



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

## *Profile*

**Magda Mostafa, PhD** is an Associate Professor of Architecture at the American University in Cairo and a Special Needs Design Associate at Progressive Architects ([www.progressive.archi](http://www.progressive.archi)) as well as Regional Representative in the International Union of Architects' (UIA) Education Commission. Her research interests include design pedagogy and special needs design- with a focus on autism. Her work on autism is widely published worldwide, and she has been called "*one of the world's pre-eminent researchers in autism design*" by the international architectural media. She is the author of the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index, for which she was awarded the International Union of Architects (UIA) Architecture for All Research Award at the 2014 UIA World Congress, and which she presented at the United Nations and WHO on World Autism Day in 2014. Her other awards include the International Award for Excellence in Design in 2008 and she was shortlisted for the same award in 2012. She was also nominated for the 2005 UNESCO Prize for Research and Training in Special Needs Education for Children. She is the co-author of "Learning from Cairo: Global Perspectives, Future Visions" found at [www.learningfromcairo.org](http://www.learningfromcairo.org). More information about her autism design approaches can also be found at [www.autism.archi](http://www.autism.archi)

## *Academic Experience*

**Associate Professor, Department of Construction and Architectural Engineering, The American University in Cairo** Cairo, Egypt 2009-Present

**Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Construction and Architectural Engineering, The American University in Cairo** Cairo, Egypt 2004-2009

**Assistant Professor of Architecture, Cairo University, Department of Architectural Engineering** Cairo, Egypt 2004-2009

## *Professional Experience*

**Design Associate and Special Needs Design Consultant, Progressive Architects**  
[www.progressive.archi](http://www.progressive.archi) Cairo, Egypt 1999-Present

**Designer, CDC-Abdelhalim Architects,** Cairo, Egypt 1995-1997

**Architect, EHAF-CEDAJ,** Cairo, Egypt 1994-1995

## *Education*

**PhD, 2004** — Department of Architectural Engineering, Cairo University, *Dissertation Title: Accommodating Autistic Behavior in Design through Modification of the Architectural Environment,* Cairo, Egypt

**MSc, 1998** — Department of Architectural Engineering, Cairo University, *Dissertation Title: Culturally Responsive Architecture: Its Existence, Objectivity and Mechanisms,* Cairo, Egypt

**BSc, 1994** — Department of Architectural Engineering, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

## *Licensures, Certifications and Professional Memberships*

Egyptian Engineering Syndicate License, Egyptian Engineering Syndicate. (1994 - Present)

Deputy Vice President, Region V- UNESCO-UIA Education Commission and Validation Council for Architectural Education (VCAE), International Union of Architects. (November 2011 - Present)

Member, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, USA. (May 2012 - Present)

Member, Professionals in Autism, National Autistic Society, UK. (2010 - Present)

Member, Society of Women Engineers. US (2010 - Present)

Honorary Member and World Architecture Community Awards Jury member, World Architecture Community. (2009 - Present).

Member, Society of Egyptian Architects. (1998 - Present).

Member, UNESCO-UIA Education Commission Reflection Groups, International Union of Architects. (2006 - November 2012).

Member, WHEEL, Women in Higher Education and Elite Leadership. (2011 - Present)

## *Awards and Honours*

**Rolex Award for Enterprise, shortlisted**, for the ASPECTSS Classroom project. The Rolex Awards for Enterprise support inspiring individuals who carry out innovative projects that advance human knowledge or well-being. (August 2015, results pending)

**UIA International Architecture for All Research Award**, for the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index. This international award is given to an architect(s) for evidence based design research that makes a significant contribution to improved quality of life through facilitating a better understanding of user-centered design and its application to the design of the built environment. (UIA World Congress, Durban, South Africa, August 2014).

**ArcVision Women in Architecture Award**, Italicementi & and the Society of Egyptian Architects. Among 10 women honored in 2013/2014 for excellence in design for social and environmental responsibility awarded for the Advance Center for Special Needs project (January 2014).

