

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan

A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Perry Kulper, 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.	1980	Columbia University, New York, NY
B.Arch.	1976	California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA

Professional Record:

2006 – Present	Associate Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2006 – Present	Perry Kulper, Architect, Los Angeles, CA and Ann Arbor, MI
1993 – 1996	Faculty, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, CA
1989 – 2005	Faculty, Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles, CA
1983 – 1988	Associate, Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown Architects, Philadelphia, PA

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Kulper's pedagogy is informed by his expertise in architectural representation and deep commitment to student success. Professor Kulper teaches representation courses, graduate thesis seminars and studio. He focuses on craftsmanship while interweaving students' personal interests and identities to create an experience where students feel encouraged to engage in deep inquiry and are rewarded for the expansion of their intellectual horizons. Professor Kulper is dedicated, generous, and highly ranked by students as observed in his course evaluation scores and comments. The students have repeatedly awarded him the Donna M. Salzer Award for Teaching Excellence. He is a leader and a mentor for innovation in pedagogy, as well as an example of a kind and supportive relationship that can be established with students.

Research: Professor Kulper's research and creative work are a critical exploration into architectural representation's role in architecture. His body of work instigates an evaluation of the boundaries of the discipline through drawings, design methods and conceptual framings that designers use to conceive novel architectural propositions. Professor Kulper has developed a design and conceptual methodology that endures and has adapted to the advent of new technologies, particularly in the realm of computer graphics and data visualization that demonstrates the underlying technical expertise. Professor Kulper's research can be observed through his extensive exhibition track record. He has an international reputation demonstrated by the high demand for workshops and international reviews. Since receiving tenure, he has engaged in ten solo drawings exhibitions, and fourteen group exhibitions that included his work. The impact and contemporary relevance of his work can also be observed in the publication of *Pamphlet Architecture 34* which consolidated his leadership in architectural representation and is a reference for conceptual frameworks that attempt to expand the domain of practice.

Recent and Significant Publications, Exhibitions, and Awards:

Hill, J., and P. Kulper “Amateurs, Detectives and Acupuncturists.” Designs on History: The Architect as Physical Historian, 2022, pp. 30–41. London, UK: RIBA Publishing

Dorrian, M. Eeckhout, R. Hendrickx. A., Kulper, P. “Multiple Languages of Representation.” Drawing Architecture: Conversations on Contemporary Practice, 2022, pp. 134–145. London, UK: Lund Humphries Publishing.

University College London, Bartlett School of Architecture, Sir Banister Fletcher Visiting Professor, 2018-2019 (Honor)

Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design, Rare Breeds: The Drawings of Perry, Solo Exhibition, 2020.

Kulper, P, Chard, N. (2013). Pamphlet Architecture 34: Fathoming the Unfathomable. New York, NY: Princeton Architecture Press.

Service: Professor Kulper has provided consistent and valuable service to the college, university and international community that has sought his contribution based on the merits of his creative work. He has been the reviewer for four book proposals, including presses such as Routledge and University College London Press, and an external examiner for Ph.D. candidates and graduate programs. The external demand for Professor Kulper’s feedback aligns with the international recognition of his creative work, further demonstrating his leadership in an international academic context. Within Taubman College, he served on the Architecture Program’s Educational Program Committee, vital in developing the architecture curricula. He has also been an important member of the Scholarships Committee, Space and Planning Committee, Admissions Committees, and Promotion and Tenure Committees. Professor Kulper’s contribution to the Architecture Program’s online journal, *Gradient*, where he served on the inaugural editorial committee refined the journal and is a testament to his commitment to serve.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “A leading figure among the particular subset of architectural designers who pursue research and development in the discipline...by pursuing the potential of drawings and models, the core representational techniques of architecture, to discover new modes of spatiality, new aesthetic forms, and new modes of constructing the building blocks of cultural connection. Professor Kulper is to my mind...one of the most important and productive speculative architects working today.”

Reviewer B: “Kulper’s drawings and his unique design practice have been in the center of the architectural discourse, specifically in the issue of representation since the late ‘80s and early ‘90s. ...Kulper’s work continues to gain traction and remains relevant to the discourse of architecture until the present time.”

Reviewer C: “The sheer extent of his work is, in itself, remarkable, and much of it has had great effect on contemporary architectural design discourses. The teaching portfolio shows work of exceptional consistency and quality. The tasks set are pedagogically provocative and acute and, while the projects clearly show the influence of Kulper’s own work, they are at the same time distinct and exhibit the personal interests and explorations of the students.”

Reviewer D: “Pamphlet Architecture 34: Fathoming the Unfathomable is a legendary contribution, one that is a constant reference in schools of architecture...the peer review process is extremely competitive and is a very important accomplishment of the candidate.”

Reviewer E: “There is no doubt that Kulper’s personal work is highly influential; however, one could argue that the work of his students is even more so. It is obvious from the inspiring briefs, but also from the very positive student assessments, that his provocative and original pedagogical methods lead to exceptional student work that attracts international interest.”

Reviewer F: “Kulper is what I call a ‘generational force’ operating in our discipline...Kulper has sustained delivery of an average of 9 lectures or speaking engagements per year, nearly 3 group and/or solo exhibitions per year, nearly 2 invited academic workshops and/or seminars per year, and almost 4 publications per year either self-authored about his work or authored by others which feature his work....Kulper’s pace of disseminating scholarship surround his creative practice of drawing exceeds the norm.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Kulper is a leading voice in the field of architectural representation. His creative work has maintained its relevance for many decades. This has granted him an international reputation desired for discourse, critique, exhibition and publication. He is a leader and a mentor for innovation in pedagogy whose generous approach to teaching has been consistently acknowledged by different generations of students, and his academic rigor has been instrumental to the governance of the college. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Perry Kulper 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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