

Luigi Ferrara

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Cumulus International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media

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General Secretary Eija Salmi

To Whom It May Concern

Dear Cumulus members,

It is my distinct pleasure to provide this letter of support for Professor Lorenzo Imbesi's candidacy for a second term as President of Cumulus. I write this endorsement both as a former President and current Senator of the World Design Organization, and as someone who has closely followed Lorenzo's remarkable career trajectory across continents and institutions.

Having endorsed Lorenzo's first presidential candidacy three years ago, I am now even more convinced of the wisdom of that choice. During his first term, he has demonstrated exactly the qualities I anticipated: strategic vision, collaborative leadership, and an unwavering commitment to advancing global design education.

My long association with Lorenzo spans multiple contexts - from his years as a professor at Carleton University in Canada to his visiting professorship at the Institute Without Boundaries (IWB), and his current leadership at Sapienza University of Rome. This unique perspective has allowed me to witness his exceptional ability to bridge different design cultures and educational approaches.

Under his first presidency, Lorenzo has successfully guided Cumulus through a crucial transition period, transforming it into an independent association while preserving its core values. His presidency has been marked by significant initiatives that have strengthened our community, including the establishment of new programs that serve our diverse membership and the expansion of Cumulus's global reach. What continues to impress me most about Lorenzo is his rare combination of strategic thinking and hands-on engagement. He has proven himself to be not just a visionary leader but also a practical executor who brings ideas to fruition. His deep understanding of both the academic and professional design worlds - gained through his extensive experience in Canada, Italy, and international contexts - has enabled him to foster meaningful connections between educational institutions and the professional design community.

I have known Lorenzo to be consistently hardworking, insightful, and collaborative throughout our many years of professional interaction. His integrity and commitment to due process remain unwavering, and his leadership style continues to be inclusive and responsive to the membership's diverse needs.

Based on his impressive accomplishments during his first term and my extensive knowledge of his capabilities, I enthusiastically endorse Lorenzo Imbesi for a second term as Cumulus President. I am confident that under his continued leadership, Cumulus will further strengthen its position as the preeminent global network for design education.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luigi Ferrara". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Luigi" and last name "Ferrara" clearly distinguishable.

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