

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

Marwan Ghandour, Louisiana State University

Candidate Statement

Architecture as an academic and professional field is based on four disciplinary fundamentals: Social responsibility, environmental stewardship, technical proficiency, and spatial choreography. Interrogating these fundamentals in the second quarter of the twenty-first century raises many questions that the global architecture academic community can address.

While intervention in the built environment is an opportunity to create safe, hopeful, and healthy spaces for humanity, such intervention is also a device for cultural erasure and spatial domination. New horizons of progress for humanity can be unlocked with projects such as downtown regeneration, postwar reconstruction, post-disaster recovery, highways, real estate development, and communal settlement projects. But as we well document, the opposite tends to occur. Projects like these are used repeatedly as tools for selective economic and physical confinement that can cause cultural annihilation, social marginalization and environmental calamities.



Architects and architectural thinkers were instrumental in bringing us here. It is time to readdress the timeless question: is architecture mainly a tool in the service of economic and political power? More importantly: *What is the unexploited potential of the agency of architects, architectural practice, and architectural thinking?* Where should we expand the institutional and professional platforms in which architectural agency can be more impactful?

The construction of buildings and urban spaces is also an act of disruption and replacement of existing physical, social and natural environments. In our hyper-networked world, architects' local actions may have global repercussions. Unpacking the global connectedness of architectural practice as a construction/disruption act provides a clear perspective to the consequences of what we do as architects and scholars. *How can we better cultivate our actions and spatial ambitions in the context of what we disrupt or replace?* Who are we inviting to our conversations to holistically understand the impact of our spatial and material actions?

Architecture is one of the few remaining interdisciplinary academic fields. Architects can be excellent interlocutors with social scientists, builders, artists, politicians, designers, and engineers. Are we using this unique trait for its full potential? Are we embracing the full spectrum of possible architectural practices in the contemporary world? *How much is interdisciplinarity valued in the way our curricula are structured, and our programs are being evaluated?*

Architectural design thinking embraces research methods that are based in multi-scalar vision and diverse material manifestations. While these methods, such as analytical mapping, visualization, and experimental modeling, are increasingly utilized in multidisciplinary projects, we are yet to normalize their application to expand and complement existing quantitative and qualitative research methodologies. *Should we broaden the definition of architectural practice to create new opportunities in which our research methodologies can be employed?* Do architectural institutions provide the appropriate infrastructure for such expanded research activity?

These open questions emerge from teaching, administration, practice, and research that I have conducted in the Middle East, American Midwest, Latin America, East Africa, and the American South. The multiple (and sometimes contradictory) faces of architectural practice are uncovered in refugee camps in Lebanon, urban renewal in Beirut, resilient construction in Kigali, industrial farming in Iowa, segregated urbanism in Louisiana, coastal fragility in San Juan, environmental territorialization in Panama City, and informal building in Lima. The consistency in which the constructive as well as the destructive role that architects had in these different locations highlight the need to re-articulate the discipline's priorities, values, and potential for the ensuing decades.

I began my teaching and practice in Beirut, where I am from, during a 15-year war. Within cycles of violence, spatial interventions presented moments of hope and reconciliation. I sustained my practice with a deep belief in the ability of design to make a difference in the places I lived in. I carried the themes and frameworks that were established in my time in Lebanon with me to Iowa and later Louisiana. In these places and other contexts I have engaged with across Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, my ambition has been to bring marginalized voices to the center of my practice. The need to face inequity and societal conflicts are what drives my passion for the craft and for continuing to be curious in what is possible. My administrative mission is to focus on transparency and the centrality of collaboration, equity for building an environment of opportunity and creativity, and the importance of innovation in addressing the social-environmental crisis that we are living.

We are currently reaping the consequences of the way our field was previously defined. This is the right time for us to check the fundamentals of our discipline and I am grateful to have all of you to share with. ACSA is the ideal community to do that through the debates that can be hosted, partners that can be invited, academic infrastructure that can be developed, and geographies that can be engaged.

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae—Marwan Ghandour

EDUCATION

- 1988 Master of Science in Architecture & Building Design, Columbia University, New York
1986 Bachelor of Architecture, American University of Beirut

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2017-present Louisiana State University, School of Architecture, Director & Emogene Pliner Professor
2003-2017 Iowa State University, Department of Architecture, Professor, Director of Master of Urban Design (2013-2017), Director of Master of Design in Sustainable Environments (2013-2017), Associate Dean for Academic Programs for the College of Design (2010-2014), Director of Graduate Architecture Education (2007-2010)
1988-2003 American University of Beirut, Senior Lecturer

RECENT COURSES

- Fall 2023 ARCH 4003-M Arch beginning design. *Textures of Living: introduction architectural thinking and making*
Spring 2022 ARCH 4002-B Arch fourth year. *Dynamic Urbanism: envisioning strategies for climate change in San Juan, PR.*
Fall 2020 ARCH 5000- Advanced option studio. *Design Ugly: undo spaces of racial injustice in Baton Rouge.*
Fall 2019 ARCH 5000- Advanced option studio. *At the Border in Panama City: building, infrastructure and change.*

