**AL-DOURI CV**

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Firas A. Al-Douri, B.Arch. M.S. Ph.D.

Firas A. Al-Douri, B. Arch., M.S., Ph.D.

Dynamic and motivated educator and researcher with a Doctorate in Architecture and broad, deep

experience in the fields of Urban Design and Planning education, research, and practice. Member of the

Fulbright Specialist Roster to serve as an expert in the area of Architecture and Urban Design.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

• Certificate in Effective Teaching Practice Framework: Association of College and University Educators

• Extensive experience in Architecture and Urban Design education, research, and practice.

• Extensive experience in the design and delivery of undergraduate and graduate courses and studios.

• A growing record of research grants and publications in the broad areas of Architecture and Urban Design.

• Proven record in collaborative, multidisciplinary teaching and/or research teams.

• Specialist knowledge in the usage of computational tools and parametric modeling in design practice.

• Employment of educational technology in course management and delivery.

• Experience in emerging design paradigms, design skills, and cross-scale applied project-based design.

• Experience in the employment of experiential pedagogy and problem-solving teaching methods.

• Graduate/undergraduate thesis and research advising and mentorship.

• Academic-related administrative work and service, and curriculum development.

• Professional practical experience within the architecture and urban design industry.

HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• Over 24 years of experience in Architecture and Urban Design education, research, and practice.

• Over 12 years of experience in Architectural and Urban Design Projects at a professional level.

• Designed and taught 32 distinctly different Architectural and Urban Design courses, studios, electives, and

seminars at a variety of graduate and undergraduate levels.

• Supervised 12 research studies and theses in the last five years.

• Co-authored a textbook and two book chapters; published 29 articles in prestigious, peer-reviewed

journals and conference proceedings such as Environment &Planning B, Planning Theory & Practice,

Cities, Journal of Architecture & Planning Research, eCAADe, AESOP, ACADIA, and ACSP.

• Reviewed 10 books for publishers including Routledge and John Wiley & Sons.

• Delivered 16 invited lectures/presentations on my research and teaching experience since 2006.

• Involved as a PI or Co-PI in 12 completed research studies and 2 ongoing studies.

• Developed 17 grant proposals totaling $4,721,750; total funding secured is $49,750.

• Led the curriculum development of the MSc Architecture program at IUS, UG program at JSU, and

UNLV’s interdisciplinary graduate Urban Design Program jointly with the College of Urban Affairs.

• Coordinator of the Urban Design concentration at JSU from 2020.

• Earned 16 teaching, research, and service awards and letters of recognition, including:

o Mentor of the first-place award for a student’s design competition, spring 2018.

o Erasmus+ Teaching Grant, spring 2017

o Four teaching and Super jury student design awards

o UNLV President’s Research award

o American Planning Association: Urban Design &Preservation Division

o AIA/AAF Fellowship for Advanced Study or Research

o Merit Award for Excellence in teaching and research

o UNLV’s Dean of the College of Fine Arts’ Summer Research Award.

o Letter of Recognition for exceptional contribution to the successful NAAB accreditation visit.

o Two Letters of Recognition for distinctive professional practice at Dubai Municipality.

o Letter of Recognition from the President of the University of Technology, Iraq

• Earned 4 Academic Excellence Awards from Texas A&M University (2002/03/04/05)

• Earned the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award from the Ministry of Higher Education, Iraq 1989

• Associate Professor • firas.aldouri@gmail.com • (979) 587-2544

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Firas A. Al-Douri, B.Arch. M.S. Ph.D.

1. EDUCATION

2022-2023 Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)

Certificate in Effective Teaching Practice Framework

2024 LEED AP BD+C Candidate (Expected June 2024)

2001-2006 Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University

Ph.D. in Architecture

Dissertation: The Impact of Utilizing Digital Modeling and Information Technology on

the Design Content of Urban Design Plans in US Cities

1986-1988 Baghdad University, Iraq

M.Sc. Urban Planning: Urban Design Specialization

(post-professional degree; Earned with Distinction)

Thesis: Urban Renewal in the Historic Centers of Middle Eastern Cities

1977-1982 Department of Architecture, Baghdad University, Iraq

B.Arch. Architecture (accredited professional degree)

2. ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020-present Associate Professor, Department of Urban Planning, Jackson State University (JSU)

Coordinator, Urban Design Concentration of the M.Sc. and Ph.D. Programs.

2020-2021 Visiting faculty, School of Architecture, Texas A&M University System (TAMUS)

Visiting faculty, School of Architecture, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)

2015-present Fulbright Specialist, Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), US

2015-2020 Assistant Professor, International University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

2007-2014 Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)

2006-2007 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University

2002-2006 Teaching Assistant, Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University (TAMU)

1996-2001 Chief Architect/Urban Designer, Dubai Municipality, Dubai, UAE

1990-1996 Full-time Lecturer, Department of Architecture, University of Technology (UOT),

Baghdad, Iraq

1982-1986,

1988-1990

Architect, National Center of Architectural & Engineering Consultancy, Baghdad, Iraq

3. AREAS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1. Issues in contemporary urbanism

2. Urban Design: theory and contemporary practice

3. Design studios: Architecture Design, Urban Design, and Sustainable Urban Design studios

4. Computational tools and techniques in urban design practice

5. Sustainable architecture design; sustainable urban design

6. Contemporary architecture theory and practice: Architecture, place & identity

7. Research methods in Architecture

8. Urban Housing; Urban, green infrastructure

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4. AREAS OF RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

1. Emerging technologies, AI and ML, in sustainable urban design practice: methods and impacts

2. Methods and impact of ICT usage on urban design and decision-making processes

3. Parametric modeling in contemporary urban design practice

4. Contemporary urban design practice: content, processes, and products

5. Assessment of the response of urban design practice to contemporary challenges

6. Influence of urban design qualities and neighborhood urban form on pedestrian’s walkability

7. Campuses as catalysts for sustainable urbanism and urban revitalization

5. COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT Assistant/Associate Professor

5.1. Jackson State university (2020-present) (M.Sc./Ph.D. courses) Associate Professor

1. Research Methods fall 2022-3

2. Urban Housing fall 2021-3

3. Urban Design Studio fall 2021-3

4. Technical Skills of Composition and Communication (M.Sc. only) fall 2021-3

5. Behavioral and Cultural Factors in Urban Design spring 2021-4

6. Analytical and Evaluation Methods in Urban Design spring 2021-4

7. Infrastructure and Community Facilities in Urban Planning &Design spring 2021-4

8. Doctoral Seminar in Urban Design spring 2022-4

5.2. Texas A&M University System (2020-2021) Visiting Faculty

1. Architectural Design Studio (Hybrid Teaching) fall 2020

2. Architectural Design Studio: Urban context (Hybrid Teaching) spring 2021

5.3. University of Nevada Las Vegas (2020) Visiting Faculty

1. Architectural Design Studio: Urban context (Remote Teaching) fall 2020

5.4. International University of Sarajevo (2015-2020) Assistant Professor

1. Theory and Practice of Urban Design fall 16-19

2. Sustainable Design (undergraduate level) spring 16-20

3. Research Methods in Architecture (graduate level) fall 15-19

4. Sustainable Urban Design Studio (graduate level) spring 17-20

5. Advanced Architectural Design Studio IV (Urban emphasis) spring & fall 16-20

6. Final Design Studio (graduation thesis project) spring & fall 16-20

7. Architecture Design Studio (undergraduate level) (Urban Emphasis) summer 16

5.5. School of Architecture, University of Nevada Las Vegas (2007- 2014) Assistant Professor

1. Architecture, Place & Identity (undergraduate level) spring 09-14

2. Issues in Contemporary Urbanism (graduate and undergraduate level) fall 07-13

3. Research Methods in Environmental Design (graduate level) fall 08-13

4. Advanced Architecture Design Studio: Urban Emphasis (undergraduate-seniors) spring 08-13

5. Professional Practice & Society (undergraduate level) fall12

6. Graduate Design Studio IV (Graduate level) spring 08, 14& fall 11,13

7. Advanced Architectural Design Studio (undergraduate level-seniors) fall 08-10

8. Research Design Studio (graduate level) M. Arch. Thesis Project fall 07

5.6. Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University (2006-2007) Visiting Assistant Professor

