

ARUP

# Leo Argiris

**27 years at Arup**

Congratulations on your  
retirement, Leo.  
Thank you for your  
many contributions.

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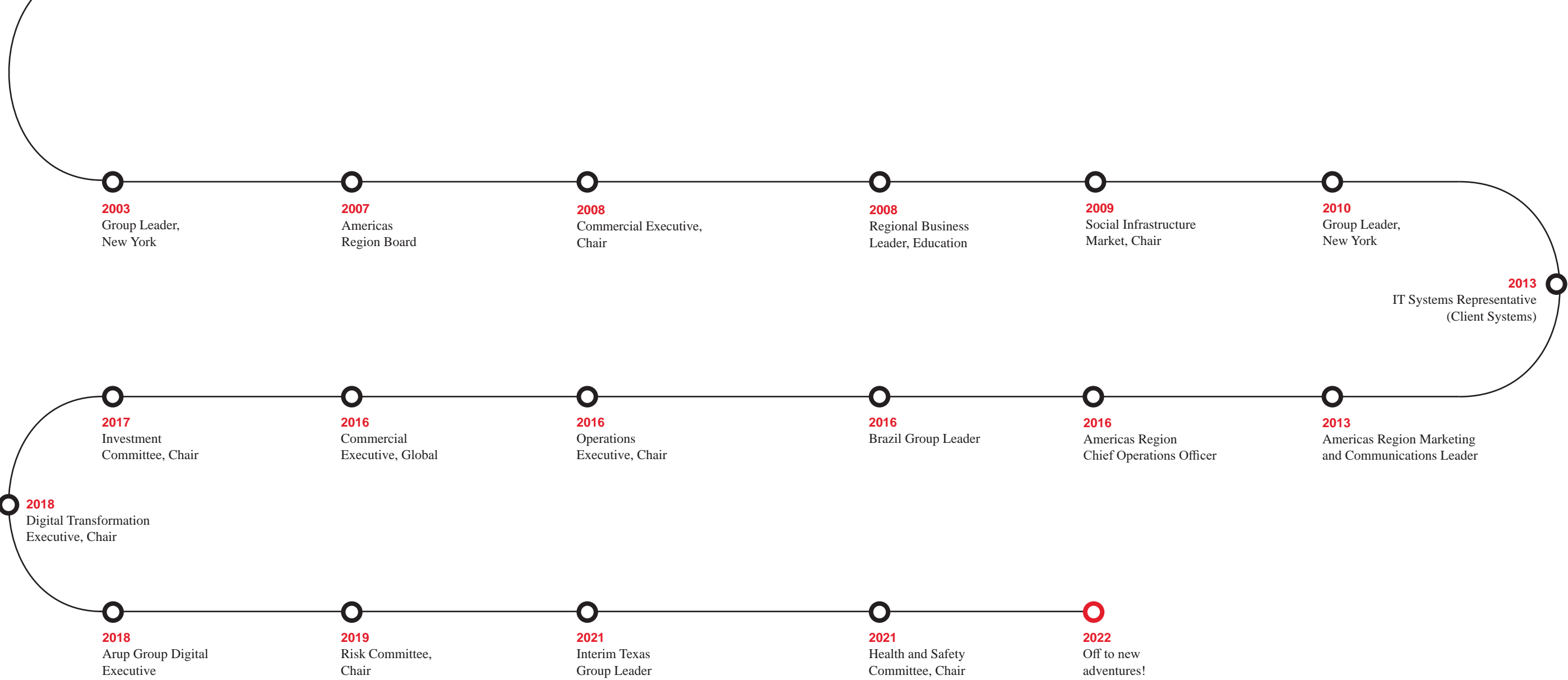


# Through the years



**1995**

Joins Arup's  
New York office



# Testimonials

“You make me wish I had arrived at Arup earlier in my career.”

Leo, you have been a great mentor to me, and I've learned a lot from you. I will always look at a problem and ask, "How would Leo handle this issue?"

I will keep in touch with you, so it's not a goodbye from me.

**Alan Jennat**

Leo, first, thank you for all the support and goodwill that you have shown to the Advisory team in San Francisco over the years. Your departure is a sad reminder that all good things in life must come to an end, even at Arup. We are going to miss you, your insights, and your knowledge.

It was a pleasure working with you, and I wish you all the best in your new endeavors.

**Alfonso Mendez**

I have enjoyed our journey in Arup, from meeting you in New York in the late nineties through to the final days of our six year tenure as Americas Chair and COO. You have been a great colleague, critic, advisor and friend...and we managed to have a few laughs too. Your disciplined and principled approach to decision making has been truly appreciated and has made us a better firm. If a measure of success in Arup is leaving the firm better than you found it, then you have been exponentially successful! Best wishes for success in your new role. I have no doubt you will knock it out of the park! Take care and stay in touch.

**Andy Howard**

Thanks for your leadership and vision that you brought to Arup. Your story about the ice skating court has been always fascinating for me, and I have personally very much enjoyed seeing you lead over the last one and a half years as Texas group leader. Thanks again and wishing you all the best.

**Ardalan Mosavi**

It was always a pleasure working with you on matters related to Texas and the region. You always brought a compelling and concise perspective across a broad range of topics, always without conflict of interest. I trust that you will cherish the broad project portfolio you delivered at Arup; there are some very worthy projects for any of us. Good luck with the new role. We all know you will succeed.

**Brian Raine**

As a mid-career arrival to Arup in a new and challenging role, your guidance and advice has been greatly appreciated. You always focused on what matters, and allowed me to feel welcome and engaged in leadership from the outset. I've appreciated your insights, humor, and candor during our over six years working together, and I wish you the best of luck in this next adventure.

**Brian Swett**

Thank you for your frank and tenacious style of leadership. You make me wish I had arrived at Arup earlier in my career. I learned immensely from you while negotiating global frameworks and contracts.

Please think of us if you ever need a data center. Best wishes to you and yours in the future.

**Bruce Myatt**

Congratulations, Leo. I know you will be super successful in your next endeavor. I really enjoyed working with you and benefited greatly from your guidance and wisdom!

Good luck!

**Bruce McKinlay**

I will miss your presence at Arup (and also, your voice of reason on so many of our GNGs and reviews!!). I've learned an incredible amount from you over my 11 years here, and have always appreciated your advocacy of the marketing team as well as your encouragement for us to speak up and voice our opinions.

Wishing you all the success at your next gig.

**Callie Key**

While selfishly I was sad to see you leave Arup, I am equally proud and excited for you and this opportunity.

When I consider the fact that I've only been at Arup for two years, I feel like I have you and a handful of other leaders to thank for bringing me into the inner circle and giving me the opportunity to understand Arup and how decisions get made, as much as one can. A lot of my confidence has come from you, Dawn, and Andy allowing me to stretch in the Future Org PM role. I appreciate the air-time I got with you, and I am grateful for the historical insight you gave me about the firm and how the business works. It has been invaluable in helping me have the right perspective while working on this project. We navigated a lot of crises that I had a birds-eye view on! I know I could always count on some humor when you were on a call; I enjoyed the levity that you brought.

Thank you, Leo, for being such an influential leader for me.

**Candice Blackwelder**

I met Leo when I first moved to the US over 20 years ago, and I've come to know him well as a work colleague and also as a friend over the years.

Leo, to me your most enduring qualities include your sincerity and reliability; your cheerful disposition that includes a sense of humor; strong convictions expressed regularly in your often blunt manner; and a fearless ability to express what you believe is right.