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 Marwan Ghandour, The Multiple Limas: urban design at the periphery. *LIMAPOLIS 2016* (PUCP-LIMA, 2017).
2016 Marwan Ghandour, "The Urban Infrastructure for Sustainability: learning from Kigali." 'SFC 2016 – Sustainable Futures conference: Architecture and Construction in the Global South' Conference Proceedings - United Nations Headquarters in Africa, Nairobi (Stellenbosch University, 2016).
2013 Marwan Ghandour, "Who is 'Ain el-Hilweh?'" *Jadaliyya*, September 2013. Online Publication, <http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/index/14379/who-is-%E2%80%98ain-el-hilweh>.
2012 Marwan Ghandour, "The Architect Citizen: the nature of civic engagement in postwar reconstruction projects in Lebanon" *2012 Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture International Conference; Change: architecture, education, practices, Barcelona, June 2012* (Washington, D.C.: ACSA, 2012).
2009 Mona Fawaz and Marwan Ghandour, "Spatial Erasure: reconstruction projects in Beirut," *ArteEast Quarterly*, December 2009. Online publication <http://www.arteeast.org/pages/artenews/extra-territoriality/254/>
2008 Marwan Ghandour and Peter Goche, "Guidelines for Spatial Regeneration in Iowa" (Washington DC: American Institute of Architects, 2008).
2007 Marwan Ghandour, "The Early Maps of Iowa and their Politics" in Mark Swenarton, Igea Troiani and Helena Webster, eds., *The Politics of Making* (Oxford: Routledge, 2007). Pp. 244-256.
2006 Marwan Ghandour, "On Cities and Designers: A Baalbeck Story," *Architecture Research Quarterly*, vol 10, issue 1, March 2006 (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2006). Pp 37-49.
2003 Marwan Ghandour, "Instituting Exclusiveness: Modern Lebanese Architects and their Society," *Proceedings of the 2002 Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture International Conference: Architecture, Culture, and the Challenges of Globalization, Havana June 21-24, 2002* (Washington: ACSA Press, 2003). Pp. 363-367.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2011 *Zaatari Residence*, Saida, Lebanon; Moustapha and Nazek Zaatari. BUA=1000m².
2007 *Scientific Research Building*, AUB Campus-Beirut, Lebanon; American University of Beirut. BUA=4500m².
2008 *Hariri 2 Elementary School*, Beirut, Lebanon; Hariri Foundation. BUA=6200m².
2008 *AUB School of Nursing*, AUBMC-Beirut, Lebanon; American University of Beirut. Historic building rehabilitation.
2001 *Hariri 3 Elementary School*, Beirut Lebanon; for Hariri Foundation, Beirut. BUA=6500m².
1999 *Nahr el Bared Kindergarten*, North Lebanon; for Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation, Beirut. BUA=900m².

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Lebanese Order of Architects and Engineers (1988-2005)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Associate AIA, NOMA, ACSA, ARCC.

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

Luis F. Rico-Gutierrez, Iowa State University

Candidate Statement

The world needs more bold dreamers who aren't afraid to imagine the future—not just more architects but more voices and different perspectives. Over twenty-five years, ACSA has been a community where I've found others who share my fundamental belief that architectural education must advance with dignity and demand inclusion, amplify silenced voices, embolden creative expression, and foster critical thinking. I've engaged deeply with many of you through multiple roles - from co-chairing the 2017 National Conference in Detroit to leading international conferences in Spain (2018) and Mexico (2024), serving on scientific committees, and participating in critical discussions about the future of architectural education. Today, I step forward as a candidate for Second Vice-President to support ACSA in meeting the challenges and opportunities before us.



My motivation stems from one powerful word: **access**. This fundamental principle aligns perfectly with ACSA's mission to empower faculty and schools to educate increasingly diverse students, amplify our impact on the discipline, and create knowledge to advance our profession. **Access** for students from all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to pedagogies that empower them to dream audaciously. **Access** for all members of society to sustainable, dignified, and beautiful environments. **Access** for faculty to multiple venues to express their scholarship and embrace new modes of inquiry.

While a candidacy is fundamentally a conversation about the future, you need to understand how my past experiences inform how I can work with you to move our present forward:

- **Ensuring Access follows Passion:** At Iowa State's College of Design, through strategic investments in recruitment and student support, we've increased diverse representation in our first-year class from 10% to 24%. Our "Design Closet" initiative removes financial barriers for projects and presentations, ensuring that passion—not economic circumstances—determines success. This builds on my earlier work at Carnegie Mellon University, where I established UDREAM, credited with increasing minority representation in Pittsburgh's urban design profession by 400%.
- **Advancing Environmental Justice and Community Development:** At Iowa State, we've built strategic partnerships bringing architecture, design, planning, and art expertise to support local governments and communities across the state. This work expands on my experience founding the Remaking Cities Institute at Carnegie Mellon, demonstrating how academia can transform communities through scholarship and engaged practice. Together, these initiatives create a model for how design education can directly impact community development and environmental justice at both urban and rural scales.
- **Breaking Disciplinary Silos:** Today's complex challenges require the ability to work productively across knowledge domains. *Epistemological agility*—the capacity to frame and re-frame problems through multiple lenses and combine ideas in original ways to serve broader social, economic, and civic purposes—has reshaped our foundations program and most of our junior-year studios. In them, faculty from multiple departments collaborate in developing complex problem statements that highlight the necessary interaction between students from different disciplinary and experiential backgrounds to provide appropriate solutions.
- **Building Global Partnerships:** Despite being Iowa State's smallest college, we lead in international engagement, sending more students abroad than colleges many times our size. By strategically investing in resources and programs, we've made international experiences accessible to students from all backgrounds, transforming their understanding of architecture's role in a global context.
- **Leading Complex Organizations Through Change:** As Dean of Iowa State's College of Design, I've led an incredible group of faculty, staff, and students in the process of developing and pursuing a vision that encapsulates our shared ambitions. This experience in strategic planning and organizational transformation would serve ACSA as it redefines its relationships with key partners like AIA, NAAB, NCARB, and AIAS, as our collective work advances architectural education's broader mission.

