational pathways that empower students to find their passions and to learn in the ways that suit them best. These experiences align well with ACSA's goals and they have led me to co-author several degree paths aimed at diversifying professional educational opportunities: Master of Urban Design (2009), Master of Science in Architecture (2017), and Master of Architecture Advanced Standing (2018). Currently, I am part of a team planning an interdisciplinary Master of Fine Arts in Community Centered Practices (launching in 2024), which focuses on the role of artists as inclusive agents of positive change in the communities we serve. I have also worked with colleagues and regional community colleges to create articulation agreements into undergraduate programs; as a former transfer student, I know the challenges and promise that these agreements hold. And, I am currently collaborating on an interdisciplinary undergraduate curriculum within our college that will create learning experiences for a range of students who seek a more inclusive university "home" without leaving disciplinary interests behind.

Throughout these endeavors, I have served as an advocate for inclusive visions of design education. These activities have allowed me to be integrally involved in establishing and promoting programs and to work collaboratively with colleagues, staff and students in Architecture, Design, Studio Art, Geography, Latin American Studies, Theater, as well as colleagues from other campuses such as Woodbury University, University of Houston, UNLV, University of New Mexico, and Florida A&M. Efforts such as these have helped me integrate teaching, research, and service through spaces of "reciprocal engagement" in which students "prepare for the world, in the world" (Cantor 2010) while sharing skills with communities in need.

The impact of my integrated scholarship can be found in numerous accolades including: Provost's Award for Community Engagement; over 100 student awards; student co-authored conference papers, presentations, and research posters; peer reviewed books, articles, and grants; teaching and advising awards; and an Architecture for Social Justice Award. In my view, this kind of collaborative, inclusive and public facing work requires both humility and respect particularly on the part of representatives of large institutions who seek to enter the worlds of others. Currently, as a member of the Dean's Equity and Inclusion Initiative advisory board, I have the privilege of helping foster equitable networks across over 30 collaborating national programs. My current and past leadership experiences have provided me with numerous opportunities to communicate the value of architectural education in ways that compliment my past work with ACSA.

In each of my roles, I have been built upon collegial, equitable, and proactive working relationships. I have aimed to offer students the educational environment that they seek and deserve, staff an environment that fosters growth and support, and an environment that enables faculty to lead fruitful and balanced careers as scholars and creative practioners. If I am granted the honor to help ACSA build upon its successes, my leadership will reflect my past roles, which have been built upon mutually beneficial collaboration, transparency, and respect.



CANDIDATE for SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (4-year term)

José L.S. Gámez, University of North Carolina Charlotte

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of California Los Angeles, PhD in Architecture *Distinguished Alumnus*

University of California Berkeley, Master of Architecture

Texas A&M University, Bachelor of Environmental Design *CUM LAUDE*

2020-Present	Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Programs, College of Arts+Architecture
2019-2020	Interim Director, School of Architecture, UNC Charlotte
2018 (Fall)	Visiting Studio Instructor: Graduate Core Studio_Urban Design, Florida A&M University
2016-2019	Associate Director, School of Architecture, UNC Charlotte
2008-2016	Director, CityBuilding.Lab, UNC Charlotte
2004-2008	Graduate Program Coordinator, School of Architecture, UNC Charlotte
2006-Present	Latin American Studies Faculty Member, UNC Charlotte
2002 (Spring)	Interim Chair of Latin American Studies, University of Nevada Las Vegas
1999-2002	Assistant Professor of Architecture, University of Nevada Las Vegas
1998-1999	Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture, Portland State University

Selected Honors

2022	Advisory Member, Dean's Equity and Inclusion Initiative
2021	Design Excellence Award, AIA Western Mountain Region (w/assemblageSTUDIO, Las Vegas)
2017-19	At-Large National Board Member, ACSA
2017	Provost's Award, Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising, College of Arts + Architecture
2015-16	Provost Faculty Fellow & Provost's Faculty Award for Community Engagement
2013	Honorable Mention, Environmental Protection Agency, EPA P3
2008-09	Faculty Research Fellow, Institute for Social Capital, UNC Charlotte
2007	First Place: HUD / Casas del Quinto Sol Affordable Housing Competition
2006	Hispanic Scholarship Fund Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee
2003	College of Architecture Teaching Award, UNC Charlotte
2003	Architecture for Social Justice Award, Adaptive Environments/National Endowment for the Arts

Selected External Grant Activity

2022-23	Office of International Programs International Partnerships Grant	\$30,000
2022	Hollings Center for International Dialog	\$10,000
2020-22	Jeffrey Cook Charitable Trust	\$50,000
2017-18	Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund	\$5,000
2015-17	University City Partners Sponsored Research Studios	\$75,000
2014-16	Northwood Ravin Sponsored Research Studios	\$111,000
2014-16	Knight Foundation	\$350,000
2012-14	HUD/EPA Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant	\$50,000

