



2019 ARBV ELECTION

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Candidate List and Profile Statements

CANDIDATES IN DRAW BY LOT ORDER

TABAIN, Nik	2
KOSA, Stephan	2
PLUTA, Wojciech	3
SARANGI, Sonia	3
FINN, Peter	4
HOOPER, Brad	5
ROSS, Rosemary	5
COUTTS, Gerard	6
BAUMANN, Axel	6
THOMAS, Andrew Phillip	7
KWOK, Linda Hui Lin	7
ALLEN, Bruce	8
ALCOCK, Karen	8
SAVIC RAKOCEVIC, Aleksandra	9
CERANTONIO, Domenic	9
DE SANTIS, Giuditta	10
WAGNER, David	10

TABAIN, Nik

Nik is Victoria's State Managing Partner for Gray Puksand and is known for his ability to execute complex new construction, refurbishment and workspace projects. Nik has worked with Gray Puksand since 1996. He is a graduate of the University of Melbourne with a BArch, BPD, and commenced practicing in 1992.

Nik has predominantly worked in the commercial architecture sector, comprising new office buildings, refurbishments and workspace projects, and believes design is ultimately about the people that engage with the space, externally or internally. He collaborates with his clients to deliver their required outcomes while always considering the human response to each environment.

Nik has directed the delivery of many projects including Bendigo Bank Headquarters, Botanica Building 3, Yarra Valley Water Head Office, Kangan Institute's Automotive Centre of Excellence (ACE) Campus and multiple mid-rise office buildings across Melbourne.

An active member of the property and design communities, Nik is a regular contributor to seminars and courses within the broader property industry focusing on design with the commercial sector.

KOSA, Stephan

I have been working within the industry for 40 + years, have seen many changes that have changed the perceptions of what the public feel and think of Architects and its profession.

I obtained a Diploma of Architecture RMIT 1986 and have been registered since 1988. I have worked with and for many firms and have run my own practice since the late 1980's.

I have worked as a Consultant to the Building Commission undertaking building reports and mediations on Building Dispute matters and represented clients as an expert witness in various courts and still continue to do so.

I am an Institute member, A+ member since 2009 and elevated to Fellow since 2012.

I am a Building Practitioner Dispute Society member and assist builders and building owners in the resolution of their disputes.

I am an examiner at the ARBV and have held that role for a number of years.

I believe that I have the depth of knowledge and understanding of the profession to assist the Board in undertaking the necessary steps and procedures that are required as a Board member.

PLUTA, Wojciech

Bachelor of Architecture

Registered Architect, Victoria

Member, Australian Institute of Architects

Denton Corker Marshall Senior Director

I have commenced study of Architecture at the Polytechnic of Cracow, transferring to the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology from which he graduated with Honours in 1989.

With a career spanning more than three decades, I have undertaken leading roles on significant projects across the civic, commercial, residential, health and education sectors. I have managed major global projects including the multi-award-winning Manchester Civil Justice Centre in the UK and Australian Embassy in Jakarta and been the Project Director on many complex projects including Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, the Hotel Windsor and Biomedical Learning + Teaching Building Monash University.

I have outstanding knowledge of all aspects of the architectural profession, acquired through training and professional experience.

From 2010 till 2014 I have been a member of the AIA Victorian Chapter Council, chairing the Member Services Committee during this time.

I am committed to the development of the profession's future architects through teaching assignments at Melbourne's leading architecture faculties, including leading a design studio for the last 3 years at the MSD.

SARANGI, Sonia

My experience as the co-director of a small practice, focused primarily on Residential work, place me amongst those of you at the coalface of our profession. Conversely, my experience (as an employee) within large practice has given me an inkling of what my colleagues in large practice experience. However even as a small practice, we have never shied away from big issues or ideas. I am confident I bring a balanced viewpoint to the leadership required within this role.

Equally, as one of our peak industry bodies, I am stepping up as I feel it is important for the ARBV Board to reflect the cultural diversity of our profession and our communities. I believe that I bring a unique perspective to the policies put before the Board.

Within our small practice, I have always embraced the importance of strategy - one that is monitored, implemented and (occasionally) modified. With this mindset, I feel I would adapt well to the strategic role required of a Board member.