This all combines with an exceptional understanding of engineering design, business, and legal issues, making you a formidable defender of Arup if under attack over controversial issues. You have made a huge contribution to the success of the firm in the US over the years. You have also shown a deep appreciation of the true Arup values.

I have always enjoyed our many and often heated discussions about a wide range of issues concerning both work and the world.

Leo, I am sorry you are leaving and know that your absence will be a loss to the firm. I wish you health and every success in your new occupation and will look forward to remaining in touch.

**Cliff McMillan**

Thank you for being a super human. You are the most incredible and admirable leader. I truly loved supporting you. I always felt that you listened and cared. You are the best boss I could ever ask for, and I say so proudly. You looked out for me. I now share the charming and kind memories I have collected of you! I will miss you dearly. I believe you deserve the best and I am sure you are moving in that direction. You are treasure!

**Darchie Seuraj**

Thank you for your leadership and mentorship. Your impact and legacy is seen across the region and across the firm and is clearly felt by those who have had the privilege of working with you.

You have been a trusted partner and colleague during my tenure at Arup, for which I am very grateful. Your continuous push for excellence on the People front has made us better and helped to drive our People strategy forward. I will miss your engagement, humor, and challenge.

Wishing you all the success you deserve in your next adventure.

**Dawn Lederer**

I wanted to send a heartfelt thank you to you for everything that you have done for me. From believing in me to work on the NY office to asking me to be a part of Arup Architecture, I am extremely grateful and will continue to look forward to working with you in your next venture. When you are settled and your calendar permits, let's grab lunch.

Wishing you much success in everything you do, though I am sure you will be successful. You are brilliant and kind, and that is a unique combination.

**Deborah Verderame**

I remember that the first time I met you, I was so intimidated by you. Once I got to know you, I found you to be one of the smartest, hardest working and most accommodating Principal I've ever worked with in the firm. I was sad to hear you were leaving us because I know it is a huge loss for both Arup and staff.

I want to say it was a real pleasure working with you, and I wish you much success in your new career endeavor. I hope the company you are at now knows how lucky they are to have you.

**Diana Choi**

...and now who am I going to commiserate with about the Mets?

Best of luck Leo, it's been a pleasure!!!

**George Donegan**

Wow — I cannot believe that it has been 27 years since we started working together in NY. Needless to say, it would be impossible for me to express how your leadership, mentorship, and friendship have impacted me both professionally and personally. Wishing you all the best in your new endeavor.

**Gregory Giammalvo**

You are an inspirational force, and I'm very grateful to have had the opportunity to be here at Arup under your leadership. We will miss you immensely here, but your legacy and impact will surely live on. Thank you for taking a chance on me and bringing me into the firm with Scott several years ago to lead Comms. It's been the best career move I've made yet, and I've truly appreciated having a sharp, sensible M&C champion in you. Wishing you all the very best in life, and thanks for all you have done for Arup.

**Jackie Wei Green**

Best of luck on this next stage of your journey — I am sure that whilst exciting, it's probably a bit daunting as well!

**Jane Goslett**



Best of luck to you. Your departure is a loss to Arup. You have truly been a big part (maybe sometimes the only part?) of what made this region succeed.

**Jim Quiter**

Thanks, Leo, for your leadership and friendship during my tenure here at Arup. There are many special times to recall, especially the days after Superstorm Sandy. You will be missed !!

**John DiCamillo**

Leo — We've crossed paths on numerous bid reviews and, more recently, on the piece of work we did for IDEAL on their asset integrity review. I've appreciated the commercial acumen and discipline you've clearly brought to Arup during your tenure as COO, and you will certainly be missed. I wish you all the best on your next opportunity, and I'm certain we'll cross paths again; the infrastructure world is a small one.

**Jorge Macedo**

In the 16 years I've had at Arup, I had never felt so sad to hear of the departure of someone. In the short amount of time that I had the pleasure of working with you, you really showed up for me. In my time here as a member, I've gone under multiple changes of supervisors, causing another year to go by for that person to have a good review of my work at Arup. Throughout these years, I've been patient with the changes and have just continued doing my best. You really changed that for me; I mean it. My family and I will always be thankful for you recognizing and making sure a change would happen for me. Sir, I have nothing but the utmost respect for the leadership you've demonstrated, and I wish you all the best.

**Karla Martinez**

All the best, and thank you for the support with GRM (aka PaT) and, more recently, with sending colleagues to Haiti.

**Kubilay Hicyilmaz**

Thank you for being an amazing influencer and mentor. You were my supervisor three separate times during the past 12 years. Not sure if that is a record, but you certainly have made an impression on me. From you, I learned to lead from the front, to make my own decisions, and to put the team first to get the right end results. I hope you are okay with me ping-ponging you from time to time asking for advice. Old habits are hard to break. I will miss you here at Arup, and I hope we have the opportunity to work together again in the future.

**Kyle Fisher**

Best of luck, Leo! I really enjoyed working with you. I can't get into any stories here, as they are all privileged. Hopefully, we can reminisce over drinks someday soon. Until then, wishing you all the best.

**Lena Holohan**

I feel lucky that I could work for you and with you. You have been a role model of a leader for me. I will miss your charisma, and empathy.

**Maciej Lambrych**

I'm surprised and sad that you have decided to leave Arup. You were present at, and played a key role in, so many events that shaped the NY office and the firm at large. That place won't be the same without you. I very much hope that you will be moving on to something that will be equally challenging and rewarding — but also a lot less frustrating!

I must express my personal gratitude for all the help, support, and guidance that you have provided me with over the years. It wasn't always pleasant (such as the unrelenting lecture you once gave me on how to do better on a road trip to Penn State) but it was totally honest, relevant, and necessary. I am very much the better for it, even though I didn't always take your good advice!

Here's wishing you success and happiness in the next phase of your career. Undoubtedly, Arup's loss will be a major gain for whomever you choose to work with in the future.

**Mahadev Raman**

Best of luck, Leo. I never considered that someone else could fill the COO role during my tenure at Arup. I don't think I've worked with anyone on such a wide variety of projects, from bridges in Mexico to building collapses and bouncing students in Ohio.

**Mark Nelson**

You were a great mentor and had such an influence on my career at Arup. Thank you for your leadership and unwavering support all these years and for the challenges, as they made me grow both personally and professionally.

I learned so much from you and will greatly miss working with you. Best of luck in your new role. I know you will make a significant impact as you did here at Arup. Please stay in touch!

**Martha Vasquez**

It was a great experience working with and learning from a boss like you.

I will never forget your stoicism and that you don't need to respond to every slight. Instead, demonstrate grace and separate the things you can control from the things you cannot control.

I learned that nothing is ever as good or as bad as it seems. Success is a function of our resilience. We will love people who will not love us back, get fired, and have bad investments. The key is to give ourselves the grace to mourn and be upset, and then move on with our lives. We need to have a sense of gratitude, empathy, and appreciation that greatness is in the agency of others, our team.

Thank you so much; seriously, thank you.

**Matthew Skuse**

It has been great working with you over the years. I appreciate all of your guidance. Best of luck with your future endeavors.

**Natalie Bloch**

In my almost 20 years in NY, you have been instrumental in the development of my career, leading and guiding me and allowing me to grow and reach new heights. I have worked closely with you in most of my roles since joining the New York office from the social infrastructure executive to the commercial executive, from group leader, the operations executive to now being COO. You have laid great foundations in all of your roles, and I hope to be able to live up to the high standards you have set.