Selected Publications & ACSA Activities

- B. West, K. Carlson-Reddig, and J. Gámez. *Margin and Text: Expanding Narratives in Architecture* (Forthcoming-Princeton Architectural Press, 2023).
- T. Bengle, J. Sorensen, J. Gámez, and L. Morrell. "A Model of Action Research for Building Neighborhood Decision-making Capacity," Collaborations: A Journal of Community-based Research and Practice 4: 1, 4 (2021) 1-11.
- A. Cabral, H. Freeman, R. Sachs, T. Schmidt, and J. Gámez. "DIY in Pandemic Times: Design Leadership during COVID-19," TAD: Technology/Architecture + Design 4:2 (2020) 140-143.
- J. Gámez, Z. Lin and J. Nesbit. *Rio de Janeiro: Urban Expansion and Environment* (Routledge, 2019).
- Z. Lin and J. Gámez. *Vertical Urbanism: Re-conceptualizing the Compact City* (Routledge, 2018).
- J. Gámez and S. Rodgers. "An Architecture of Change" in *Introduction to Architecture: Global Disciplinary Knowledge* (Cognella, 2019) 151-152.
- J. Gámez and Janni Sorensen. "No More Waiting for Superman: Teaching DIY Urbanism and Reflexive Practice," Journal of Urbanism 7: 3 (2014). 1-18.
- >Panel Moderator: "(Re)constructing Pedagogies," ACSA 110 Virtual Conference (May 18, 2022).
- >Invited Presenter: NC NOMA Architecture (L)earned Series held (April 22, 2021; online).
- >Panelist: ACSA Special Focus Session – The Last Frontier: Decolonizing Content and Promoting a Culture of Inclusion in Design Studio and More (March 18, 2021; online).



CANDIDATE for SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (4-year term)

Michael Zaretsky, University of Oregon

Candidate Statement

There are many paths into academia; mine was through practice. Like others in architecture education, the transition into academia left me feeling somewhat lost. Having worked as an architect and project manager I was excited to teach, but I did not understand much of academic research, scholarship, or academic service. I found my community at ACSA conferences. As some tenured at three institutions, head of the department of architecture and interim director of the School of Architecture and Environment at the University of Oregon, the ACSA has been integral to my professional development. The organization has been an ongoing source of support, offering consistent intellectual and professional opportunities for growth. At this point in my career it would be an honor to work with ACSA leadership and stakeholders to collaboratively advance and shape the future of architectural education and research.

I **practiced architecture** in Copenhagen, San Francisco, and Seattle but I came to realize my passion was in **public interest design** (PID) – partnering with communities that would not typically have access to design to co-create meaningful places together. I had always had a passion for architecture, but I left practice for academia because I believed that I could best advocate for public interest design within academia. I have worked with hundreds of students on community-engaged design projects involving communities from rural Tanzania, to Cincinnati (Ohio), to Arlington (Texas). This work has been recognized with ACSA and NCARB awards.

I founded and directed the MetroLAB Community Design/Build program at the University of Cincinnati (2011-18) before moving into other **administrative positions** at the University of Cincinnati (UC), the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), and currently, at the University of Oregon (UO). At every step, ACSA has been part of my professional journey, providing ongoing networking, support, and inspiration.

I am thrilled to see the priorities in ACSA's updated strategic plan because they align with priorities that I believe all architectural programs must address:

Increasing pathways and addressing racial equity in architectural education are imperative moving forward. Many faculty and students enter communities that are not diverse, equitable or welcoming. Having worked at four institutions across the US, with very different issues and approaches to DEI, I have extensive experience with the many challenges faced by faculty and students from underrepresented backgrounds. Through partnerships and innovation, we have expanded pathways to architecture and created initiatives to increase diversity and address inequities amongst faculty and students.

As Director of MetroLAB, we were able to bring our predominantly-suburban students into underrepresented communities to work directly with local community members on built projects that were beloved by their communities. While Associate Dean at UC, we partnered with local companies to implement pathways to successfully recruit and support diverse students entering design. While at UTA, I saw how teaching in a Hispanic-serving institution with a high percentage of first-generation students introduced new approaches to community-engaged design. At UO, I have seen the incredible impact our Spatial Justice Fellows (spatialjustice.uoregon.edu) have on what we teach, how we teach, and who we teach. Our curriculum is more diverse, we have more diverse faculty, and larger numbers of diverse students are applying to our graduate program.

Alert to this privileged position I occupy as a result of being a white male, I am sensitive and attentive to challenging asymmetrical relations of power as these operate throughout academia and the communities in which I live. As a leader in academia, I am tremendously grateful to the many friends, colleagues, and mentors from diverse backgrounds who are willing to openly and honestly provide advice from different perspectives. Advancing diversity, embracing equality, and working collaboratively involves a commitment to a critically self-reflexive approach to leadership: to advocate for a just and welcoming society by listening and learning from others.

