

“ROSSANA HU NAMED CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AT TONGJI UNIVERSITY”

dezeen; DEC 2021

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Rossana Hu named chair of the department of architecture at Tongji University



Christina Yao | 30 December 2021 | [Leave a comment](#)

Rossana Hu of Neri&Hu has been appointed chair of the department of architecture at Tongji University in Shanghai, becoming the first woman to hold the position.

The architect and founding partner of design studio Neri&Hu was appointed to the position at Tongji University's College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP) on 21 December.

"I am extremely honoured to be appointed to this position," said Hu. "Not just because it is an amazing opportunity to be teaching in this top institution, but also the close proximity I will have with the best thinkers and doers in China's architecture realm."

Hu is the first woman to chair the department of architecture at CAUP and is also the first architect to hold the position who has not previously studied at the university. Previously, all chairs of the department of architecture at CAUP were Tongji University graduates.

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Top: Rossana Hu is the first woman to chair the department of architecture at Tongji University. Above: Neri&Hu recently completed a whiskey distillery in China. Photo by Chen Hao

The appointment is part of CAUP dean Li Xiangning's ambition to make the institution, which is one of China's top architecture schools, a global name.

"As Hu brings a diverse and global perspective to the school, more channels of international communication are sure to open up for architectural research and teaching at Tongji," said Li.

"Today, all landmark buildings in Shanghai are connected to Tongji" said Hu. "Will we create groundbreaking works and leave Tongji marks all over the world one day?"

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Founded in 1952, Tongji University's CAUP comprises three departments: the Department of Architecture, the Department of Urban Planning and the Department of Landscape Architecture, with 222 full-time faculty members and researchers.

Hu has previously collaborated with CAUP on a series of lectures and exhibitions between 2014 and 2017. This year, Neri&Hu's solo exhibition *Works in Permanent Evolution* was also presented at CAUP.

Other academic positions held by Hu include John C. Portman Design Critic in Architecture at Harvard University, Norman R. Foster Visiting Professor at Yale University and Visiting Professor at The University of Hong Kong.



Neri&Hu's Works in Permanent Evolution exhibition was presented at Tongji University this year

Hu received her master of architecture and urban planning from Princeton University and a bachelor of arts in architecture and music from the University of California at Berkeley.

She worked for Michael Graves & Associates in Princeton and The Architects Collaborative (TAC) in San Francisco, among others, before cofounding Neri&Hu Design and Research Office in Shanghai with Lyndon Neri in 2004.