I wish you the very best in your new adventure and thank you for all that you have done for me — but also Arup — over the many years.

You will be missed!

**Nigel Nicholls**

Our paths haven't crossed much in Arup, and I can only wish this wasn't the case.

I still remember our discussion when I first met you in Design School a few years ago, with regard to the challenges that you faced with the Stavros Niarchos Cultural Center in Athens and how you successfully overcome them.

I also recall your valuable feedback in bid reviews, and your honest and transparent approach when it comes to engineering challenges.

I wanted to let you know that I highly appreciate the brief time we spent together, and I hope we don't become strangers.

If there is anything I can do for you in the future, or if you ever find yourself coming to the West Coast, please don't hesitate to reach out.

**Panos Bakos**

Good luck, Leo. Please do stay in touch. It would be great to meet up in person next time I'm in NYC if you're available.

You've taught me a tremendous amount over the years, and I still consider you a mentor. I hope I can still count on you as such, even after you leave the firm.

**Patrick McCafferty**

I was shocked to hear you were leaving Arup, and I cannot imagine Arup without you!

Best wishes for continued success and happiness in whatever you choose to do next.

**Paula Valentini**

Recalling our first working experience together in 2001, you decided to take me out on a test run to see if I could give practical advice to a museum client who contacted you with a vibration problem. They'd been experiencing some challenges with what they thought was vibration induced in display cases. We arrived at the institution and inspected the display cases, and nothing unusual was noted. A quick measurement of vibration levels did not indicate an issue, even with good foot traffic in the area. As we sat in a back-of-house room with the curator, they summoned someone to bring along the artifacts to our location. As we sat waiting and continued discussing, in the distance, I began to hear a sound in the hallway making its way towards us. As it got louder, you glanced across at me with a look of immediate recognition. The artifacts were presented to us on a tray trolley that was clearly past its prime and in need of replacement. The curator, somewhat taken aback that this was our suggested remedy to the problem, turned bright red and looked rather embarrassed by how obvious the answer was. They remain sheepish to this very day every time I see them. But we did deliver some straightforward and practical advice that immediately solved their problem, at modest cost.

I've enjoyed working with you over the years, and that first meeting informed much of our interactions from that point on: straightforward, to the point, and geared towards delivering excellent outcomes expeditiously. I'm sure many will continue to benefit from your help, support, and insights.

**Raj Patel**

Leo – it's been an absolute pleasure working with you over the past couple of years. I have valued your feedback and insight. It's always been on point and cuts to the chase. I wish I could have shared more of your 27 years.

Best of luck on your new endeavor.

**Rebecca Hatchadorian**

Leo — all the best in the next chapter and thanks for your continued leadership. Your presentation CA for structural engineers from 10 years back still leaves an impression, and I continue to utilize to mentor less experienced engineers.

**Robert Accosta**

It was always a pleasure working with you! Thank you for your promptness when we needed signatures. Wishing you all the luck for the future. Enjoy your retirement!!

**Sandy Rai**

Thank you for elevating and supporting our marketing team over the years. Best of luck on your next adventure!

**Sarah Quainton**

It's been an absolute pleasure learning from and working with you. I'm sad that you're leaving but wishing you best of luck in the next endeavor!

**Selene Plastiras**

Working for you has been one of the best experiences of my professional life. You're a great mentor and coach, and I've always appreciated your willingness to let me strike my own path while giving me great advice and coaching. I've felt comfortable taking risks in the last few years because I knew you'd be there to help and support. Best of luck in your new role, and I hope I can continue to benefit from your wisdom now and then.

**Scott Russell**

Thank you for the leadership and inspiration that you have given to Arup in NY and also to the region. I won't forget my interview with you and Nigel (second interview, July 2004), where I learned your now-famous smirk when I said, "It must be a nice change of pace to oversee architects as a prime, rather than being a sub to them," when discussing Fulton Center.

Boy, you were right with your wry answer, just like you've been right quite a lot.

Thank you for the support and recommendations, approvals concerning my career, and project work that you have provided along the way. (Jury is still out on this Four Seasons thing... but...)

I won't forget you mentioning that if we wanted Potomac Yard delivered from DC, I was absolutely needed to get that done. That recommendation has carried me through many a rough time since, when my faith in Arup was low.

For that and so many other things, which I was always too busy to say, or somehow felt that it was acknowledged... THANK YOU.

**Stephen Lasser**

Wishing you the best of luck in your new chapter.

It's been a pleasure working with you.

Many thanks for your guidance along the way.

**Tali Mejicovsky**

All the very best, Leo. I have always appreciated your openness, candor, and integrity. And thanks for giving me the opportunity to come to NY in what amounts to quite a few years ago now.

**Tom Rice**

# In the news

## Spotlight on: Leo Argiris

Published 2/15/22

# Leo reflects on his 27 years at Arup, the generative power of the Future Organization, and his six years as Americas Chief Operations Officer

Leo Argiris joined Arup in 1995. Throughout his 27-year career at Arup, one of his most notable achievements was bringing teams together — whether as the first New York Group Leader, the first Marketing and Communications Director, or as our Americas Chief Operations Officer. To embark on the next chapter of his career, on February 15, 2022, Leo passed the torch of Americas COO to Nigel Nicholls and the role of Texas Group Leader to Federico Torres (incoming South Geography Leader) as we transition fully into the Future Organization. In this article Leo shares his thoughts on his trailblazing and influential time at Arup as he prepares for his next challenge beyond the firm.



Leo during the construction of the Air Force Memorial in 2006

You joined Arup in 1995 and have been a key player in growing and shaping the success of the Americas region. What are you most proud of from your time at Arup?

First, there are many projects I'm particularly proud of, but the memorial projects stand out: The Michigan Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Lansing, Michigan; the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia; The Rising September 11th Memorial in Westchester County; and the Empty Sky Memorial in Jersey City. They're small projects, but meaningful to many and available to the public. Through them, you can see the direct connection between the work you're doing as a designer and the community.

Second, it's been rewarding to have so many opportunities to bring teams together. In 2003, I was the first Group Leader in New York, drawing together teams that were simply coexisting and pushing them to behave as a unit. I was also the first global education business leader, unifying a business around the world. Then, I had the chance to lead the Marketing and Communications team, connecting together a group spread across the region.

Finally, my time as the Chief Operations Officer for the Americas was again about team building. My approach to the role was to join together our groups to progress and share goals as a cohesive region. We've made significant strides in bringing

the groups together, as well as bringing the nine business services teams together to collaborate as a whole.



Michigan Vietnam Memorial Monument

“Now it’s time for me to meet my next challenge. I’ve learned, grown, and achieved so much that I’m proud of at Arup — and I’m particularly thankful to all the wonderful people I worked alongside.”

What lessons have you learned throughout your career that you’d like to share with staff?

For me, there’s one singular idea that I look back on and wish I had done better: the relentless pursuit of quality. We operate in a risky space, and during my career, I’ve had two buildings (the Oquirrh Park Oval and the Perez Art Museum) with my seal on the drawings experience failures during construction. Ultimately, we recovered both projects and they have been successful venues open to the public. But looking back, I’m not satisfied. We could have done more to prevent the failures. My advice is to focus on quality, focus on details, keep your eye on the ball, and if you think you’ve done enough, go back again and do some more.

As a key orchestrator of Arup’s Future Organization, how is Arup poised to up its influence and impact?

