

# Jennifer Akerman, AIA

## Summary Statement

Jennifer Akerman is an Assistant Professor at the University of Tennessee where she teaches courses in socially engaged design, design-build, and critical practice. Her work bridges architectural education and practice, emphasizing collaborative change in both fields.

## Education

**Master of Architecture, Princeton University** 2002  
studios with Liz Diller, Peter Eisenman, and Ben van Berkel + Caroline Bos  
thesis advisors Guy Nordenson and Paul Lewis

**Bachelor of Science in Architecture, University of Virginia** 1998  
with Commendation from the School of Architecture Faculty for Design Excellence

## Professional Credentials

**Registered Architect**  
State of Tennessee, license number 00103876 2008–present  
State of New Jersey, license number 21AI01761000 2007–present

**NCARB Certified** certificate number 64647 2008–present

**LEED Accredited Professional** BD+C specialty from 2009–15 2009–present

**Member of the American Institute of Architects**  
member number 30162419; Associate member from 2005–08 2005–present

## Design Honors + Awards

**Beardsley Community Farm Education Center**, with UTK College of Architecture and Design, and Elizabeth Eason Architects  
Collaborative Practice Award, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), National Architectural Education Award 2017  
Honor Award, AIA East Tennessee 2016  
Online People's Choice Award, AIA East Tennessee 2016  
Membership Choice Award, AIA East Tennessee 2016

**Becton Dickinson (BD) Campus Center**, with Hillier Architecture  
Excellence Award, AIA Pennsylvania 2014  
Merit Award, AIA New Jersey 2013  
American Architecture Award, Chicago Athenaeum 2008  
Grand Award, American Concrete Institute New Jersey 2008  
Merit Award, Unbuilt Category, AIA New Jersey 2005

**Algood Elementary School**, with Cockrill Design & Planning  
Honor Award, AIA East Tennessee 2013

**Morrison Elementary School**, with Cockrill Design & Planning  
Merit Award, AIA East Tennessee 2012

**Prescott Elementary and Middle School**, with Cockrill Design & Planning  
Merit Award, AIA East Tennessee 2011  
Merit Award, Unbuilt Category, AIA East Tennessee 2009

**Urban Insertion, Princeton Borough Duplex House**, with Hillier Architecture  
Honor Award, AIA New Jersey 2008  
Merit Award, Builder's Choice Award 2008

**Complex Culturel et Administratif de Montréal Design Competition Entry**  
with Hillier Architecture  
Honor Award, Unbuilt Category, AIA New Jersey 2004  
Honourable Mention, Société immobilière du Québec, competition sponsor 2003

