DEBRA GEROD, FAIA, LEED AP

Candidate for 2019 AIACC First Vice President/President Elect

Biography:

Debra Gerod, FAIA, is a partner of Gruen Associates, a Los Angeles-based, 75-person planning, landscape and architectural firm. Debra’s specialty is in the collaborative design and delivery of projects in both the public and private sectors. The breadth of her experience ranges from large-scale, significant civic, cultural and transportation projects to multi-family housing and mixed-use projects.

Debra served on the Council from 2013-2014 as a Council representative and Architect Advisor to the Academy of Emerging Professionals and from 2015 – 2016 as AIA|LA President. She served on the California Architectural Foundation Board and is currently on the Advocacy Committee.

Philosophy, Goals and Objectives:

As one of the largest components in AIA, I believe that AIACC has unique opportunities and responsibilities to profoundly affect our profession through our advocacy and development of best practices. By seeking the common experiences and issues of our members despite their vast diversity of practice sizes, project types and geographical range, we can work together to improve our profession in both immediate and longer term ways.

The work of the Council can be divided into two fundamental areas of concern:

- Creating a forum for all Board Members to share expertise and experiences with each other
- Using our collective interests to advocate for policies and legislation that supports and advances our profession.

Sharing experiences improves the profession by openly discussing a wide range of issues including, best practices, supporting emerging professionals, developing approaches to increasing diversity and gaining greater public awareness of the value of our profession. Advocacy will demonstrate our relevance as a profession, addressing policies such as the effects of climate change, and increasing awareness of ways to enhance resiliency.

I welcome the opportunity to guide these efforts to propel our organization forward.