1. Architecture Design Studio I Urban emphasis (undergraduate level) fall 06

2. Advanced Architectural Design Studio II Urban emphasis (undergraduate level) spring 07

5.7. Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University (2002-2006) Teaching Assistant

1. Site Planning and Design (undergraduate level) spring 03

2. Architectural Design Studio II: Urban emphasis (undergraduate level) spring 03-05

3. Architectural Design Studio I (undergraduate level) spring 02

4. Advanced Architectural Design Studio: Urban emphasis (graduate level) fall 02

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5.8. Department of Architecture, University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq (1990-96) Lecturer

1. Theory of Urban Design-Regular (fourth-year undergraduate level) 1990-1996

2. Theory of Urban Design-Honors (fourth-year undergraduate level) 1991-1992

3. Architectural Design Studio-5 (fifth-year undergraduate theses) 1992-1996

4. Architectural Design Studio-4 (fourth-year undergraduate level) 1995-1996

5. Urban Design Studio (fourth-year undergraduate level) 1989-1992

6. Architectural Programming (fourth-year undergraduate level) 1993-1994

5.9. New Courses Developed (2006-2022)

1. Urban Design Studio (M.Sc./Ph.D. course) fall 2021

2. Urban Housing (M.Sc./Ph.D. course) fall 2021

3. Technical Skills of Composition and Communication (M.Sc./Ph.D. course) spring 2021

4. Behavioral and Cultural Factors in Urban Design (M.Sc./Ph.D. course) spring 2021

5. Analytical and Evaluation Methods in Urban Design (M.Sc./Ph.D. course) spring 2021

6. Research Methods in Architecture, a graduate course fall 2008

7. Advanced Urban Design: elective (G&UG level) spring 16

8. Sustainable Design: an undergraduate level spring 2017

9. Sustainable Urbanism, a graduate studio fall 2015

10. Research in Design: A Pre-thesis Seminar, a graduate seminar regarding lines of inquiry for the written

thesis or design exploration of M. Arch students spring 2010

11. Exploring Creative Design: a (G&UG) combined seminar focused on the methods for stimulating

creativity in architectural design. spring 2012

12. Special Topics in Islamic Architecture and Urbanism, an undergraduate course that provides a critical and

historical investigation of the central issues of Islamic architecture and urbanism. spring 2007

13. Research Methods in Environmental Design, a graduate Distance Education course summer 2010

5.10. Doctoral & Master’s Thesis and Student Advising

1. Tracy Evans, Assessment of Sustainable Adaptive Reuse and Urban Design Strategies for Restoring and

Retrofitting Heritage Buildings. Chair, Doctoral committee, 2022-present.

2. Beyzanur Ince, Examining the effect of Atrium Shape on Natural Ventilation in Office Buildings in Turkey,

fall 2019-summer 2020.

3. Bedrija Imamović, Examining the impact of density on the sustainability of contemporary residential

complexes in Sarajevo, fall 2019-spring 2020.

4. Selma Hasanovic, Adaptive Re-Use of Industrial Buildings as a catalyst for Smart Districts, with special

reference to Tuzla, BiH, spring 2019-summer 2020.

5. Bisera Birberkic, The Influence of Office Layout Type on Satisfaction and Productivity in BiH Corporate

Office Buildings, Chair, Master’s Committee, fall 2017-19.

6. Emina Isic, Influence of Technology in Architecture on Cognitive and Physical Development of Preschool

Age Children in Sarajevo, BiH, fall 2017.

7. Maida Halilovic, Architecture-based Emotional Support among Minorities; the case of Bricku, Bosnia and

Hercegovina, Independent Master's study, fall 2016-spring 2017.

8. Malik Alibegovic, Regenerative Architecture as a New Approach to Architectural Thinking and Design

Process, Independent Master's study, fall 2016-spring 2017.

9. Adam Bradshaw, Mathematical Rules in Architecture: A case study of Shanghai Tower, Independent

graduate study, spring 2014.

10. Afzal Hossain, Development and Validation of Heat Transfer Model to Predict Indoor Air Temperatures

in Roof pond Buildings, Master’s committee member, 2012-2013.

11. Arul Tippabatuni, Factors Affecting Students Walkability to and from UNLV Campus, member, 2009-10.

12. Ana Barragan, Physical Conditions related to the Creative Class theory: Patterns and relationships

between the urban physical form and the Creative Class Index, graduate directed study, summer 2010.

13. Monica Muga, Placemaking and Contextual Design of Campus Buildings, directed study, 2011.

14. Mario Estepa, Sustainability in Academic Building Design, Directed Study, summer 2011.

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6. PUBLICATIONS

6.1. Books and Book Chapters

1. Al-Hayderi, A. and Al-Douri, F (2002). Methodology and Concepts of Urban Design, (in Arabic),

University of Technology Press, Baghdad, Iraq and Mutanabbi Publishers, Cairo, Egypt, 2002.

2. Rodriguez, S., Giese, A., Amato, N. M., Zarrinmehr, S., Al-Douri, F., & Clayton, M. J. (2012).

Environmental Effect on Egress Simulation. In Motion in Games (pp. 7-18). Springer, Berlin Heidelberg.

6.2. Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

1. Al-Douri, F (2024-forthcoming) Integrated BIM+Parametric Modeling: A Decision-support Tool for

Inclusive Open Space Simulation, Automation, and Optimization, Ekistics and the New Habitat: Human

Centered Planning and Design; Themed Issue, (in review).

2. Al-Douri, F (Forthcoming) “The Content of Urban Design Plans in US City Centers; Does it shape a city-

wide Design Strategy?” to be submitted to URBAN DESIGN International Journal (UDI).

3. Al-Douri, F (Forthcoming) “Urban Design Plans in US City-Centers; How do they respond to the

contemporary urban challenges? to be submitted to the Journal of Urban Design &Planning.

4. Al-Douri, F; Yan, W; and Jahic, E. (2023) An Integrated Parametric BIM for Campus Design Simulation

and Optimization, in Immanuel Koh, Dagmar Reinhardt, Mohammed Makki, Mona Khakhar, Nic Bao

(eds.), HUMAN-CENTRIC - Proceedings of the 28th CAADRIA Conference, Ahmedabad, 18-24 March

2023, pp. 471–480, https://doi.org/10.52842/conf.caadria.2023.2.471

5. Al-Douri, F (2022) “How Information and Communication Tools (ICT) affect the processes and decision-

making in professional urban design practice? URBAN DESIGN International Journal;

doi.org/10.1057/s41289-022-00196-8.