The Americas region was brought together in 2003 with about 500 staff. In a 15-year period, we’ve grown to about 1,800 members. The concept of our region is less than 20 years old and has already seen significant growth. Our question now is how we can best continue to grow and generate opportunities for our staff. Right now, I’d describe the Americas region as a singular engine. By breaking into four geographies, we’ll have four engines humming along together, generating activity and growth.

Similarly, it wasn’t so long ago that when you talked about client care you’d get several blank stares. It’s been rewarding to see client care embedded in our vocabulary over the years — we’re reporting on it, discussing it, debating it, and putting clients front-and-center on our Board agenda. The Future Organization gives more emphasis to our business and service leaders, imparting them with more responsibility and authority to bring the clients who are going to drive us forward front and center.



Westchester 9/11 Memorial



Air Force Memorial

In your nearly three decades at the firm, you've held many different leadership roles. Do you have any words of wisdom or guidance on professional growth and making career moves?

This is my 27th year and the longest I held a single role was my latest, as Americas COO, for a little over six years. Before that, I looked for a new challenge every four to six years. Every time I took on a new role, I relished all that I had to learn. Arup gives you the room to make changes within, whether relocating to another office or another country or another role.

With that in mind, I'd counsel staff not to get stuck on the process. Processes are never perfect. Instead, keep your eyes open, look around, talk to people, understand what the needs are, and put your hand up. Find what you're interested in. Find the next challenge. Have the conversation and you'll find the path.

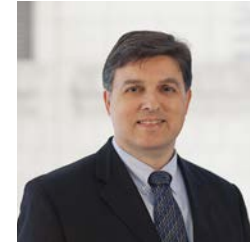
Now it's time for me to meet my next challenge. I've learned, grown, and achieved so much that I'm proud of at Arup — and I'm particularly thankful to all the wonderful people I worked alongside.

## Board spotlight: Leo Argiris

Published 2/16/21

Our people are the reason Arup exists and the means by which we live out our purpose. Our people are our biggest asset, enabling us to produce work that creates a more sustainable future and delivers Quality Outcomes for our clients and communities.

This week, as a continuation of our Board spotlight series, we spoke to Americas Chief Operating Officer Leo Argiris for a window into Arup's leadership, advice on achieving project excellence, and a hopeful view of our horizon.



**Leo Argiris**  
Americas Chief Operating Officer

What does it mean to you to be an Americas Board member?

It's an honor, a responsibility, and an obligation. For me, it's about steering the future of the firm and guiding the development and wellbeing of our members simultaneously. Are we bringing in the appropriate work? Are we creating the right working conditions? Are we developing opportunities for our staff? Are we positioning the firm to be successful in the future?

But I would say it's important not to place too much emphasis on the term "Board." Arup's leadership in the region and globally is so much broader than the people who happen to sit on the Board at any given time. Our leadership is really comprised of our project directors, principals, group leaders, practice and business leaders, and skills leaders. They are the true drivers of our business.

Any advice on supporting our wellbeing and mental health as we continue to predominantly work from home?

First, it's really important to set boundaries around hours and take breaks. I find that on days where I can organize my calendar with a few breaks, even if they're just 10 minutes, it makes a huge difference.

Second, I know I'll feel better throughout the day if I start it with physical activity. When I can, I like to get out for a few minutes during the day to take a walk. It sort of replicates what I'd be doing in a normal office environment; getting to the office, going from meeting to meeting, walking to a client's office.

And finally, I try not to place too much pressure on myself. Things are hard right now. Things are different. It's more difficult to communicate with other people. But at the same time, I try not to overly focus on the negatives. There are a lot of positives, especially in the sheer number of people you can engage with through our digital mediums. I've been working on a number of global committees and task groups, so I'm feeling much more connected to our global colleagues and have formed stronger relationships than I would have before. So sometimes it just comes down to taking the positives where you find them and trying not to get too hung up on the negatives.



## Speaking of positives, what's something that makes you hopeful as you look ahead?

What we offer as Arup, as engineering and design professionals, matter as much, if not more, to the world today than they ever did. Yes, in the short-term, there's all sorts of issues. Who's got the financing? Which projects are going to happen and when? But when you step back and look at a longer-term horizon, we are really well positioned to solve the problems we're facing, whether it's climate, transportation, building stock, or resilience. Personally, I'm encouraged by what President Biden is putting forward. Because it's us. The things we design, the projects we enable, and the solutions we bring forward are at the forefront of what's going to make the world a better place.

## How can we best ensure we're achieving excellence and delivering quality work?

For me, the overriding priority has to be a better understanding of our clients and our clients' objectives. There are all sorts of things that our work has to do. It has to work. It has to meet code. The sums have to add up. It has to be buildable. But we also have to engage our clients and talk to them openly about their goals and desired outcomes. Then, we need to be communicating that continuously throughout the project, both with our clients and with our teams, challenging ourselves

on how our design works toward our clients' objectives. That's what true excellence is all about.

Unfortunately, I don't think we're achieving that level consistently enough. So, if there's one thing that I want to see through our Total Quality campaign as an approach to our work, it's to be much more thoughtful in articulating and prioritizing our clients' objectives.

## You've been at Arup for quite a long time and you've worn many hats. What was your perception of the Board early on?

I joined Arup in 1995. At that time, there was a Group Board, but no regional one. It seemed to me that the Board was quite distant from me. They're out there steering the firm, but we have to take care of things here and now. So, I never allowed myself to think that how I went about doing my work, engaging with clients, bringing in projects, recruiting staff, and so on, was ever going to wait for some Board decree that I wasn't a part of. So, you could say I never thought too much about it.

Now, having been engaged with our region's Board for many years, I hope that there's a better balance. I want to believe that the work the Board does and the work that I do have an impact steering people's decision-making and steering the business. But at the same time, I think that we are a firm largely driven by individual initiatives. So, I hope that while the Board can create a

framework to give people context, we are very much dependent on our people going out there, connecting with clients, winning work, delivering it, developing the people on their teams, and on and on and on.

## Is there a habit or a hobby you've taken up during quarantine?

I like to keep active, so I picked that up early in quarantine. Also, I set up a basketball hoop in my driveway. I've become a pretty good three-point shooter.

## Favorite food?

I love to eat. I eat way too much — my wife keeps reminding me of that. In terms of a favorite, I definitely have a sweet tooth, and if there's one thing I love best, it's ice cream.

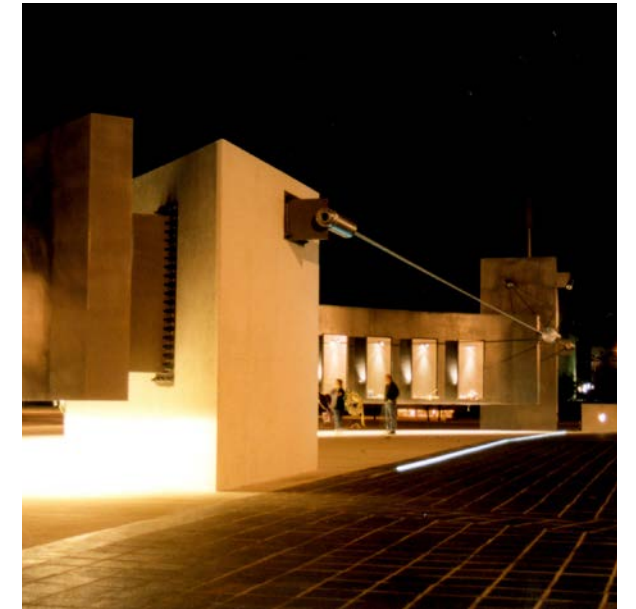
## In a parallel universe, what career path could you see yourself on?