**Coordinator, Cairo Green, TEDx City 2.0 finalist**, TEDx. Coordinator of the CairoGreen workshop at AUC in collaboration with Architecture and Vision, Andreas Vogler & Arturo Vittori, with students from AUC and Cairo University. The workshop proposed green solutions for Cairo and was shortlisted for the TEDx City 2.0 award (December 2012).

**Omrانيا/ CSBE Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Design**, Advisor for two First Prize winning project, Center for the Study of the Built Environment. (October 2012).

**Omrانيا/ CSBE Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Design**, Advisor for First Prize winning project, Center for the Study of the Built Environment. (October 2011).



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

**International Award for Excellence in the Design Field** from Design Principles & Practices for "Thinking Outside the Box: Addressing and Enhancing Visual/Spatial Skills and Active Learning in Architectural Education", a paper studying the learning style shift of architectural students through AUC's architecture program (2008).

**Finalist, The International Award for Excellence in the Constructed Environment**, Common Ground Publishing & The International Journal of the Constructed Environment. (February 2012)

**Nominee**, AUC Excellence in Teaching Award, AUC. (November 2013).

**Nominee**, AUC Excellence in Teaching Award, AUC. (April 2014).

**Nominee**, AUC Excellence in Teaching Award, AUC. (November 2012).

**Nominee**, AUC Excellence in Teaching Award, AUC. (March 2011).

**International Publication Award**, Ministry of Higher Education. Egypt (2010).

**International Publication Award**, Ministry of Higher Education. Egypt (2009).

**Nominee**, UNESCO/Emir of Kuwait Prize for Research and Training in Special Needs Education for Children, UNESCO- Emir of Kuwait. (2005).

**Faculty Distinction Award**. Cairo University, Faculty of Engineering (October 2007).

## *Award Winning Research*

**UIA International Architecture for All Research Award, 2014**, for development of the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index through the following body of work:

1. Mostafa, M., (accepted for publication, 2014), "An Architecture for Autism: Built Environment Performance in Accordance to the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index," *The International Journal of Design in Society*
2. Mostafa, M. (2014) "An Architecture for Autism: Application of the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index to Home Environments," *The International Journal of the Constructed Environment*, 4 (2), 25-38.
3. Mostafa, M. (2014), "Architecture for Autism: Autism ASPECTSS™ in School Design," *The International Journal of Architectural Research*, 8 (1), 143-158.
4. Mostafa, M. (2010), "Housing Adaptation for Adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder," *Open House International*, Urban International Press, 35 (1), 37-48
5. Mostafa, M. (2008), "An Architecture for Autism: Concepts of Design Intervention for the Autistic User," *International Journal of Architectural Research (IJAR)*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology ArchNet, 2 (1), 189-211

**The International Award for Excellence in the Design Field from Design Principles & Practices (2008) and**

**International Publication Award, Ministry of Higher Education. (2010) for**



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

6. Mostafa, M. (2008), "Thinking Outside the Box- Addressing and Enhancing Visual/Spatial and Active Learning in Architectural Education," The International Journal of Design Principles and Practices, Common Ground Publishing, 2 (1), 113-120

**Finalist for The International Award for Excellence in the Constructed Environment,**  
Common Ground Publishing & The International Journal of the Constructed Environment.  
(February 2012) for

7. Mostafa, M. (2011), "Inspiration vs. Plagiarism: Academic Integrity in Architectural Education," International Journal of the Constructed Environment, Common Ground Publishing, 1 (3), 85-100.