6. Al-Douri, F (2020) Analyzing the Response of Urban Design Plans to the Emerging Drivers in the

Contemporary Urban Environment of US Cities. A Comparative Case Study, Journal of Strategic

Innovation and Sustainability, 14 (5), 1-19.

7. Al-Douri, F (2018) The Usage of Simulation in Urban Design Practice in US Cities; a critical analysis of

the methods and outcomes, in Kepczynska-Walczak, A, Bialkowski, S (Eds.), Computing for a better

tomorrow, Proceedings of the 36th eCAADe Conference, Volume 2, Lodz University of Technology,

Lodz, Poland, 19-21 September 2018, pp. 539-548, Cumincad; Cumulative Index of publications in

Computer Aided Architectural Design, ISBN: 978-94-91207-16-7

https://doi.org/10.52842/conf.ecaade.2018.2.539

8. Al-Douri, F (2017) Computational and Modeling Tools. How effectively are Urban Designers and

Planners using them Across the Design Development Process; in Fioravanti, A, Cursi, S, Elahmar, S,

Gargaro, S, Loffreda, G, Novembri, G, Trento, A (Eds.), ShoCK! Sharing Computational Knowledge!

Proceedings of the 35th eCAADe Conference, Volume 1, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy, 20-

22 September 2017, pp. 409-418, Cumincad; Cumulative Index of publications in Computer Aided

Architectural Design; ISBN: 978-94-91207-13-6. https://doi.org/10.52842/conf.ecaade.2017.1.409

9. Arefi, M and Al-Douri, F (2016) Exploring a Pedagogical Framework for Collaboration in

Interdisciplinary Architecture-Urban Planning Studio: The Case of Las Vegas, NV, Journal of Planning

Theory and Practice, 17 (1) 72-92, doi: 10.1080/14649357.2016.1139741.

10. Al-Douri, F and Yan, W (forthcoming) Campus and Campus Life Modeling: Towards an Integrated

Parametric BIM and Agent-based Model for Campus Design Simulation and Optimization”, submitted in

October 2021 to the Journal of Architectural and Planning Research (JAPR); reviewed, resubmitted.

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11. Al-Douri, F (2013) Assessment of the Methods and Extents of Usage of Visualization in the Development

of Urban Design Plans in US Cities”, in Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design. 40 (3), pages

523-549, doi: 10.1068/b38048.

12. Al-Douri, F (2010) The Impact of 3D Modeling Functions Usage on the Design Content of Urban Design

Plans in US Cities: A case study of Chicago Central Area Plan, in Environment and Planning B: Planning

and Design, 37 (1), pages 75-98, doi: 10.1068/b35055.

13. Rodriguez S, Giese A, Amato N, Zarrinmehr S, Al-Douri F, and Clayton M, 2012 “Environmental Effect

on Egress Simulation” in M. Kallmann and K. Bekris (Eds.) Lecture Notes in Computer Science, pp. 7-18,

Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, doi: 10.1007/978-3-642-34710-8\_2

14. Al-Douri, F, 1996. Conserving the Historical Character of the Urban Environment in the Holy Towns in

Iraq, in Engineering and Technology, Vol. 14, Issue 8, Baghdad, Iraq.

6.3. Manuscripts planned to be submitted to Peer-Reviewed Journals; Work in Progress

1. Al-Douri, F (2024, forthcoming) Methods and Extent of Usage of Information Technology Tools in the

Planning Departments of US Cities: Comparative Case Studies in five US Cities, Enhancing Urban

Sustainability Using Parametric Modeling and Generative Design Tools

2. Al-Douri, F (2024: forthcoming) Urban Design Plans in US Cities: A Critical Assessment of their

approach to responding to emerging Challenges. To be submitted to Journal of Urban Design &Planning

6.4. Peer-reviewed Conference Articles

1. Al-Douri, F, (2024: forthcoming) Simulation and Visualization Tools: How do they support designing a

sustainable urban form? In Symposium on Simulation for Architecture and Urban Design (SimAUD)

2024,May 20-23, 2024, American University, Washington D.C., USA, (Accepted)

2. Al-Douri, F. (2024: forthcoming) Enhancing Urban Sustainability Using Parametric Modeling and

Generative Design Tools, in EAAE/ARCC Conference 2024, Architecture Into the Unknown, 23-26 May

2024, Aarhus, Denmark (Accepted)

3. Al-Douri, F; Yan, W (2023) CampuSIM: A Simulation and Optimization Model for Campus Design

Decision-support, in CAADRIA 2023: Human Centric: 28th International Conference of the Association

for Computer-Aided Architectural Design Research in Asia, March 18-24, 2023, CEPT University, India.

4. Al-Douri, F (2020) Analyzing the Response of Urban Design Plans to the Emerging Drivers in the

Contemporary Urban Environment of US City Centers in, Proceedings of The Association of Collegiate

Schools of Planning (ACSP) Annual Conference, November 5-8, 2020, Virtual Event.

5. Al-Douri, F. (2020) “The role of the density of contemporary residential complexes in the sustainable

urbanism of post-war Sarajevo” Proceedings of The Association of European Schools of Planning

(AESOP) Annual Congress, July 2020, University of West England (UWE) Bristol, UK.

6. Al-Douri, F (2019) “Analyzing the Response of Urban Design Plans to the Emerging Drivers in

Contemporary Urban Environment of US Cities; A Comparative Study, Proceedings of ICAUD 2019: the

21st International Conference on Advanced Urban Design, Paris, France, Jul 18-19, 2019.

7. Al-Douri, F. (2018) “The Spatial Transformations of the Campus District of Sarajevo University; Could

they convert it into a knowledge City?” in Making Space for Hope; The Association of European Schools

of Planning (AESOP) Annual Congress, July 10-14, 2018, Gothenburg, Sweden.

8. Al-Douri, F (2017) “The Qualities of The Public Environment Within the Shopping Malls In Sarajevo;

How Do they Affect the Shopping Experience in The City Center?” in Spaces of Dialog for Places of

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Dignity; The Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) Annual Congress, July 11-14, 2017,

Lisbon, Portugal.

9. Al-Douri, F (2017) “The Integration of Sarajevo Campus into its Urban Context; Could it convert

Sarajevo into a knowledge City?” in Spaces of Dialog for Places of Dignity; The Association of European

Schools of Planning (AESOP) Annual Congress, July 11-14, 2017, Lisbon, Portugal.

10. Al-Douri, F (2017) “Globalization & Localization: Bridging the Divide through Sustainable Design

Practices” Presented at the Infill City Development in the heritage Context: Sarajevo, Pampeluna,

Ostrava, and Raciborz” April 2017, State University of Applied Sciences, Raciborz, Poland.

11. Al-Douri, F (2017) “Campus-Community Integration: An Integrative Collaborative Approach to

Teaching Contemporary Urban Design” Presented at the Infill City Development in the heritage Context:

Sarajevo, Pampeluna, Ostrava, and Raciborz” April 2017, State University of Applied Sciences,

Raciborz, Poland.

12. Haddrell, C and Al-Douri, F (2016) “The Shopping Malls within Sarajevo; did they contribute to a

sustainable urban development?” Proceedings of Space and Place; Exploring Critical Issues Seventh

Annual Global Conference on Space and Place, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, September 1-3, 2016.

13. Al-Douri, F and Haddrell, C (2016) “Transformations in the Usage of New Public Spaces in Central Post-

war Sarajevo” the International Association of Social Science Research, The 10th European Conference on

Social and Behavioral Sciences, Sarajevo, May 19-22, 2016.

