

# AMRO SALLAM, AIA, NCARB

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## EXPERIENCE

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**ARCHITECTS FOR SOCIETY – MINNEAPOLIS, MN - POSITION: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/  
FOUNDER - SEP 2015 –PRESENT**

Mission:

*Enhancing the built environment of disadvantaged communities with innovative architecture and design*

Art and architecture are tools typically reserved for the privileged society; at AFS we leverage them for the benefit of disadvantaged communities

Architectural Design:

AFS will provide architectural design services to underprivileged communities by collaborating with other nonprofit organizations, governmental and nongovernmental agencies and other individuals working on community improvement projects. AFS will support these efforts by providing building planning/ design, construction documentation, 3D visualization, Building Information Modeling (BIM), construction material studies, rehabilitation studies, urban planning studies and feasibility studies.

Research:

AFS will undertake research in the areas of low income housing, slums, informal/ squatter settlements, sustainable upgrading, government policy, sustainable building materials, low tech construction techniques and earth architecture.

Education:

AFS intends to educate the public, practitioners and government policy makers about the specific problems as well as the positive contributions these disadvantaged communities have made to their built environments. AFS will publish articles, research papers, books as well as organize seminars, conventions and exhibitions to showcase its projects and research to the public.

**HERZOG & DEMEURON - BASEL, SWITZERLAND - POSITION: ARCHITECT - OCT 2012 SEP  
2015**

Cultural Project, Doha, Qatar

Type: Institutional (50K SM) - Role: Project Architect

As a technical lead my responsibilities include QC/ QA of project deliverables, technical coordination, BIM management and integration. Responsibilities also include materials and methods of construction research and construction detailing

\* Conducted Revit training sessions with a focus on technical building detailing

Museum+, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Type: Institutional (60K SM) - Role: Technical Architect

As a technical lead my responsibilities include materials and methods of construction research, interior building detailing, construction specifications coordination, consultant coordination, BIM management and integration

\* Conducted Revit training sessions with a focus on technical building detailing

City Center DC, Washington, DC, USA

Type: Hospitality/ Retail (85K SF) - Role: Technical Architect

My role consisted of façade technical development and detailing to satisfy the design development phase of the project. The building façade consisted of an intricate arrangement of radial segments that formed a unitized glazed curtain wall system. The challenge was in resolving intersections and transitions of the complex geometry to facilitate constructability.

**SHW GROUP - RESTON, VA - POSITION: SR. PROJECT ARCHITECT - NOV 2011 - OCT 2012**

Loudoun County Public High School, Ashburn, Virginia

Description: 260k SF sustainable (LEED Silver) High School - Type: K-12 – Role: Sr. Project Architect - managing design and production of the prototype building's exterior skin. Having completed seven previous versions, the county mandated the re-evaluation of previous design decisions including programmatic enhancements, upgrading to sustainable technologies and refinement of the building's prominent features.

**BURT HILL/ STANTEC - WASHINGTON, DC - POSITION: PROJECT ARCHITECT - JAN 2006 - NOV 2011**

Tidewater Community College Student Center, Portsmouth, Virginia

Description: 58k SF sustainable (LEED Gold) student center - Type: Higher Education – Role: Project Architect overseeing the building design from planning to construction. After completing the campus project (below) we were challenged with designing a contextual structure that stood in contrast as a beacon of student social life on campus. The result was an alliance of eclectic materials and building forms generated by student flow patterns on campus. Reporting directly to the managing principal and project manager.

University of Mary Washington, Dahlgren, Virginia

Description: 43k SF sustainable graduate research center - Type: Higher Education - Role: Project Designer. Managing the exterior envelope design/ production, resolving building massing and overall expression by developing a concept inspired by the building's geological/geographical location and the building program. Developing and communicating design concept(s) using hand sketches, as well as physical and digital (Revit) models. Achieved a balanced composition of zinc panels, curtain wall, metal panel and buff brick which is featured in a sloping course at the main entry. Reporting directly to the project manager.

Tidewater Community College, Campus Relocation, Portsmouth, Virginia

Description: 120k SF college campus complex (4 buildings) - Type: Higher Education - Role: Responsibility as exterior envelope designer was highlighted by developing the overall campus's nautical tone including building entrances, entrance canopies, curtain walls, and roof projections. Designed and developed a tower element which established the campus identity/school logo. Communicated design ideas to client by composing precedent studies, hand sketches and digital modeling. Headed up structural coordination effort. Completed schematic design to construction administration. Report directly to the project architect and project manager.

George Mason Student Housing, Fairfax, Virginia

Description: 230k SF student housing complex (2 buildings) - Type: Higher Education - Role: Team leader for producing construction documents for one of the two buildings. Supervised and mentored junior architects and interns throughout the CD phase. Successfully modeled in Revit complex footings and foundations on a steeply sloping site and an underground utility tunnel. Coordinated efforts with the structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing consultants.

