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## **Michaele Pride joins CNU board of directors**

*University of New Mexico Architecture Professor is expert on equity and engagement*

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**Albuquerque, NM** — University of New Mexico Architecture Professor Michaele Pride has joined the board of directors for the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU), an international nonprofit organization working to build vibrant communities where people have diverse choices for how they live, work, and get around.

“CNU is undergoing dramatic changes,” said Pride, who teaches in the University of New Mexico School of Architecture and Planning and also serves as the school’s Associate Dean for Public Outreach and Engagement, “and I’m excited to be a part of this evolving group as a member of the board of directors.”

As an architect and urban designer, Pride’s areas of expertise emphasizes principles of equity, justice, collaboration and public engagement, and she has a long history of developing the built environment in a socially conscious way. After the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles, she helped found the Design Professionals’ Coalition, offering assistance to neglected communities of South LA. She left private practice in Los Angeles to become the inaugural director of the Downtown Design Center at the University of Kentucky in 1996.

Currently, Pride serves on the Design Review Committee for the Sawmill Community Land Trust and on the AIA Albuquerque Awards Committee. She has served on several national and international design and awards juries, including design competitions for the Oklahoma City Memorial and the new US Embassy in London. She recently served on the Cincinnati City Planning Commission and co-chaired the steering committee for the 2010 Comprehensive Plan process.

“We are thrilled to welcome Prof. Michaele Pride to a position on our board,” said Doug Farr, CNU Board Chair. “Her design expertise and years of experience working to give a voice to underserved and under-engaged communities will help us deepen the impact of our work and renew our commitment to building great places for everyone.”

In keeping with CNU's principles, Pride and the University of New Mexico have long been interested in making places more responsive to people. To help people understand the concept, the ABQ UNM CityLab, located in downtown Albuquerque, provided small scale examples of ways design can be used to make places people relate to by participating in Park(ing) Day, an annual worldwide event where artists, designers and citizens transform parking spaces into temporary public parks. American Society of Landscape Architecture students are the driving force behind the project.

The ABQ UNM CityLab is a venue for and physical manifestation of the School's outreach activities, and was created in partnership with the City of Albuquerque. Under Pride's leadership, the CityLab hosted Park(ing) Day, explored opportunities to create a 2030 District downtown, and worked with the Downtown MainStreet organization to develop designs for placemaking at Albuquerque's Civic Plaza. The Civic Plaza placemaking project received funding from Southwest Airlines and the Project for Public Spaces.

In her role on the CNU board, Pride said, she aims "to address issues surrounding equity, and to create places that people love — and places that love people."

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**The Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU)** is a nonprofit organization working to build vibrant communities where people have diverse choices for how they live, work, and get around. We believe that well-designed cities and neighborhoods are crucial for our health, economy, and environment. We build places people love.

Through 23 years of advocacy, CNU has changed the national conversation from a debate over sprawl to a discussion on how to reinvest in our cities and towns. As Americans both young and old demand walkable lifestyles, the market for unique and green places is growing in every region. Through our projects, innovative tools, events, membership and programs, we empower people to deliver those places.

CNU is a 501(c)3 with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, DC.

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