I'd like to be a historian, writing books, or in some university lecturing on the classics. As an engineer, you're driven by a set of rules. History engages the other side of your brain, so I think it makes sense that in a parallel universe I'd be doing something diametrically opposed to my day job. Plus, I'm a pretty avid reader of history already.

# Projects



**Michigan Vietnam Veterans Memorial**  
Lansing, Michigan

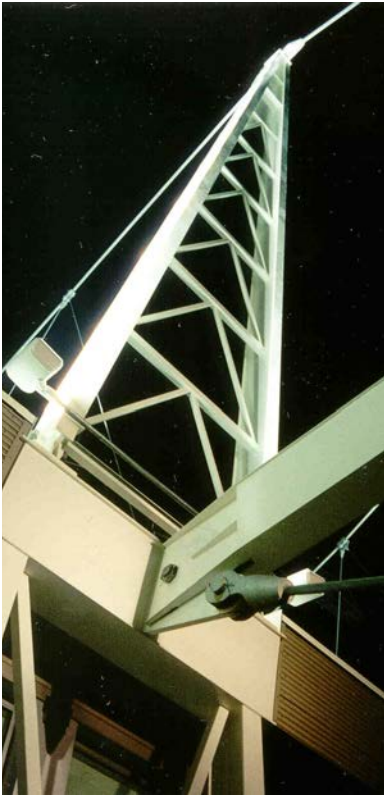


**Corning Glass Center 2000**

Corning, New York



Olympic Oval  
Kearns, Utah



**Austrian Cultural Forum**

New York, New York



**Austin Museum of Art**  
Austin, Texas



**School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, Penn State University**  
University Park, Pennsylvania







Year 2000 Jubilee Church, Chiesa Dell'Anno 2000  
Rome, Italy



**West Campus Residential Initiative, Cornell University**

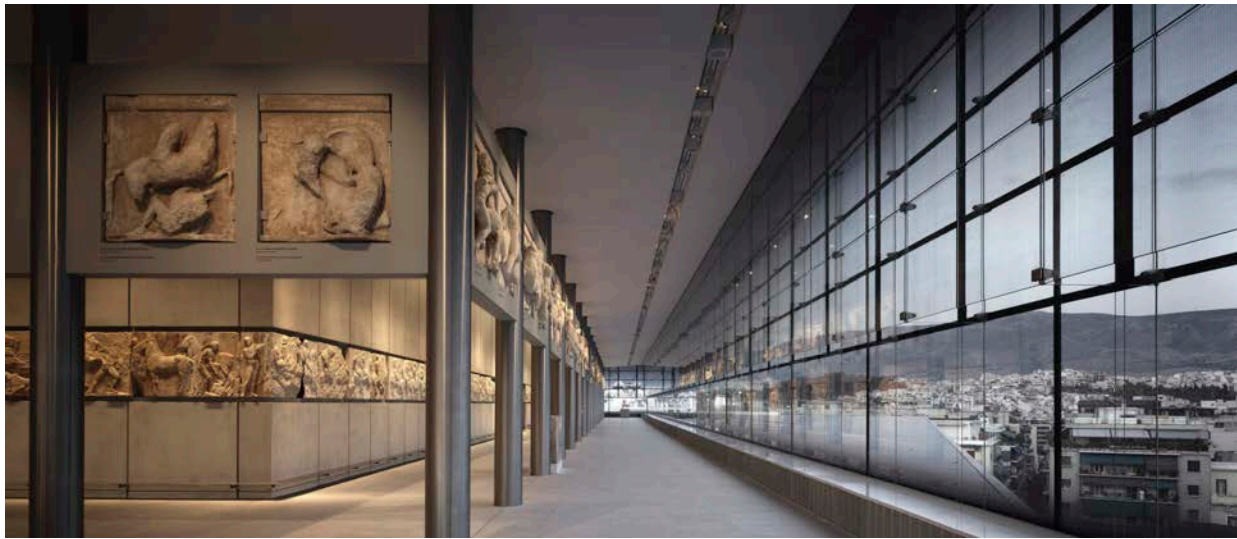
Ithaca, New York



**Air Force Memorial**  
Arlington, Virginia



**The New Acropolis Museum**  
Athens, Greece



**Cornell Life Sciences Technology Building**  
Ithaca, New York



**Toronto Pearson International Airport, New Terminal Development**

Toronto, Ontario



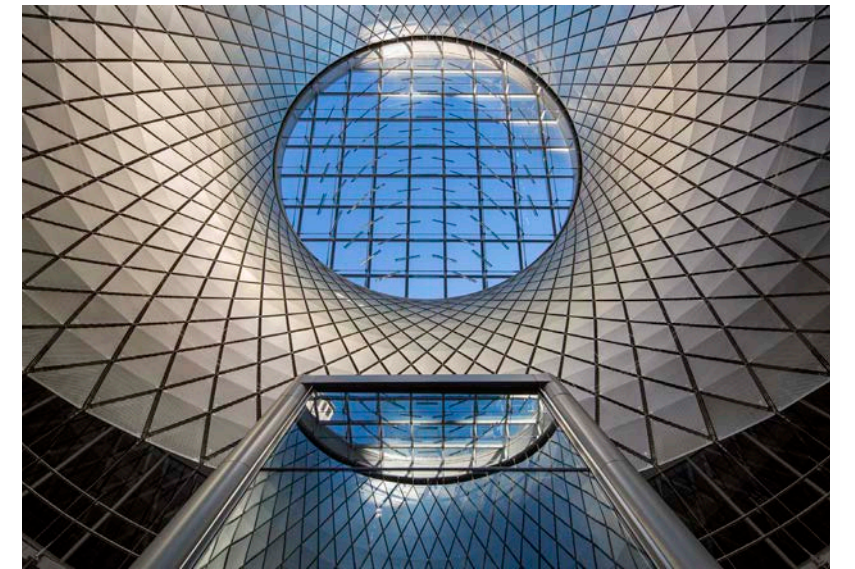
**SoMa – Masterplan**  
Newark, New Jersey