Fort Totten Station Luxury Apartments, Washington DC

Size: 450k SF (300 units); Type: Mixed-use multifamily residential - Role: Working closely with a large developer (Clark Construction), our small team successfully took the project from a problematic design development phase to 100% construction documents. We overcome a limitation of AutoCAD which rounds off dimensions and prohibits the surveyor from "closing" the building footprint. By replicating the surveyor's step by step process in AutoCAD, a closed footprint was created. The units were detailed inside the footprint, and were strategically dimensioned to allow for tolerance in the field.

Awarded Burt Hill's "Rookie of The Year" award for 2006.

**DEVELOPMENT DESIGN GROUP - BALTIMORE, MARYLAND POSITION: PROJECT DESIGNER - AUG 2004 - JAN 2006**

MUVICO Theater, Miami, Florida

Description: 131k SF award-winning themed movie destinations - Type: Retail - Role: Participated in developing the construction documentation for the Spanish-inspired themed theater. Developed the design elements into a cohesive set of construction details. Coordinated with structural, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing consultants. Participated in client presentations. Reported to the project architect.

WESTGATE City Center, Glendale, Arizona

Description: 173k SF "Arizona Deco" style city center with an open air events plaza - Type: Mixed-Use Development - Role: Participated in generating planning and design concepts, subsequent massing models and elevation studies, and maintaining a full set of AutoCAD drawings. Participated in building the physical model (1/4" = 1'-0") of the development while guiding, coordinating and assisting a team of model builders. Scope of work included concept and schematic design. Reported directly to the project manager.

Town Square Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada

Description: 900k SF combination of public parks, retail, hotel, loft offices, dining and entertainment options on the Vegas strip without a casino component - Type: Large Scale Retail Development - Role: Participated in generating planning and design concepts, generating design studies and models that presented the Arabesque-inspired theme. Maintained a current set of Auto CAD ADT drawings. Participated in producing extensive Photoshop elevations to use in guiding the client through the design process. Supervised junior team members and model builders in implementing the design in model and graphic forms. Reported directly to the project manager.

**4-D ARCHITECTURE - MANKATO, MINNESOTA - POSITION: FOUNDER/ ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER - JUN 2001 - AUG 2004**

Minnesota Zoo, Apple Valley, Minnesota

Description/Type: State Contract for As-Built CAD Drawings of approximately 225k SF (45 Buildings) - Role: As project manager, successfully completed the As-Builts for 45 buildings including but not limited to Aquariums, farms, and an 800 seat dolphin stadium. Work/achievements included responding to RFP and winning the contract; managing, mentoring and coordinating work among assisting draftsmen; Coordinating with the MN Zoo site engineers.

The Web Foundation Library, Naperville, Illinois

Description: 2200 SF library and cultural center in suburban Chicago - Type: Educational - Completed schematic design including 3D modeling and animated walkthrough.

Islamic University of Minnesota, Mankato, Minnesota.

Description: A 20k SF university & community center - Type: Higher Education - Completed schematic design including production of 3D graphics to assist in fundraising efforts.

TGS Single Family Residences, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Description: Three single family residences in suburban Minneapolis (approximately 3k SF/ each) – Type: Single Family Residential - Completed design through construction documents for TGS Construction Company.

Willy's hidden Harbor, St. Paul Park, Minnesota

Description: Approximately 720 k SF high end residential condominiums fronting the Minnesota River - Role: Teamed with a registered architect, completed schematic design, including building planning and programming as well as 3D graphics.

Kimball Retirement Facility in Minneapolis, Minnesota

Description: A 14k SF retirement facility in Minneapolis - Type: Institutional - Completed schematic design.

**SKIDMORE, OWINGS & MERRILL LLP - CHICAGO, IL - POSITION: ARCHITECT INTERN, DEC 2000 - JUN 2001**

Manulife Financial Headquarters, Boston, Massachusetts

Description: Approximately 700k SF sustainable design office building (14 stories) - Type: Mid-Rise Office Building - Role: As a team member of 5 architectural designers, participated in the schematic design phase which encompassed intensive physical modeling of the innovative double skin curtain wall system, as well as the digital modeling using Auto CAD and 3D studio Viz. Participated in the research and development of the three foot wide curtain wall cavity details. Consulted with in-house mechanical engineers to link the "passive" cavity with HVAC systems. Maintained a full set of CAD documents.

Additional endeavor: Participated in Kowloong Tower competition, Hong Kong

**PAULSEN ARCHITECTS - MANKATO, MN - POSITION: ARCHITECT INTERN/ TECHNICIAN, JAN - MAY 2000**

Bolton and Menk Headquarters, Mankato, Minnesota

Description: 10k SF office building - Role: Participated in the design development and construction documents phases of the building. Designed major exterior features including entry canopies, exposed steel structure, exterior building lighting and developed all exterior wall detailing.

Christiansen Farms Headquarters, Sleepy Eye, Minnesota

Description: 18k SF office building - Role: Took the initiative to design and develop the offices' digital visualization and 3D graphics using Auto CAD, 3D studio, and Photoshop. Attended client meetings and assisted them through the design process.