As ACSA embarks on its 2024-25 strategic planning process, I believe **access**, central to my past experiences, must be at the center of our conversations—access to resources necessary to create new pathways into architectural education, develop equitable learning cultures, and advance environmental justice through scholarship, pedagogy, and transformative practices. As a member of ACSA's leadership team, I commit to being available, listening, asking questions, providing support, and facilitating interactions that advance our collective mission.

Toni Morrison said, *"There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear... I know the world is bruised and bleeding, and though it is important not to ignore its pain, it is also critical to refuse to succumb to its malevolence. Like failure, chaos contains information that can lead to knowledge—even wisdom. Like art."*

As we stand at this crossroads, I invite you to take this next step with me. Let's ensure that every student, every faculty member, every professional who isn't afraid to imagine a better future finds in ACSA not just an organization, but a home. With all my energy, experience, and hope for our shared future, I am ready to serve, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to do so.

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae—Luis F. Rico-Gutierrez

EDUCATION

Present-1997 Carnegie Mellon University Ph.D. (ABD), Research area: Computer supported collaborative design
2015 Harvard University Certificate, Institute for Management and Leadership in Education
1997-1996 Carnegie Mellon University, Master in Building Performance
1988-1987 "Rafael Leoz" Foundation (Madrid) Graduate degree, Modular design and the isotropic space arrangement
ITESM (Queretaro, Mexico), Bachelor degree in Architecture

EMPLOYMENT

2009-Present Iowa State University, College of Design, Dean
2009-2001 Carnegie Mellon University, College of Fine Arts, Associate Dean
2009-2006 Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture, David Lewis Director, Remaking Cities Institute
2006-2001 Carnegie Mellon University, Studio for the Creative Inquiry, Chair, Steering Committee
2004-2001 Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture, Associate Head
2009-1996 Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture, David Lewis Director, Remaking Cities Institute
1996-1993 ITESM (Queretaro, Mexico), Department of Architecture, Faculty Member
1993-1991 Fundación Rafael Leoz (Madrid), Architecture Department, Manager

I'm an architect passionate about the critical contributions that the arts and design can make to improve the quality of our lives. I believe that the knowledge required to address our most pressing challenges can only be constructed through a deliberate balance between poetic and pragmatic forms of practice. In this context, designers and artists are creative catalysts, visionaries, provocateurs, and iconoclasts who study the past and question the context to imagine the future.

My success as a faculty member and administrator is linked intimately to the success of my team. It would be disingenuous to claim sole responsibility for the professional accomplishments listed in here. As leader, my role is to ask questions, provide support, and facilitate interactions that can further our collective mission.

CURRENT LEADERSHIP AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY: As Dean of the College of Design at Iowa State University, I lead seven departments offering accredited professional degrees, with 150 faculty and staff serving 2,200 students. Our innovative organizational structure emphasizes collaboration while maintaining distinct disciplinary identities, resulting in a 98% placement rate within six months of graduation.

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION: Created new programs, including Industrial Design, Interdisciplinary Design, Master in Real Estate Development in partnership with the College of Business, and most recently, a Bachelor in Game Design. Helped establish the \$84M Student Innovation Center as a hub for creativity and fabrication. Launched a robust social entrepreneurship initiative featuring interdisciplinary studios where students and faculty address complex community and environmental challenges. Created the Iowa Mayors Design Workshop, where students and faculty collaborate with domain experts and extension specialists to help Iowa communities reimagine their future.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY: Implemented strategic initiatives that increased diverse student enrollment from 10% to 24%, including the creation of a DEIB strategist position and establishing partnerships with regional support groups for marginalized communities.

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE: Strengthened the college's research culture through strategic investments in the Institute for Design Research and Outreach (IDRO), expanding staff support for pre- and post-award services. These efforts have yielded \$8.9 million in external funding from the National Science Foundation, Iowa Economic Development Authority, and Department of Transportation, among others. Faculty have secured prestigious awards including National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships and Getty Foundation "Keeping It Modern" Grants.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT: Expanded international programs reaching 50% of graduating students in the college (over 75% in Architecture) through partnerships in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, including management of our Rome program hosting 120 students annually.

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP: At Carnegie Mellon University, I served as Associate Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Associate Head of the School of Architecture. I co-founded the Remaking Cities Institute to bridge academic and community needs through research and studio teaching. Additionally, I established the UDREAM program (Urban Design Regional Employment Action for Minorities), securing \$500,000 in funding. As a result, Pittsburgh saw a more than 400% increase in underrepresented minority representation in the architecture and urban design fields.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP: My extensive involvement with ACSA includes co-chairing the 2024 International Conference in Mexico, the 2018 ACSA Deans Summit in Spain, the 2017 ACSA National Conference in Detroit, and serving on multiple committees and initiatives. I've chaired multiple UNESCO-UIA Validation Committees for architecture programs in Germany, Turkey, the UAE, and Egypt. Recently, I participated as a member of the Scientific Committee for the 2023 UIA World Congress. Additional service include Board of Trustees membership for the California College of the Arts and participation in the Large Firms Roundtable Dean's Forum.

RECOGNITION: These contributions have been recognized through multiple awards including: appointment as Senior Fellow of the Design Futures Council (2017), selection as one of America's top 25 most admired educators by Design Intelligence (2016), the Andrew Heiskell Award for Technology Enhanced Learning in International Education (2003), First Prize for my students in the J.P. Morgan-Chase Community Development Competition (2005), and the Borrego Dorado nationwide award for Educational Innovation in Mexico (1997).

