

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