I chose the University of Oregon for architecture school because of its focus on environmental design. Through my career, I have remained committed to all forms of sustainability; a commitment I share with ACSA's strategic priority to **sharpen the organization's focus on climate action**. The climate emergency is an international crisis that requires radical, collaborative, cross-disciplinary action to create meaningful change. The ACSA must be at the forefront in discussions with architecture educators on how an education in architecture prepares students to put design to work to respond to the climate emergency with a strong ethical compass.

The reasons why students today choose to study architecture has changed from what it was a decade ago. The pandemic, climate change, political crises, and houselessness are very much front and center on students minds. How architecture education works today will necessarily be different to what it was in the past and from what it will be in the future and the ACSA is central to discussions about what architecture education and research can become.





CANDIDATE for SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (4-year term)

Michael Zaretsky, University of Oregon

Biography

I, Michael Zaretsky, AIA am a California-licensed Architect (since 2003) with seven years of full-time practice in the US and Denmark. I have extensive experience in local and international, community-engaged, academic design/build projects. I am an associate professor, head of the department of [architecture](#), and interim director of the [School of Architecture and Environment](#) (SAE) in the [College of Design](#) at the [University of Oregon](#). I have nearly two decades of full-time experience in academia.

I received a Bachelor of Arts in art history at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Once I realized I was going to study architecture, I participated in the Syracuse University Pre-Architecture program in Florence, Italy. I also chose to focus on construction before going to architecture school. Prior to launching Michael Zaretsky Design/Build (1991-94) I apprenticed at Stonewood Design in North Carolina and Dovetail Design/Build in Seattle. I then came to UO from 1994-98 to study in the Master of Architecture program for its focus on sustainability and design/build.

Following graduation, I traveled Europe for three months before joining Juul & Frost Arkitekten in Copenhagen, Denmark in fall 1998. I worked there through winter 2000 before returning to the US for a position at Esherick, Homsey, Dodge and Davis (EHDD) Architects in San Francisco (2000-04). Having experience in construction and architectural practice, I realized that I could best achieve my goals within academia. I've held academic positions at the Savannah College of Art and Design (2004-06), the University of Cincinnati (UC, 2006-18), the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA, 2018-21), and the University of Oregon (UO, 2021+). I was tenured in architecture at UC and UO and tenured in Civil Engineering at UTA.

My **research and scholarship** is focused on culturally and environmentally responsive design in projects that stress the importance of community engagement with under-represented groups as integral to the design process. I have worked on several public interest design projects with local and international communities. My scholarship includes *Precedents in Zero-Energy Design: Architecture and Passive Design in the 2007 Solar Decathlon* (Routledge Press, 2009) and *New Directions in Sustainable Design*, co-edited with Dr. Adrian Parr (Routledge Press, 2010). My work is included in the 2018 book *The Public Interest Design Education Guidebook* edited by Bell and Abendroth. I've had articles published in several architectural journals and have presented on sustainability, and humanitarian and public interest design. I'm currently writing *Design Beyond Borders: International Design/Build Community Engagement* - a book that explores how practitioners, non-profit organizations, and academic programs working on local and international design/build projects engage the communities in which they work in they are working. Additionally, I am Director of Design for the **Roche Health Center in rural Tanzania**, a project of Village Life Outreach Project. Roche Health Center (RHC) is the first-ever permanent health care facility in this Tanzanian, Lake Victoria region. The center opened April 1, 2011 and has grown to 7 buildings. RHC provides health care to as many as 20,000 villagers. The design of the RHC won the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Collaborative Practice Award in 2011 and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Award for Creative Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy in 2011.

While at UC, I created and directed the **MetroLAB Community Design/Build** program (2011-18). MetroLAB partnered with non-profit agencies in Cincinnati and their community stakeholders to produce innovative, research-informed, community-inspired spaces. Over seven years, eight UC faculty developed 14 projects with 12 community and non-profit groups. We brought in over 136k in funding for these projects.

I have had success raising financial support for MetroLAB, sponsored studios, grants and other initiatives at the institutions where I have worked. Funding has included sponsorships for MetroLAB, sponsorships for sponsored studios at UC, and grant funding a NSF conference at UTA (as co-PI) among other grants.

Following MetroLAB, I transitioned into **administrative roles** serving as the associate dean of faculty affairs and curriculum in the College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning (DAAP) at UC; director of architectural engineering in the College of Engineering at UTA; and, my current roles include head of architecture and interim director of SAE at UO.



CANDIDATES for **SECRETARY/TREASURER** (3-year term)

- **Noah Resnick**, University of Detroit Mercy
- **Peter Robinson**, Cornell University



CANDIDATE for SECRETARY/TREASURER (3-year term)

Noah Resnick, University of Detroit Mercy

Candidate Statement

I am excited to submit this Candidate Statement, expressing my ability and desire to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Directors for ACSA. Having been an ACSA member for over 14 years, I have had the fortune to take advantage of many of the resources the organization offers, including Annual, Administrative and Teachers conferences – in which I have presented two papers and sat on numerous panel discussions - the Institutional Data Reports, and the various online and printed publications on a range of subject matters, from issues of equity to accreditation. I currently have the pleasure of serving on the Leadership Committee of the ACSA, where we are investigating the role and impact of D.E.I. based fellowships and the diversification of faculty in the institutions at which they are hosted. As the Secretary/Treasurer, I would value the opportunity to utilize my experience and expertise in contributing more to the organization that has provided me with so much professional and intellectual growth.