PERSONAL JOURNEY: My journey spans three continents - from Mexico, where I earned my first degree, to Spain, where I worked in academia and the non-profit sector; back to Mexico, where I started teaching, and to the United States, where I've dedicated myself to design education. These global perspectives enrich my understanding of the diverse ways design can serve society and inform my collaborative approach to leadership.

ACSA Candidate for At-Large Director (3-year term)

José Ibarra, University of Colorado, Denver

Candidate Statement

I am eager to support ACSA's mission by engaging with member schools and advocating for strategic initiatives that prioritize climate justice and equity in the built environment. As a Venezuelan designer, researcher, and educator working at the intersection of architecture and environmental uncertainty, I bring a global perspective and a deep commitment to advancing architectural education and practice. I hope to expand membership networks, foster new partnerships, and help externalize architectural research and teaching beyond traditional academic boundaries as an At-Large Director. I am committed to advocating for an ACSA that:

- centers climate justice and architecture's role in mitigating its effects on local communities as a core priority;
- diminishes barriers to architectural education, particularly for underprivileged and disenfranchised students;
- creatively navigates the outcomes of ongoing discussions with the NAAB, while also strengthening our connections with other collateral organizations.



My academic service and leadership demonstrate my commitment to advancing architectural scholarship, with a dedication to equity. I have been involved with ACSA since 2022, when I joined the 2022–2023 Research & Scholarship Committee under Joyce Hwang's leadership. I later chaired the 2023–2024 Research & Scholarship Committee, leading the publication of the 2024 update to the White Paper "[Research and Scholarship for Promotion, Tenure, and Reappointment in Schools of Architecture](#)." This comprehensive document updates guidelines for tenure and promotion in architecture schools, stressing the importance of peer-review and public scholarship, and highlighting pressing areas of research such as climate justice. Additionally, the committee launched the [ACSA Academy for Public Scholarship on the Built Environment](#), an initiative that aligns closely with my dedication to expanding architecture's role beyond traditional academic boundaries. Currently, as 2024–2025 co-chair alongside Ian Caine, we are advancing the Academy's work on housing inequities. We are also developing resources to support faculty in identifying funding sources, relationship-building with grantors, grant-writing, and collaboration.

My own academic path has given me a unique perspective on the range of institutional experiences across different types of schools. I earned an A.A. in Architecture from Miami Dade College, a B.Arch from Cornell University, and an M.Arch from Princeton University. This path, combined with my teaching at institutions like CU Denver, Cornell, UVA, and UW-Milwaukee, has provided me with valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing member schools, particularly regarding research, scholarship, and faculty development. At each institution, I have built interdisciplinary partnerships to address pressing issues in the built environment, from speculative research on climate futures to community-based participatory design.

At the core of my work is a commitment to architecture's agency in addressing the climate crisis and promoting social justice. In my ongoing manuscript on architecture's temporal scales and deep-time design strategies ("Architecture, Time, and the Anthropocene: Designing with Geoempathy"), I provide alternative frameworks for addressing long-term environmental and social crises. By centering on critical spatial practices, *Geoempathy* presents architecture as a mediator of process, kinship, and deep time across species, calling for design collaborations between humans, animals, plants, grounds, and atmospheres. Similarly, through projects such as [Table Manners](#), I bring together interdisciplinary approaches to engage communities in critical conversations around resilience, climate futures, and design justice. This work, rooted in participatory and performative design methods, critically engages with planetary-scale challenges while continuously questioning architecture's role in fostering more just and resilient futures. I believe that these approaches to research and teaching align strongly with ACSA's priorities, and position me to help shape strategic initiatives that foreground equity and sustainability in architectural education.

My creative practice, research, teaching, and service are deeply grounded in diversity, equity, and inclusion (see a recent news article about this [here](#)). I have engaged with underprivileged communities, fostering discussions around the critical issues they face. As a queer Latin man, I find it particularly important to spearhead these initiatives and mentor a young generation of underrepresented voices who will go on to change our field in critical ways. One example of this is my recent project with Liz Gálvez, [Latinx Coalition Chats](#), which brings together Latinx scholars and designers working in the United States. This project was awarded a Graham Foundation 2023 Production and Presentation Grant (see announcement [here](#)) and launched through a series of workshops hosted at the Architectural League of New York.

As a candidate for the 2025–2028 At-Large Director position on the ACSA Board of Directors, I aim to contribute my professional, academic, and leadership experiences to advance the mission and vision of ACSA. As we engage in the 2024-2025 strategic planning process, I look forward to helping shape the future priorities of architectural education and research, ensuring that our discipline remains equitable, sustainable, and resilient in the face of complex global challenges. My research and practice directly intersect with these values, and I am excited to contribute my perspectives to foster an inclusive, innovative, and socially responsive community of architectural educators, students, and professionals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae— José Ibarra

EDUCATION

- 2019 **Master of Architecture, Post-Professional Degree. Princeton University.** Princeton, New Jersey.
2016 **Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch), Professional Degree. Cornell University.** Ithaca, New York.
2013 **Associate in Arts in Architecture (AA Architecture).** Miami Dade College. Miami, Florida.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2022–Present **Assistant Professor of Architecture. University of Colorado Denver.** Denver, Colorado.
2024 **Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture. Cornell University.** Ithaca, New York.
2020–2022 **Assistant Professor of Architecture (General Faculty). University of Virginia.** Charlottesville, Virginia.
2019–2020 **Urban Edge Fellow. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.** Milwaukee, Wisconsin

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- 2019–Present Principal and Founder. **Studio José Ibarra.** Denver, Colorado.
2018–Present Co-Founder, w/Andrés Romero and Paola Cuevas. **House Operations.** Denver, Tijuana, Sto. Domingo.