14. Rodriguez S, Giese A, Amato N, Zarrinmehr S, Al-Douri F, and Clayton M (2013) “Prototyping an

Evidence-Based Evaluation System for Nursing Scenarios Using Agent-Based Modeling” in Creating

Healing + Healthy Places, Proceedings of The 44th Annual Conference of EDRA 2013, Providence, RI,

May 29-June 1, 2013. ISBN: 978-1-300-92541-5.

15. Rodriguez S, Giese A, Amato N, Zarrinmehr S, Al-Douri F, and Clayton M (2012) “Environmental Effect

on Egress Simulation” in Proceedings of The Fifth International Conference on Motion in Games 2012

(MIG), Rennes, France, November 15-17, 2012.

16. Al-Douri, F (2008) “Assessment of the Design Content in Urban Design Plans in US Cities: A

Comparative Study in Milwaukee, WI and Boston, MA” in Bridging the Divide: Celebrating the City,

Proceedings of the Fourth Joint Congress of American and European Schools of Planning (ACSP-

AESOP), Chicago, Illinois July 6-11, 2008 (CD-ROM-paper no. 194295).

17. Al-Douri, F (2007) “The Relation between Modeling Methods and Functions and the Design Quality of

Urban Design Plans in US Cities. A comparative study” in Building Ladders to the Middle-Class:

planning for Equitable and Sustainable prosperity, The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning

(ACSP) Annual Conference, October 18-21, 2007, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

18. Al-Douri, F (2006) “The Impact of Using 3D Digital Modeling in Urban Design Practice on the Design

Content of Urban Design Plans in US Cities” in Research on the Built & Virtual Environments, The

Annual College of Architecture Global Symposia Presentations 2006, College of Architecture, Texas

A&M University, College Station, Texas.

19. Al-Douri, F and Clayton, M (2005) “A Case Study of The Impact of Digital Urban Models on Design and

Planning” in Proceedings of the 43rd 2005 Annual Conference of the Urban and Regional Information

Systems Association (URISA), October 9-12, 2005, Kansas City, MO.

20. Al-Douri, F Clayton, M and Abrams, R (2005) The Impact of 3D Digital Modeling on the 3D Design

Aspects in Urban Design Plans, in Digital Design: The Quest for New Paradigms, 23rd eCAADe

Conference Proceedings/ ISBN 0-9541183-2-4 Lisbon, Portugal, 21-24 September 2005, pp.331-340.

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Firas A. Al-Douri, B.Arch. M.S. Ph.D.

21. Al-Douri, F (2005) “The Application of Scenario-Building Technique to Plan for Future in Urban Design

Practice” in Preserving the future, The ACSP 2005 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)

Annual Conference, October 27-30, 2005, Kansas City, Missouri.

22. Al-Douri, F Clayton, M (2005) “Analytical and Conceptual Phases in Collaborative Urban Design

Practice in US Cities: A case study in Pittsburgh Downtown Plan” in The Reach of Research, 2005

Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC) Conference, April 6-9, 2005, Jackson, Mississippi.

23. Al-Douri, F (2005) “Benchmarking the Use of Visualization Tools in Urban Design Practice in US

Cities” in Visualizing Change, 2005 Association for Community Design (ACD) Annual Conference, March

31-April1 2005, New York City, NY.

24. Al-Douri, F (1992) “Urban Renewal of Historic City Centers” in The Urban Renewal of Major Arab

Cities Symposium Proceedings, January 1992, Baghdad, Iraq.

25. Al-Douri, F (1990) “Urban Infill: Fitting new buildings into their urban context” in Proceedings of the

First Scientific Symposium of the Ministry of Housing and Construction, March 1990, Baghdad, Iraq.

26. Al-Douri, F (1989) “Urban Revitalization of Traditional Urban Districts” in Proceedings of the

Symposium of the National Identity in Contemporary Arab Architecture, October 1989, Baghdad, Iraq.

6.5. Invited Book Reviews and Guest Editing

1. Simple Introduction to Architecture by Tomasz Malec, invited on October 23, 2017, by the International

University of Sarajevo.

2. Smart cities +Eco-Warriors by Lim, CJ and Liu, Ed, Review invited by Routledge in September 2017 for

the second edition.

3. Urban Design and Conservation by Dr. F. Al-Kubaisy, for Create Space, April 11, 2017.

4. Invitation to guest edit a thematic issue of Open Urban Studies Journal, invited on February 10, 2014.

5. Smart cities +Eco-Warriors by Lim, CJ and Liu, Ed; Review invited by Routledge in September 2013.

6. Architecture and the Urban Environment: A Post Millennium Brief, 2nd edition. Review invited by Taylor

& Francis, in February 2012.

7. Urban Design for an Urban Century: Place making for people by Brown, L.; Dixon, D.; and Gillham, O.,

2nd edition. Review invited by John Wiley &Sons Inc. in November 2011.

8. Architectural Research Methods by Groat, L, and Wang, D, 2nd edition. Review invited by John Wiley &

Sons Inc. in summer 2011.

9. Two book proposals: “Fundamentals for Sustainability” and “Sustainability Science”. Review invited by

John Wiley & Sons in November 2011.

10. Research Methods for Social Workers by Yegidis, B and Weinbach, R, 5th edition. Review invited by

Allyn & Bacon in June 2009.

6.6. Invited Presentations

1. Integration of Technology in Architectural & Urban Design Teaching: Towards a Holistic Approach; the

School of Architecture & Urban Planning, University of Dundee, Scotland, UK, November 10, 2017.

2. Evidence of Teaching Practice and Urban Thinking: An Integrated Approach; Presented at the School of

Art, Design, and Architecture, University of Plymouth, UK, October 30, 2017.

3. Contemporary Architecture & Urban Design Teaching and Research across Cultures; From the Middle

East to Poland across the US and Europe. Erasmus+ Grant, presented in April 2017 at the Institute of

Architecture & Urban Planning, State Higher Vocational School in Raciborz, Poland.

4. Sustainable Urban Design Practice: A Holistic Approach; Erasmus+ Grant, April 2017

5. Urban Design & Healthy Built Environments, presented through Skype to the Department of Architecture

and the Built Environment, University of West England, UK, January 17, 2017.

6. Urban Design Teaching & Research in UNLV; 2007-2014, presented through Skype to the Department of

Urban Planning and Design, Hong Kong University, December 9, 2015.

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7. Urban Technologies in contemporary urban Design Practice, presented through Skype to the School of

the Built Environment, University of Salford, UK, November 2015

8. Urban Design Teaching, Research, and Service; An integrated approach, presented through Skype to the

School of Architecture, University of Liverpool, UK, April 2015

9. Community Engagement in Urban Design Centers, Presented at the University of Memphis, May 2015

10. Contemporary Architecture & Urban Design Practice: A Holistic Approach, presented at the Department

of Architecture & Environmental Design, Bowling Green State University, OH, 2014.

11. My Engagement in Urban Design Teaching, Research, and Scholarship: US &Asia, presented through

Skype on May 6th, 2014, to the School of Design, Melbourne University, Australia.

12. Advanced Visualization in Urban Design Practice, presented at the School of Architecture, University of

North Carolina, Charlotte, NC, spring 2013.

13. Architecture and Urbanism: Design and Design Theory, presented at the School of Architecture,

University of Illinois Urban Champaign, Champaign, IL, spring 2012.