In my current role as the Associate Dean of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture + Community Development, I am deeply engaged in many university and schoolwide initiatives that directly parallel the ACSA's 2022-25 Strategic Plan. My principal efforts in the last three years have focused in two areas:

1. Actively increasing the presence of underrepresented populations in both our student body and full-time faculty via recruitment efforts, fundraising for scholarships, securing new faculty lines, and modifying our admissions processes to align with an updated set of shared values surrounding equity and social and environmental justice.
2. Establishing a robust set of assessment processes and protocols that apply to our entire curriculum, while significantly modifying the curriculum to better align with our shared values.



I believe my recent experience in both developing and implementing these efforts will contribute to the discussions, deliberations and work of the ACSA Board of Directors. Some of my relevant recent activities include:

- Changing the name of the School of Architecture to the Detroit Mercy School of Architecture and Community Development
- Rebranding the School and website to coincide with the new name
- Co-chairing the University's Shared Governance Committee
- Leading the preparations for our Spring 2023 NAAB Accreditation visit
- Co-chairing the University's COVID response work group
- Maintaining the budgets for our adjunct faculty teaching load, funded lecture series, and student journal.

Most importantly, I have collaborated vigorously with Dean Dan Pitera in envisioning and celebrating the mission and identity of our institution.

The University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture + Community Development is an intentional community of approximately 225 students in total, served by 32 accomplished full-time and adjunct faculty.

We are committed to:

- ...educating students who will adapt to and lead the changing disciplines of architecture, urban design and community development.
- ...advancing social and environmental justice in our neighborhoods, cities and planet.
- ...cultivating equity in education and the profession by providing pipelines of access and support for underrepresented people.
- ...nurturing engaged world citizens who can think globally and act locally.
- ...emphasizing a progressive and rigorous hands-on approach to design and community development education.
- ...fostering a mosaic of students who reflect the diversity of humans that make up our communities.

I am confident that these values I have helped to shepherd at the Detroit Mercy S.A.C.D. are shared by the ACSA Board, and that my passion and experience will serve this body well.



CANDIDATE for SECRETARY/TREASURER (3-year term)

Noah Resnick, University of Detroit Mercy

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

Noah Samuel Resnick, AIA

Noah Resnick currently teaches and practices in the city of Detroit, Michigan. As a partner at Laavu, he operates under the interrelated concepts of the architectonics of multiple scales; the architect as urban collaborator; and the architect as community builder. Resnick is a Professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Architecture and Community Development, and was the Director of the Master of Architecture Program from 2011 - 2019. He currently serves as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Resnick grew up in Miami, Florida, where he attended the Design and Architecture Senior High magnet school (D.A.S.H.). He earned his BArch from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, graduating at the top of his class, for which he was awarded the AIA Henry Adams Medal of Excellence. Noah completed his Masters of Science in Architecture Studies (SMArchS) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Architecture + Urbanism stream. This degree culminated in an urban design thesis that focused on the potential for transit oriented development nodes in the city of Detroit. In addition to Detroit, Resnick has lived and practiced in Chicago, Boston, and New York, as well as Berlin, Germany where he worked in the studio of Daniel Libeskind.

Professional Licences

- New York State Architecture License # 33370
- State of Michigan Architecture License #1301056885

Education

Cambridge, Massachusetts
2002 - 2004

Massachusetts Institute of Technology School of Architecture + Planning

- Masters of Science in Architecture (SMArchS)
- Architecture and Urbanism Stream
- Thesis Title: Sustaining Development in Detroit

Chicago, Illinois
1995 - 2000

Illinois Institute of Technology College of Architecture

- Bachelors of Architecture Degree
- Graduated 1st in class with High Honors
- AIA Henry Adams Gold Medal recipient

Miami, Florida
1991 - 1995

Design and Architecture Senior High School (DASH)

- Graduated from design and architecture magnet school, the only one of its kind in the country.
- Associates degree from Miami Dade Community College via High-school dual enrollment program

Current Professional Experience

Detroit, Michigan
2015 - present

Laavu, LLC laavustudio.com
Principal / Co-Owner

Academic Administrative Experience

University of Detroit Mercy
School of Architecture + Community
Development (SACD)
Fall 2019 - present

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

In addition to the administrative role of Associate Dean, the duties correspond to the leadership role under the Dean with regards to the SACD's identity, mission, pedagogic and curricular direction. The ADAA contributes significantly to the development and implementation of the Department's curricular and strategic plan through the generation of teaching, research and scholarship in Architecture, Community Development and Urban Design. While directly implementing the curricular objectives for the Undergraduate Program, the ADAA sets the objectives of the Graduate Program in order for the Director of the Master of Architecture Program to implement.

