

Letter of Nomination for Martin Aurand for the 2019 AASL Distinguished Service Award

Please accept this letter as my nomination of Martin Aurand, Principal Librarian/Archivist at Carnegie Mellon University, for the 2019 Association of Architecture School Librarians' Distinguished Service Award.

As a librarian, Martin brings to his position at Carnegie Mellon a strong academic background, wide ranging experience and a skills set that includes expertise in digital publications, graphics preparation, oral history and field surveys. With 28 years of experience as an architecture librarian and 32 years as an archivist, Martin also has substantial curatorial, research and broad historic preservation experience. Martin's publications include two books with another in process, numerous book reviews and articles on a wide variety of topics ranging from architectural records management, to local architectural history to instruction/teaching practices. His presentations and speaking engagements, many invited, are as varied and include the North American Cartographic Information Society, the AIA Pittsburgh chapter Continuing Education Conference, and the Victorian Society of America.

The AASL Distinguished Service Award notes four criteria. While one or more is required, Martin more than meets the requirements for three of them, numbers 1 through 3. Criteria 1 concerns outstanding and sustained service to the profession through active participation, advocacy, or leadership in AASL or related organizations. Martin is actively involved in planning this year's AASL conference, but from 2006 to 2009 he was a member of the Executive Board. During that time, he planned the 2007 Philadelphia meeting. He reviewed and reestablished the committee structure and established a joint AASL/ARLIS Task force on NAAB accreditation with respect to the library. He was the coordinating member for the 2004 Miami conference, helping to plan the meeting's content.

Martin pioneered two other important initiatives for AASL. In 2004, he was responsible for negotiating with ACSA for AASL to be able include information in *ACSA News*. This became the AASL column which fifteen years later is now monthly and online. In 2001, he and Margaret Culbertson took the lead in revising the *Core List of Periodical Titles for a First-Degree Program in Architecture*. This revision added electronic titles, when appropriate and expanded the Supplemental List to include domestic titles.

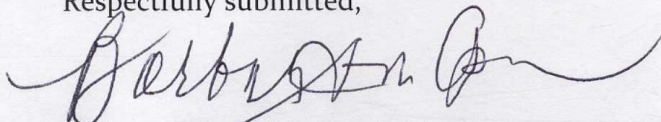
Criteria 2 addresses outstanding and sustained service to a library serving an academic architecture program in a manner consistent with the highest standards of the field. Without a doubt, Martin meets and exceeds any standards of the field. He is engaged in every aspect of the Carnegie Mellon University Libraries, their School of Architecture and the University itself. Martin has served in a leadership role at the Libraries since 2000, from a role as co-head of the

Arts Library and Special Collections to Head from 2009-2014. His work has included service on numerous committees, including as a member of search committees; planning committees including Slide Automation, Depository, Web Development, Web Redesign, and Space. Actively engaged in collections work, he has been a member of Collection Development and Maintenance, Collection Analysis, Approval Plans, and Expensive Purchases. For the School of Architecture, he has participated in NAAB and provided library orientations, information literacy and classes that involve learning with collections. He guest lectures across related departments, including the School of Art, the School of Design and the Department of the History of Art and Architecture. Martin has served on the University's Master Plan Steering Committee, conducted numerous campus tours for conferences and professional organizations and prepared digital and analog exhibitions about Carnegie Mellon and Pittsburgh.

Martin has published two well received books and has another in progress. *The Spectator and the Topographical City* won the Worldwide Books Award for Publications in 2007. In 1994, *The Progressive Architecture of Frederick G. Scheibler, Jr.* was issued by the University of Pittsburgh Press. These two books as well as articles and exhibits, such as his 1999 one on the regional architects, Peter Berndtson and Cornelia Brierly, and frequent live on-camera interviews such as the 2013 commentary about Henry Hornbostel for Len Caric, constitute a body of work that establishes Martin as a scholar. While a number of librarians have made contributions to the field of librarianship through their writings, few have been able to cross over into the academic arena. Martin indeed has established a reputation through his many written, oral and digital contributions as an expert on Pittsburgh and its regional architecture. He has raised the bar for all of us. While most of us will never be able to make such contributions to our chosen subject area, Martin helps us all to be seen as capable professionals. As criteria 3 states, Martin's significant research demonstrates the value of architecture librarians and their profession.

Awarding the Distinguished Service Award to Martin is highly appropriate as service, architecture and librarianship are all areas where Martin Aurand excels.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Opar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Barbara Opar, Librarian for Architecture, Syracuse University Libraries