

Brief Statement > Traci Rose Rider

I have been engaged at some level with ARCC since graduate school nearly two decades ago and am endlessly thankful for the connections, inspiration, partnerships, and friendships that I have found. I believe that ARCC is in no small part responsible for my scholarship and career today, and how my path has developed – and I am eager to help facilitate some of those experiences for others. I believe that design cannot be taught without evidence, or without rigorous research. My scholarship focuses on evidence-based design, interdisciplinarity, and real-world application. With two-thirds of my annual course load in doctoral programs, interdisciplinary research is at the very heart of what I do and what I strive to instill in my students and colleagues. My teaching and research hinges on engaging experts from other fields such as public health and real estate, expanding the reach of our design disciplines as we work to explore solutions to complex societal issues, and merging frameworks between fields that often do not speak the same language, though it is imperative that we learn how. In every class, in every meeting, in every collaboration I advocate for more research. More exposure to research, more understanding, more collaborating, more sharing. This is what ARCC strives to do, and does well, and I would like to help. My interest now is in expanding the influence of design research into practice and enable more practice-based research partnerships. With our DDes program servicing experienced professionals, I see how research rigor often breaks down in practice, which – to move the needle on so many critical issues – is a problem. I would like to help ARCC with all the efforts, but particularly with practice. Ultimately, I have adopted ARCC's mission to work toward developing a research culture and would love to contribute more.