Interim Dean

University of Detroit Mercy
School of Architecture May-August 2019

Director, Master of Architecture Program

University of Detroit Mercy
School of Architecture 2011 - 2019

Teaching Experience

University of Detroit Mercy SACD
Fall 2006 - present

Full Professor of Architecture, Tenured

Tenured in 2014, Promoted to Full Professor in 2019

Warsaw Polytechnic School of
Architecture, Poland Winter 2010

Visiting Professor of Architecture



CANDIDATE for SECRETARY/TREASURER (3-year term)

Peter Robinson, Cornell University

Candidate Statement

I would like to offer my nomination to serve on the board of directors of ACSA in the position of Secretary/Treasurer beginning in July 2023. As a demonstrated leader in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion, my teaching, research and practice agendas have sought to integrate scholarship, professionalism and community engagement.

I currently serve as the Financial Accountability Committee Head at BlackSpace Urbanist Collective and Vice Chair, to the Board of Trustees at AIA NY Center for Architecture. I believe the following examples make me an excellent candidate for ACSA Board service by illustrating my alignment with ACSA values and strategic plan.

Creating Access and Pathways

In Fall 2020 I taught Cornell NYC studio, Housing + Sociality: My Brother's Keeper. That studio partnered with the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) initiative of The Obama Foundation and Medgar Evers College Preparatory High School (MECPS) in Brooklyn, NY to focus on living via the perspective of young Black men. These students worked one-on-one with Cornell students throughout the semester with all design decisions being prioritized by the local knowledge and expertise of the MBK students. Regarding that studio, Dr. Lester Young, Chancellor, NYS Board of Regents stated, *"The Cornell / Medgar Evers Prep. HS event that I witnessed was an amazing example of a MBK Model School/Program. I feel strongly that we should do whatever we can to incorporate this partnership within the NYSMBK portfolio. As you know, I rarely make this type of recommendation; however, I believe it is a transportable model that has the potential of changing lives and futures"*.

Mentorship and Youth Empowerment

The summer of 2021 I engaged MBK students with Brownsville Heritage House (BHH) in Brooklyn, NY. BHH is a room at the Stone Ave. Library in Brownsville, Brooklyn that houses an over 100-year-old collection of Black life in Brooklyn. They are now looking for ways to make their space more efficient and engaging to the community they serve.

The work took shape with a six-week paid internship experience to introduce MBK students to the architecture and urban design/planning professions. Students were introduced to the professional practice of producing a design strategy report, the techniques to document a site, and creative ways to develop and present concepts to neighborhood stakeholders and professionals.

During this experience, colleagues at BlackSpace Urbanist Collective, architects at Gensler and community stakeholders, joined me in mentoring and guiding these young people to be active change agents in their communities. They learned how to talk with community leaders and got to know that their input was valuable. Elisha Amadasu, MECPS Senior / NYCMBK offered: *"Design strategy has taught me to effectively plan by imagining to the fullest extent, and then being able to organize the most pertinent information for use. This is yet another useful way to look at planning life."*

These students would later present a lecture for the Cornell Mellon Design Justice Workshop, *"Black Memory Workers and their Spatial Practices: Explorations on African American Heritage Spaces in NYC"*, that I co-taught with Professor Riché Richardson.

After that lecture, George Patterson, Senior Director of NYC My Brother's Keeper, who was present said: *"...I had the opportunity to see President Obama's vision of My Brother's Keeper come to fruition in a major way. Through collaboration between MBK, WorkUrban, BlackSpace, Cornell University, MECPS, and NYCDOE, a group of students presented their "Design Strategy Report" to students, faculty and staff and the university. To quote one of the professors who attended the presentation, "They owned the room!" This bridge of opportunity could not have been done without the tutelage of Peter Robinson who introduced the students to architecture and urban design and assembled a team of Cornell graduate students and mentors to work with the students on this project. This was a major investment into our young scholars and I could not be more pleased with the outcome."*

Pathways to a Sustainable Model

Creating a MBK and sister organization MSK chapter at Cornell will provide a sustainable model for further youth engagement that will expose students to the vast opportunities of higher education while ensuring that supportive resources are available.

I have been invited by NYC Mayor Eric Adams and NYC Schools Chancellor David Banks to participate in an initiative that links organizations supporting Black boys in NYC public schools. This provides a network of support among organizations with similar youth focused agendas. Additionally, constructing a relationship with NYC Department of Education the NYS State's Chancellor's office and ECornell will provide access to learning resources expanding opportunities for research all while exposing marginalized youth to a larger array of opportunities.

Regional Connections

I will be working extensively on a north to south exchange, which promises to open a national conversation in engaging youth in a pathway rooted in the practice of architecture, urban design and urban planning. Youth will be introduced to the tools of our shared disciplines in order to promote effective urbanism around their communities.

