

## **European Association for Architecture Education**

### **Rationale**

#### **Application for the position of President of the Council**

Dear colleagues,

I am honoured to be able to submit my application for the position of President of the Council.

The future President of the Council will have the task and privilege of being responsible for representing but also guaranteeing, together with the Council, the strength and the cohesion of our association which is superlative under the current team's guidance.

I will devote my energy to quality as a holistic issue and will be acknowledging and vouch for the intrinsic existence of that quality within the institution. Furthermore, I will support the aspirations of an innovation driven community addressing environmental, social, and civic issues.

This very humanistic ethic underpins my daily practice. As Head of Architecture, I've been working on the same issues for over fourteen years now. In this role, I have developed a strong interdisciplinary teaching environment, alongside running daily interaction with students, teaching and administration staff.

Before being responsible for the whole department of Architecture at HEPIA, I was elected for setting up the Joint Master of Architecture curriculum (JMA) in conjunction with the HEIA in Fribourg and the BFH in Berne, which awards a degree accredited by the European Union and gives Swiss Bachelor's graduates the opportunity to continue their studies in a multicultural environment focused on the humanities, research and open to the international scene.

For the JMA, I have signed agreements with a number of schools of architecture in Europe,

As a founding and active member of the Swiss Architecture Council, the Architekturrat, I have the experience of running an association of major importance because it brings together all the Swiss schools of architecture and the professional associations with the objectives of harmonizing architectural education in Switzerland, promoting quality, common research and as a united front, sensitizing public policy makers for architecture as a discipline.

I also teach at ENSA Versailles, which is regarded as a leading school in the French but also European academic context. I have taken on major responsibilities within the teaching and research commissions, but above all as chairman of the international commission, and I have personally organized the creation of partnership contracts with 8 schools of architecture members of EAAE and recently the prestigious SNU and Karts University in South Korea.

The profile of the position corresponds to my skills and experience as leader of a University School of Architecture and in teaching in different countries and cultures some of them renowned for their culture of consensus, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

I am committed to putting all my enthusiasm, experience and network at the service the Council of EAAE. I propose to share my ambition, but also my modesty, with the community, to be the link between the people who work within the Council, the Association, the schools of Architecture, the universities of the European academic landscape, promoting the relational environment that will strengthen our collective intelligence, something I have been doing within EAAE since the first time I have attended a General Assembly, fifteen years ago.

Yours respectfully

Prof. Nicolas Pham