SELECTED SCHOLARSHIP (EXCERPT)

- 2026 Ibarra, José. ***Architecture, Time, and the Anthropocene: Designing with Geoempathy.*** Book. London: Taylor & Francis / Routledge, 2026 (forthcoming).
2024 Ibarra, José. “**Trans-scalar Architectures for Earth: Rain Check,**” in 2024 ACSA 112th Annual Meeting. Article in conference proceedings. Vancouver, Canada: 2024.
2024 Ibarra, José and Liz Gálvez. **Latinx Coalition Chats.** Hosted at the Architectural League of New York. Invited guests: Paola Aguirre Serrano, Xavi L. Aguirre, Sarah Bolivar, Yazmín M. Crespo Claudio, Gabriel Díaz Montemayor, Deborah Garcia, Leen Katrib, César A. López, Ronald Rael. Symposium and workshop. New York City: 2024. <https://www.latinxchats.org/>
2023 Ibarra, José. “**Beyond Repair: Architecture After Urban Crisis,**” in 2023 ACSA/EAAE Teacher’s Conference. Article in conference proceedings. Reykjavik, Iceland: 2023.
2022 O’Donnell, Caroline and José Ibarra, eds. ***Werewolf: The Architecture of Lunacy, Shapeshifting, and Material Metamorphosis.*** Book. San Francisco: Applied Research & Design, 2022.
2022 Ibarra, José. “**Architecture After the End: A Call for Geoempathy,**” in *The Cornell Journal of Architecture* 12, After: 24–36. Article in journal. Barcelona: Actar, 2022.
2019–Present Ibarra, José. **Table Manners.** Venues: UW-Milwaukee, UVA, CU Denver, UW-Madison. Invited guests: Cyrus Peñarroyo, Debbie Chen, Leen Katrib, Rania Ghosn, Jennifer Bonner. Performances, workshops, exhibitions, and other. Varied locations: 2019–2024. <https://www.tablemanners.online/>

RECENT AWARDS AND GRANTS (EXCERPT)

- 2024 **CU Denver Office of Research Services Arts and Humanities Grant.** University of Colorado Denver. “Table Manners.” PI: José Ibarra. 2024–2025.
2024 Ibarra, José and Leyuan Li. **2024 AIA/ACSA Housing Design Education Award for “Denver Low-Rise: New Domestic Forms of Collective Living.”** Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. February 7, 2024.
2023 **CU Denver Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Grant.** University of Colorado Denver. “Latinx Coalition Chats.” PIs: José Ibarra and Liz Gálvez. 2023–2024.
2023 **Graham Foundation Independent Project Grant.** Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts. “Latinx Coalition Chats.” PIs: José Ibarra and Liz Gálvez. 2023–2025.
2023 **AIA Colorado Virginia & Robert Fuller, AIA, Traveling Scholarship. James M. Hunter, AIA, Traveling Scholarship.** America Institute of Architects Colorado. “Andean Ecologies, Cosmologies, and Fictions.” PI: José Ibarra. 2023–2025.
2022 Ibarra, José. **2022 ACSA/AIAS New Faculty Teaching Award (Full-Time Faculty Category).** Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. January 27, 2022.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE (EXCERPT)

- 2024–2025 **Committee Co-chair. Research & Scholarship Committee,** co-chaired with Ian Caine. ACSA. 2024–2025.
2023–2024 **Committee Chair. Research & Scholarship Committee.** ACSA. 2023–2024.
2022–2023 **Committee Member. Research & Scholarship Committee,** chaired by Joyce Hwang. ACSA. 2022–2023.

ACSA Candidate for At-Large Director (3-year term)

Martín Paddack, University of Colorado, Boulder

Candidate Statement

Over the last ten years I have worked as an Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Lecturer and Adjunct Professor at three different institutions: (The University of Colorado Boulder's Environmental Design Program, Howard University's College of Architecture and Engineering, and The Catholic University School of Architecture and Planning).



To offer a brief perspective on why I am applying for this position, it is because I foremost love working with students and colleagues of all backgrounds and deeply believe in the importance of our roles as educators and professionals to ensure positive learning outcomes that invite inclusivity, inspire joy and unlock the imagination. I firmly believe that all students should be afforded equitable platforms, no matter their station in life, and that a great deal of the learning process involves engaging with and listening to others. I have always strived to help students find agency within the profession, and I believe that serving on the Board would allow me to help students across institutions to do more and to advance ACSA's goals of growing equitable learning cultures and supporting scholarly programs that meld social equity, climate action and design discourse. I have worked long enough as a teacher to be able to recognize that there are structural challenges that exist in the profession that need to evolve to support people who have not been afforded the same opportunities as others.

If serving on the board of ACSA can help provide a conduit between teaching institutions, students and professionals, both current and future, to be able to reach these goals, then it is a role that I will fully embrace. Teaching at multiple, cross-disciplinary levels has been my life's work thus far, and I have developed profoundly meaningful relationships with students and colleagues alike at every institution I have ever worked that I value tremendously from a professional and personal standpoint. My value is in empathetic relationship building and knowledge sharing, and I hope to be able to do that with ACSA.

