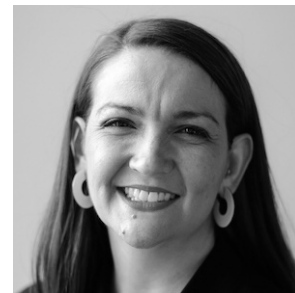


ACSA Candidate for Second Vice President (4-year term)

Bethany I. Lundell Garver, Boston Architectural College

Candidate Statement

Being considered for this national leadership role is nothing short of an honor—a chance to celebrate the voices of each one of you and the students whose dreams we champion. A decade ago, I embraced the world of higher education, navigating missteps, celebrating triumphs, and cultivating a steadfast commitment to what I now understand as transformational leadership. At times, I've felt like the odd duck in the academic pond: my institution has no tenure system, a reliance on part-time adjuncts, and a heavy administrative load for most full-time faculty, myself included. If you've ever felt awkwardly perched on the fringes of the mainstream, I see and hear you; it's a weight that both bears down on us and propels us forward!



Enter ACSA—my involvement has been driven by a passion to amplify the voices of students and faculty whose experiences are as diverse as the institutions we serve. ACSA represents over 7,000 architecture faculty, guiding the education of more than 40,000 students from a spectrum of institutions—large and small, public and private, urban and rural, spanning 2-year community colleges to 4-year pre-professional, and accredited professional programs. Every faculty member, be they full-time, part-time, or adjunct, plays a pivotal role, spearheading critical pedagogies in a world saturated with uncertainty. Breaking through the noise together is the good work of a lifetime.

My engagement with ACSA has been extensive and intentional. Serving as a Director-at-Large, a committed member of the Education Committee, a co-founder of ACSA/NCARB's Professional Practice Education Library (ProPEL), and a contributor to ACSA's Assessment Workshop Series, my dedication to the association's mission runs deep. Currently serving as the ACSA Liaison on AIAS' Board of Directors, I am navigating the crucial intersection of academia and student advocacy. Meanwhile, embracing the sweet and uncontrollable chaos of motherhood has only solidified my commitment to fostering inclusive teaching and learning environments where individuals can (attempt to!) find balance with family, work, and educational pursuits.

If entrusted with this transformative leadership role, I will champion three pillars: **ACCESS**, **ALLIANCE**, and **ASSESSMENT**.

ACCESS is the gateway to an inclusive architectural education and profession. As the daughter of two community college transfer students, I am personally and professionally committed to expanding affordable and accessible paths into pre-professional and accredited architecture programs. My time at the Boston Architectural College (BAC) has shown me the importance of transfer-friendly community college pathways and the value active transfer articulation agreements bring to our programs. Architectural education should be possible for all learners, including nontraditional students who have delayed college enrollment, attend school part-time, work full-time, are financially independent, or have dependents other than a spouse. We need every perspective at the table addressing the world's most urgent challenges.

ALLIANCE is the root of transformation—forged within communities of practice. As a licensed architect and Dean of Practice at the BAC, I guide the "work study" curriculum, melding education with practice, challenging norms, and nurturing empathy and collaboration among students, faculty, administrators, and employers. The BAC, under this ethos, boasts the highest number of Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) graduates. To safeguard the educational requirement for licensure, we must actively nurture alliances with the architectural profession, allaying the construction of additional silos. I am committed to fostering trusted relationships that blend education and professional practice, advancing equity and a sense of belonging for underrepresented individuals or groups. At The BAC, my efforts to cultivate a diverse adjunct faculty—comprising 46% female and 38% BIPOC instructors—echo my commitment to mirroring the racial diversity among our students. Through a practice-integrated educational alliance, I spearhead multiple initiatives addressing equity, social justice, and climate action, aligning seamlessly with ACSA's strategic plan.

ASSESSMENT is the bedrock of progress. We need to assess our success and failures, measure our impact, and chart a course for continuous improvement. Drawing on my experience in developing rigorous equity-minded assessment processes, I am committed to advancing the culture of assessment within ACSA member schools, NAAB accredited programs, and in architecture firms, ensuring that our shared and distinct goals are not only set but also met.

