

## Hazem Rashed-Ali – President

I am honored to put my name into nomination for a second term as President of the Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC). My involvement with ARCC started more than a decade ago with serving as chair of the 2009 ARCC Conference in San Antonio. I then had the honor of joining the board in 2010 as an at-large director and conference liaison. As such I participated in the organization of several ARCC conferences starting from the 2013 Conference in Charlotte, NC. I was then elected in 2014 as ARCC's Vice President, and then in 2016 as President. During this period, I had the privilege of working with a great number of colleagues within the ARCC board, from whom I learned a lot and all of whom shared my strong commitment to ARCC's mission of expanding research culture and supporting infrastructures within architecture and related design disciplines. I believe this mission is even more critical now given the increasing realization and appreciation of the role research can play in enhancing educational experiences within schools of architecture, as well positively impacting both the discipline and the profession. I am very proud that I played a role in supporting this mission for so many years. Over the last two years as ARCC President, I had several goals that, working with my excellent group of board colleagues, I tried to achieve. These include:

- 1) **Increasing the Range and Impact of Services ARCC Provides to Its Members:** We further developed our conferences, award programs, and journal. We are also working on several new member benefits including a new research funding program, updating our repository, and developing member pages on our website.
- 2) **Developing the Administrative and Logistical Capabilities of ARCC and Taking More Ownership of Our Activities:** The ARCC board now completely manages the review process for our conferences. We also manage the conferences financially in collaboration with our host institutions. With regard to Enquiry, the editorial board has been restructured and expanded to allow the journal to better serve our members need for a high-quality research-oriented publication venue.
- 3) **Increasing ARCC's Visibility Within Schools of Architecture and Their Faculty:** We completely redeveloped our website and continue to improve it to better reflect our various activities, as well as to provide an outlet for our member institutions to publicize their research achievement. We also started, and continue to expand, our presence on social media. Additionally, we enhanced our communication activities both with our membership at large through our newsletter, as well as with specific target audiences through email. Additionally, we increased our presence in ACSA conferences to reach a wider audience.
- 4) **Increasing ARCC's Collaboration with Other National and International Organizations:** This included strengthening existing relationships such as our long-term relationship with the European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE), the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), and the American Institute of Architects (AIA). We are also exploring possible new collaborations. Through these relationships, we hope to explore synergies and find opportunities to work together to achieve common objectives.
- 5) **Expanding ARCC's Membership:** While we have been successful in adding several new members, I strongly believe there is still a lot of potential for further expanding our membership both in North America and internationally.

While several of the initiatives and activities described above are already in place, others are still in their early stages or under development. My goal in the second term, should I have the privilege of being elected, is to work with my board colleagues to complete these activities and others so that ARCC can continue to fulfill its critical mission of expanding and enhancing research culture in architecture.