I believe the work I am doing in NY, both locally and regionally, is in alignment with the mission of ACSA. The broad collaborative and national reach of ACSA coupled with the work I am doing, would no doubt provide an unprecedented opportunity to amplify the bridge to accessing pathways.





CANDIDATE for SECRETARY/TREASURER (3-year term)

Peter Robinson, Cornell University

Biography

Peter (he/him) is the founder of WorkUrban, a design consultancy with the principal mission to promote effective urbanism around the world through community engagement and participatory design. WorkUrban partners with communities, institutions and individuals while engaging students on a pathway toward leadership and empowerment. WorkUrban's recent collaborations include Brownsville Heritage House, Medgar Evers College Preparatory School, Universe City and My Brother's Keeper Alliance.

As a founding board member of BlackSpace Urbanist Collective – a nonprofit organization that demands a present and future where Black people, Black spaces and Black culture matter and thrive – Peter utilizes his strong belief in the power of collaboration to advance student advocacy and create community change. BlackSpace was recognized as one of “The 10 Most Innovative Architecture Companies of 2021” by Fast Company.

A sought-after leader in the field of architecture, urban design and design consultancy, Peter has recently been elected Vice Chair to the Board of Trustees at AIA New York | Center for Architecture; where he presented at the organization's inaugural Presidential Lecture Series. Peter also serves on the Board of Advisors for BRACE: Building Research + Architecture + Community Exchange. Previously, Peter served as Treasurer for the New York Coalition of Black Architects and has worked with the organization in the areas of student and professional advocacy.

Peter – a native of Kingston, Jamaica – was raised in both Kingston and New York City, where he graduated from the High School of Art and Design. He earned a Bachelors of Architecture degree from Cornell University and a Masters of Science in Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University. Peter has worked at a number of noted architectural practices in the areas of design, management and design strategy, greatly contributing to the successful futures of leading corporate, cultural, religious and academic institutions.

Peter previously taught architecture design and urban theory at Barnard College at Columbia University, Syracuse University, Parsons School of Design, and was a Visiting Critic at Cornell University's Gensler Family AAP NYC Center. He has been a guest critic at Cornell, Columbia, Rhode Island School of Design, China Academy of Art and Harvard.

Peter is the Assistant Professor of Architecture | Social Justice and Equity Cohort, in the College of Architecture, Art and Planning at Cornell University; where he was also the Fall 2021 Mellon Scholar.

Peter's research focuses on cultural subjectivity and the city, broaching parallels and interferences among architecture, urban design, planning and cultural practices/theories as a means to engage/ inform social action.



CANDIDATES for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR (3-year term)

- **Joshua A. Foster**, East Los Angeles College
- **Mark Pearson**, College of DuPage



CANDIDATE for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR (3-year term)

Joshua A. Foster, East Los Angeles College

Candidate Statement

As a native of the Philadelphia area, a seasoned New Yorker, and now a settled Los Angeleno, I have a strong passion for creating community-empowerment driven solutions. As an award winning architectural designer, I spent the early years of my career focusing on the design and construction of affordable and market-rate housing projects in Los Angeles County. This passion was transformed into a powerful mission to impact communities of color through the founding of JAF Creative Solutions (JAFCS)—a community-impact focused strategic partnership and engagement consultancy firm.

While I do not have prior official involvement with ACSA, I am deeply involved with the people that this organization serves and the mission and priorities in which ACSA aims to serve them. I am a vocal advocate for increasing diversity within the professions of the built environment by creating equitable pipelines and practices specifically for historically underrepresented individuals. One of the main ways that I advocate for this work is through my teaching and leadership at East Los Angeles Community College (ELAC) in their architecture department. Intentionally having sought out an institution that has over a 95% minority student demographic, many of which have also been economically disadvantaged, I enthusiastically teach courses at this community college where we are the very first point of contact for these students with the profession of architecture. Using this platform, I am able to leverage the connections and resources that I have made as a professional as well as an architecture student myself both at Columbia University and the University of Southern California to share opportunities for growth with these students at ELAC. In addition to teaching at the community college, I am the faculty advisor for the school's National Organization of Minority Architecture Student chapter and have led a group of students in national design competitions and initiatives.



Another way that this educational advocacy is shown, is through my work over the past half decade as a Camp Planning Advisor and Mentor for the Southern California Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architect's Project Pipeline camp. This camp is the largest of its kind in the United States and consistently reaches hundreds of youth, from middle school through high school, to expose them to the education and profession of architecture. My experience in this successful camp has led to being selected as a curriculum advisor for the upcoming High School summer architecture program in Harlem, New York hosted by Columbia University and Barnard College's Architecture Department.

In addition to my work with students, I currently serve as the National Historian for the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) and on the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) California Chapter. I have also previously served on the local chapter board of SoCal NOMA and as the founding Co-Chair of the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee for the AIA Los Angeles Chapter. Through these outlets, I have spoken on numerous panels, led discussions, and have actively worked on advancing the ways that our profession creates equitable learning cultures in the architectural education system and in practice.