Ultimately, my vision for ACSA is one of unity, diversity, and measurable progress. I am ready to lead with a learner-first approach, leveraging my experiences as a team player, mover, and shaker to realize ACSA's strategic objectives. Let's build a community of design programs and professionals that exemplify equity, innovation, and advocacy in architecture through tangible collaboration and meaningful action. I am beyond honored to be considered for this opportunity to serve ACSA, and I look forward to continuing along this insightful and fun journey with each of you.

Bethany I. Lundell Garver, AIA, NOMA

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Master of Architecture in Urban Design with Distinction
Auburn University, Bachelor of Architecture, magna cum laude and Bachelor of Interior Architecture, magna cum laude

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2020– Dean of Practice, Boston Architectural College (BAC)
2020– Director of Gateway Office BAC, community-based design (un)center
2017–22 Director of Applied Learning, Practice Department, BAC
2017–19 Lecturer, Department of Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning, Tufts University
2014–17 Director of Foundation Instruction, Practice Department, Core Faculty, BAC
2014 Instructor, Career Discovery, Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD)
2013–14 Research Assistant, Harvard University GSD
2013 Instructor, Summer Academy, BAC

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014– Somerstead LLC, Somerville, MA. Founder and Owner.
2013– Beth Lundell Garver Architect, licensed in Massachusetts (#32236) and California (#C-34432)
2004–12 Rafael Viñoly Architects PC, San Francisco, CA and New York, NY
2003 TVS Design, Atlanta, GA (AIA Architecture Firm Award, 2002)
2002 David Keith Braly Architectural Painting, Montgomery, AL
2000 Rural Studio, Auburn University, Hale County, AL, led by Samuel Mockbee (AIA Gold Medal, 2004)

SELECTED GRANTS + AWARDS

2024– Mass Cultural Council STARS Residency Grant, BPS Higginson-Lewis School, Gateway Office BAC [\$2800]
2023– Licensed Intercultural Development Inventory ® Qualified Administrator
2020– Cummings Foundation Grant, Center for Civic Engagement in Spatial Practice, BAC [\$300,000]
2017 Significant Impact Recognition Best Course Nomination “Urban Design & the Changing Suburb,” Tufts University
2016 BSA Foundation Grant Award, for “Community Practice” course development, BAC [\$3,000]
2015 CHEA Award for Outstanding Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes, Practice Department, BAC
2015 Lumina Foundation, CAEL Competency-Based Education Training Program, Practice Department, BAC
2014 Award for Highest Academic Excellence & Achievement in MAUD cohort, Harvard University GSD

LEADERSHIP + SERVICE

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

Director-at-Large (2017–20); Education Committee (2017–Present); ProPEL Founding Editorial Board (2020–23)

American Institute of Architecture Students

Board of Directors ACSA Liaison (2021–24); Strategic Task Force, Chair (2023–25); Faculty Advisor, BAC (2017–Present)

American Institute of Architects and Boston Society for Architecture

Guides for Equitable Practice contributor (2018–22); Membership Committee (2017–20); Government Affairs Committee

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

Appointed Licensing Advisor (2018–Present); Education & Experience Advisory Committees; IPAL program at the BAC

National Architectural Accrediting Board

Accreditation Visiting Team Member for multiple architecture programs (2022–Present)

2023 “Make Learning Visible: Competency Matrix, Graphic Maps, and Learner Profiles for Assessing Unique Student Paths,” Association of Assessment of Learning in Higher Education.

2023 Organizing Committee: ACSA Convening to Advance Community College Transfer in Arch Education. Philadelphia, PA.

2021 Presented: “Setting the Stage for Equity-Minded Inquiry,” ACSA Assessment Workshop Series. Web.

2020 Presented: “[Learning from Practice: The Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence.](#)” ACSA Webinar.

2020 Organizing Committee: ACSA Administrators Conference “Be at the Table: Embracing the Future.” Virtual.

2020 Moderated: “[Studio-Based Online Learning: Building Community and Engaging Design at a Distance.](#)” ACSA Webinar.

2018 “Assessing Experiential Learning in Design Education: the Practice Department.” L. M. Abendroth and B. Bell (Eds.), Public Interest Design Education Guidebook: Curricula, Strategies, and SEED Academic Case Studies. Taylor Francis/Routledge.

2018 “Reflecting on Now Practice Now: Cash,” BSA/AIA, May 2018. Web.

2015 “Social Media as Visualization Tool: Mapping the Urban Landscape,” Landscape Research Record No. 4: 2-9. Web.