**International Publication Award, Ministry of Higher Education.** (2009) for

8. Mostafa, M. (2008), "An Architecture for Autism: Concepts of Design Intervention for the Autistic User," International Journal of Architectural Research (IJAR), Massachusetts Institute of Technology ArchNet, 2 (1), 189-211

## *Published Intellectual Contributions*

### Scholarly Books

1. Mostafa, M., Stryker B., and Nagati O, Learning from Cairo: Global Perspectives and Future Visions, Cairo, Egypt, Ford Foundation, (2013)
2. Mostafa, M. (accepted for publication), An Architecture for Autism Chicago Ill., Common Ground Publishing, (pending publication date)

### Expert Essays in Books

3. Mostafa, M., "An Architecture for Autism" in Environmental Psychology for Design, 2nd edition, Kopec D. (author), New York: Fairchild Publishing, (2012)

### Symposium Books and E-books

4. Mostafa, M., Tarabieh K., Vogler, A., Vittori A., Cairo Green, Cairo: Spirit Publications, (2013). ([http://issuu.com/magdamostafa/docs/cairo\\_green](http://issuu.com/magdamostafa/docs/cairo_green))

### Refereed Journal Articles

5. Mostafa, M., (accepted for publication, 2014), "An Architecture for Autism: Built Environment Performance in Accordance to the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index," The International Journal of Design in Society
6. Mostafa, M. (2014), "From Freedom of Expression to Expression of Freedom: Responding to Socio-Political Change in the Classroom," Journal of Education in the Built Environment, 9 (1), 35-47.
7. Mostafa, M. (2014) "An Architecture for Autism: Application of the Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index to Home Environments," The International Journal of the Constructed Environment, 4 (2), 25-38.
8. Mostafa, M. (2014), "Architecture for Autism: Autism ASPECTSS™ in School Design," The International Journal of Architectural Research, 8 (1), 143-158.



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

9. Mostafa, M. (2011), "Inspiration vs. Plagiarism: Academic Integrity in Architectural Education," *International Journal of the Constructed Environment, Common Ground Publishing*, 1 (3), 85-100.
10. Mostafa, M. and H. Mostafa (2010), "How do Architects Think? Learning Styles and Architectural Education," *International Journal of Architectural Research (IJAR), Massachusetts Institute of Technology ArchNet*, 4, 310-317
11. Nassar, K., M., Mostafa, and A. Rifki (2010), "Visualization Skills for the New Architectural Forms," *International Journal of Architectural Research (IJAR), Massachusetts Institute of Technology ArchNet*, 4, 346-358
12. Mostafa, M. (2010), "Housing Adaptation for Adults with Autistic Spectrum Disorder," *Open House International, Urban International Press*, 35 (1), 37-48
13. Mostafa, M. (2008), "An Architecture for Autism: Concepts of Design Intervention for the Autistic User," *International Journal of Architectural Research (IJAR), Massachusetts Institute of Technology ArchNet*, 2 (1), 189-211
14. Mostafa, M. (2008), "Thinking Outside the Box- Addressing and Enhancing Visual/Spatial and Active Learning in Architectural Education," *The International Journal of Design Principles and Practices, Common Ground Publishing*, 2 (1), 113-120

## Editorials in Peer Reviewed Journals

15. Mostafa, M.(2013), "Editorial: Expanding Normal: Towards a More Inclusive Approach to Designing the Built Environment," *Open House International, Urban International Press*, 38, 4-7, Gateshead, Great Britain.

## Articles in Non-peer Reviewed Journals and Professional Magazines

16. Mostafa, M. (October, 2006), "Viewpoint: Enabling Architecture," *Communication Magazine, The National Autistic Society*, 38, (Miranda Kemp, Ed.), London, United Kingdom
17. Mostafa, M. (April 14, 2014), "Learning from Cairo: What Informal Settlements Can (and Should) Teach Us," *ArchDaily, USA*

## Refereed Conference Proceedings

18. Mostafa, M. and H. M. H.-d. Mostafa, (2013), "Academic Digital DNA: Mapping Learning Outcomes using E-Portfolios," *Higher Education in Teaching and Learning, HETL, Orlando, Florida. January 15, 2013.*
19. Mostafa, M. (2012), "From Freedom of Expression to Expression of Freedom: Responding to Socio-Political Change in the Classroom," *Association of the Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), (Xavier Costa, Martha Thorne, Eds.), USA: Association of the Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA).*
20. Sherif, A. H., N. H. Sherif, and M. Mostafa (2008), "Developing a New Architecture Curriculum: Achieving Educational Goals within Program Constraints," *Oxford*