<b>Select Project Publications</b>	<b>Education Center for Beardsley Community Farm</b> , with UTK College of Architecture and Design, and Elizabeth Eason Architects <i>ACSA's StudyArchitecture.com</i> , "7 Architecture Schools with Stellar Design-Build Programs"	2016	
	<b>Algood Elementary School</b> , with Cockrill Design & Planning <i>American School &amp; University</i> , cover feature	2010	
	<b>Becton Dickinson (BD) Campus Center</b> , with Hillier Architecture <i>ArchDaily.com</i> , "Becton Dickinson Campus Center," April 3, 2009	2009	
	Mason Currey, "Garden State: a New Jersey-Based Medical Technology Company Unites under a Green Roof," <i>Metropolis Magazine</i> , November, 2008: 36	2008	
	<b>Urban Insertion</b> , with Hillier Architecture Nigel F. Maynard, "Duplex Reinterpreted," <i>Builder Magazine</i> , October, 2008	2008	
	<b>Complex Culturel et Administratif de Montréal</b> , with Hillier Architecture <i>Hillier Architecture</i> , firm-published monograph	2005	
	<b>On Synthetics</b> , Graduate Thesis Princeton University School of Architecture's annual publication	2002	
	<b>Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering</b> , with Perry Dean Rogers & Partners <i>Generating Context: The Work of Perry Dean Rogers &amp; Partners</i> , by Michael J. Crosbie	2001	
	<b>Scholarly Publications</b>	<b>"Crafting Production: Design-Build As Alternative Practice."</b> <i>Journal of Architectural Education</i> , vol. 71:1, (2017): 73–81.	2017
		<b>"Raising the Roots: Community Engagement through Design/Build Education."</b> In <i>1:1: Proceedings of the 32nd National Conference on the Beginning Design Student hosted by Cal Poly San Luis Obispo</i> , edited by Jeff Ponitz, Clare Olsen and Carmen Trudell, (San Luis Obispo, California: NCBDS Press, 2016): 289–95.	2016
<b>"Strangers in a Strange Land: The First Hours of Design Education."</b> In <i>Engaging Media: Proceedings of the 31st National Conference on the Beginning Design Student hosted by the University of Houston</i> , edited by Meg Jackson, Gregory Marinic, and Lannis Kirkland, (Houston: NCBDS Press, 2015): 20–27.		2015	
<b>"Model as Diagram: Precedent Analysis through Physical Abstractions, Connecting Essence to Substance."</b> In <i>Materiality: Essence + Substance: Proceedings of the 30th National Conference on the Beginning Design Student hosted by Illinois Institute of Technology</i> , edited by Leslie Johnson, Catherine Wetzel, Kathleen Nagle, Paul Pettigrew, and Kevin Todd, (Chicago: NCBDS Press, 2014): 189–95.		2014	
<b>"Context to Concept: Place, Phenomena, and Experience Made Tangible."</b> Paper co-authored with Liz Teston and Valerie Friedmann in <i>Materiality: Essence + Substance: Proceedings of the 30th National Conference on the Beginning Design Student hosted by Illinois Institute of Technology</i> , edited by Leslie Johnson, Catherine Wetzel, Kathleen Nagle, Paul Pettigrew, and Kevin Todd, (Chicago: NCBDS Press, 2014): 177–83.		2014	
<b>"Parallel Tracks: Digital   Analog Dialogue in Toy Development."</b> In <i>Digital Aptitudes and Other Openings: Proceedings of the 2012 100th ACSA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA</i> , edited by Mark Goulthorpe and Amy Murphy, (Washington DC: ACSA Press, 2012): 210–217.		2012	
<b>"Project GRAFT: Focus on the Future"</b> peer-reviewed scholarly project in <i>Digital Aptitudes and Other Openings: Project Proceedings of the 2012 100th ACSA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA</i> , edited by Mark Goulthorpe and Amy Murphy, (Washington DC: ACSA Press, 2012): 17.		2012	

## Teaching Experience

### University of Tennessee, College of Architecture and Design

**Assistant Professor**, tenure track appointment, School of Architecture fall 2013–present

**Adjunct Assistant Professor**, full-time appointment, School of Architecture fall 2012–summer 2013

**Lecturer**, full-time appointment, School of Architecture spring 2010–summer 2013

arch171 First Year Design Studio: B.Arch and B.S.I.D.

arch172 First Year Design Studio: B.Arch and B.S.I.D.

arch171 | 538 Summer Design Foundations Studio: B.Arch, B.S.I.D., M.Arch, and M.L.A.

arch272 Second Year Design Studio: B.Arch

arch471 Fourth Year Design Integration Studio: B.Arch

arch490 | id472 Joint Design Studio: Fifth Year B.Arch and Fourth Year B.S.I.D.

arch499 | 599 Diploma Studio: Fifth Year B.Arch and Third Year M.Arch

arch541 Graduate Design Studio, Design II: M.Arch

arch542 Graduate Design Studio, Design III: M.Arch

arch572 Graduate Design Integration Studio, Design VI: M.Arch

arch312 Materials and Methods: B.Arch

arch425 | 525 Critical Practice—Special Topics in Architecture Seminar: B.Arch and M.Arch

arch454 | 554 Beardsley Farm DBE—Special Topics in Materials Seminar: B.Arch, M.Arch, and M.L.A.

