

Elif Tural, PhD

Virginia Tech School of Design | 201 Cowgill Hall (0205), Blacksburg, VA 24061
540.231.4219 (office) | etural@vt.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Environmental Design and Planning, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona.
MFA in Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey.
B. Arch, METU, Ankara, Turkey.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2022-present Associate Professor of Interior Design, School of Design, Virginia Tech.
2016-2022 Assistant Professor of Interior Design, School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech.
2013-2016 Assistant Professor of Interior Design, School of Design & Human Environment, Oregon State University.
Affiliate Faculty, Center for Healthy Aging Research, Gerontechnology Core (2015-2016).
2011-2013 Post-doctoral Research Associate, School of Design & Human Environment, Oregon State University.
2006-2011 Research Associate, Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family, Arizona State University.
2007-2011 Research Associate, School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, Arizona State University.
2005 Graduate Assistant, Office for Research and Sponsored Projects Administration, Arizona State University.
2002-2003 Graduate Assistant, Building Futures Institute, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University.

SELECT GRANTS

External Funding

2022-2025 Building Ecology: examining space/place dynamics in a shared indoor environment, National Science Foundation, USD 350,000, Principal Investigator: Baird, T.; Co-Is: Abaid, N., Franusich, D., Pingel, T, Tural, E. (role: 20%)
2022-2023 Project-based Learning (PBL) in Hybrid/Blended Higher Education Settings, Steelcase, Inc., USD 7,500, PI: Tural, E; Co-I: Zhou, Y.
2021-2022 Steelcase: Acoustic Exploration, USD 15,000, Principal Investigators: Upthegrove, T; Tural, E (role: 50%). + USD 5000 for a sponsored junior studio project.
2017-2020 Active Living at Home through Interior Design: Senior Residential Environments and Affordable Assistive Technologies, American Society of Interior Designers, PI: Tural E; Co-Is: Brossoie N, Meaney K, Tucker L, Renard H, 08/01/2017- 12/31/2020, USD 30,000.
2017-2018 Warm Hearth Kroontje Healthcare Center Memory Courtyard Conceptual Designs, Blacksburg, VA. Principal Investigators: Gilboy E (34%); Proctor N (33%); Tural E (33%), 10/16/2017- 05/31/2018. USD 10,437.
2017 US Forest Service, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Forestry (\$4,500). Blacksburg, VA: Warm Hearth Kroontje Healthcare Center Memory Courtyard Conceptual Designs, (PIs: Gilboy E; Proctor N; Tural E). (33%)
2014 IDEC Special Projects Award (USD 3,000) (Role: co-principal; w. M. Read & A. Pulay) for the project titled "The Impact of Lighting on Children's On-Task Behavior in the Elementary Education Classroom".
2013 IES Teachers of Lighting Workshop Grant (to cover tuition, room and board) to improve lighting-related teaching and research.

Internal Funding

- 2021 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant (\$1,937), Virginia Tech, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Project title: Use of Light and Material Demonstrations to Enhance Lighting Design Learning Among Interior Design Students. PI: Tural, E.
- 2017-2019 Healthy and Active Living at Home through Design and Affordable Assistive Technologies, Virginia Tech, Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT), Principal Investigators: Tural E; Brossoie N; Tucker L; Meaney K; Renard H, 11/03/2017, USD 3,000.
- 2015 L.L. Stewart Faculty Development Grant, the OSU Foundation to attend AGI32 lighting design software training, USD 2,200.
- 2014 OSU College of Business Research Funding (\$2,870) (PI: Tural, E; Co-Is: S. Lee & M. Read) to support the research study on collaborative learning and university building designs.