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

Conference, 2008: 50 years on- Resetting the Agenda for Architectural Education, WIT Press, Oxford, UK

21. Sherif, A. H., M. Mostafa, and N. H. Sherif (2007), "From Theory to Practice: Application of Egyptian Special Needs Design Codes- Accessibility vs. Inclusion," ArchCairo 2007 Conference Linking and Bridging: Academia and the Professional Realm, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt
22. Mostafa, M. (2006), "An Architecture for Autism- A New Dimension in School Design," Second World Autism Congress, World Autism Organization, Autism South Africa & Jessica Kingsley Publishing, Cape Town, South Africa
23. Mostafa, M. (2006), "Let Them be Heard: Appropriate Acoustics for Autism- Special Needs School Design," ArchCairo 2006 Appropriating Architecture and Taming Urbanism in the Decades of Transformation, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt: ArchCairo 2006 Appropriating Architecture and Taming Urbanism in the Decades of Transformation, Cairo University.

## Other Publications

24. Cox, L., F. Ramos, S. Chough, W. Tochtermann, R. Schweitzer, A. Viaro, A. Koudryavtsev, V. Slapeta, P. Mora Morales, K. Schwensen, M. Mostafa, N. Furaya, R. Harber, Z. Shafie, J. Joppien, G. Cirilli, N. Kutateladze, J. Scheeler, H. Garcia Escorza, G. Kunihiro, and S. Alnaga (2013), "UNESCO-UIA Charter for Architectural Education, 3rd Edition," Tokyo: UNESCO-UIA. <http://www.uia-architectes.org> (2011)
25. Cox, L., F. Ramos, S. Chough, W. Tochtermann, R. Schweitzer, A. Viaro, A. Koudryavtsev, V. Slapeta, P. Mora Morales, K. Schwensen, M. Mostafa, N. Furaya, R. Harber, G. Kunihiro (2013), "UNESCO-UIA Charter for Architectural Education, 4th Edition," Durban: UNESCO-UIA. <http://www.uia-architectes.org> (2014)
26. Mostafa, M. UIA Joint Education and Professional Practice Commission- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism in Architectural Education and Professional Practice Joint Policy Position Paper, Paris, France: International Union of Architects, (2011)
27. Mostafa, M. & Abdelhalim Ibrahim, unpublished manuscript- biographical and project material, "An Architecture of Collective Memory" (working title) for Aga Khan award winning architect, Dr. Abdelhalim Ibrahim Abdelhalim, in conjunction with award winning author James Steele. (CDC) Abdelhalim, Cairo, Egypt. (2007 - 2008)
28. Mostafa, M., The House of Arts and Culture Lebanese-Omani Center International Architectural Competition Jury Report, 13. (2009)

## Associate Editing and Guest Editing of Peer Reviewed Journals

Editor, Open House International- Special Issue on Built Environments for Special Populations, Urban International Press, (Magda Mostafa, Nicholas Wilkinson, Eds.) (2013)

Associate Editor, The International Journal of Learner Diversity and Identities, vol. 20, issue 4. (2014)



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

Associate Editor The International Journal of the Constructed Environment, vol.1 issue 3.  
(2011)

Associate Editor The International Journal of Design Principles and Practices, vol. 2.  
(2008)

## *Intellectual Property, Patents and Trademarks*

Mostafa, M., "Autism ASPECTSS™ Design Index", Trademark EG-285356/7/8/9.

## *Creative Works and Architectural Projects*

(In)Formal Pattern Language, Nada Nafeh, Magda Mostafa, Mona Elkhafif & Adrian Blackwell,  
and Exhibition at the Egypt Pavilion, 2016 Venice Biennial "Reporting from the Front",  
curated by Alejandro Aravena, May 2016

Advance Special Needs Educational Center adaptive re-use project with Progressive  
Architects, Maadi, Cairo, (2002)

Advance Special Needs New Educational Center with Progressive Architects, Qattameya,  
Cairo, (2004)

Charis Workhome for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder, with Peter and Anneke De  
Nooy, Rotterdam, the Netherlands, (2003)

