CURRICULUM VITAE

Akel Ismail Kahera Ph.D.

School of Architecture
Prairie View A&M University
Prairie View, TX 77446-0159

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (with Honors) Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, 1997
- **Field of Study:** Doctor of Philosophy with a concentration in Near Eastern Studies and a Specialization in Architecture, Law & Urbanism.
- **Dissertation Title:** "Building, Dwelling and Reasoning: A Discourse on Maliki Law & the Ordering of Habitat in the Medieval Maghrib, 1400-1600" (*Bayard Dodge first Prize for the Best Dissertation, 1997*)
- **Core Advisor:** Dr. John Ralph Willis, Princeton University.
  Major: Islamic Law, Near East History
  Minor: Architecture & Urbanism

M. Arch., Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, 1987
- M.Arch., Thesis: "The Art and Architecture of the West African Mosque: An Exegesis of the Hausa and Fulani Models." (1987).

B.Arch., Architecture, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn NY, 1977
- B.Arch. Thesis: "A Deconstruction of Mondrian's Broadway Boogie Woogie." (1977).

I. ACADEMIC & AMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2006-Present: Executive Director of the *Texas Institute for the Preservation of History and Culture*, (TIPHC) School of Art & Architecture, Prairie View A&M University

March 2009-Present: Associate Professor, and Interim Department Head *Graduate Program in Community Development*, School of Art & Architecture, Prairie View A&M University.

August 2005-Present: Associate Professor of Architecture and Community Development *Graduate Program in Community Development*, School of Art & Architecture, Prairie View A&M University.

Graduate Courses taught (Architecture Design Studio):
- *Arch. 3256.* Building design as it relates to structure, circulation and support systems.
- *Arch. 3266.* Design Studio: advanced complexity with emphasis on building systems.
- *Arch. 4456.* Exploration of urban design and the human and environmental impact.
- *Arch. 4986.* Design Studio: with a focus on a particular topic, issue or area.

Graduate Courses taught (Community Development):
- *Code 5016.* Studio I: Projects and case studies in community Development
- *Code 5023.* Advanced studies in community development.
- *Code 5026.* Studio II: Projects and case studies applying community development.
- *Code 5033.* Studio Projects and case studies applying community development theory.
- *Code 5363.* Community Development Physical Structure

- *Code 5093.* Coll. Community Development Proj. Development.
- *Code 5343.* Community Development Research
- *Code 5613.* Community Development Land Use

Duties & Service to Prairie View A&M University:
- **2007:** Chair of the Provost ad-hoc Advisory Committee on Tenure and Promotion
- **2006-08:** Member of the Faculty Senate
- **2005-06:** Member of the Accreditation Committee
- **2007-present:** Chair of the Study Abroad Committee.

II. Assistant Professor, *College of Architecture*, Texas Tech University (tenure-track), beginning date August 1, 2003 to July 30th 2005.
Courses taught:
- *Arch. 5692.* Masters Design Studio II. Design of a seminal architectural projects.
- *Arch. 2402.* Design Studio: site & building space programming; context, environment.
- *Arch. 4601.* Comprehensive architectural design construction technology, and cultural factors.
- *Arch. 5315.* Systems of Architectural Inquiry: research methods; analysis, and interpretation.
- *Arch. 2401.* Design Studio: three-dimensional studies based on a two dimensional concepts.

III. Assistant Professor, *College of Liberal Arts, Urban Studies Program, School of Architecture,* University of Texas at Austin (tenure track), August 1, 1997 to July 30th 2003
Seminar Courses taught (Architecture &Liberal arts):
- *Arch. 368 R.* The Mosque: Image, Text and Form: cultural, aesthetics of a mosque.
- *Mes.320.* Sacred Geometry: The study of the various traditions in Art and Architecture.
- *Arch. 368 R.* The Islamic City: the course investigates the concept of the Islamic City.
- *Mel. 372.* The Art & Architecture of Islamic Spain and North Africa.
- *Fs 301.* Freshman Seminar: Foundations of Classical Islamic Culture.
- *Mel. 395.* Graduate Seminar: Islamic Civilizations in Sub-Sahara Africa.

IV. PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS
1. Kahera, Akel. *Deconstructing the American Mosque: Space, Gender & Aesthetics*, University of Texas Press, Austin, TX, 2002.

2. Kahera, Akel. with Craig Anz & Latif Abdulmalik *Design Criteria for Mosques & Islamic Centers: Art, Architecture & Worship,* The Architectural Press, Oxford, UK, (forthcoming 8/17/2009).