PUBLICATIONS¹

Journal articles

- 2021 Tural, E; Lu, D*; Cole, DA*. Safely and actively aging in place: Older adults' attitudes and intentions toward smart home technologies. *Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine*, 7. doi:10.1177/23337214211017340.
- 2020 Tural, E; Lu, D*; Cole, DA*. Factors predicting older adults' attitudes toward and intentions to use stair mobility assistive designs at home. *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 18, 8. doi:10.1016/j.pmedr.2020.101082
- 2017 Tural, E. Organizational Transformations in Community Design Centers: An Analysis through Giddens' Theory of Structuration Framework. *Journal of Community Practice: organizing, planning, development and change* 25(2): 253-282.
- 2016 Pulay, A., Read, M., Tural, E., & Lee, S. A Field Investigation of Student On-task Behavior under Two Color Temperature Levels of Fluorescent Lighting in an Elementary School Classroom. *Educational Planning*, 23(3), 57-70.
- 2015 Ahrentzen, S., & Tural, E. The role of building design and interiors in ageing actively at home [Special Issue: Physical activity, sedentary behaviour & the indoor built environment]. *Building Research & Information* 43(5): 582-601.
- 2014 Tural, E., & Tural, M. Luminance contrast analyses for low vision in a senior living facility: A proposal for an HDR image-based analysis tool. *Building & Environment* 81, November: 20-28.

Book chapters

- 2017 Ahrentzen, S., Tural, E., & Erickson, J. Green Design and Health. In D. Kopec (Ed.), *Health and Wellbeing for Interior Architecture* (pp. 77-93). New York, NY: Routledge.

Papers in refereed conference proceedings

- 2018 Ahrentzen S, Tural E, & Erickson J. Is Green Housing Healthy Housing: Examining the Evidence. In A. Memari, & S. Klinetob Lowe (Eds.), 4th Biennial Residential Building Design and Construction Conference Proceedings (pp. 131-145). University Park, PA: Pennsylvania Housing Research Center (PHRC).

Refereed conference presentations

- 2022 Tural, E. Use of Light and Material Demonstrations to Enhance Lighting Design Learning Among Interior Design Students. In 2022 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Virtual.
- 2021 Tural, E. The Users' Perspective: Willingness to Adopt Residential Design Products to Improve Safety and Active Aging in Place. In EDRA 52 Annual Conference: Just Environments. Virtual. *Accepted*.

¹ Select publications are listed here; * Graduate student co-authors.

