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

January 20, 2025

Dear Cumulus Members,

It is a pleasure to endorse Professor Lorenzo Imbesi for a second term as Cumulus President for 2025-2028. Having known Professor Imbesi for over two decades, since his time as a visiting professor in Canada, I can attest to his capabilities as both an academic and a leader.

My first encounter with Lorenzo was during his visiting professorship in Canada, where he quickly established himself as a respected figure across design schools and universities nationwide. His subsequent years as a professor at Carleton University further demonstrated his commitment to international academic exchange and cross-cultural collaboration.

Throughout our long professional relationship, I have had numerous opportunities to witness Lorenzo's leadership capabilities, particularly in managing complex international initiatives. A notable example was our collaboration on an international design conference at Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver, focusing on design for collective intelligence. This project showcased his ability to bring together diverse perspectives and foster meaningful dialogue within the global design community. His research contributions have consistently pushed the boundaries of design thinking while spanning contemporary challenges.

As the current Cumulus President, Lorenzo has demonstrated leadership in guiding the association through significant developments, including its successful transformation into an independent organization. Having served two terms on the Executive Board before assuming the presidency, Lorenzo brings a continuity of institutional knowledge and a deep understanding of Cumulus's mission and values. His first term as President has been marked by a number of achievements in enhancing the association's visibility and fostering international collaboration.

I believe that a second term as President would allow Professor Imbesi to build upon these accomplishments and ensure the continued growth and development of our association. His proven track record of leadership, combined with his broad understanding of international design education, makes him very qualified to lead Cumulus into its next chapter.

Sincerely,  
Louise St. Pierre

Dr. Louise St. Pierre  
Professor, DESIS Lab Coordinator  
Emily Carr University