Architecture's ability to create meaningful impact is what drives me. It is in this same spirit, that I hope to be elected to the ARBV Board.

M.Arch.

AIA Member

Architeam Co-op Member

FINN, Peter

The diminishing status of architects in the community and commercially is very concerning, especially the state government's loss of confidence in architects undertaking contract administration.

To arrest the decline and remain relevant, architects must be educated in these skills and be competent to deliver projects beyond design. This must be addressed through the quality and standards in training; the ARBV has a role to play in this.

1980-85 Architecture RMIT

1988 Registration ARBV

1992-2002 Peter Finn Architect, director – school and health projects

2002-17 Architects 101, director – setting up project brief, budget, consultants, approvals

2003-09 Sessional member Planning Panels Victorian Government – heritage matters, rezoning, wind farm

2005-07 Baldasso Cortese Architects, partner – schools

2010-15 ArchiTeam, director, chairman / secretary – initiating peer support program,

2017-18 ArchiTeam, director for PI Insurance, initiating Datum column What could possibly go wrong?

2018-19 University of Melbourne, guest lecturer in architectural practice

2018-19 Architects 101, consultant

On a personal level there is satisfaction in an ongoing involvement in the community to make a positive difference.

ArchiTeam, 7 years, chairman

Rotary, 12 years, president

Community Arts Council, 6 years, president

HOOPER, Brad

I have the necessary skills and experience to capably represent the interests of architects including reference to smaller practices, solo practitioners and regional architects.

With a Bachelor of Architecture RMIT, in 1982 I established a private practice which has been continuously operating since. I have extended this experience with contracting and consulting roles in larger practices and local government. Further and current service on boards, committees, forums, panels, and as a mentor to architecture students and graduates, has equipped me for the ARBV Board.

I strongly believe that highly skilled and educated architects are best equipped to effectively deal with current and future challenges, local and global. Architects can lead in creating and developing responsible, sustainable and enduring constructed environments when supported by a robust and visionary regulatory framework.

I will advocate for:

- Fostering high standards of professional conduct and competency.
- Remunerating architects engaged to review planning proposals where design guidelines include assessment of design quality.
- Maintaining professional practice education in architectural courses.
- CPD as an empowering and gainful activity versus a mandated chore.
- Considering categories of registration that recognise greater risk exposure for specific project types needing greater skills and experience.

ROSS, Rosemary

As an architect with over 20 years experience, I am actively involved in the profession. I am passionate about architects and developing the frameworks within which we work, supporting them to be more relevant to contemporary practice. I have been a long standing advocate for compulsory CPD and research, in the knowledge that maintaining standards is important for the successful future of our profession.

Between 2014 and 2017 I served as Director, Secretary and then Chair of the ArchiTeam Board. During this time, I was responsible for the delivery of the ArchiTeam CPD program, including during the transition to compulsory CPD. As secretary I advised the board on matters of governance. I am proud of the role that I played in the growth of ArchiTeam as a relevant and helpful resource for small practice architects.

I have been instrumental in the creation and delivery of RAsP (Research for Architects in Small Practice) and am director of RossTang Architects, specialising in residential work.

I look forward to contributing to the ARBV.

COUTTS, Gerard

Gerard Coutts is a Practicing Architect, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Project Management (AIPM), and a Certified Practicing Project Director (AIPM).

Gerard is a current serving Board Member of the Building Appeals Board and a Director of Moreland Affordable Housing Ltd.

Gerard was previously the Chairman of the Building Appeals Board (Victoria) appointed as a Project Manager and Architect.

Gerard has a long and distinguished career in Architecture, Project Management and Education (RMIT and Melbourne University) lecturing in Project Management and Sustainable Construction.

Gerard has previously worked in Architecture primarily in master planning and retail design at the Buchan Group and has worked in Project Management consultancy and the development industry.

Gerard Coutts & Associates have been operating as a Project Management Consultancy since 2005, serving clients within Victoria and interstate.

BAUMANN, Axel

I am a passionate architect with more than 25 years' experience. I led the architectural practice 'Baumann Architekten BDA' in Frankfurt for about 15 years in Europe before I came to Australia in 2007.