14. Research and Teaching in Architecture and Urban Design: From the Middle East to the US, Presented on

April 16th, 2007, at the School of Architecture, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL.

15. Architecture and Urban Design: Research and Practice, Presented on July 12th, 2006, at the Department

of Architecture, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia.

7. RESEARCH PROJECTS & GRANT PROPOSALS

7.1. Research Projects

1. Using AI in Developing Urban Design Plans: Techniques and Implementation 09/2023-present

Enhancing Urban Sustainability using Parametric Modeling and Generative Design Tools

These are two exploratory case studies in two global architecture firms. The objective is twofold:

• Examining the methods and techniques of using AI in urban design practice

• Assessment of their impact on the urban sustainability of the urban form

Outcomes: Work recently started; one conference papers in ARCC/EAAE 2024; one journal article in Ekistics.

2. CampuSIM: A Simulation and Optimization Model for Campus Design Decision-Support.

Collaborative work with Dr. Wei Yan, Texas A&M University. 09/2022-08/2023

This is exploratory research. The objective is twofold:

• Constructing and implementing our campus design optimization model

• Eexamining the impact of the characteristics of the campus environment on students' movement

patterns, transportation, and walking behaviors

• Applying the simulations in a wide range of normal and emergency scenarios of complex, dynamic

pedestrian behavior to support design processes and decision-making.

Outcomes: one conference paper in CAADRIA 2023.

3. The Usage of Digital Technologies in Urban Design Practice in US Cities; does it help shaping a

sustainable urban form? A case study of the city of Portland, Oregon”. 11/2021-09/2022

[Funded by the American Planning Association Grant]

This is a single case study mixed-method research. The research objective is twofold:

• Investigate how and at what phases planning professionals use simulation techniques.

• How has the usage of those techniques supported planning professionals in:

1. Developing a city-wide design strategy across both micro and macro scales,

2. Addressing various aspects of sustainability of the urban form.

Outcomes: Work in progress; One journal article, one conference paper in eCAADe 2022 & CAADRIA 2023.

4. Methods and Extent of Usage of IT Tools in US Design & Planning Departments: A Comparative

Case Study in five US cities 09/2021-09/2024

[Funded by UNLV Research Development Award grant]

The research objective is twofold:

• Assessment of the methods with which urban design and planning departments use IT tools, and

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• Assessment of the impact of using computational tools on design communication processes.

Outcomes: Work in progress, planned: One journal article, conference paper in ACADIA 2023.

5. Transformations in the Usage of New Public Spaces in Central Post-War Sarajevo 9/16-12/2019

(€ 2,200 funded) Collaborative Role: PI [International University of Sarajevo Fund]

Collaborative work with Dr. Carl Haddrell, International University of Sarajevo

This interdisciplinary work examined the changes in patterns of usage of public spaces in central Sarajevo

with particular emphasis on two areas of sustainable urbanism:

• Physical and visual integration of Sarajevo University campus district as a catalyst to sustainable

urbanism in central Sarajevo

• Impact of new enclosed shopping malls on sustainable urbanism in post-war Sarajevo.

6. Simulation tools and Techniques for design and decision-making in Urban Design Practice: A

comparative case study. 06/2017-04/2019

[Funded by UNLV Research Development Grant]

This is a single case study mixed-method research. The research objective is:

• Assessing the integration of simulation methods and techniques into the design and decision-making

processes in contemporary urban design practice.

Outcomes: One conference paper in 2018; one journal article.

7. The Extent and effectiveness of Usage of Computational Tools in US Planning Departments: A case

Study of the City of San Diego 06/2016-08/2018

[Funded by the American Planning Association Grant]

This is a single case study mixed-method research. The research objective is twofold:

• Investigate how urban designers use IT tools at various phases, and

• Investigate the impediments that hamper their usage and reduce the impact of their usage on the design

and decision-making process.

Outcomes: One journal article; one conference paper in 2017.

8. The Integration of BIM-Parametric Modeling to simulate the Influence of Campus Design Qualities

on Students’ Walkability; Role: PI 06/2015-07/2018

Collaborative work with Dr. Wei Yan, Professor, Texas A&M University [NSF funded]

The work involves developing a framework for integrating BIM with parametric modeling to simulate

students’ behaviors and perception of campus design qualities in an attempt to address two areas of inquiry:

• Testing the effectiveness of its usage in complex urban design development processes, with emphasis

on campus master plan development.

• Examining the influence of the physical and environmental qualities of campus spaces on students’

walkability.

Outcomes: One journal article has been resubmitted in 2018, in review; one conference paper in 2017.

9. Environmental Effects on Pedestrian Walkability and Behavior 05/2012-5/2013

Collaborative work with Dr. Nancy Amato Professor; Dr. Samuel Martinez, Researcher; Dr. Mark

Clayton, Professor; and Saied Zarrinmehr, Ph.D. student, Texas A&M University (TAMU)

In this interdisciplinary work, we developed an agent-based modeling system that simulates a wide range of

scenarios to explore the agents’ perception and behaviours. The main contributions of this work were:

• Describing and predicting the influence of environmental factors on pedestrian behavior,

• Analyzing the effect of design decisions on the perception and behavior of different types of agents.

Outcomes: Two NSF proposals; two conference articles, and one journal article.

10. Interdisciplinary Approaches for the Integration of Campuses into their Urban Context: A case

study of “Town and Gown” at UNLV campus, Las Vegas, NV. 10/2011-11/2014

Collaborative work with Dr. Mahyar Arefi, Professor, University of Cincinnati (UC) [UNLV funded]

The research investigated two main areas of inquiry:

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• Pedagogical: A pedagogical framework for an Interdisciplinary architecture-planning collaborative

studio, the case of Grant Hall Replacement Project, UNLV campus. 10/2011-09/2014

• Practical: Interdisciplinary Architecture-Urban Planning and Design professional collaboration as an

approach to UNLV campus community integration and revitalization. 6/2013-11/2014

Outcomes: Earning a Teaching Award; nomination to a UC Presidential Award; and two journal articles.

11. The Content of Urban Design Plans: Assessment of its Drivers, Guiding Themes, and Constituent

Elements: A Comparative Case Study in San Diego, CA and Atlanta, GA 05/2011-10/2014

[Funded by American Planning Association grant]

This is a comparative case study that critically examined the content of two selected plans and assessed the

extent to what their content has implemented the plan goals and guiding themes.

Outcomes: One external grant; one journal publication.

12. Impact of Usage of Computational Tools in Urban Design Practice in Planning Departments: A

Comparative Case Study in five US Cities 06/2011-present

[Funded by UNLV Research Development Award]

This research has investigated the impact of usage of IT tools in selected planning departments in US cities

on the content and hierarchy of urban design plans.

Outcomes: One internal grant (research award); one journal article to be submitted, work in progress.

13. The Usage of 3D Digital Urban Models in Urban Design Practice in US Cities: Does it enhance the

plan? 09/2005-05/2006

[Funded by TAMU College Research Interdisciplinary Council (CRIC) Grant]

A mixed-method comparative study that compared the qualities of two urban design plans that may have

been influenced by various extents and methods of usage of urban modeling. The goal was to posit a

correlation between the usage of urban modeling and the outcomes of those plans.

Outcomes: One conference article.

