



James Benedict Brown

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Rationale for candidature for EAAE Council

As an advocate and practitioner of critical, socially aware and politically engaged architectural education, I can make a strong contribution to the EAAE as a council member.

For more than a decade, I've taught architecture in the first and second cycles and supported doctoral and postdoctoral students in the third cycle. Through this experience, I've gained a comprehensive understanding of the many challenges and opportunities teachers and students face. My appointments at small, specialist creative arts institutions and larger multi-faculty universities in various roles - including Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Deputy Subject Head, Programme Leader and Associate Professor - have sharpened my knowledge of those areas where the EAAE has influence. This includes curriculum development, pedagogical strategies, and the importance of integrating architectural theory and practice.

I have published extensively on matters relating to pedagogy following my PhD thesis, which developed a critique of the live project in architectural education. In three upcoming co-authored and co-edited books, my collaborators and I will contribute to the cutting-edge discourse shaping design studio pedagogy, wood in architectural education and how architects are responding to the climate emergency.

I've observed how the proceedings and publications of the EAAE have delivered a rich seam of intellectual provocation and discourse. The publication *EAAE Prize 2003-05 Writings in architectural education* was my first introduction to the organisation's capacity to stimulate productive conversations and promote best practices. As a passionate reader and writer in this space, I will work actively with the Council to foster research collaborations, the dissemination of new knowledge, and the promotion of interdisciplinary dialogues that further advance the EAAE's goals in the field of architectural education.

I was a founding member of the UK's Association of Architectural Educators (AAE), formed by teachers who recognised a need for a national platform to discuss issues affecting and affected by architectural education. I was the first Assistant Editor and later the Editor of the AAE's open-access scientific journal *Charrette*. I established protocols and systems for the appointment of guest editors, calls for papers, peer review and publication. This built my strong networks within the architectural community, both nationally and internationally, networks that I can bring to the benefit of the EAAE.

I possess leadership and organisational skills that will contribute to the effective functioning of the Council. As an experienced module, course and programme leader, I have successfully managed complex projects, facilitated faculty development workshops, and worked hands-on with professional validation processes. As a former member of the RIBA Board of Validation, I have also experienced accreditation processes from both sides of the table.

I want to contribute to the mission of the EAAE and to work together with fellow Council members to foster collaboration, build consensus, and broaden our discipline's ability to solve societal problems. As a Council member, I will be committed to advocating for pedagogical excellence, promoting diversity and inclusivity, and fostering a culture of innovation and critical thinking within architectural education.

Personal statement regarding the Council duties

I have firsthand knowledge and a deep understanding of architectural pedagogies, enabling me to contribute meaningfully to the discussions and initiatives that will ensure the EAAE remains at the forefront of educational innovation.

I offer my candidature to the membership of the EAAE Council in the spirit of collaboration and consensus. I look forward to learning from the esteemed Council members and President, not least continuing the successful leadership and financial stewardship of the Association in recent years. With the support of my institution, I confirm the availability of time and resources to participate fully as a Council member and uphold the duties of the Council and execution of the Association's policies and regulations.

My candidature is shaped by three guiding principles:

- to develop, support and promote low-carbon EAAE activities that support the widest possible participation of members who cannot or do not wish to attend conferences, symposia and fora in person;
- to uphold and promote the EAAE Oslo Pledge, and to work with Council and members to reduce the carbon impact of all the Association's activities;
- to develop EAAE's support for students, teachers and schools of architecture in Ukraine for a post-conflict paradigm, accelerating the process for Ukrainian architecture schools to be immediately admitted as EAAE members.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.