

13th February 2025

Professor Gordon Hush Head of the School of Innovation and Technology

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Letter of Support and Recommendation

I wish to communicate my support and enthusiasm for the candidacy of Professor Philipp Heidkamp of KISD for the role of Executive Board member of Cumulus. Philipp is a globally respected designer and academic who offers a wealth of knowledge and expertise, as well as personal experience of what is required of a Cumulus Exective Board member.

As a former Head of School and Dean of Faculty at KISD and , Philip has the organisational appreciation of how our institutions work internally, and also internationally, while as a founding member of the MEDes consortium, along with GSA, he understands the dynamics and opportunities of international collaboration. This knowledge and expertise, he has already contributed to Cumulus, as Board Member and Vice President, during which time he worked with Board colleagues and the wider community, through the General Assembly, to develop a strategic plan for Cumulus' future.

I have collaborated wth Phillip in MEDes for almost 20 years and this allowed me to call upon his time, wisdom and generosity when inaugurating the GSA Winter School in our Highland campus. Philipp offered his time and support for 10 years to make this event what it has become – evidence of the dedication he gives to ideas to which he is committed. Here Philipp's research interests in design creates possibilities for food networks and life beyond the metropolitan sphere align with the planetary challenges we are dealing with in our curricula.

I believe that Philipp brings a desire to extend the disciplinary scope of design, to broaden forms of collaboration and to see design's transformative power within society amplified by the Cumulus network. This is reflected in the status of Cumulus as a truly global organisation and community of members. At this particular moment in our planetary history, the role of Cumulus as a global actor and diverse community is crucial for the future, and for the association we are proud to be members of.

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Director

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Therefore, I recommend to the Cumulus Association Professor Philipp Heidkamp as a candidate for election to the Cumulus Executive Board. His passion, intelligence and commitment will help Cumulus rise to meet the challenges of our contemporary moment.

Sincerely, Gordon Hart

Gordon Hush

Head of School of Innovation and Technology

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