Alexandra Staub, Ph.D. Professor of Architecture, Penn State University

Brief Statement of Interest:

With training as both a designer and architectural researcher, the ideal of scholarly inquiry to further architectural thinking and production has always been at the core of my work. My own research focus is centered on history and theory, which I see as a foundation for architectural production. In various articles and my two books published by Routledge, Conflicted Identities: Housing and the Politics of Cultural Representation (2015) and The Routledge Companion to Modernity, Space, and Gender (2018), I have explored how architecture shapes us as a society, and the role that architects play in that process through the structures and systems they create and the technologies they develop and use. My current work centers on ethics in the built environment with regard to inclusion and social justice, with a book project titled Architecture and the Search for Social Sustainability. As an ARCC board member since 2019, and as the ARCC Secretary since 2020, my vision for the ARCC has been one of creating new opportunities for members as well as mentoring upcoming scholars. I have worked to expand ARCC's role, for example through creating a virtual networking platform in 2020-21, through expanding ties to international partner organizations, and through organizing workshops that further critical research methods. I see the ARCC as engaging and serving researchers at all stages of their career, for example through collaborative publication ventures, symposia opportunities, and topical events. Architecture is increasingly a global endeavor. Architectural research should follow suit as part of a holistic means to shape architectural production, create historical awareness, and advance architectural thinking.