Ultimately, as a member of the ACSA Board of Directors as an At-Large Director, I intend to leverage my professional, academic, and teaching experiences in an effort to add to the great work that Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture is currently doing. Focusing on the five core goals stated in the ACSA 2022-2025 Strategic Plan, I am well equipped to hit the ground running to advance these goals. In particular my focus will be on the goals of creating an equitable, sustainable, and resilient discipline and profession in addition to growing ACSA's relevance to faculty and schools around the world by investing resources that create equitable opportunities for disciplinary innovation, pedagogies, and career advancement.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and support for my nomination as an At-Large Director for ACSA.



CANDIDATE for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR (3-year term)

Joshua A. Foster, East Los Angeles College

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

Joshua A. Foster, NOMA, Assoc. AIA, is a Los Angeles County based, award-winning architectural designer and Community Partnerships Consultant. He is the Founder and CEO of JAF Creative Solutions (JAFCS)—a community-impact focused strategic partnership and engagement consultancy firm—an Adjunct Architecture Professor and NOMAS Faculty Advisor at East Los Angeles College, and the current NOMA National Historian.

Education

University of Southern California

Masters of Architecture - Certificate in Real Estate Development

Black Alumni Association Scholar, Latino Alumni Association Scholar, USC Graduate Architecture Student Association

President, USC NOMAS Founding Co-President

2016 - 2019

Los Angeles, CA

Columbia University

Bachelor of Arts in Architecture - Sustainability Focus

Michael D. Stephens Scholar, Four Year Varsity Football Athlete, Teaching Assistant

2012 - 2016

New York, NY

Relevant Experience

East Los Angeles College

2017, 2021 - present

Monterey Park, CA

Adjunct Faculty

Teaching Intro to Architecture and Intro to CAD courses in addition to serving as the NOMAS Chapter Advisor leading the Student Design Competition team each year. Previously served as the Architecture Department Minority Outreach Coordinator for ELAC in 2017.

National Organization of Minority Architects Chapter

2022 - present

National Board Member - Historian

United States

Appointed by the NOMA National President and President Elect to serve on the national board as the organization Historian.

Long Beach Community Design Center

2021 - present

Founding Board Member

Chosen to be one of the founding Board Members for the newly formed LBCDC Non-Profit organization which provides pro-bono community design services and educational programs.

Long Beach, CA

AIA Los Angeles - Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee

2020 - 2021

Founding Co-Chair

Los Angeles, CA

Appointed to serve as a founding Co-Chair for the JEDI Committee within the American Institute of Architects' Los Angeles Chapter. This committee is organizing discussions, creating events, and leading the charge for actionable solutions to ensure J.E.D.I in our profession.

Southern California National Organization of Minority Architects Chapter

2018 - 2021

Executive Board Member - Historian and Partnerships Liaison

Los Angeles, CA

Elected to serve on the executive board as the student representative for the first term then transitioned to the Historian and Partnership Liaison role on the board. Tasks include website redesign coordination, archiving of past and current chapter events, and general body meeting technical logistics.

Relevant Lectures and Speaking Engagements

Panelist, "J.E.D.I Won't Save You...Action Will", NOMA National Conference - Nashville, 2022

Co-Presenter, "Equity in Project Planning: A Critical Step to Increasing Community Impact", USGBC-LA, 2022 Keynote Speaker, USC High School Architecture Development Program Graduation Ceremony, 2022 Panelist, "How to Talk to Strangers", SoCal NOMA, 2022

Panelist, "Designing for Environmental Social Justice", SoCal NOMA, 2022

Speaker/Facilitator, "The Dependence of Advocacy from Buildings to Community", AIA National Leadership Conference, 2022 Moderator, "Community Engagement: A Look Outward", AIA LA Encompass Conference, 2022

Panelist, "EDI Through Community Engagement", AIA CA Board of Directors Quarterly, 2021 Juror, ACLA/AIA LA 2x8 Student Design Competition, 2021

Moderator, "Designing Healthy Communities: A Discussion on Diversity and Change", AIA LA, 2021 Moderator, "Dismantling Systemic Racism in Pedagogy", AIA LA 2x8, 2021

Presenter, "The Architects' Los Angeles Voters Guide", AIA LA 2020

Moderator, "The Follow Through: Effectuate Change by Education", AIA LA Encompass Conference, 2020 Speaker, USC School of Architecture Graduate Student Commencement Keynote, 2019

Presenter, "Entrepreneurial Community Building Workshop", 2018 NOMA National Conference



CANDIDATE for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR (3-year term)

Mark Pearson, College of DuPage

Candidate Statement

My name is Mark Pearson and I am seeking the position of At-Large Director of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA).