**Syracuse Center of Excellence**  
Syracuse, New York

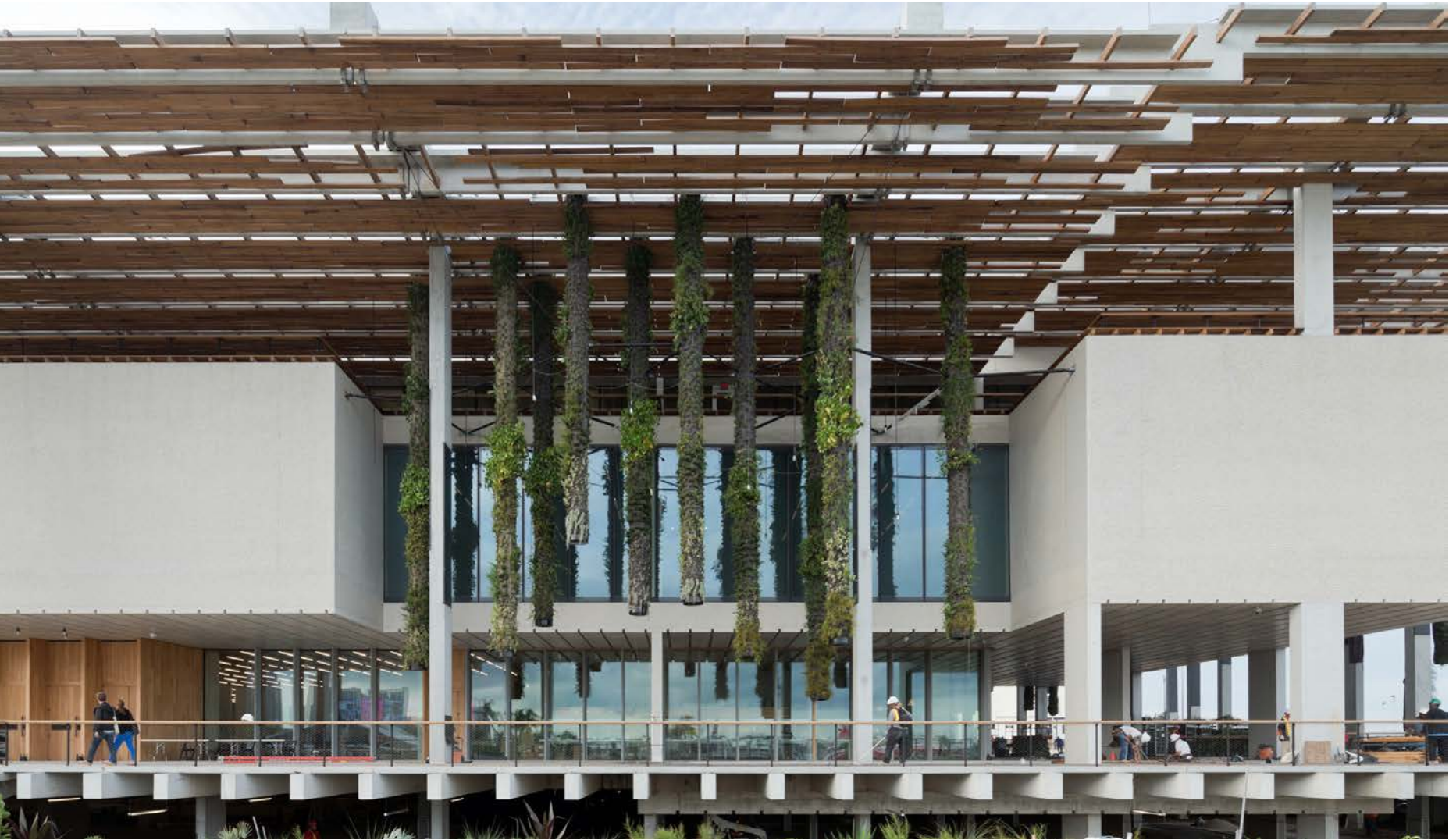


**Fulton Street Transit Center**  
New York, New York

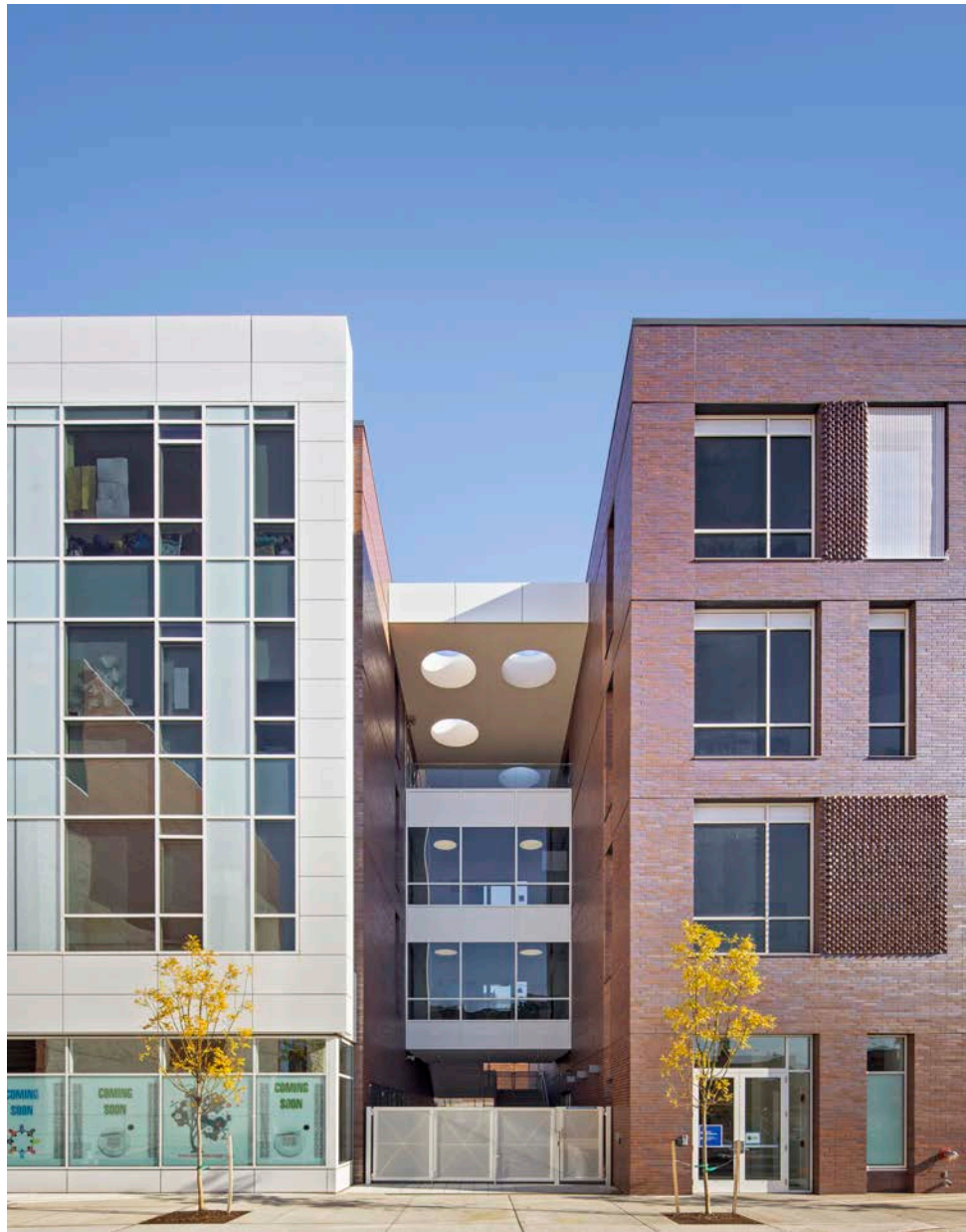




**Miami Art Museum**  
Miami, Florida



**SoMa – Halsey Street Teachers Village**  
Newark, New Jersey



**Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center Masterplan**  
Athens, Greece



In images











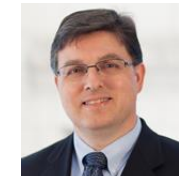






# Resume

ARUP



## Leo E. Argiris

Leo has focused on institutional and commercial projects throughout his career.

A senior member of Arup's management team, Leo Argiris has over three decades of experience as a structural engineer. He possesses extensive knowledge about the design, analysis and construction of a wide variety of structures in the US and abroad.

Since joining Arup in 1995, Leo has led multidisciplinary teams on projects including major new arts centers, mixed-use high-rise towers, transportation projects and public art projects. Projects include the Lester B Pearson Int'l Terminal in Mississauga, Ontario; the United States Air Force Memorial in Arlington, VA; the Halsey Street Teachers Village in Newark, NJ; and the NJ 9/11 Memorial in Jersey City, NJ.