arch455 | 555 Digital Artifacts—Special Topics in Digital Fabrication Seminar: B.Arch and M.Arch

arch509 Seminar in Design Integration: M.Arch, co-developed and taught course

arch556 Design Implementation II: Materials and Methods of Construction: M.Arch

id472 Design Thesis: faculty advisor to B.S.I.D. students

lar500 Design Thesis: faculty advisor to M.L.A. students

arch500 Design Thesis: faculty advisor to M.Arch students

**Adjunct Lecturer**, Interior Design Program

id271 Second Year Design Studio: B.S.I.D. fall 2009

**Adjunct Lecturer**, School of Architecture

arch372 Third Year Design Studio: (partial semester) B.Arch spring 2009

arch271 Second Year Design Studio: B.Arch fall 2008

arch271 Second Year Design Studio: B.Arch fall 2007

### Princeton University, School of Architecture

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** for Prof. Alessandra Ponte

arch203 Introduction to Architectural Thinking fall 2001

### University of Virginia, School of Architecture

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** for Prof. Kenneth A. Schwartz

arch102 Fundamentals of Design spring 1998

## Academic Service

faculty governance at the  
University of Tennessee

### University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Provost's Junior Faculty Fellows 2013–16

### College of Architecture and Design

By-laws Committee Member 2012–13, 2013–17

Lectures and Exhibits Committee Member 2014–16

*Design Matters!* Summer Camp for High School Students, Director and Faculty Leader 2014

*Design Matters!* Summer Camp for High School Students, Faculty Co-Leader 2013

Director School of Architecture Search Committee Member 2013–14

Director of Student Services Search Committee Member 2013–14

### School of Architecture

UTK Aydelott Faculty Mentor for Catherine Dozier 2016–17

Graduate Program Committee Member 2011–14, 2015–18

ACSA Faculty Councilor 2012–2015

Director's Advisory Committee Member 2012–15

NAAB Accreditation Coordinator 2013–14

Assistant to the Director: organizing, coordinating, and facilitating significant academic events including final reviews and student design competitions 2010–13

### Interior Design Program

CIDA accreditation review, assisted with collection and organization of curricular material and met with visiting review committee 2011

Faculty Search Committee Member 2009–10

Interior Design Program Committee: active in program governance: including admissions, curriculum development, Chair search, CIDA preparation, &c. 2009–10

