USC Roski School of Art and Design Appoints Educator, Designer, and Artist Haven Lin-Kirk as Dean of the School

USC Roski School of Art and Design has announced the appointment of Haven Lin-Kirk as the school’s incoming Dean. Lin-Kirk has been a long-time Professor of Art and Design and most recently, served as USC Roski’s Vice Dean of Design. Her tenure at USC Roski has brought national acclaim to the school and this past year, Lin-Kirk oversaw the addition of an MFA in Design program that will be housed in a new facility in Los Angeles’ Arts District. The position of Dean oversees the MFA in Art, MFA in Design, MA in Curatorial Practices and the Public Sphere, BFA in Art, BFA in Design, BA, and Minor programs, as well as all non-academic aspects of the school. Lin-Kirk will begin her new role at USC Roski July 1, 2018.

With a diverse background in art, design, and education, Lin-Kirk is an ideal candidate to assume the leadership role at USC Roski. She has taught design at USC Roski for 17 years and lectured at prestigious institutions throughout Southern California. Her pedagogy strives for cross-discipline study and individual practices uniquely afforded by the diversity within the Roski community and broad opportunities at the 19 professional schools at USC.

“The enormous creativity and skill I have witnessed over the years at USC Roski is the foundation and driving force of my professional life, for which I feel privileged,” stated Professor of Practice in Design Haven Lin-Kirk. “But it requires countless contributions to actualize our student’s potential and I look forward to engaging with all who are a part of this school to continue to elevate the programs and their benefits for our emerging artists in the coming years.”

Lin-Kirk has been involved in design education for more than 20 years. In addition to being on the faculty at Roski, she frequently lectures and conducts workshops at a number of Southern California organizations including Scripps College, Loyola Marymount University, University of California, Los Angeles, Architecture + Design Museum, and Otis College of Art and Design, among others. Professionally, she is an award-winning designer with a list of clients includes the Los Angeles Times, Claim Jumpers, Marie Callender’s Restaurant & Bakery, Pennzoil, Quark Xpress, Adobe, NASCAR, Random House E-books, and Toyota Motor Corporation.

Lin-Kirk is also an accomplished artist, having had exhibitions at the Brewery Arts Complex, PØST Gallery; and Luckman Fine Arts Complex at California State University, in Los Angeles; Ruth Bachofner Gallery in Santa Monica; the Peggy Phelps Gallery and East Gallery at Claremont Graduate University; and Otak Gallery in Dubrovnik, Croatia; among others.

Born in Taipei, Taiwan, of Chinese descent, Haven Lin-Kirk moved to Montreal, Canada, and subsequently to the United States as a young child. She earned an MFA at Claremont Graduate University and a BA at California State University of Fullerton, California. She has received a National Endowment for the Arts Access to Artistic Arts Excellence (with USC Roski Design students and Ryman Arts, LA), received eight Maggie Awards for excellence in layout and publication design, and was recognized by the Los Angeles’ Mayor’s Office as one of the Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month’s artists.