- 2021 Tural, E., Morshedzadeh, E., Bohannon, C. L., & Tomer, S. Students' Perspectives on an Inclusive Curriculum, and Equity and Diversity in Design Education: A Comparative Analysis of Four Design Programs. In EDRA 52 Annual Conference: Just Environments: Transdisciplinary Border Crossings. Virtual.
- 2021 Tural, E., Tucker, L., Tural, M., & Whitney, B. Studio Culture and Effectiveness of Online and Blended Studio Teaching and Learning in the Times of Coronavirus. In 2021 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Virtual.
- 2021 Tural, E. Toward an Inclusive Curriculum and Pedagogy: Student Perspectives on Identity, Diversity & Interior Design Education. In 2021 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Virtual.
- 2020 Tural, E. Lighting distributions in senior residential settings: An HDR-based analysis for improved nighttime circadian lighting. In 2020 IDEC Annual Conference. Tulsa, OK.
- 2019 Tural, E., Lu, D.*, & Cole, A.* How Smart Is Too Smart: Older Adults' Attitudes Toward Smart Home Technologies That Support Actively Aging at Home. In The 50th Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association. Brooklyn, NY.
- 2019 Tural, E., Gilboy, E., Proctor, N., & Roebuck, K. Courtyard Redesigns of a Continuing Care Facility: Reflections on an Interdisciplinary Design Project. In 2019 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Charlotte, NC.
- 2019 Tural, E., Brossoie, N., Renard, H., & Tucker, L. Take the Stairs: Exploration of Older Adults' Intention to Use and Attitudes Toward Vertical Mobility Assistive Design Features. In 2019 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Charlotte, NC.
- 2018 Tural, E., & Wagner, M. Teaching diversity on campus: Reflections on a collaborative interior design studio. 2018 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Boston, MA., 07 Mar 2018 - 10 Mar 2018. (Paper).
- 2018 Tural, E., Brossoie, N., Tucker, L., & Renard, H. Supporting active living at home through interior design: Older adults' acceptance of interior design features and assistive technologies. 2018 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Annual Conference. Boston, MA., 07 Mar 2018 - 10 Mar 2018. (Paper).
- 2018 Tural, E., & Wagner, M. Learning about diversity and global communities: Lessons from a collaborative design studio. 2018 EDRA49 Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, 06 Jun 2018 - 09 Jun 2018. (Paper, accepted).
- 2018 Tural, E., Brossoie, N., Tucker, L., Renard, H. & Meaney, K. Design and assistive technologies for active living at home: a survey of community-dwelling older adults. 2018 EDRA49 Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, 06 Jun 2018 - 09 Jun 2018. (Paper).
- 2017 Is Green Housing Healthy Housing? 2017 AIA Convention, Orlando, FL, April 26-19 (w. S. Ahrentzen & J. Erickson).
- 2016 Is Green Housing Healthy Housing? An Examination of Green Building and Healthy Building Guidelines for Residential Structures. 2016 ACSA/ASPPH Fall Conference. Honolulu, HI (September 22-24). (w. S. Ahrentzen & J. Erickson).
- 2016 The Built Environment's Role in Ageing Actively at Home. Symposium: Older Adults Inside + Outside Their Home IAPS24, Lund, Sweden. (w. S. Ahrentzen).
- 2016 Active Living Design for Older Adults: Residential Environments. Environments for Aging Conference 2016. Austin, TX (April 9-12). (w. S. Ahrentzen).
- 2016 A Case Study Examining the CCT of Fluorescent Lighting on Student On-task Behavior in an Elementary School Classroom. Annual IDEC Conference 2016. Portland, OR (March 9-12). (w. A. Pulay, S. Lee, M. Read).
- 2013 Review of Classroom Lighting Literature. Pacific West IDEC Regional Conference. San Francisco, CA (Oct 11-13) (w. Alana Pulay, graduate student at OSU)
- 2013 Analyzing visual discomfort in a senior living environment: a case study. The 44th Annual Conference of Environmental Design Research Association. Providence, RI (May 29-June1). (with M. Tural).
- 2013 Analyzing low light luminosity with high dynamic range (HDR) photography. The 44th Annual Conference of Environmental Design Research Association. Providence, RI (May 29- June1). (with M. Tural).

Other presentations

- 2021 Community Engagement for More Inclusive Design Solutions. Panelist. In *2021 ASID Virtual Conference*. 07/19/2021.
- 2020 Tural, E., & Tucker, L. Homes for Active Aging: What Older Adults Think About Technology-based Home Design Strategies. Webinar, The Center for Health Design. 11/22/2020.
- 2019 Brossoie, Nancy; Dorsa, Ed; Tural, Elif. Intersections: Cross-Disciplinary Conversations about Social Justice and the Built Environment. Panelist. Focus: Aging and Place. Virginia Tech Strategic Growth Area: Equity and Social Disparity in the Human Condition (ESDHC). 10/16/2019.

COURSES TAUGHT

- 2016-present Interior Design Program, School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech.
ITDS 3044: Interior Design Studio III
ITDS 3054: Interior Design Studio IV
ITDS 3176: Building Systems II (lighting + acoustics)
ITDS 4554: Contemporary Practice
- 2011-2016 Interior Design Program, School of Design, Oregon State University.
DHE 288: Environmental Building Systems (S 2012-2013 & W 2015-2016)
DHE 394: Studio V: Lighting Design (S 2016)
DHE 495: Studio VII: Senior Thesis II (S 2016)

