

Brief Statement > Ihab Elzeyadi

It is my pleasure to submit this self-nomination to continue my service on the ARCC board. ARCC has been an incredible source of networking and research support in architecture over the past 25 years of my career as an architectural educator, researcher, and before that as a graduate student in architecture. I have served on the ARCC board since Fall 2020. During the last two years, I have engaged with the ARCC board on multiple fronts. I've served on the annual conference review and planning committee, awards committee, and as a liaison to connect ARCC with other international organizations, mainly the Conseil International du Bâtiment (CIB). I have taken a leadership role in initiating a joint workshop between ARCC and CIB on access and inclusion in architectural research and design. The workshop was launched at the ARCC 2022 meeting and resulted in a manifesto and international list-serve of professionals representing various countries from North America, South America, Europe, and Africa. My aim for the next two years is to continue to work with the ARCC board on connecting its mission and collaborations with similar international groups. I am committed to expanding opportunities to ARCC members for international collaborations, networking, and research opportunities. In addition, I am excited to utilize my research design experience in assisting with the ARCC membership research survey and a new ARCC website that provides access to opportunities and research collaborations for its members. As the ARCC representative for the University of Oregon for the last eight years, I got more involved in other aspects of ARCC's impact and mentorship to graduate students in the form of the King medal nominations and other ARCC awards. To me, ARCC is a unique organization of exchange, research excellence, and leadership. ARCC's role is much larger than a convener of conferences or a repository of research but is set to have a powerful impact to design collective issues, such as spatial justice, climate change, and public health. As Sim Van Der Ryn once said: "The world's problems are problems of design." How can we design our world to combat climate, social, and spatial injustice? What role can architectural research play to facilitate and empowering a dialogue for change? How can we construct a career for our students of many modalities and activism through which the built environment is conceptualized and conceived with a powerful healing framework? These obtuse questions do not necessarily have a direct answer. They are topics for growth and debates as they are topics of design activism and change both measurable and immeasurable. I am excited to work with the ARCC board to facilitate this dialogue and with the architectural research community to inquire about its possible applications. It will be an honor to continue my service on the ARCC board.