I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all who are reading this letter for your time and consideration, and I hope to be able to meet and work with you in the future!

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae— Martín Paddack

EDUCATION

Master of Architecture, (M.Arch), Urban Practice, Summa Cum Laude
The Catholic University of America, School of Architecture and Planning
Master of Science in Sustainable Design, (MSSD), Summa Cum Laude
The Catholic University of America, School of Architecture and Planning
Bachelor of Fine Arts, (BFA), Magna Cum Laude, English Minor
University of Hartford/Hartford Art School

ACADEMIA/TEACHING

Associate Teaching Professor, University of Colorado, Boulder
Environmental Design Program,
Boulder, CO, August 2024 to Present
Assistant Professor/Lecturer, Howard University,
College of Engineering & Architecture,
Washington, D.C., August 2016 to May 2023
Adjunct Assistant Professor, The Catholic University of America,
School of Architecture & Planning, Washington, D.C., January to August 2016, Summer 2017, Summer 2019
WDCE Instructor, Montgomery College, School of Art and Design, Silver Spring, MD,
2005 to 2014
Adjunct Professor, State University of Cuenca, Ecuador, January to August 2005
Adjunct Professor, University of Azuay, Ecuador, August 2004 to January 2005
Instructor, Corcoran College of Art & Design, Washington, DC, January 1999 to December 2003

FIRM/PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Principal, DesignMAP, Washington, DC/Boulder, CO, 2014 to Present
Co-Founder, DAYMAP, Washington, DC, 2018 to Present
Contract Work, Hickok Cole Architects, Washington, D.C., August 2017
Intern, Kerns Group Architects, Falls Church, VA, June to August 2014
Contract Work, Schick Goldstein Architects, Washington, DC, June to November 2013

PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH/GRANTS/CONFERENCES

The Watershed House: A Water Harvesting Prototype for Vulnerable Communities.
The PLAN Journal (Peer Reviewed Journal), Fall 2022
The Responsibility of Design: Is Socio-Political Disagreement a Design Opportunity?
PLAT (Peer Reviewed Journal), Spring 2020
Movable Architecture from Extraordinary Experiences in Architecture,
by Julio Bermudez, Ph.D. (Forthcoming)
The Color of Space: The Impact of Color in Architecture: Manuscript in Progress
Ekphrastic Architecture: Imaging the Parti: Article in Progress
Co-PI: NASA HOME(Habitats Optimized for Missions of Exploration) 2021-2023
EDRA 53 and 54: (Environmental Design Research Association Conference, 2022+2023)
DC Commission on the Humanities: 2022 Grant Joint Recipient: ReKnow Reno

ACSA Candidate for At-Large Director (3-year term)

David Hill, North Carolina State University

Candidate Statement

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the At-Large Director position on the ACSA Board of Directors. As a longtime member of ACSA, I have consistently benefited from the organization's ability to connect faculty, practitioners, and students, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to its continued leadership and growth. I believe my professional experiences, leadership in architectural education, and commitment to fostering research and design excellence align with the core values of ACSA, making me an ideal candidate to help guide the organization through a time of important changes in architectural education and practice.



I have been teaching architecture full-time for over 17 years, and prior to that I was a practicing architect working on a wide range of public projects, from large concert halls and campus plans to small prototype bus shelters. I am currently Professor and Head of the School of Architecture at North Carolina State University, where I have had the privilege of leading a dynamic faculty and collaborating across disciplines within the college and the university. I co-founded the Coastal Dynamics Design Lab (CDDL) to address the most pressing challenges facing coastal communities, such as climate change, sea-level rise, and environmental and social equity issues. This work is highly engaged with towns and community groups that typically do not have access to design services. My work at the intersection of design, engineering, and the humanities has led to award-winning projects that advance resilience and sustainability in vulnerable regions. In addition to my work as a teacher and researcher, I have held leadership and administrative roles, including six years as Graduate Program Director and nearly eight years as School Head, overseeing both academic and strategic initiatives. I have served on university-level assessment councils and task forces, including strategic planning and accreditation committees, experiences that have equipped me with the skills necessary to collaborate, build consensus, and drive transformative change.

Since beginning my full-time teaching career in 2007, my involvement with ACSA has had a profound impact on my professional development. The networking opportunities, thought-provoking discussions and workshops, and exposure to cutting-edge research and design practices at ACSA's Annual Meetings, as well as the Teachers Conferences, have been invaluable. More recently, the Administrators Conferences have provided occasions to learn from other school leaders and to share common challenges, concerns, and best practices. Through ACA's advocacy work, I have seen the organization's potential to influence the direction of architectural education and practice, particularly in areas such as climate action, diversity, and the relationship between academia and professional practice. These are areas I am passionate about and intend to focus on if elected to the Board.

As At-Large Director, I will work to:

1. Advocate for ACSA and schools of architecture in ongoing discussions on accreditation, seeking collaborative solutions and partnerships with agencies like NAAB, NCARB, and AIA to better serve our students and educational communities.
2. Promote excellence in design and research by strengthening the impact of ACSA's conferences, publications, and awards, creating more platforms for faculty and students to share their work and ideas. Broadening access to ACSA conferences and publications particularly for junior faculty will be a priority.
3. Champion diversity and climate action within our schools and the broader profession, ensuring that issues of social equity and environmental resilience are integral to architectural education and practice. This includes providing resources, recognition, and venues for disseminating innovative examples of teaching and research, particularly for community-engaged programs that are working on these critical issues.
4. Enhance the link between academia and practice, forging stronger partnerships and programs that will enable us to take on greater societal roles and advocate for the transformative power of design to address complex global challenges. This can be accomplished by highlighting both traditional and non-traditional forms of teaching and practice.
5. Promote interdisciplinary teaching, research, and practice that seeks effective results from collaborative teams. Seek ways for ACSA and other educational organizations, such as the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), to share knowledge and celebrate collaborative work.