I am a Professor of Architecture at College of DuPage, a Community College located in Glen Ellyn Illinois. I am a Licensed Architect in the State of Illinois and a LEED accredited professional. At College of DuPage I am responsible for teaching the second year design studio curriculum in the pre-architecture program; which includes architectural design, presentation, portfolio and visualization courses. I have also initiated the design + build summer studio, a grant funded experiential learning opportunity for community college architecture students.

I believe that my experience working with community college architecture students will bring a unique and welcome perspective to the ACSA board.

I have been a full time faculty member at College of DuPage for the past 18 years, and in that time our pre-architecture program has successfully transferred over 300 students into accredited ACSA member schools. Many of these transfer students have not only gone on to complete their professional degrees, but are now licensed architects working in firms across the country. Several former students own their own firms.

Yet in spite of the many success stories, students who begin their architectural education at a community college still face challenges, barriers and attitudes of elitism as they navigate their way through an architectural education. Community college students are not alone in facing these challenges. I expect that some of your students may have similar experiences. As an ACSA board member I will continue to advocate for our institutions and the profession at large with empathy and understanding for the needs of the diverse students we serve.

Since 2013 I have been an active member of the Coalition of Community College Architecture Programs, a national organization that advocates for our programs and students. My institution is one of the founding CCCAP members. I remain committed to building bridges between organizations and fostering further dialog between CCCAP and ACSA on our shared goals and values.

For the past four years I have been a member of the ACSA Education Committee, of which I am the current co-chair. My experience serving on the Education Committee has sharpened my focus on key critical issues for the future of ACSA. This work has included:

- Understanding healthy learning culture in architectural education
- Promoting inclusive, equitable, and welcoming learning environments
- Examining ways to improve socioeconomic, racial and gender equity in architectural education
- Researching perceptions of power dynamics and racial equity in architecture schools
- Working to engage community colleges and expanding pathways toward an architectural education

All of these challenges remain critical and timely as we navigate forward. With your support, I am both humble and eager to continue to advocate on these important issues as the first Community College faculty member to serve as an At-Large Director on the ACSA board.





CANDIDATE for AT-LARGE DIRECTOR (3-year term)

Mark Pearson, College of DuPage

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

MARK A. PEARSON, AIA, LEED AP

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Master of Architecture, Design Option, 1999
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies, 1997

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Professor of Architecture, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn Illinois, 2015-p
Associate Professor (2010-2015), Assistant Professor (2006-2010), Instructor (2004-2006)
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Architectural Design, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 1997-1999

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mark A. Pearson AIA, Licensed Architect, State of Illinois, 2005-p
Frye Gillan Molinaro Architects Ltd, Chicago, Illinois, 2001-2004
Skidmore Owings & Merrill LLP, Chicago, Illinois, 1999-2001
Gere Dismer Architects, Moline, Illinois, summers 1992-1996

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Clyde Lee and Jane Cecilia Baker Traveling Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 2007
Edward L. Ryerson Fellow in Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 1999
Frank B. and Jenny M. Long Traveling Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 1997

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS / PUBLICATIONS / GRANTS

AIA Illinois Educators Roundtable Panel Discussion, October 6, 2022
"Expanding Access to Architectural Education: Working with Community Colleges"
Part I: ACSA Administrators Conference panel discussion (Moderator), October 14, 2021
Part II: ACSA Webinar (Moderator), November 11, 2021
Part II: ACSA Webinar (Moderator), November 17, 2022
"Post-Pandemic: What is the Future of Higher Education?"
ACSA Administrators Conference panel discussion, online, November 6, 2020
"Equity and Empathy in the Architecture Studio: What can we learn from virtual design studios during a pandemic?"
ACSA Education Committee online discussion, May 28, 2020
RFE Grants for Arch Design + Build Studio Initiative, College of DuPage Foundation
(\$40,000 funding awarded for multiple projects 2013-2020)
"Why aren't we talking about Community College Architecture Programs?" AIA Chicago, Chicago Architect Magazine
OP-ED on diversity in the architecture profession, July-August Edition 2018.
"IF YOU BUILD IT... Design Build in the CCCAP"
Coalition of Community College Architecture Programs annual conference, New York, June 23, 2018
"Connecting to the Community, Project-Based Learning to Build a Greener Future" Greenbuild, 2010

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

American Institute of Architects, member, 2005-p
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Education Committee co-chair 2021-2023
Committee Focus: Expanding access to higher education for community college students.
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Education Committee member, 2019-2021
Chicago Architecture + Design Career Day planning team, website and graphic design
Consortium for Design and Construction Careers and AIA Chicago Foundation, 2017-p

AWARDS

Outstanding Faculty Award winner, Coalition of Community College Architecture Programs, 2018
AIA Distinguished Project Merit Award winner, AIA Northeast Illinois
for Architecture Design + Build Studio student project 'Umbra', 2017
Division-wide Outstanding Faculty Award winner, College of DuPage, 2014
USGBC Excellence in Green Building Education Honor Award winner
for co-creation of Architecture 2840: Sustainable Design Initiatives, College of DuPage, 2009