14. The Impact of Usage of 3D Digital Urban Models on Design Aspects Coverage in Urban Design

Plans in US Cities 01/2005-08/2005

[Funded by AIA Research Fellowship]

Doctoral research that investigated how digital modeling and IT tools have been used in urban design

practice in US cities. The research has involved:

• Quantitative and qualitative assessment of the functional framework with which these tools have

supported the design process in a select sample of design products.

• Quantitative, content analysis of the design content of a sample of fourteen urban design plans

Outcomes: Ph. D. dissertation research; two journal articles; three conference articles.

15. The Design Process: Analysis and Conceptual Phases in Urban Design Practice in US Cities

01/2004-12/2004

This research has examined the design methods and processes in selected cases compared with various

theoretical conceptions to highlight the gaps between those methods and the theoretical conceptions.

Outcomes: two conference articles.

16. Urban Renewal in Middle Eastern Historic Centers

This was the Master’s research that has critically examined various approaches of urban revitalization and

developed an alternative approach for a case study of Middle Eastern cities.

Outcomes: Academic Excellence Award for outstanding master’s thesis; one journal article; and three

conference articles.

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7.2. Grant Proposals

1. Usage of Integrated BIM+Parametric Modeling for Urban Design Simulation, Automation, and

Optimization Collaboratively with Professor Dr. Wei Yan (TAMU) and Dr. Eberhard Leapple (HOK).

($30, 000); Role: PI, September 2023 [AIA Upjohn Research Initiative 2023]

This grant has proposed to develop the integrated parametric BIM-based campus life simulation as a decision-

support tool for the parametrization of the qualities of pedestrian campus zones.

2. Generative and Parametric Tools: How could they support shaping a sustainable urban form in

urban design practice. [Arnold Brunner Grant Application]

($15, 000); Role: PI; December 2023 (In Review)

This grant is in the negotiation stage with the APA. It is meant to secure financial and administrative support

to investigate how urban designers could employ emerging tools with new methods and concepts to shape a

sustainable urban form.

3. Contemporary Architecture & Urban Design Teaching and Research across Cultures; From the

Middle East to Poland across the US and Europe. 11/16-2/17

(€ 2,500) [Erasmus+ Grant]

A teaching grant that was pursued in spring 2017 at the Institute of Architecture & Urban Planning, State

Higher Vocational School in Raciborz, Poland.

4. Transformations in the Usage of New Public Spaces in Central Post-war Sarajevo 8-12/2016

(€ 1600) Role: PI [International University of Sarajevo]

Collaborative work with Dr. Carl Haddrell, (PI) International University of Sarajevo

This interdisciplinary work examined the changes in patterns of usage of public spaces in central Sarajevo

with particular emphasis on two areas of sustainable urbanism:

• Physical and visual integration of Sarajevo University campus district as a catalyst to sustainable

urbanism in central Sarajevo

• Impact of new enclosed shopping malls on sustainable urbanism in post-war Sarajevo

5. Modeling Environmental Factors in Multi-agent Simulation to Understand Motivation for Walking

and Improve Design for Health 12/2012-5/2013

($ 1,602,115, unfunded) [SCH Program, National Science Foundation]

Role: PI

Collaborative work with Dr. Nancy Amato Professor (PI); Dr. Samuel Martinez (Co-PI), Post-doc

Researcher and Dr. Mark Clayton, Professor (Co-PI), Texas A&M University (TAMU)

This interdisciplinary work develops the capability needed to model and measure how pedestrian motion is

influenced by the built environment and embed it in a tool that can be used to evaluate and improve designs to

promote walking for health and general sense of wellbeing.

6. Crowd Simulation Techniques for Evaluating and Improving the Designed World

($ 2,189,000, unfunded) 5/2011-11/2012

Role: PI [ICES Program, National Science Foundation]

Collaborative work with Dr. Nancy Amato Professor (PI); Dr. Samuel Martinez (Co-PI), Post-doc

Researcher and Dr. Mark Clayton, Professor (Co-PI), Texas A&M University (TAMU)

The goal was funding interdisciplinary research to develop an agent-based modeling system that would

simulate a wide range of scenarios of agents’ perception and behaviours.

7. Connecting Constructions: A Collaborative Approach to Campus Community Integration

($6750) [College of Fine Arts Travel Grant, UNLV] 10/2011-2/2012

($1500) [University Faculty Travel Committee (UFTC), UNLV] 10/2011-4/2012

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Role: PI

Collaborative work with Dr. Arefi Mahyar, Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati

The goal was funding a collaborative studio with the University of Cincinnati that involved connecting

research to pedagogy that has resulted in one article journal and two teaching awards.

8. Understanding Pedestrian Behavior on Campus Districts through Modeling and Simulation; the

case of UNLV Campus, Las Vegas, NV 12/2011-4/2012

($ 30,000, unfunded) [Faculty Opportunity Research Award, UNLV]

Collaborative work with Dr. Mark Clayton, Professor, TAMU

The goal was to address the question of: What characteristics of the urban environment of campus districts are

most influential on a typical pedestrians’ decision, to walk or not to walk, and the path to follow?

9. Intensification in Urban Neighborhoods: Does it help designers shape a sustainable urban form?

The cases of San Antonio, TX and Las Vegas, NV

($ 30,000, unfunded) [Faculty Opportunity Research Award, UNLV] 12/2011-2/2012

($20,000, unfunded) [Urban 21 Program, UNLV] 3/2010-4/2010

Collaborative work with Dr. Hazem R. Ali, Associate Professor, UTSA

The objective was to assess and compare, using an assessment framework of sustainability indicators, the

extent to what communities in two regional contexts have addressed sustainability in their urban form.

10. Town and Gown: How to integrate UNLV Campus with its Urban Context? 4/2010-6/2010

($2500) [Creative Activity/Research Support Grant Program, UNLV]

Collaborative team with Dr. Arefi Mahyar, Professor, University of Cincinnati

The goal was to analyze key physical, social, and cultural elements of public policy required for the

integration of Midtown UNLV as a cases study, to its urban context.

11. The Influence of Neighborhood Design on Childhood Active Transport to School 1/2010-6/2010

($53,000, unfunded) [Re-Application to R03 program-NIH]

Collaborative work with Dr. Michael Neuman, Associate Professor, TAMU, and Dr. Tim Bungum,

Associate Professor, UNLV

The objective was to examine how design characteristics of emerging, new urbanism model, and conventional

neighborhood design types influence children’s use of ATS in their daily trips to school.

12. The influence of urban form on childhood active transportation to School 1/2009-6/2009

($44,000, unfunded) [Application to R03 program-NIH]

Collaborative team with Dr. Lee Anne Milburn, Associate Professor, UNLV, and Dr. Tim Bungum,

Associate Professor, UNLV

The objective was to suggest a mechanism that would incorporate environmental elements in neighborhood

design through urban design plans for newly-planned or substantially retrofitted communities.

13. Assessment of the Usage of Visualization Tools to Design and Communicate the Urban Form in

Urban Design Practice in US Cities: A Comparative Case Study 2/2008-5/2008

($ 7000 Unfunded) [AIA Knowledge Resources Grant Program]

The research objective was to investigate how visualization and IT tools may contribute to changing the role,

format, and content of conventional urban design plans to a more sophisticated three-dimensional framework.

14. Assessment of the Impact of Computational Tools Usage on the Design Quality of Urban Design

Plans in US Cities: Comparative Case Studies in San Diego, CA and Atlanta, GA 2/2008-5/2008

($2500) [American Planning Association, Urban Design Division Grants Program]

The research objective was to examine and compare the impact of using computational tools on the design

quality of two downtown urban design plans: San Diego Downtown Community Plan 2006 in San Diego, CA,

and Imagine Downtown Plan 2005 in Atlanta, GA.

