

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Roy Strickland, associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Academic Degrees:

M.Arch. 1982 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
B.A. 1976 Columbia University, New York, NY

Professional Record:

2001 – present Associate Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2001 – present Director, Master of Urban Design Program, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
1999 – 2001 Principal Research Scientist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture, Cambridge, MA
1992 – present Strickland Urban Design
1991 – 1999 Associate Professor of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture, Cambridge, MA
1990 – 1991 Principal, Hudson Studio
1990 – 1991 Assistant Dean for Urban Programs, Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, New York, NY
1990 – 1991 Director, Urban Design Program, Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, New York, NY
1988 – 1991 Associate Professor of Architecture, Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, New York, NY
1988 – 1990 Assistant Dean for Program Development, Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, New York, NY
1984 – 1988 Assistant Professor of Architecture, Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, New York, NY
1983 – 1984 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Architecture, Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, New York, NY
1982 – 1990 Principal, Strickland and Carson Associates

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Strickland was the first director of the Master's of Urban Design program at the Taubman College and was responsible for building a new program for the college by developing an appropriate curriculum which contributed to the discipline of urban design; creating research and design laboratories that attracted funding for field work in the United States and abroad; creating a linkage between studio research and teaching and his own creative contributions to design; and focusing studios on implementing his "City of Learning" strategy which uses theoretical and site-based learning to re-design and re-think the urban school. He has successfully accomplished all of these objectives and created an academic program that allows students to gain valuable skills and insights as they participate in the urban design process. He has also attracted external funding and public attention to the program.

Professor Strickland is also an engaged teacher who has developed a niche in innovative training methods such as using films to encourage students to explore urban spaces from the perspective of the user. He has an impressive studio teaching record that utilizes a pedagogical framework to provide a platform for comparing, contrasting, and testing theories. The studios also effectively integrate research with design. Professor Strickland is well regarded by his students who value his high quality of teaching and his ability to effectively teach concepts to students with design and non-design backgrounds alike. Through the years, he has kept in touch with all program alumni utilizing an on-line forum he developed. His weekly communications regarding current trends in urban design and planning have created a very strong and connected alumni network.

Research/Creative Practice: In terms of research and creative activity, Professor Strickland created a new interdisciplinary laboratory for urban design where he and his students can research issues at various scales including neighborhoods, districts, and even a wholly new city with a potential population of three million people for one of the major “mega-regions” of the world. Through these and other interventions, Professor Strickland has re-shaped urban design theory and practice.

Additionally, Professor Strickland’s “City of Learning” is his term for a highly innovative approach to school design that integrates to the largest degree possible the school and the community. Rather than occupying a single building, the “school” is distributed among many mixed-use structures in a “neighborhood of learning” that brings students in touch with the life around them. At the same time, the schools are opened up as much as possible to the community as community centers. He has changed the way urban designers conceive of the “school” as a physical structure in relation to the city and creatively designed actual schools and “streets of learning” for inner city neighborhoods. For this work, Professor Strickland has acquired a national and international reputation.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Strickland, Roy, “Re-Imagining the Tower-in-the-Park,” *Urban Omnibus*, August 2010.
Strickland, Roy, “Saving Public Housing by Building Anew,” *City Limits*, November 2009.
Strickland, Roy, “Integrating Urban Design and Educational Reform in the Post-Industrial City: Patterson NJ as a City of Learning” chapter in Jacqueline Tatom, ed., *Towards a Metropolitan Urbanism: Essay on Design, Modernity American Cities*. New York/London: Routledge Press, 2009.
Strickland, Roy, “Background into Foreground: Film as a Medium for Teaching Urban Design,” *Places*, vol. 18, Summer, 2006.
Strickland, Roy, and Riesman, Jean, “Place-Making as an Expression of Teaching and Learning: The Hilltop, Washington, DC,” *Places*, vol. 17, Fall, 2005.
Strickland, Roy, “The City of Learning: Schools as Agents for Urban Revitalization,” in Sharon Haar, ed., *Schools for Cities: Urban Strategies*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2002.

Service: Professor Strickland has provided significant service to the college through his ten years as director of the Master’s of Urban Design program. He has also had additional college service appointments, many of which entailed the interface of urban design issues with public engagement. To the profession, Professor Strickland’s membership on the editorial board of *Places* journal has been significant, as well as the pro bono work he has done for organizations whose missions directly complemented the community-based urban design projects with which he was involved.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “The successful establishment of a first rate urban design program at the University of Michigan is the crowning achievement of Professor Strickland’s work in the last 10 years. The MUD program is well known and respected worldwide. I would rate it as one of the top urban design programs in the country...The program’s graduates excel both in practice and academia... Building and establishing such a program is not an easy feat, and is highly laudable.”

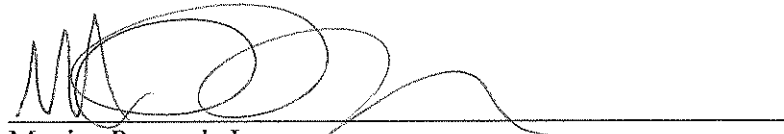
Reviewer B: “Strickland’s creative contribution has been in designing schools in a way that engages with issues of community development. He does that at several levels including participatory design of the facility and locating schools in underused areas as a tool for revitalization. In this he is a national leader.”

Reviewer C: “Professor Strickland’s major accomplishments lie in the breadth of his studies, their applied nature and the way they reach out to a variety of audiences. He has been successful in obtaining funding to support his work in a field where funding is very difficult to obtain... He has been a productive author...”

Reviewer D: “In my estimation, he has made a distinctive and innovative contribution to the field of urban design – most particularly in his plans for Yeni Istanbul...This work shows how high quality architecture can be married to the social concerns of a developing city, not just to its economics. His achievements as a designer and scholar place him prominently among his peers... I expect the Istanbul work now to earn him many other commissions internationally, and the work on the American school design to make him a leader in rebuilding our country’s schools.”

Reviewer E: “I have been particularly impressed with Professor Strickland’s work on schools. Many of his professional projects and publications over many years have related to the design of schools, and the important role school design and programming can play in neighborhoods and cities. This is a vital concern for the fields of architecture and planning, and Professor Strickland has developed creative approaches to the problem in several US cities...”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Strickland’s achievements lie in his unique combination of research, creative design, teaching and service that has led to his national and international reputation for urban design. He exemplifies the ideal of “scholarship in public” in that his scholarly activities encompass different forms of making knowledge about, for and with diverse communities to contribute to the public good and yield results of public and intellectual value. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Roy Strickland for promotion to professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



Monica Ponce de Leon
Dean, and Eliel Saarinen Collegiate Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning