

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

Steven Y. Mankouche, 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.	1993	Cornell University, Architecture, Ithaca, New York
B.Arch.	1992	Cornell University, Architecture, Ithaca, New York

Professional Record:

2012 – Present	Associate Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2010 – Present	Co-founding Partner, ACHOLAB
2005 – 2012	Assistant Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2004 – 2005	Lecturer, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2003 – 2004	Willard Oberdick Fellow in Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2003	Visiting Professor, Liechtenstein University of Applied Science, Department of Architecture
2000 – 2002	Clinical Assistant Professor, State University of New York at Buffalo, Department of Architecture
1999 – 2000	Summer Faculty, Anderson Ranch Art Center, Snowmass Village, Colorado
1998 – 1999	Project Architect, Harry Teague Architects, Aspen, Colorado
1996 – Present	Principal, Atelier Mankouche, Detroit, Michigan
1995 – 1997	Project Architect, Bill Poss & Associates, Aspen, Colorado
1994	Assistant Instructor, New York Experimental Glass Workshop (Urban Glass), New York

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Mankouche has made significant contributions as a teacher bringing to bear his distinguished track record of research into material practices and engagement to the professional curriculum of the architecture program. The majority of his courses have foregrounded material engagement as the core avenue for students to develop experience and knowledge through the act of design. He asks students to work directly with materials at the instigation of the design process in the service of a strong and direct feedback loop between the material and its physical properties to inform design decisions. Professor Mankouche sees this as a necessary rebalancing of the knowledge base for a generation of students with strong facilities in digital methods and sensibilities, yet often lacking skills and experience with physical and material realities. Rather than position one against the other, he encourages the students to see them as complementary offering different insights leading to a more robust design process and ultimately a project that is far richer in its cultural and physical implications. The work of Professor Mankouche's students has been recognized with four notable student awards, a graduate design studio thesis prize selected by the thesis faculty, and three juried awards recognized by the Taubman College Alumni Board. His pedagogical reputation is further substantiated by his being an invited critic at peer institutions such as Cornell, Carnegie Mellon, Syracuse, and Cal Poly Pomona.

Research: Professor Mankouche has focused his research and creative efforts on two aspects of the architectural endeavor. The first is concerned with material and its application to produce architectural form, and the second looks at the involvement of specific communities of people to realize a project. To accomplish this work, Professor Mankouche founded ARCHOLAB in 2010 where he has deliberately shifted away from traditional architectural materials and methods in favor of a more experimental approach, and has worked with different constituencies to help them to improve their own environment. In choosing to work with pre-industrial materials, Professor Mankouche finds value in low-tech methods of fabrication which often embody a lower carbon footprint when compared with modern steel or concrete or polymer-based structures. At the same time, Professor Mankouche does not simply apply old technologies to realize his projects, but combines them with modern digital methods in order to realize a higher level of economy and accuracy of production. The work has received numerous awards and funding grants, has been published and presented at peer reviewed conferences, and has been well received in these academic communities.

Recent and Significant Publications, Exhibitions and Awards:

Mankouche, S. von Büelow, P. & Vliet, K. (2018). Limb. 12th Annual R+D (Research and Design) Citation. *Architect Magazine*.

Afterhouse. In Hester, J. (2016). The greenhouse effect. *The Atlantic*, 318 (4), 8, 38-39.

Mankouche, S. & Murray, A. (2014). Afterhouse. 8th Annual R+D (Research and Design) Award. *Architect Magazine*.

Mankouche, S. Bard, J., & Schulte, M. (2013). Morphfaux: Recovering plaster as an architectural substrate. 7th Annual R+D (Research and Design) First Award. *Architect Magazine*.

Mankouche, S. & Schulte, M. (2013). The farm: gaming strategies for empowering marginalized youth. 60th Annual P/A (Progressive Architecture) Award. *Architect Magazine*.

Service: Professor Mankouche has made significant contributions through service as chair of the Space Planning Committee at the college since 2011. This spans a critical time in the college's history as we engaged in planning, development, construction and finally the occupation of the new Taubman Wing of the Art and Architecture Building. For the last three years, he has served on Promotion and Tenure Committees as well as an Architecture Chair Search Committee. For the Architecture Program, he has chaired the Fellowship search committee as well as participated in LEO reviews and graduate admissions. In service to the academic community beyond our university, Professor Mankouche has served as a peer reviewer for tenure cases as well as a conference paper reviewer for ACADIA.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: All four projects have received significant national recognition through the Architect Magazine's Annual Research and Design awards program, the foremost of such programs in the United States... To have produced four projects that are so widely recognized and disseminated in this time period is a significant achievement..."

Reviewer B: "The quantity of material presented is substantial and shows an integration of disciplines and commonality of purpose in which teaching informs research and research informs teaching."

Reviewer C: "The work is original and inspiring. The quality and attention to detail and the thoughtfulness and thoroughness of the projects from concept to execution in exemplary. This investigatory work situated both in hands-on and computational techniques is unique in its siting with and within communities."

Reviewer D: "His research has reached a wide audience at conferences and in leading publications, he has won significant awards, and he has emerged as an influential voice on material practice."

Reviewer E: “The dossier demonstrates a vibrant research agenda with demonstrable impact on the field; a sophisticated pedagogical approach that advances studio instruction while attending to the fundamentals required of an accredited professional program; and a sharp and agile mind open to new possibilities while careful to steward the humanist values that undergird the field’s social, cultural and environmental missions.”

Reviewer F: “While he has written about the work of the practice, which is important, the impact comes from a prolific effort to make the work public through publications, research awards, and community events. The jurors of the research awards programs are very prominent in the field and speak to a national scope of recognition.”

Reviewer G: “Compared to his peers that I am aware of operating in this mode, he would rank very high based on the quality of his work and the recognition from design awards, exhibitions, and media coverage.”

Reviewer H: “Steven Mankouche, through his superb grasp of contemporary integrated and collaborative design work has produced highly noteworthy prototypical structures that bring together powerful material innovation and new models of fabrication with strong building performance design headwinds.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Mankouche is a recognized leader in the development his two lines of award-winning research: material practice and material engagement. He has also made significant contributions as a teacher bringing to bear his distinguished track record of research into material practices and engagement to the professional curriculum of the architecture program. He has also provided relevant service to the program, college, university and profession. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Steven Y. Mankouche for promotion to professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



Jonathan Massey
Dean and Professor
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

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