As an associate for design in a larger practice in Melbourne I gained understanding in the Australian building industry before I established the practice 'planar-arc' after my registration in Victoria. The portfolio of built projects comprises apartment developments, residential buildings, schools, sport buildings and projects which required a sensitive integration of historic building substance. My involvement comprised the complete scope of works from Schematic Design to Contract Administration.

I felt always drawn to contribute in the evolvement of architectural culture. This has been exhibited over the years in various extra-curricular roles – Alternates Professor at Kassel University, Tutor at Monash and Melbourne University or judge at architectural competitions.

As a Board Member of the ARBV I would see the opportunity to focus beyond the designated administrative duties on:

- Protection of the architect's profession and sharpening the profile towards professions like building designers or draft services.
- Extending the scope of works towards disciplines like urban design, project management and cost control stay allowing a holistic approach.

THOMAS, Andrew Phillip

I am passionate about architecture as a profession as distinct from an occupation. Hence my interested in serving on the Board to help support and regulate the architectural fraternity.

I have been a practicing architect for almost 30 years. In that time I have undertaken most roles (except Director) and worked in most sectors ranging from interiors to highly technical industries to conventional architectural projects.

I am currently a senior salaried architect with Guymer Bailey Architects, where I have been for the last 10 years. In the past I have worked contract positions and even had a brief tilt at my own practice.

I feel this means I appreciate of the richly varied make up of the architectural profession. Along the way I also gained business and financial training via a Masters in Entrepreneurship & Innovation as well as life experience. I have served on Company Boards and various Committees such as Owners Corporations and learnt about governance. I am a member of the AIA AAAG group which focuses on architectural practice.

This I believe gives me a unique perspective and skill set to offer the Board, and something individual to contribute.

KWOK, Linda Hui Lin

Linda is an architect, educator and director. She has worked in the construction industry for 23 years. She has architectural experience in commercial, health, residential, institutional and community projects. She is currently director of LHLK Architects and previous Victorian firms she has worked in, include: Bates Smart, John Gurry & Associates, Billard Leece Partnership, Fooks Martin Sandow Anson, Archmatrix, Perkins & Associates, Bruce Henderson Architects, Denton Corker Marshall and GHD.

Linda holds a Bachelor of Architecture (RMIT), Postgraduate Diploma in Urban Design (Melbourne) and Master of Business Administration (Monash). She is a member of the Australian Institute of Architects and she is a Green Star Accredited Professional. She supports humanitarian effort by architects. She has been accredited with Archicentre. She has taught Designing Environments, Virtual Design, CAD in Landscape Architecture and Project Management, and she has participated as a guest critic in architecture studios in University of Melbourne.

Linda has corporate governance experience gained through directorships in not-for-profit and government boards. She is currently a director of Wimmera Healthcare Group and Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water. She is a graduate member of Australian Institute of Company Directors. She was a recipient of Victorian Government Women's Governance Scholarship in 2016.

ALLEN, Bruce

B.Arch. (Melbourne University via RMIT), M.Arch. (Toronto), M.B.A (Western Ontario), LFRAIA

The construction industry is faced with significant reform and the ARBV is a player in that process. We must not be regulated to a point where design excellence is compromised.

I am Director of a small practice working in the areas of residential, educational, institutional, resorts and urban design. I have taught professional practice at RMIT and Monash and been involved in a wide range of activities related to the profession. Currently I am a Senior Counsellor and member of the Practice Committee of the AIA and spent twenty years as Convenor of Examiners for the ARBV. To be eligible for this election I have resigned from the ARBV Tribunal Panel.

I am a contributing author to the National Examination Paper for the AACA and member of many National Visiting Panels responsible for review of university courses. I also interview experienced practitioners for registration and graduates with overseas qualifications.

The ARBV elections have had a poor participation rate in the past.

ALCOCK, Karen

I am a committed advocate for the architecture profession and promoting contemporary practice.

I was an examiner on the ARBV from 2003 to 2016, a member of the Victorian Chapter Council from 2015 to 2019, and I am a current member of The University of Melbourne Architecture Advisory Board. I have also been the AIA representative on the Building Advisory Council and represented them on the Building Better Apartments Advisory Group.

I am the sole director of a medium sized practice (10) that specialises in mixed use, residential and commercial projects. We work across all types of procurement including: lump sum and novated, design and construct contracts. I believe as a profession we have a significant contribution to make to our clients and the community, but we need to do this with the highest professional standards, and a clear understanding of our obligations under the Architects Act 1991.