AWARDS

- 2022 CAUS Certificate for Excellence in Teaching.
- 2021, 2022 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Service Award.
- 2022 Thank-a-Teacher Recognition (8/2/2022). Formal recognition by The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning through the Thank-a-Teacher program.
- 2020 Excellence in Scholarship Award; Virginia Tech, School of Architecture + Design.
- 2020 Thank-a-Teacher Recognition (6/5/2020). Four separate formal recognitions by The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning through the Thank-a-Teacher program.
- 2018 New Faculty Teaching Award; Virginia Tech, School of Architecture + Design.
- 2017 Edison Price Fellow, The Nuckolls Fund for Lighting Education, \$10,000 awarded to complete a summer lighting design internship at Oculus Light Studio, Los Angeles.

SERVICE

Professional

- Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Chair-Elect, 2022-present.
- Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Board of Directors, Member, 2021-present.
- Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Grant and Awards Committee, Chair, 2020-2022.
- Journal of Architectural and Planning Research*, Board of Editors, Member, 2013-Present
- EDRA Annual Conference, reviewer, 2010-present.
- IDEC Annual Conference, reviewer, 2017-present.
- Housing and Society*, Ad-hoc reviewer, 2020.
- Preventive Medicine Reports*, Ad-hoc reviewer, 2020.
- Sustainability*, Ad hoc reviewer, 2019.
- International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, Ad hoc reviewer, 2019.
- IDEC National Student Design Competition, Reviewer, 2019-present.
- Environment and Behavior*, Ad hoc reviewer, 2017-2018.
- IES Illumination Awards Judge, Illuminating Engineering Society, 2017.
- IDEC Grant and Awards Committee, Committee Member, 2014-2016.
- Journal of Urbanism*, Editorial Assistant, Ad hoc reviewer, 2007-2011.

University

Virginia Tech, Institute for Society, Culture and Environment, Whole Health Research Working Group, Member, 2022-present.

Virginia Tech, College of Architecture and Urban Studies Diversity Committee, Member, 2017-Present.

Virginia Tech, College of Architecture and Urban Studies Curriculum Committee, Member, 2017-2022.

Virginia Tech, Inclusive VT representative; appointed June 2018.

Virginia Tech, School of Architecture + Design, Interior Design Faculty Search Committee, Member, Spring 2021.

Virginia Tech, School of Architecture + Design, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Working Group, Member. 2020-2022.

Virginia Tech, School of Architecture + Design, Technology Working Group, Member. 2020-present.

Virginia Tech, School of Architecture + Design, Faculty Search Committee, Member, Member + Diversity Advocate, Summer 2020.

CREDENTIALS & MEMBERSHIPS

WELL AP, 2016 - present.

LEED Green Associate, 2012-present.

Registered architect; Chamber of Architects, Section of UIA in Turkey (# 29823).

Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), 2007-present.

Chair-Elect, 2022-present.

Board of Directors, Member, 2021-present.

Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC), 2013-present.

Grant and Awards Committee, Chair, 2020-2022.

Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA), 2012-2022.

Association of Community Design (ACD), 2008 - 2013.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lighting Design Intern, Oculus Light Studio, Los Angeles (06-07/2017).

Designer, Accessible Settlement Project in Duzce, Turkey. Middle East Technical University Research Project in Collaboration with the Accessible Life Association, Turkey. (01/2004-07/2004).

Architecture Intern, Buluc Architecture Firm, Ankara, Turkey. (06/1999-09/1999).

Architecture Intern, Portakal Cicegi Condominium Project Construction, Ankara, Turkey. (06/1998-08/1998).

Architecture Intern, Cumalikizik Village Restoration Project, Bursa, Turkey, (06/1997-08/1997).

SOFTWARE

Revit (with Enscape, Vray + Elumtools plugins)

Adobe CC (Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop)

AutoCAD

SketchUp

Lighting analysis: AGI32, DIALux

Research data analysis: SPSS, NVivo

MS Office