

■ January 13, 2025

Cumulus International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media  
General Secretary Eija Salmi  
PO Box 31000, 00076  
Aalto Finland

Dear General Secretary Eija Salmi and Cumulus members,

I am writing to endorse Emerita Professor Maria Luisa Rossi's candidacy as a member of the Board of Directors of the Cumulus Association for the 2025-2028 term.

As President of the College of Creative Studies (CCS) in Detroit, I am proud to support Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi's nomination. She has consistently demonstrated the expertise, vision, and commitment to significantly impact the international design education community.

Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi currently serves as Professor Emerita at CCS. During her 15-year tenure with the college, she contributed to the foundation and growth of our Graduate Program, fostering a culture of academic rigor and creative innovation while balancing global and local perspectives. Her work in systems thinking, service design, and sustainable design elevated CCS's educational standards, resulting in an exceptional group of alumni who have gained international recognition and won numerous prestigious awards. Additionally, thanks to Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi's leadership, the Cumulus Association Conference made its highly anticipated return to the United States after a long hiatus. Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi organized and led a highly successful event highlighting the Cumulus Association's significance and positioning CCS as an international art and design education leader.

I firmly believe that Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi's extensive experience and profound understanding of design education uniquely position her to contribute to the Cumulus Association's strategic leadership. Her track record of cultivating well-established global ties, advocating for innovative approaches in design education, and advancing sustainable design practices would be of immense value to the Association. I am confident that her service on the Board will enhance the Cumulus Association's mission to advance the role of design education worldwide, as she will contribute her time, expertise, and passion to furthering the goals of the Association.

In recognition of our support, the College of Creative Studies will support Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi's travel expenses and the related expenses for attending board meetings and General Assembly activities.

I wholeheartedly endorse Prof. Maria Luisa Rossi for the Board Member of the Cumulus Association, and I am confident that her leadership will be an asset to the global design community.

Sincerely,



Dr. Donald L. Tuski, PhD  
President