

Adil Sharag-Eldin - Board Member at Large

Biography

Dr. Sharag-Eldin is an associate professor of Architecture in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design at Kent State University where he coordinates the Master of Science Program. His research and publications are in the area of high-performance design and thermophysiological responses to heat and cold stresses. He chaired the 2007 National Passive Solar Conference technical committee as well as served as a member of the technical committee for several conferences. He is a sustainability consultant for King Saud University's Riyadh Techno Valley project, King Abdulaziz University and the expansion project for the Grand Mosque in Mecca.

Statement

I am preparing this statement to share with the members of the ARCC, my objectives for nominating myself to a position on the Board of Directors of the next cycle of the ARCC year. I am specifically interested in serving as a member at large on the Board. As a member, I am hoping to achieve the following goals;

Support initiatives that aim at increasing the diversity of research areas and topics in the annual conference and Enquire publication. The last decade has seen paradigmatic leaps in the academic and professional inquiry about Architecture, interior design, Landscape architecture in the USA and Europe. Brought about by the advancement of digital technologies and simulation platforms, the incorporation of fabrication in curricula, and the amalgamation of faculty research in the design studios have impacted programs and curricula in profound ways. Today, research in the area of sustainable design has advanced to innovative materials, automated and three-dimensional construction technologies, physiological and psychological well being of occupants. I intend to help the ARCC to embrace more diverse and vibrant research activities and include them in their annual conference and publication as well as promote non-traditional research in member programs.

One of the new attitudes endorsed by national and regional funding agencies and organizations is to encourage multi-disciplinary approaches to research. Organizing research teams within the same institutions to respond to funding requests is a long tradition in academia, however, assembling expertise from multiple-institutions not necessarily in the same region remains challenging to most researchers and scholars especially in the design and building fields. By joining the ARCC board, I am hopeful that we may assemble a database of researchers, their expertise, and the facilities at their disposal. Not only will this database facilitate continuous and systematic collaborative research efforts in our respective but will also encourage multiple authorship of scholarly products among the member institutions.

My third agenda item is to elevate the representation and role of students in the organization in multiple ways; first, propose to add a best-student-paper award to the annual conference honors. As the agency recognizes excellence in students' research, the ARCC will play an active role in inculcating the coming generations in the culture of research in academia and the professions. Secondly, I will suggest adding a student member to the Board. The students' voice will present a valuable input to the organization as it evolves to meet the new challenges of the new millennium.

Thank you for the opportunity, and I look forward to serving the community in any form.