In an environment where the issues and risks of practice are constantly changing, I believe my 25 years of practice experience, combined with my time as an examiner provides me with a valuable insight to support the board.

SAVIC RAKOCEVIC, Aleksandra

Before moving to Melbourne, I operated an architectural practice from 1999 – 2007 in Belgrade, Serbia, as a registered architect with the Serbian Chamber of Engineers. I was responsible for delivering projects of varying scales including redevelopment of National Museum in Belgrade, Head Offices for Coca-Cola and Siemens in Belgrade, Kura Olympic Centre development in Azerbaijan and numerous residential and educational projects.

After moving to Melbourne in 2007, I worked for various high-end architectural practices, and became involved in various projects encompassing residential, commercial and institutional buildings.

After registering as an architect in Victoria in 2015, I founded STAR Architecture. My role as the director is multi-disciplinary and includes briefing, conceptual design, design development, contract documentation, contract liaison and office management.

Since January 2019, I am also working within the Melbourne School of Design as a sessional tutor.

Whilst practicing as an architect, my focus has been on providing high levels of service and design to clients and to constantly improve my skills, knowledge and experience as an architect. Successfully registering and practicing as an architect in two countries has broadened my understanding of the standards prescribed by legislative frameworks architects must meet to ensure they practice the highest professional conduct.

CERANTONIO, Domenic

As the founding partner and Managing Principal of Cera Stribley Architects, Dom is natural leader, heavily involved in all aspects of the architectural design process.

With almost fifteen years' experience in the industry, Dom is respected for his ability to understand the subtle nuances of the neighbouring environment and how they manifest themselves in architectural form. This understanding underpins his creativity when considering the outcome of a design ensuring that his work respects and reflects its context.

Dom is passionate about rectifying the lack of engagement between the government and architects, and would like to focus on empowering architects to positively impact the built environment. In particular, Dom would like to promote and initiate conversations between the ARBV and DELWP for future strategic policy making.

Dom is actively engaged in industry specific events, acknowledging the importance of his own continued personal development. He also acts as a mentor beyond the walls of his own practice, being heavily involved with The University of Melbourne's Architecture faculty, often attending SONA events as well as attending as a guest critic for student presentations and was a Commercial Juror for this year's AIA awards.

DE SANTIS, Giuditta

An experienced architect and designer with 14 years of post-qualification experience, I have worked across many sectors of architecture and on projects of differing scales throughout Europe, U.S.A., Cuba, U.A.E. and Australia.

Currently, I'm the Director of Architecture and Design at Caydon, where I lead all the design aspects of all architectural projects from inception to delivery.

As head of in-house architecture and design department, I'm required to lead, manage, inspire & guide my colleagues through all facets of the practice.

As an architect I thrive on creativity and providing meticulous design solutions within varying project typologies, influenced by site response and budget which contributes to the public realm and meets the project program simultaneously, while transforming, engaging & inspiring my clients.

My aim is to create innovative and functional designs allowing life to unfold at its best, enriching the quality of people's lives while making a positive contribution to the fabric of the built environment and benefitting society.

With this nomination I am very keen to serve as an elected Board Member. I can commit my time and energy to the core values of this role and be an asset to the A.R.V.B.

WAGNER, David

B.Arch (Hons) M.Arch (by design) FRAIA

I have been a practising Architect since 1991 and a partner of Atelier Wagner Architects since 1998 working across institutional, commercial and residential fields. I have served on the Victorian Committee of the Association of Consulting Architects since 2007, currently in the role of Secretary and chair of the IR subcommittee, representing the ACA at the recent Fair Work Commission review of the Architects' Award. I have been actively involved in the Australian Institute of Architects including the Smaller Practice Forum and Medium Practice Forum where I am on the leadership team. From 2004-17 I served on a school council, gaining an understanding of not-for-profit board protocols and also as a consumer of architects' services.

I advocate for a reasonable and achievable level of professionalism in architecture, mindful of the bureaucratic and technical complexities that pervade architectural services. I would value the opportunity to enunciate this at ARBV board level and am confident that my professional experience has equipped me to knowledgeably articulate the proper role, standards and expertise required of Architects as well as what constitutes reasonable community expectations.