A graduate of Cooper Union's Albert Nerken School of Engineering, he also holds an MBA from Baruch College. His management responsibilities include serving on the Arup Americas Region Board.

Leo lectures frequently and is an Adjunct Professor at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

### Project experience

#### Arts & Culture

##### Miami Art Museum, Miami, FL

Project Engineer for new iconic museum in downtown Miami. Sited on reclaimed land, the structural design includes site work to establish a new waterfront development while providing Miami with an ASHRAE Class A museum complex.

##### Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) Masterplan, Athens, Greece

Project Director for a large development including the Greek National Library and Greek National Opera house with a combined 50,000m<sup>2</sup> gross floor area and 80,000m<sup>2</sup> of parkland, a multi-story car park and seawater canal.

##### American Revolution Center, Valley Forge, PA

Project Director for a new American Revolution Center (ARC) building with 135,000ft<sup>2</sup> of interior floor space, featuring exhibition and gallery spaces, archival facilities, a 400-seat orientation theater, a 150-seat auditorium, great hall, conference room, and various support areas.

#### Profession

Structural Engineer

#### Current position

Principal

Chief Operating Officer, Americas Region

#### Joined Arup

1995

#### Years of experience

34

#### Qualifications

MBA, Baruch College, 1989

MEng, Structural Engineering, The Cooper Union School of Engineering, 1985

BE, Civil Engineering, The Cooper Union School of Engineering, 1984

PE, State of California (#52043), Michigan (#6201043974), North Carolina (#024704), New Jersey (#24GE03355500), New York (#064288), Ohio (#70134), Texas (#82505), Pennsylvania (#055171E), Utah (#363184-2202), Florida (#67755), Maryland (#36243), Virginia (#0402038495), District of Columbia (#901628)  
LEED AP

#### Professional associations

Member, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

Professional Affiliate, American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Member, Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY)

Member, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI)

**The New Acropolis Museum, Athens, Greece**

Project Director for the design of a new 300,000ft<sup>2</sup> museum near the Acropolis to house artifacts found on the Acropolis including the Parthenon Marbles.

**Iglesia Evangelista, Bronx, NY**

Project Director for a new 10,000ft<sup>2</sup> church structure in CoOp City in the Bronx.

**Corning Glass Center 2000, Corning, NY**

Project Manager for the Corning Glass Center. The project consists of 31,000ft<sup>2</sup> of exhibition and retail spaces, two auditoriums and a new entrance.

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego, CA**

Project Director for the Arup team providing structural, mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering for the renovation and expansion, as well as a seismic upgrade to the existing museum building.

**Year 2000 Jubilee Church, Chiesa Dell' Anno 2000, Rome, Italy**

Project Manager for 22,000ft<sup>2</sup> building, one of 50 new churches the Vatican built in Rome. Church is constructed of architectural exposed white concrete.

**North Carolina Museum of Art Amphitheater and Cinema, Raleigh, NC**

Project Manager for a new amphitheater and outdoor movie theater, which were integrated into the sloping terrain of the existing museum grounds. Arup provided structural engineering services for the outdoor amphitheater including a lightweight roof, seating and extensive landscaping.

**Mary Boone & Charles Cowles Gallery, New York, NY**

Project Director for the conversion of an existing one-story loading dock and garage facility to gallery space.

**New York Botanical Gardens Exhibits, New York, NY**

Project Director for the proposed housing of a Chihuly sculptures to be hung from the existing roof framing of the conservatory building of the gardens.

**US Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC\***

Project engineer for a 250,000ft<sup>2</sup> museum with architecturally exposed structural elements.

**Rachofsky Art Gallery, Dallas, TX – not built**

Project Manager for the structural engineering and daylighting design for a private art museum. Daylighting studies involved development of operable shading devices for the control of daylight levels to protect sensitive artwork while accommodating the owner's specific desire for a sky-lit space.

**Austin Museum of Art, Austin, TX– not built**

Project Director for the new 135,000ft<sup>2</sup> Austin Museum of Art. The design includes gallery and education spaces, retail, art storage, art handling, restaurant and entrance facilities. The project also includes a state-of-the-art movie theater to seat 300 people. To facilitate hi-tech and digital art exhibits, the building is being provided with widespread communication and information technology systems.

**Chautauqua Opera House, Chautauqua, NY – not built**

Project Director for the schematic design of a new 1,200 seat opera house.

**Bohen Foundation, New York, NY**

Project Director for the design of interior fit out renovations totaling 10,000ft<sup>2</sup> over two stories to house interior exhibit space.

**Watermill Center, Long Island, NY**

Project Director for the renovation and completion of an existing, semi-completed building to house a performance studio, dormitory and residence space and office accommodation.

**Staten Island Museum at Snug Harbor, Staten Island, NY**

Project Director for 42,000ft<sup>2</sup> of new space for the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences within Buildings A & B and hyphen AB, BC, and BH on the campus of Snug Harbor Cultural Center. This is a DDC project.

**Air Force Memorial, Arlington, VA**

Project Director for a new 270ft 3-spired memorial structure. The objective of the three spires is to replicate the sense of 'soaring'.

**NJ 9/11 Memorial, Jersey City, NJ**

Project Director for a new 1.6-acre memorial within Liberty State Park overlooking Manhattan. Featured within landscaping and plantings will be two continuous, 30ft high, 200ft long walls clad in brushed stainless steel separated by a 16ft wide paved path. The walls will be aligned to point at ground zero in Manhattan and will be etched with the names of all the fatalities of September 11, 2001.

**Westchester 9/11 Memorial, Valhalla, NY**

Project Director for the open latticework, 80ft tall sculpture comprising 109 steel rods that rise like spokes from a circular granite base in the form of an inverted funnel. Each steel rod represents a Westchester resident lost in the attack on the World Trade Center.

**Michigan Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Lansing, MI**

Project Director for a monument surrounded by a landscaped site that measure 680ft by 225ft. The monument is a 10½ft deep by 20in wide, 115ft long steel arc, curved in plan that is supported at one end by a triangular concrete pier and the other end by a series of cables connected to a 30ft tall steel pier. The painted steel arc will support plaques that represent each county in Michigan and their respective Veterans.

**Aviation**

**Toronto Pearson International Airport, New Terminal Development, Toronto**

Project Manager for a new 2-million-square-foot terminal complex to replace the existing Terminals 1 and 2.

**British Airways Terminal Expansion/ Renovation, JFK International Airport, Jamaica, NY**

Project Engineer for interior refurbishment of existing terminal facility and 30,000ft<sup>2</sup> extension.

**John F Kennedy Airport Building #14\*, Jamaica, NY**

Project Manager for the conversion of an airplane hangar building into a vehicle maintenance facility.

**Education**

**New York University 2030 Feasibility Study, New York, NY**

Project Director for proposed Coles gym overbuilt and new cogeneration plant.

**Cornell Life Sciences Technology Building, Ithaca, NY**

Project Director for the first phase of a new 75,000ft<sup>2</sup> life sciences building on Cornell's campus.

**Firestone Library, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ**

Project Engineer for the renovation of existing practice rooms and auditorium in the School of Music.

**West Campus Residential Initiative, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY**

Project Director for the renovation and new construction of five dining halls and five dormitories totaling 1,700 beds for Cornell's campus.