Curator, African Region, "UIA Education Commission International Student Works Exhibition",  
Durban South Africa, (August, 2014)

Award Finalist and Participant, "ArcVision Egyptian Women in Architecture Award Exhibition,"  
ItalCementi Group, Suez Cement and the Society of Egyptian Architects, Cairo Opera House,  
Egypt. (October 20, 2013 - February 9, 2014)

Curator, "From Pyramids to Spacecraft," Architecture and Vision, Swiss Embassy, Cairo &  
AUC, Cairo, Egypt. (November 16, 2012 - November 26, 2012)

Mostafa, Magda, Maged, Salah, Refaat, Noha, El Ibyari, Mariam, Mahfouz, Norhan, Swellam,  
Rana, Elmasry, Ragya, Qaldas, Marina, Ghali, Ayman, Mina, Lilian, Naguib, Aziz, "Freedom  
Pavilion," Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), USA. A virtual photo  
essay exhibition of design works. (April 2012 - December 2012)

Curator, "'GLocal Architecture at AUC" at the +20 Egypt Design, DesignPartners, Milan Italy  
& the Egyptian Furniture Export Council, Fattamid Cairo, Egypt. (June 3, 2010 - June 10,  
2010)

## *Professional Service & Consulting*

Autism Design Consultant, Els for Autism Foundation, Els Center of Excellence, Jupiter,  
Florida, USA, (January 2016)

Deputy Vice President for Africa, UNESCO-UIA Education Commission and Validation Council  
for Architectural Education, (November 2011-Present)

Chairperson, UIA Education and Professional Practice Joint Commission's Draft Panel on  
Integrity and Plagiarism in Architectural Education and Practice, Paris. (October 2010 –  
February 2015).



# MAGDA MOSTAFA PHD

Department of Construction and  
Architectural Engineering

The American University in Cairo

## *address*

The American University in Cairo  
AUC Avenue, New Cairo  
PO Box 72, 11835

Jury Member, International Young Architects' Ideas Awards, Antalya, Turkey. (2014).

Jury Member, VELUX International Award for Architecture, International Union of Architects (UIA) Representative to the Jury, Copenhagen. (June, 2014).

Book Reviewer, Ashgate Publishing, Surrey. (July 2011).

President, VELUX International Award for Architecture, International Union of Architects (UIA) Representative to the Jury, Copenhagen. (June, 2010).

Member, UNESCO- UIA Education Commission Reflection Groups, Paris. (March 2007 - 2011).

Secretary, International Union of Architects (UIA) Beirut House of Arts and Culture International Competition Jury, Beirut. (March 14, 2009 - March 23, 2009).

President, International Union of Architects (UIA) International Student Competition- TOTEM, Torino. (April 2008 - June 2008).

Conference Liaison, International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE), in collaboration with University of California, Berkeley, Cairo. (September 1998 - December 1998).

Workshop Organizer, Travelling Studio Exchange Program, Southern California Institute of Architecture- SCIArc, Cairo. (1997).

Workshop Organizer, Travelling Studio Exchange Program, University of British Columbia, Cairo. (1993 - 1997).

Special Needs Design Trainer, Advance Society for Developing Skills of Special Needs Children, Cairo. (2003-2011)

Special Needs Design Volunteer, Save the Children, Cairo. (2004).

Special Needs Design Associate, Progressive Architects, Cairo, Egypt. (2001- Present)

Academic Consultant, SUR University, Oman, Cairo, Egypt & Oman. (2011 - 2012).

Special Needs Design Consultant, Ministry of Family and Population, Cairo, Egypt. (2010 - 2012).

Special Needs Design Consultant, Government, National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), Cairo, Egypt. (2003 - 2004).

Special Needs Design Consultant, Advance Society for the Development of Skills of Special Needs Children, Cairo, Egypt. (2002 - 2004).

Special Needs Design Consultant, Charis Autistic Workhome, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. (2003).

Special Needs Design Consultant, El Gameia El Shareia, Egypt. (2002 - 2003).