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15. Assessment of Computational and Informational Tools Methods and Usage in Urban Design

Practice in US Cities: Comparative Case Studies in five US Cities 1/2008-5/2008

($10,000) [Research Development Award (RDA), UNLV]

The research objective was to examine and compare the methods and extent of computational tools usage in

urban design practice in the planning agencies of a selected sample of five US cities: San Diego, CA; New York

City, NY; Portland, OR; Las Vegas, NV, and Pittsburgh, PA.

16. Assessment of Impact of Computational Tools Usage on the Design Quality of Urban Design Plans in

US Cities: Comparative case studies in San Diego, CA and Atlanta GA. Spring 2008

($1000) [UFTC: University Faculty Travel Committee, UNLV]

The research objective was to examine and compare the impact of using computational tools on the design

quality of two downtown urban design plans: San Diego Downtown Community Plan 2006 in San Diego, CA,

and Imagine Downtown Plan 2005 in Atlanta, GA.

17. Assessment of the role of Computational Tools in Shaping Sustainable Urban Forms of the 21st

Century Cities: A Comparative Case Study in Seattle, WA and Portland, OR Fall 09, spring 2010

($15,000 Unfunded) [University Faculty Travel Committee (UFTC), UNLV]

The goal was to examine the methods of using ICT in shaping the urban form in two urban design strategies:

Seattle’s Center City Strategy in Seattle, WA and Central Portland Plan in Portland, OR.

18. Assessment of Computational and Informational Tools Methods and Usage in Urban Design

Practice in US Cities: Comparative Case Studies in five US Cities 3/2008-5/2008

($ 3000 Unfunded) [Deborah J. Norden Fund/Grant, Architecture League of New York]

The research objective was to document and assess the methods and the extent to what urban design and

planning agencies in US cities used IT tools in support of urban design plan practice.

19. Impact of Utilizing 3D Models in Conceptual Design on the Content of Urban Design Plans in US

Cities 6/2004-8/2004

($7000 Unfunded) [Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) Division, Doctoral Dissertation

Improvement Grant Program (DDIG), NSF.]

The proposal was supervised by Dr. Mark Clayton, Associate Professor, TAMU

The goal was to examine the methods and impact of computational tools usage on the design quality of urban

design plans in US cities and to suggest a methodological framework for best practices of 3Dmodeling usage

in urban design professional practice in US cities.

20. Impact of Utilizing 3D Digital Urban Models on the Design Content of Urban Design Plans in US

Cities 3/2005-5/2006

($2500) AIA/AAF Fellowship for Advanced Study or Research

The research objective was to examine methods and impact of usage of computational tools in urban design

practice in US cities and to suggest a methodological framework for best practices of 3D modeling usage in

planning departments in US cities.

7.3. Doctoral Dissertation 08/2003-06/2006

Title: “Impact of Utilizing Digital Urban Models and Information Technology on the Design Content of Urban

Design Plans in US Cities” This research has applied a perspective of examining both the methods of urban

design, particularly the use of digital modeling and information technologies (IT), and the quality-design content

of the urban design product to attempt to reveal a correlation. It investigated that relation in urban design plans

developed for six US cities that integrate digital modeling and IT in their planning departments namely,

Philadelphia, Chicago, New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, and Milwaukee. It aimed to understand how planning

departments and firms are using models to support designers during the design process. The research objective

was to understand the impact of various methods and degrees of usage of modeling and information technology

tools on the design content of urban design plans to suggest a methodological framework for the best practices

that may improve the design content. The research used the mixed-method approach that combined qualitative

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methods (case studies and structured interviews) with quantitative methods (questionnaires) sequentially to

address issues of internal and external validity and to generalize the findings beyond the selected cases.

Advisory Committee: Dr. Mark J. Clayton (Chair), Dr. Robin F. Abrams (Co-Chair), Dr. Andrew Seidel, Dr.

Guillermo Vasquez de Velasco, and Dr. Michael C. Neuman.

7.4. Research Sponsors

1. American Planning Association; Urban Design Division.

2. Erasmus+ Grant

3. International Visegrad Fund

4. International University of Sarajevo

5. College of Fine Arts Travel Grant, University of Nevada Las Vegas

6. National Science Foundation (NSF) and KAUST grants (Collaborative Research)

7. American Planning Association (APA), 2008 Cycle Grant (PI)

8. University of Nevada Las Vegas, Research Development Award 2008 Cycle (PI)

9. University of Nevada Las Vegas, University Faculty Travel Committee, spring 2008 and 2012 Cycles

10. University of Nevada Las Vegas, Summer Research Awards, Summer 2010 (PI)

11. American Institute of Architects (AIA/AAF) PI, 2005 Fellowship for Advanced Study or Research (PI)

12. Texas A&M University, College Research Interdisciplinary Council (CRIC) 2005 grant (Ph.D.

dissertation)

13. Texas A&M University (TAMU), Office of VP for Research, 2005 cycle grant, (Ph.D. dissertation).

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8. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

8.1. Employment

1997-2001

Job Description

Projects

Chief Architect/Urban Designer, Dubai Municipality, United Arab Emirates UAE.

Dubai Municipality is the principal body in Dubai for provision of civic services.

• Reviewed architectural and urban design projects proposals to assess their compliance

with zoning and building regulations

• Reviewed and modified zoning regulations of selected districts in compliance with the

comprehensive city plan changes

• Large-scale mixed-used and residential architectural and urban design projects

1996-1997

Job Description

Projects

Senior Architect/Urban Designer, Al-Hashemi Consultants, Dubai, UAE.

• Developed and presented the conceptual design for a variety of projects

• Developed detailed architectural design drawings

• Satellite Access Node Station, office buildings, and multi-family housing complex

1993-1996

Job Description

Projects

Architect (part-time), Ministry of Housing and Construction, Baghdad, Iraq

• Developed and presented the conceptual design for a variety of projects

• Developed detailed architectural design drawings

• Researched materials, systems, and building codes and regulations

• Cultural complexes, governmental office buildings, and multi-family housing

1990-1993

Job Description

Projects

Architect/Urban Designer (part-time), University of Technology Consulting Office,

Baghdad, Iraq

• Prepared detailed design concepts and architectural design drawings

• Developed detailed programs for two urban redevelopment projects

• Coordinated work with team consultants

• Prepared the final reports of the developed projects.

• Campus planning and design projects

• Urban redevelopment of central commercial districts in Erbil and Samawa, Iraq

1988-1991

Job Description

Projects

Senior Architect/Urban Designer, (part-time), Al-Janoob Consultants, Baghdad,

• Developed and presented the conceptual design for public buildings and projects

• Developed detailed architectural design drawings

• College of Medicine, Basrah University, and institutional buildings.

1982-1986 &

1988-1990

Job Description

Projects

Architect, National Center of Architectural and Engineering Consultancy, Ministry

of Housing and Construction, Baghdad, Iraq.

• Developed and presented alternative design concepts

• Prepared detailed architectural design drawings

• Researched materials, systems, and building codes and regulations

• Produced construction documents consistent with the center’s standards

Government office complexes; Housing planning and design projects

8.2. Unpublished Professional Team-work Studies

1. “Development of Al-Qadisya University Campus Plan as a Special Action Area within the Development

Framework of Al-Qadisya City Center” 1993. Conducted at the Engineering Consulting Office, University

of Technology, Baghdad,

2. “Urban Design Alternatives for the Development of the Commercial Spines in Erbil City” 1991-1992.