REFEREED & ARCHIVAL JOURNALS *(Representative Listing)*

1. Kahera, Akel. "(Re) Thinking Diversity: Resisting Absolute Knowledge in the Design Studio", *Journal of History &Culture*, 1:1, (2008) 62-76.

2. Kahera, Akel. "Two Muslim Communities: Two Disparate Ways of Islamizing Public Spaces", *Space and Culture*, 10:4, (2007) 384-396.

3. Kahera, Akel. "To Live or Die in New Orleans", *Journal of Architectural Education* 60:1 20-21 (2006)

4. Kahera, Akel. "(Re) Thinking Primitivism, Cubism and the Agency of the Mask: Three forms of Improvisation." *Improvisation* 2005, *ACSA SW Regional Proceedings*. 267-74, (2006)

5. Kahera, Akel. "Towards An 'Integrated' Design Pedagogy: Architectural Displacements *&* The Location Of Culture Beyond The Bauhaus Tradition," Tradition," *20th ACSA Design Conference Proceedings*. 109-14, (2006)

6. Kahera, Akel. "The Architecture of the Sub-Sahara Mosque," *Encyclopedia of African History,* Rutledge, New York, (2005).

7. Kahera, Akel. "The Accuracy of the Qiblah Axis (*Inhiraf al-Qiblah*): A Legal Debate", *Al-Shajarah: Journal of International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization,* 8:2, (2003), 191-212.

8. Kahera, Akel. "Gardens of the Righteous: Sacred Space in Judaism, Christianity and Islam," *CrossCurrents*, (Fall 2002), 304-311.

ARTICLES *&* MONOGRAPHS

1. Kahera, Akel. "Mosque Design", *Texas Architect,* (May/June 2008)

2. Kahera, Akel. "The Modern Mosque", *Oxford Encyclopedia of The Modern World,* Oxford UK (2000 word entry 2009.)

3. Kahera, Akel. "The Mosque and Education", *Oxford Encyclopedia of The Modern World,* Oxford UK (2000 word entry, 2009.)

4. Kahera, Akel. "The Islamic City", *Encyclopedia of Urbanism*. Sage Publications, UK (2500 word entry, forthcoming 2009)

5. Kahera, Akel. "A Mosque: Between Significance and Style," *ISIM* (*International Institute for the study of Islam in the Modern World*). Leiden, The Netherlands, (Fall 2005) 56-57

IV. GRANTS FUNDED

- **2008:** Emory University ($500) to fund archival research at Emory University.

- **2006-08:** Brown Foundation of Houston ($1,000.000) to fund TIPHC/PVAMU University.

V. WORKSHOPS, SYMPOSIA *&* INVITED LECTURES *(Representative Listing)*

- **October 2009:** Kahera, Akel. "ACSA Conference" SCAD, Savannah, GA. (Moderator)

- **October 2009:** "HBCU Symposium: Atlanta GA (Paper Accepted)

- **February 2009:** Kahera, Akel. "Historical Footprints of the American Mosque" The American Mosque in the 21st Century Georgetown University --- Copley Lounge, Washington, DC.

- **August 2006:** "The Life and Death of the Post-war Islamic City: Critical Environmentalism and the Practice of (Re)-construction." Urban Revitalization and Social Sustainability, An International Symposium, Baden Germany

- **September 2006:** "Rebuilding the Gulf Coast", Federal Reserve Bank, Houston, Texas.

- **June 2006:** "HBCU Symposium: "Lessons From Recent Hurricanes", Jackson Mississippi

- **January 2006:** Rebuilding the South in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Ivan Through Katrina: Technology, Energy Efficiency and Affordability, Tuskegee University, Alabama.

- **September 2005:** "(Re) thinking Primitivism, Cubism and the Agency of the Mask: Three Forms of Improvisation", Paper Abstract accepted for the ACSA 2005 Southwest Regional Meeting at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette

- **April 2004:** Kahera, Akel. Presented a paper entitled "Towards An 'Integrated' Design Pedagogy: Architectural Displacements & The Location Of Culture Beyond The Bauhaus Tradition," The 20th Annual ACSA Beginning Design Conference at Hampton University.

- **April 2004:** Kahera, Akel. Presented a paper entitled "Space Matters: The Adjudication of a Dispute Concerning an Urban Mosque" The University of California at Berkeley, Conference on 'Islamising' Space in the Cosmopolis.