



Cousins of Arup named chair-elect of USGBC board of director

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According to Arup, Fiona Cousins, PE, CEng, LEED Fellow has been named chair-elect by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) board of directors.

"I have spent years working with, learning about, and understanding USGBC and feel that I am now able to help lead the organization as it adapts to changes in the marketplace, scales up its activities around the world, and maintains longer-term engagement with buildings," said Cousins, a principal in Arup's New York office. "My career so far has been based on the twin pillars of resource-efficient design and an understanding that collaborative, interdisciplinary processes are the best way to achieve this."

The responsibilities of the chair are to facilitate discussion among board members, guide the board in its legal, strategic, and fiduciary duties, chair meetings and maintain appropriate communication between the CEO and the board.

"USGBC's board of directors provides invaluable direction and perspective, collectively bringing decades of experience to the table and using their individual expertise to shape the future of the organization, the community and the green building movement as a whole. Delivering on the promise of developing buildings that sustain and enhance the vitality of life is no small undertaking. Our board of directors is comprised of representatives from many different segments of the building industry and will undoubtedly make great strides in the coming year," said Rick Fedrizzi, CEO and founding chair, USGBC. "Fiona is a natural choice for chair-elect as her skills and experience align with her passion for a better built environment and USGBC's mission to transform the building market to one where green and sustainable choices are made as a matter of course."

Her volunteer leadership experience is wide and varied, including roles in the following organizations:

- * Executive committee of Urban Green Council, past secretary, vice-chair and chair.
- * Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation, board of trustees and advisory board chair, an organization dedicated to changing the culture of the building industry for women.
- * Architectural League of New York, board of directors.
- * Member of the Arup Americas board of directors, which has responsibility for the strategy, operations and management of a 1,200-person business.

She joined chair Marge Anderson of the Energy Center, and immediate past-chair George Bandy of Interface on January 1 when she began her three-year term as chair elect, chair and immediate past chair.