Minnesota State University Library, Mankato, Minnesota

Description: Approximately 10k SF library renovation – Type: Higher Education - Role: Produced the 3-D graphics of the library interior space including lighting and furniture layout.

**DWORSKY ASSOCIATES - LOS ANGELES, CA -POSITION: DESIGNER, APR - SEP 1999**

Century City Plaza Hotel, Century City, California

Description: 500k SF Hospitality renovation - Role: Through a coordinated design team effort, completed schematic design to 100% design development. Responsibilities included building surveying, creating As-Built drawings and coordinating the interior design consultant.

St. Monica Correctional Facility, St. Monica, California

Description: 150k SF Institutional Project - Role: Assisted briefly in the production of construction documents for this 150k SF concrete high security facility.

**JOHNSON FAIN PARTNERS - LOS ANGELES, CA - POSITION: DESIGNER, MAR 1998 - MAR 1999**

Amgen Research Laboratory, Thousand Oaks, California

Description: 360k SF Large scale bio-medical facility. Type: Healthcare - Role: Participated in the development of the project from the design development phase to 100% construction documents. Responsibilities included building physical study and finish models (at quarter and half inch scale) for client presentations, as well as maintaining/ coordinating CAD documents.

**TEACHING**

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**GUEST PRESENTER** - University of Minnesota, Dec 2015 - ARCH 3711 Environmental Design + the Sociocultural Context. Culturally critical design practice today and context for starting the nonprofit architecture practice Architects For society

**GUEST CRITIC** - University of Minnesota, Nov 2015 - ARCH 3711 final design studio project reviews

**GUEST LECTURER** - Augsburg College, Apr 2012 - Medieval Islamic Architecture in Cairo, Egypt

**TEACHING ASSISTANT** - Southern California Institute of Architecture, May 1997 - Advanced Geometric Projection

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

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**WASHINGTON ISLAMIC ACADEMY - ALEXANDRIA, VA - JAN 2011 - PRESENT**

Description: 45k SF Renovation of existing three story building. Type: Educational/ Institutional - Role: Architect of record/ project manager currently conducting bidding/ negotiations of 14k Youth Center (lower floor), six classroom addition (1<sup>st</sup> floor) and a community banquet hall (2<sup>nd</sup> floor). 3D renderings and a ten minute animated walkthrough (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IH3Ix2eZ8Xg>) were produced to assist with fundraising efforts which generated close to \$300k.

**ALLIED HEALTH NURSING ACADEMY - ALEXANDRIA, VA - DEC 2012 - PRESENT**

Description: 3,500 SF. Architectural/ electrical renovation including the addition of classrooms, administrative offices and lunch room. Role: Architect of record/ project manager.

**ISLAMIC CENTER OF MARYLAND - GAITHERSBURG, MD - FEB - JUL 2012**

Description: New 57k SF. Educational/ Community Facility. Production of 3D walkthrough (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=If7a7rAv2LI>) of current design as well as working with architect of record to refine building design and constructability.

**EDUCATION**

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**MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE** - Jan 1998

Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI Arc), Los Angeles, CA, USA

Awards: Grad II Scholarship 1995, 1996 & 1997

Positions held: Teaching Assistant, Advanced Geometric Projection - May 1997

SCI Arc. Building Design Control - Sept 1995-May 1996

Freelance Hand Watch designer - Sept 1997-98

**B.S. IN ARCHITECTURE** - Jun 1995

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), IL, USA

Awards: **1<sup>st</sup> place Earl Design Award** for design excellence, class of '95 - 1993 and 1994

Exhibitions: **"Baraka"** - LA/ Cairo. Design projects conducted in cooperation with the Egyptian Department of Antiquities, Cairo Jul '96 - LA Feb '97

**"La Fornace"** - Studio project "Baldwin Hills" with Professor Tom Buresh, Torino, Italy. Jun '96

Activities: UIUC Architecture Department Newsletter Columnist - 1994

UIUC Olympic Collegiate Tae Kwon Do team coach - 1992 - 1994

**FINE ARTS STUDIES** - Jun 1989 - Jun 1991

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL

Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN

Advanced courses in drawing, painting, art history and theory

**SOFTWARE**

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Revit Building 2015 (Expert Knowledge), AutoCAD (Expert Knowledge), Ecotect, 3D Studio, Rhinoceros 3D, SketchUp Pro (Expert Knowledge), V-Ray for SU (Expert Knowledge), Maxwell Render, Form Z, Microstation, Photoshop (Expert Knowledge), Illustrator (Expert Knowledge), InDesign, Microsoft Excel/ Project/ Word/ PowerPoint/ Outlook (Expert Knowledge), Flash, Dreamweaver, Fireworks, ULead Video Studio, Adobe Acrobat/ Distiller/ Writer (Expert Knowledge), Lotus Notes, Newforma

**LANGUAGES**

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**English:** Native fluency in speaking, reading and writing

**Arabic:** Native fluency in speaking, reading and advanced writing

**WORK SAMPLE LINK**