

January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019

Cumulus Executive Board VI 2019-2022 Candidacy  
**Letter of Motivation**

Dear Colleagues,

- How art, design and media fields will be in the future?
- How our educational programs and research agendas are responding to the future?
- What is our role as artists and designers in the world of “intelligent design”, biological engineering, cyborgs, robotics, artificial intelligence, artificial life?
- Should we focus on quality instead of volume?
- Should we start online programs or MOOCs? Maybe a MOOC on design ethics?
- How about online meetings? Online conferences? Online exchange?
- How could we server better our students and academics?

If you found the above questions interesting and important to explore, you are not alone.

Cumulus Association is turning 30 years in 2020. Today the association is in good shape but there are new kind of clouds in the horizon. Instead of being reactive and designing umbrellas, we should be proactively shaping and naming these clouds.

Cumulus is a community and a network of networks. As an Executive Board member, I would ask these questions and look for answers to them together with all. We can co-redesign the networks, the community, the association and the services offered for the members. There is a need.

I am tenured Associate Professor of New Media Design and Learning with over 20 years of experience in teaching and scholarly work in the crossing point of design, media and pedagogy. I have previously worked with and as an advisor and consultant for several international organizations; Wikimedia Foundation, UNESCO, European Schoolnet, Amnesty International and International Red Cross. I have worked closely with a number of design and media companies and also found two myself. At Aalto University I have served as the Vice Dean for research and currently I am the Vice President of the Professors Union and a member of the Academic Affairs Committee.

Within the Cumulus I am especially interested in to work on issues related to future of art, design and media research, education and pedagogy. I am highly motivated to work with all the Cumulus members to make our fields to have a real impact to the future. I am convinced that together we can make the world more human, prosperous and sustainable for the generations to come.

Respectfully,



Dr Teemu Leinonen  
Associate Professor