Conducted at the Engineering Consulting Office, University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq.

3. “Urban Development Plan for the Central Commercial District of Samawa City” 1991-1992. Conducted

at the Engineering Consulting Office, University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq.

4. “Urban Revitalization of Al-Najaf Old Town” 1989-1990. Conducted at the National Center of

Architectural and Engineering Consultancy, Baghdad, Iraq.

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9. HONORS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITIONS

1. First place award, mentor of a student’s design competition, spring 2018.

2. Erasmus+ Teaching Fellowship, (competitive) 2016

3. Directors' Choice Award (shared with Professor Mahyar Arefi), College of Design, Architecture, Art,

and Planning (DAAP), University of Cincinnati, for the innovative pedagogical approach employed in the

collaborative studio (UNLV and UC) spring 2012.

4. Letter of Recognition, UNLV’s School of Architecture for my exceptional contribution to the successful

NAAB accreditation visit in 2011 and for meeting Student Performance Criteria with Distinction (2011).

5. UNLV President’s Research Development Award (2008)

6. Student Design Awards, UNLV, First Super Jury place for outstanding senior undergraduate design

studio work in two consecutive years (2010 and 2011)

7. Student Design Awards, UNLV, Second Super Jury place for outstanding senior undergraduate design

studio work (2012)

8. Summer Creative Activity/Research Support Grant Program “Town and Gown: How to integrate

UNLV Campus with its Urban Context?”, UNLV( Summer 2010)

9. Merit Award, UNLV: Excellence in teaching and research during my first year(spring 08)

10. Goodman Fellowship, International Board for the International Programs Office at Texas A&M

University System: demonstrating an outstanding academic merit in my doctoral studies, (2004).

11. Academic Excellence Awards, Texas A&M University: academic excellence in graduate studies and on

campus extracurricular activities, (2003-2006)

12. International Texas Public Education Grant (ITPEG), Texas A&M University: outstanding academic

achievement in graduate studies, (2002)

13. AIA/AAF Fellowship for Advanced Study or Research awarded to individuals who demonstrate

academic ability and dedication to architecture (2005)

14. Letter of Recognition, Dubai Municipality Director-General: distinctive work during my tenure at Dubai

Municipality from 1997 through 2001, (2001).

15. Letter of Recognition from Dubai Municipality Director-General for the second placement and a

remarkable accomplishment in “Pedestrianization Proposal for a Central Street in Dubai C.B.D” urban

design competition (1999).

16. Letter of Recognition, President of the University of Technology, Baghdad: distinctive academic work

and teaching during my tenure from 1989 through 1996 (1996).

17. Academic Excellence Award, Ministry of Higher Education, Iraq: for ranking first in graduate studies

and outstanding academic performance and distinction during my master’s studies (1989).

10. SERVICE AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

13.1. Professional Service

1. Reviewer for John Wiley & Sons Publishing Inc. 06/2009-present

2. Reviewer for Routledge and Taylor &Francis 09/2011-present

3. Reviewer for Cities Journal 06/2011-present

4. Reviewer for URBAN DESIGN International Journal 03/2014-12/2015

5. Reviewer for Current Urban Studies Journal 02/2013-06/2015

6. Reviewer for Architectoni.ca, Journal of the Canadian Center of Academic Art & Science

12/2011-12/2012

7. Reviewer for Elsevier 06/2010-present

8. Mentor, American Planning Association, Urban Design and Preservation Division 05/2011-present

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13.2. Academic Service

Association of Collegiate School of Planning (ACSP) 03/2022-ppresent

1. Member, ACSP Selection Committee for the Donald Schön Award for Excellence in Learning from

Practice (2022-2023)

2. Member, ACSP Faculty Mentorship Committee

At Jackson State University: 08/2020-present

1. Faculty Senator

2. Department of Urban & Regional Planning:

a. Coordinator, Urban Design Concentration of the M.Sc. and Ph.D. Programs.

3. College of Science, Engineering, and Technology:

a. Expansion and development of the Urban Design Concentration of the M.Sc. and Ph.D.

programs

b. Revamping the Urban Studies program and coordinating the new Urban Planning& Design

program

c. Reactivating the Center of Urban Planning and Policy (CUPPA)

At International University of Sarajevo: 10/2015- 7/2020

1. Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Architecture Program Committees:

a. Member, curriculum committee

b. Member, faculty search committee

c. Member, graduate program and admissions committee

At University of Nevada Las Vegas: 08/2007- 2014

1. College of Fine Arts, Faculty Senate, Academic Freedom & Ethics committee

2. College of Fine Arts and College of Urban Affairs, joint urban design program development committee

3. College of Fine Arts Committees:

a. Financial Aid Committee

b. Merit Committee

4. Member/Chair, School of Architecture Committees:

a. Chair, School Self-Assessment Committee

b. Member, Merit Award Committee

c. Member, Graduate Admissions and Students Affairs Committee

d. Member, Personnel Committee

e. Member, Faculty search committee

f. Member, Technology and Applied Science Support Committee

At Texas A&M University: 08/2001-07/2007

1. City Build Group- Consortium of Architectural Schools collaborating in efforts to help rebuild New

Orleans: Collaborating in my design studio with three graduate and undergraduate design studios to

develop CJ Peete urban housing redevelopment project, New Orleans, LA.

2. Member of the CRS Research Center at the College of Architecture, TAMU 09/2003-07/2007

3. Member of the Graduate Teaching Academy (GTA) and the Center of Teaching Excellence (CTE). It

involved leading orientation workshops and developing presentations for incoming teaching assistants.

09/2003-07/2007

4. Senior Mentor for teaching assistants at the Center of Teaching Excellence (CTE) 09/2003-07/2007

At the University of Technology, Baghdad, Iraq: 09/1990-06/1996

Instructor at the Continuing Education Center, University of

Technology.

It involved lectures and training workshops for designers at architectural firms and planning departments.

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13.3. Membership in Professional Organizations

1. Association of Collegiate School of Planning (ACSP)

2. The Association for Computer-Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA)

3. Education and Research in Computer-Aided Architectural Design in Europe (eCAADe)

4. American Planning Association (APA)-Urban Design and Preservation Division

5. Urban Design Group: Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) & Association of European

Schools of Planning (AESOP)

6. Association of Community Design (ACD)

7. Cumulative Index of Computer Aided Architectural Design (CUMINCAD)

8. Iraqi Society of Engineers

13.4. Professional Training Workshops and Modules

1. Certificate in Effective Teaching Practice Framework: Association of College and University Educators

(ACUE) [2023]

2. LEED AP Certification: BD+C Candidate (Expected June 2024), USGBC

3. Certificate in Design and Integration of Educational Technology

4. Membership the Center of Teaching Excellence, Texas A&M University (year-long program)

5. Getting Started with WebCampus Workshop

6. Teaching with Teams

7. Effective Teaching with Education Technology

8. Active Learning, and Problem-based Teaching

9. Using Rubrics to Assess Student Work

10. Teaching and Mentoring Graduate Students

11. Learning and Teaching Styles Workshop

12. Setting up the Web Campus Grade Book

13. Grading Papers in Writing-intensive courses

14. Using Blogs in course management systems