ACSA will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of architectural education and the profession. With my experience, vision, and commitment to collaborative, inclusive leadership, I am eager to serve on the ACSA Board of Directors and help advance the mission of the organization.

Thank you for considering my nomination.

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae—David Hill

David Hill, FAIA, is Professor and Head of the School of Architecture and University Faculty Scholar at North Carolina State University. He is founder of the Coastal Dynamics Design Lab and winner of the 2024 AIA North Carolina Educator of the Year Award. His teaching and research focus on design for coastal regions, Digital Humanities, and the intersection of architectural practice with contemporary production methods. A registered architect in North Carolina, he has worked professionally with Hashim Sarkis Studios and Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee Architecture. He has won numerous awards for his design work, research, and teaching, including the Virginia Design Medalist (2018), the AIA Decade of Design Grant (2014), the ACSA Faculty Design Award (2008), the ACSA Housing Design Education Award (2013), and the NCSU Libraries Faculty Award (2014). He was elevated to Fellow in the American Institute of Architects in 2019.

Professional License

State of North Carolina #10270

EDUCATION

Harvard University – Graduate School of Design Master in Architecture 2002

North Carolina State University Bachelor of Architecture 1997, Bachelor of Environmental Design in Architecture 1996

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

North Carolina State University | College of Design

Head, School of Architecture 08.17 - Present

Interim Head, School of Architecture 10.2016 – 08.2017

Professor of Architecture 08.2017 – Present

Associate Professor of Architecture 08.2013 – 08.2017

Assistant Professor of Architecture 08.2007 – 08.2013

Director of Graduate Programs, School of Architecture 08.2008 – 06.2014

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Architecture 08.2002 – 12.2006

Harvard University | Graduate School of Design

Studio Instructor, Career Discovery Summer 2001

Research and Teaching Assistant to Prof. Hashim Sarkis

Boston Architectural Center (Now Boston Architectural College)

Studio Instructor Summer 2001, Fall 2001

AFFILIATIONS + BOARD SERVICE

American Institute of Architects (AIA) Member

AIA Triangle Board of Directors 2005-2006, 2007-2014, 2016 - Present

AIA North Carolina Board of Directors Ex-officio Member 2017 - Present

Research Triangle Park (NC) Board of Design Member 2015 – Present

NC State University Campus Design Review Panel Member 2017 – Present

Building Technology Educators Society (BTES) Member

Triangle Area Design Society (TADS) Member

PROFESSIONAL, ACADEMIC + SERVICE AWARDS

American Institute of Architects - North Carolina Chapter Educator of the Year 2024

Gail Lindsey Sustainability Award, American Institute of Architects - North Carolina Chapter 2022: Awarded to the Coastal Dynamics Design Lab

Fellow, American Institute of Architects (FAIA) 2019

Architect Magazine Studio Prize 2019: Micro-Housing for Homeless and Disabled Veterans (Co-taught with Tom Barrie)

Virginia Design Medalist 2018

American Institute of Architects (AIA) – Triangle Section: Presidential Award 2014

University Faculty Scholar – NC State University 2014 - Present

NC State University Libraries Faculty Award 2014

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) / American Institute of Architects (AIA) Housing Design Education Award 2012-2013 (with Profs. Joe DeCarolis and Ranji Ranjithan)

Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Faculty Design Award 2008-09

ACSA Candidate for At-Large Director (3-year term)

Mara Marcu, University of Cincinnati

Candidate Statement

Since 2010, as an ACSA member, I have witnessed the expansion of the organization's core values from teaching and learning to research, scholarship, and creative practices. This also impacted on my growth as an educator and designer. It was timely—despite an incredibly challenging global pandemic—to see the focus being recast on pressing issues such as equity, social justice, and climate action. This is an exciting time for our discipline, and I am honored to be considered for the At-Large Director position.



Born in Romania prior to the 1989 Revolution, I have an innate appreciation for freedom, justness, and diversity. Although only a 9-year-old at the time, I remember vividly how life looked like in the absence of these values. I credit my formative years in Romania to have taught me the capacity for empathy and the ability to connect with others regardless of race, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, and religion. Somehow being born in a country marked by political unrest managed to teach me tolerance. Later, as an international student in the United States, I received an incredible education, traveled the world, and—at times—also experienced a deep sense of cultural anxiety. It is this upbringing nevertheless that helps me foster an equitable learning environment for my racially and ethnically diverse students both in the US and abroad.

Besides the Glenn Murcutt International Class in Australia, my education includes a Master of Architecture from Harvard Graduate School of Design and a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Houston, where I received the “Best in Show Design Award”. This granted me acceptance to the design build Ghost Laboratory with Brian MacKay-Lyons, in Nova Scotia - Canada. The widely published Shobac Cottages we built are now open to the wider public. Following, I worked for BSKS Architects, Rafael Vinoly Architects, Ed Mills and Associates, in New York City—and Design Lab Houston. Each of these opportunities provided a diverse experience of responsibilities and environments.