**School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA), Penn State University, University Park, PA**

Project Director for the SALA project, a new school for the combined faculties of architecture and landscape architecture at the Penn State University. The project is completed and has a LEED rating.

**Varsity Village, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH**

Project Director for a new 221,000ft<sup>2</sup> athletic center consisting of administrative offices, visitor's space, an academic center, ticket offices, locker rooms and a health center. This building achieved a gold LEED rating.

**Sinte Gleska University, Antelope, SD**

Project Engineer for a new campus, of which the first buildings will be a multipurpose building and the Technology Center. Sustainable design issues were considered.

**Syracuse Center of Excellence, Syracuse, NY**

Project Engineer for the design of an office and laboratory facility with the goal to become a net zero building. The building will strive to generate and use its own power. The design will strive to implement high efficiency glazing and construction materials, wind turbines, photovoltaic cells, geothermal heat pumps, cogeneration plant and other high efficiency and low energy strategies.

**Princeton University Frick Laboratory, Princeton, NJ**

Project Engineer for a new chemistry laboratory for Princeton University.

**St. Albans, Washington, DC**

Project Engineer for a new school that includes a new arts center, commons room, athletics field and general renovations.

**Healthcare**

**Mount Sinai Medical Center, Guggenheim Pavilion, New York, NY\***

Project Engineer for a 900,000ft<sup>2</sup> new hospital building.

**Creedmoor Psychiatric Center Renovation, Queens, NY\***

Project Manager for the renovation of 21-story, 450,000ft<sup>2</sup>, 650-bed facility and addition of 2-story chiller plant to the existing boiler plant building.

**Property**

**SoMa – Masterplan, Newark, NJ**

Project Director for a 23.5-acre mixed-use development to include 7,000 residential units, 550,000ft<sup>2</sup> of retail space, 2 million square feet of office space, a 200-room hotel, 9,000 parking spaces and 8.8 acres of open public space. The proposed buildings range from 3 to 90 stories.

**SoMa – Halsey Street Teachers Village, Newark, NJ**

Project Director for a 6.6-acre revitalization project in downtown Newark as part of the SoMa Masterplan consisting of three new charter schools, ground floor retail and 220 residential units intended for the school's workforce, totaling 380,000ft<sup>2</sup> GFA.

**Roche NOB, Nutley, NJ – not built**

Project Director of the design of a new office building to total 342,000ft<sup>2</sup>.

**Morgan Stanley, Harrison, NY**

Project Engineer for the renovation of an existing structure totaling 700,000ft<sup>2</sup> to house office and trading floor functions.

**Austrian Cultural Forum, New York, NY**

Project Director in charge of multidisciplinary services for the design of a slender high-rise building in midtown Manhattan. At only 25ft wide, the 22-story tower houses two exhibit areas, a theater, a library and a meeting area on the lower levels. The middle floors house Institute offices and commercial space, and the top six contain apartments for the Forum's director and other officials.

**Capital Groups - San Antonio Campus, San Antonio, TX**

Project Manager for 350,000ft<sup>2</sup> of offices and support areas in one and two levels above a 270,000ft<sup>2</sup> parking garage in one partially below-grade level.

**Wall Street Esplanade and Ferry Pier, New York, NY**

Project Manager for a new 2,100ft<sup>2</sup> terminal that contains storage, office, waiting and retail space.

**Great Plains Software Headquarters, Fargo, ND**

Project Director for a new 300,000ft<sup>2</sup> high-tech office space. The new headquarters building incorporates sustainable design and alternative officing.

**Merck & Co Corporate Headquarters, Whitehouse, NJ\***

Project Engineer for a 900,000 ft<sup>2</sup> hexagonal office building atop parking for 1,900 cars.

**Gates Tower, Abu Dhabi, UAE**

Project Director of the structural review of a mixed-use cantilevered building. The Gate Towers integrates luxury high-rise residences, offices, shopping malls as well as an international hotel and serviced apartment complex.

**Al-Naboodah Tower, Dubai, UAE**

Project Director of the structural review of a 54-story concrete tower.

**Al-Rostamani Tower, Dubai, UAE**

Project Director for the structural review of a 52-story concrete tower.

**St Paul Companies Headquarters Pedestrian Skybridge, St. Paul, MN\***

Project Structural Engineer Pedestrian Bridge connecting the new St Paul headquarters building with the existing office building.

**Tzung Tang Mixed-Use Tower, Taichung, Taiwan\***

Project Manager for a mixed-use facility with 47 stories above grade and six below.

**Singapore Exchange Center, Singapore\***

Project Manager for a 32-story office tower over a podium with trading floors for Singapore Stock Exchange.

**Tower of Peter the Great, St. Petersburg, Russia\* – not built**

Project Engineer for a 40-story commercial office building.

**Anganna Danamon, Masterplan and Phase 1, Jakarta, Indonesia\***

Project Manager for two 32-story office towers and a banking pavilion set into a series of public spaces over two story parking structure.

**Pontiac Marina Mixed-Use Complex, Singapore\***

Project Manager for a 42-story office building and 32-story hotel.

**Rail**

**Fulton Street Transit Center, New York, NY**

Design Team Manager for the development of a conceptual design and preliminary engineering documents for redeveloping the Fulton Street station into MTA-New York City Transit's new hub for Lower Manhattan. The design aims to rework Fulton Street into one streamlined Transit Center with the potential to serve twelve subway lines.

**Pennsylvania Station Redevelopment, New York, NY**

Project Manager for the redevelopment of the historic James A. Farley Post Office into the new Pennsylvania Station. The station will accommodate intermodal transportation that will include a flagship high-speed rail facility for Amtrak.

**Residential**

**Lee Moretti Residence, Dover Plains, NY**

Project Director for single-family residence featuring continuously glazed exterior wall. Floor and roof structure cantilever to achieve the architectural design intent of a floating structure.

**Zeitlin Residence, Dover Plains, NY**

Project Director for a new residence.

**Neugebauer Residence, Naples, FL**

Project Engineer for a new house.

**Tan Shui Residential Tower, Taipei, Taiwan\* (Not Built)**

Project Manager for a 38-story elliptical-shaped residential tower.

**The Residence, Jakarta, Indonesia\***

Project Manager for an 18-story hotel tower connected to a 24-story serviced apartment building.

**Forensics**

**51st Street Crane Investigation, New York, NY**

Project Director for structural consulting, engineering and investigative services in connection with the crane collapse at 51st Street in New York. Managed the investigation of the straps failure and collar ties collapse that led to the accident. Oversaw the investigation team and the subconsultant specialists for metallurgic testing and evaluation of the polyester slings. Work involved coordinating with all parties involved in the investigation including the NYC Department of Buildings. Preparation of a comprehensive report for the investigation.

**Tropicana Casino Garage Collapse**

Project Director for structural engineering investigation and expert witness services to assist the defense for collapse of a parking garage at the Tropicana Casino.

**Sport**

**Olympic Oval, Kearns, UT**

Project Director for an indoor speed skating oval for the 2002 Utah Winter Olympics. Facility includes a pavilion with 400-meter oval, temporary spectator stands for 6,500 people and a support building of approximately 40,000ft<sup>2</sup>.

\*experience prior to joining Arup

**Presentations & Lectures**

Adjunct Professor at New Jersey Institute of Technology

Adjunct Assistant Professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture

Member, National Register of Peer Professionals, General Services Administration

EERI Friedman Visiting Lecturer

