

Prof Des Laubscher is the only person in the world to have served on four international design bodies:

President and Fellow of the International Federation of Interior Architects/Designers. (IFI)

Board Member of Design for the World, Barcelona, Spain.

Vice President of the International Council of Design, (ICoD)

President and Fellow of the Pan Afrikan Design Institute. (PADI)

He is also the founder and Past President of the African Institute for the Interior Design Professions. (IID)

He has recently been appointed onto the Advisory Board of African Design Matters, an organisation set up to promote exchange of creative ideas throughout Africa and put African design at the forefront of design on the continent, as well as lobby organisations like the African Union to recognise design as a game changer.

Des was also instrumental in organising the Cumulus Conference that took place in Johannesburg in 2014. Entitled "Design with the Other 90%", he chaired the organisation committee. This conference was a huge success with 105 international delegates and 85 local delegates.

He has presented papers, served on panels and conducted design workshops in the following countries, USA, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, the UK, Denmark, Sweden, Portugal, Italy, the Netherlands, China, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Ghana, Botswana and of course South Africa.

He has also been a juror for many design competitions both internationally and locally. His latest accolade in this regard is being part of the Department of Trade and Industry judging panel for the Furniture Design competition as well as helping to write the briefs for this annual event in South Africa. Des is also an advisor for the Department of Art and Culture on design matters.

He was appointed as a Visiting Professor from 2001 to 2003 at Nottingham Trent University, United Kingdom.

He is presently the CEO of Greenside Design Center, a world renowned design education institution in Johannesburg, South Africa. He co-founded GDC with Ingrid Leujes in 1987.