After my fellowship at the University of Virginia, I joined the University of Cincinnati School of Architecture and Interior Design. There I focused on technology and robotic fabrication, hosted the weeklong 2015 ACADIA International Conference, and received numerous grants and awards. In 2016 I was invited to teach as a Visiting Professor at the American University of Sharjah in the UAE. My recent research investigates the role of artificial intelligence applications in architecture and addresses climate change through material research such as recycled concrete 3d printing and biogenic aggregates. Similarly, my teaching encompasses coordinating the second semester of the Master of Architecture I program, advising thesis projects, and teaching graduate seminars in computation.

It is this dichotomy of experiences that shapes my current practice, MMXIII LLC—a design research collaborative. The technological component of my work favors the peculiar and the absurd over the ever-changing architectural style. Central to my interests have been questions of representation, processes of making and thinking, urbanism, and pedagogy with a penchant for the flawed, the outcast, the oddly gendered, the ludic and the nostalgic. My work has been published and exhibited in conference proceedings such as ACSA and ACADIA, journals such as IJAC and venues such as the Venice Biennale.

Administratively, and aside from leading various committees and coordinating studios, lecture courses, and study abroad programs, I have served on the ACADIA Board of Directors for six years in various capacities such as Steering Committee Representative, Development Officer, IJAC representative to Acadia, Technology and Media officer, and have been ACADIA's Secretary for four years. Academically, I have administered several editorial efforts such as the Editorial Board for the International Journal for Architectural Computing and co-editor for the Architectural Science Review journal.

In an increasingly divisive world, I hope to contribute to ACSA's mission and foster an equitable environment for creativity, climate action, research, and education. I bring to the table a stark commitment to intellectual content and scholarship, and a clear hands-on understanding of being part of a board of directors—to include fund raising, publishing, and administration. In short, I believe my diverse experiences and skillsets can be of service to an exceptional organization.

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae—Mara Marcu

Mara Marcu is Associate Professor of Architecture with tenure at the University of Cincinnati and runs a maximalist design office entitled MMXIII LLC (eM eM Thirteen). Specializing in architecture, the research-oriented collaborative structures work around various collection lines: MMI, MMII, MMIII... and so on. Their focus ranges from mathematical experiments, the natural versus the artificial, breeding taxonomies to emergent primitives. Marcu co-established the Architectural Robotics Lab at the University of Cincinnati (UC) and received the Outstanding Faculty Award in 2017. Her book *Echos*—published with Actar and awarded Top 50 Books and Covers by the American Institute of Graphic Arts—is the first compendium in the history of the school that documents graduate and undergraduate research at the University of Cincinnati. Her research has been published and exhibited widely. A project expanding on augmented reality was displayed at the “Time Space Existence” show at Palazzo Bembo, organized with the occasion of the 2018 Venice Biennale. Currently, Marcu works on a cluster of projects documenting and reinterpreting late Eastern European Modernism.

EDUCATION

2010	Glenn Murcutt International Master Class Sydney, Australia Master Class Certificate
2009	Harvard University, Graduate School of Design Cambridge, USA Master of Architecture
2005	University of Houston Houston, USA Bachelor of Architecture
2000	Ion Mincu University of Architecture Bucharest, Romania Pre-Architecture Program

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019-	University of Cincinnati, SAID USA Associate Professor with tenure
2013–19	University of Cincinnati, SAID USA Assistant Professor full-time tenure track
2016	American University of Sharjah UAE Visiting Assistant Professor
2011–13	University of Virginia Charlottesville, USA Virginia Teaching Fellow
2010–11	University of Houston Houston, USA Lecturer

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

2018	Marcu, Mara, ed. <i>ECHOS</i> . Barcelona: Actar. December. Print. ISBN 9781948765046. Library of Congress Publication Data: 2018942687
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Book Chapters

2020	Marcu, Mara; Tang, Ming; Schueler, Adam. “BUBBLEgum”. <i>Data and Design: Methods of Computational Design Strategies</i> , edited by Marcella del Signore, Nancy Diniz, and Frank Melendez. Taylor & Francis/Routledge. Print.
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Edited Journals

2019	Christenson, Mike; Gerber, David J.; Jabi, Wassim; Marcu, Mara; Wit, Andrew John, ed. <i>Architectural Science Review Special Issue: Means, Methods, Machines and Making in Architecture</i> . Vol. 6, No. 5, Taylor Francis/Routledge. October. Print.
2018	Clayton, Mark; Daas, Mahesh; Gerber, David J.; Jabi, Wassim; Marcu, Mara; Parlac, Vera; Vasey, Lauren; Wit, Andrew John, ed. <i>The International Journal of Architectural Computing: Artificial Intelligence and Robotics in Architecture: Autonomy, Agency and Indeterminacy</i> . Vol. 16, Issue 4. Sage Publishers. December. Print.

Journals

2016	Marcu, Mara; Ming, Tang. “Physics Simulation & Form Seeking in Education”, in <i>International Journal of Architecture, Engineering and Construction</i> , http://www.iasdm.org/journals/index.php/ijaec/issue/current . February. Print.
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Conference Proceedings

2018	Marcu, Mara; Tang, Ming. “Optical Illusions of Volume: Simulation-based form finding and fabrication”, <i>ACSA 2018 The Ethical Imperative Paper Proceedings</i> . ACSA Press. May. Print.
2018	Marcu, Mara; Tang Ming. “Augmented Bubbles”, <i>ACSA 2018 The Ethical Imperative</i>
2017	Marcu, Mara; Tang Ming. “Augmented Coral”, <i>ACADIA 2017 Disciplines Disruption Projects Catalog of the 37th Annual Conference of the Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture</i> . USA: Acadia Publishing Company. October 2017. p. 250-255. Print.