<b>Academic Service</b>	<b>University of California</b> , Berkeley, Design Studio Final Review Jury Member	2016
	<b>University of Michigan</b> , Ann Arbor, Design Studio Final Review Jury Member	2015
	<b>University of Nebraska</b> , Lincoln, Design Studio Final Review Jury Member	2015
	<b>University of North Carolina</b> , Charlotte, Design Studio Final Review Jury Member	2014
	<b>University of Tennessee</b> , EURECA Undergraduate Research Fair, Jury Member	2009, 2012, 2014, 2016
	<b>University of Florida</b> , Design Studio Final Review Jury Member	2008, 2009, 2011
<b>Service to the Profession</b>	<b>University of Virginia</b> , Design Studio Final Review Jury Member	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
	<b>AIA Charleston Chapter</b> , Design Awards, Jury Member	2016
	<b>AIA East Tennessee Chapter</b> , Board Member	2013, 2014, 2015
	Design Awards Committee Member all three years: Head of Jury Process (2015), Committee Chair and Head of Jury Process (2014), Co-Head of Jury Process (2013)	
	<b>USGBC East Tennessee Chapter</b> , Natural Design Talent Competition Committee Member	2010
<b>Awards for Service</b>	<b>AIA Northeast Tennessee Chapter</b> , Design Awards, Jury Member	2010
	<b>Brewer Ingram Fuller Sustainable Design Award</b> , Jury Member	2010, 2015
<b>Awards for Service</b>	<b>President's Citation for Exemplary Service</b> , AIA East Tennessee Chapter Awarded in recognition of "exemplary service to our profession and our membership"	2014
	<b>Dean's Distinguished Service Award</b> , UTK College of Architecture and Design Awarded to recognize outstanding leadership in the preparation of 2014 NAAB Accreditation Report and facilitating the accreditation process, leading to a highly successful visit	2014
<b>Select Presentations</b>	<b>"Sustainable Design-Build Education: Creating A New Education Center for Beardsley Community Farm"</b> invited presentation to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, interdisciplinary Sustainability Working Group	Sept. 2015
	<b>"Design-Build Education: Creating a New Education Center for Beardsley Community Farm"</b> with Bud Archer and Bailey Green, Pecha Kucha Night Knoxville, vol. 16	August 2015
	<b>"Models as Diagrams: Precedent Analysis through Physical Abstraction"</b> invited participant in Special Focus Session: Highlights from the 2014 National Convention on the Beginning Design Student (NCBDS); 103rd ACSA Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario	March 2015
	<b>"Digital Artifacts: Crafting a Critical Agenda"</b> invited presentation at the 2014 National AIAS Convention, Forum, Nashville TN	January 2015
	<b>"Akerworks: Experiments in Product Development"</b> University of Tennessee Colloquial Lunch Series of Architecture + Art Faculty	August 2011
	<b>"Akerworks: Experiments in Product Development"</b> with Adan Akerman, Pecha Kucha Night Knoxville, vol. 2	April 2011
<b>Professional Experience</b> Industrial Design	<b>Akerworks, inc, Knoxville, TN</b> ( <i>operated as Akertoys, inc., 2007-08</i> ) Co-Founder and Design Director  Designer of industrial objects for local company started with my husband, Adan Akerman. Akerworks is a synthesis of Adan's experience as a mechanical engineer and my experience as an architect and designer. Our actively ongoing work focuses on modern, mechanically inventive objects and instruments that elicit unexpected delight through play. This practice explores questions of craft through a balance of traditional and emerging techniques, including localized digital fabrication. We have prototyped dozens of products, developed several to a retail level, and provided design consulting and fabrication services.	2008-present

## Professional Experience

Architecture

**AWAKE Architecture**, Charlottesville, Gainesville, and Knoxville  
Co-Founder and Partner. Architectural design collaboration, with José Atienza and Bradley Walters, committed to the strategic application of research and design in the built environment.

2007–2009

Lightbox, housing design, SoHo, New York, NY  
From the Ground Up, design competition, Syracuse University

**Cockrill Design & Planning**, Knoxville, TN (*now Red Chair Architects*)  
Project Architect / Design Coordinator

2007–2009

Algood Elementary School, Putnam County Schools, TN. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design through contract administration  
Prescott Elementary and Middle School, Putnam County Schools, TN. Design Contributor: schematic design through construction documents  
James H. Quillen VA Medical Center, Mountain Home, TN, full renovation of Buildings 69 and 37. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design through contract administration  
James H. Quillen VA Medical Center, Mountain Home, TN, addition to MRI Building 207. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design, schematic design  
Morrison Elementary School, Warren County Schools, TN. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design, schematic design  
Fairmont Elementary School, design competition, Johnson City Schools, TN. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design

**Hillier Architecture**, Princeton, NJ (*now Studio Hillier and RMJM*)  
Intern Architect, to Designer, to Associate

2002–2007

John D. Brown Athletic Center, Solebury School, Solebury, PA. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design through contract administration  
Upper East Side Residence, New York, NY. Project Architect / Design Coordinator: concept design through contract administration  
Becton Dickenson Campus Center, Franklin Lakes, NJ. Design Contributor: concept design through contract administration  
Urban Insertion, Witherspoon Street Duplex House, Princeton Borough, NJ. Design Contributor  
Montréal Complexe Culturel et Administratif, design competition

**Perry Dean Rogers & Partners**, Boston, MA  
Intern Architect

1998–2000

Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Academic Building, Needham, MA. Design Contributor: concept design through construction documents  
Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Campus Center, Needham, MA. Design Contributor: concept design through construction documents