

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan

A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Glenn S. Wilcox, assistant professor of architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Academic Degrees:

M.Arch. 1998 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
B.Arch. 1992 Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Professional Record:

2008 – Present Assistant Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2005 – 2008 Lecturer III, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2003 – Present Partner, area, Ann Arbor, MI
2001 – 2005 Assistant Professor of Architecture, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
2000 – 2001 Lecturer I, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
1999 – 2000 Muschenheim Fellow, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
1993 – 2003 Partner, Glenn Wilcox Design + Build, Philadelphia, PA

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Wilcox's teaching spans all levels of the architecture program including graduate design studios, the thesis seminar/studio sequence, and courses on generative design computing. In ten of fifteen courses, students rated his teaching at or above 4.5/5. Professor Wilcox has made significant and diverse contributions to the curriculum of the college. Beginning in 2011, in collaboration with Assistant Professor Wes McGee, Professor Wilcox implemented a new model for the master's thesis seminar/studio sequence by interweaving theoretical readings, skill development tutorials, and short exercises into a two-semester sequence. This careful scaffolding of knowledge and skills enabled the students to create more complex projects than would have been possible within a conventional semester sequence by making new tools and modifying existing tools to fabricate their designs.

Professor Wilcox's computing and digital fabrication courses are essential components to the graduate program, and he uniquely bridges design, technology, and craft in an authentic and important way. Additionally, interest in his innovative teaching techniques extends beyond the classroom to the larger design world via the internet. In an effort to teach students complex tasks, Professor Wilcox has developed a number of short videos. These videos are posted to his website and people worldwide have viewed and benefited from the tutorials.

Research: Professor Wilcox is an architectural designer whose research and scholarship integrate digital computation and fabrication techniques into a comprehensive design process. From the scale of computer imaging and scripting to the fabrication of prototypical constructions and speculative building proposals, his work bridges important areas of technical research and artistic production typically held apart within the architectural discipline. Throughout his work, Professor Wilcox seeks

to deepen the aesthetic impact of digital design on how we teach and practice architecture. He investigates the synthesis of hard technology and formalist design production in creative ways by innovating new approaches to materials research (including carbon fiber, concrete, and plastics) and developing new applications for them in the world.

In addition to peer-reviewed papers and conference presentations, Professor Wilcox disseminates his work through installations, exhibits, competition entries and commissioned architectural projects. Professor Wilcox's work has received recognition in the form of national and regional awards, publications and exhibitions. Foremost among the list of accolades are a Citation Award in *Architecture Magazine* 2014 R+D Awards for the *c-LITH* project that was also featured on the cover the July 2014 issue and a Special Mention in the 2014 *Architizer A+ Awards* for *Flying Carpet*. His work has been exhibited in the Art Prize competition in Grand Rapids, Michigan as well as Winston Square Park and Swift Wade Gallery in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the University of Texas Arlington TEX-FAB Competition, and Victory Square, Timosoara, Romania. In addition to these awards, exhibits and publications, Professor Wilcox has published in the *Journal of Architectural Education*.

Professional Work, Exhibits and Awards:

Protomoments: The New Work of Projective Architectural Objects, 2015. Location: McGill University School of Architecture, Montreal, PQ. Traveling Solo Exhibition - Prototypical Works

Architect Magazine 2014 R+D Awards, 2014. *c-LITH*: Carbon Fiber Architectural Units, Citation Architizer A+ 2014 Awards, Architecture + Learning Category, 2014. *Flying Carpet*, Special Mention

Huron Valley AIA, Small Project/Low Budget Category, 2013. *Flying Carpet*, Honor Award ACSA Faculty Design Award, 2011. Hot Air, Honorable Mention

TEX-FAB Repeat Competition, 2010. *tetra|n*, Runner-Up. Select Group Exhibition – University of Texas, Arlington

99K House Competition, 2008. *99K House*, Honorable Mention. Select Group Exhibition – Houston AIA, Houston, TX

Service: Professor Wilcox has served as chair of the college's Technology Committee since 2009. Under his leadership, this committee has analyzed the current state of the college's technology and developed a series of initiatives including upgrading technology in classrooms and studio teaching spaces, developing online computing for the school, and the implementation of online tutorials accessible through the school's website. Professor Wilcox has also served on the Graduate Admissions Committee, Accreditation Committee, Lectures and Exhibitions Committee, Educational Programming Committee, and Fellowship Search Committee. For the university, Professor Wilcox has twice been a grant reviewer for the Office of Research. Beyond the university, he has been invited to review conference papers for ACSA, ACADIA, and Robots in Architecture. Lastly, Professor Wilcox has designed and built several projects pro-bono for public institutions and non-profits including the local public school Angell Elementary and Grass Lakes Sanctuary, a local non-profit that aids the recovery of cancer patients.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "I would place his work a step or two ahead of a number other highly-regarded designers...his work seems better positioned to accept and respond to the complexities of building and the nuances of occupied space."

Reviewer B: “Professor Wilcox is a productive maker and is exploring topics that are prescient to the discipline. The regional and national design awards serve as evidence of the high caliber of the work. Professor Wilcox provides a critical area of expertise to the University of Michigan...and is well aligned with fabrication initiatives within the College.”

Reviewer C: “The awards follow a path from regional to national to international. The work had been achieving success in smaller venues, starting with local (Hudson Valley, Atlanta, Texas), to national (ACSA and Architizer), and then the R+D international award. The international recognition achieved by having the work on the cover of July 2014 *ARCHITECT*, along with the citation is a great sign. This is precisely the kind of advancement that we hope for from a tenure track faculty invested in design.”

Reviewer D: “Mr. Wilcox has had a profound effect on the integration of digital fabrication, computation and full scale material production into architectural education at the Taubman College at University of Michigan and in turn, this integrated model has influenced the trajectory of architectural education nationally.”

Reviewer E: “I appreciate Professor Wilcox’s interest in exploring Design Computing across several materials: carbon fiber, concrete, and plastics. These explorations are important for the discipline...as they allow for speculating, testing and advancing the possibility of innovation in building technology and computation in the field of architecture.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Wilcox is an architectural designer whose research and scholarship integrate digital computation and fabrication techniques into a comprehensive design process. He is an innovative instructor who has made significant and diverse contributions to the curriculum, and he has provided an admirable amount of service to the college and the profession. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Glenn S. Wilcox for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monica Ponce de Leon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "M" and "P".

Monica Ponce de Leon

Dean and Eliel Saarinen Collegiate Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

May 2015