

Thornton Tomasetti

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thornton Tomasetti Vice President Alejandra Menchaca to Participate in U.S. Frontiers of Engineering Symposium

(New York, N.Y. – February 24, 2021) – Alejandra Menchaca, Ph.D., LEED AP, WELL AP, a vice president in the Sustainability practice at Thornton Tomasetti, is one of a select group to be invited by the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) to attend the U.S. Frontiers of Engineering Symposium (USFOE) to be held virtually on February 25-26.



Each year, the USFOE brings together 100 innovative engineers under the age of 45 from U.S. companies, universities and government labs to discuss leading-edge research and technical work across a range of engineering fields. Its goal is to facilitate cross-disciplinary exchange and promote the transfer of new techniques and approaches across fields in order to sustain and build innovation among the next generation of engineering leaders. Participation is by invitation only, following a competitive selection process. The intensive 2.5-day symposium will focus on cutting-edge developments in four areas: next-generation energy systems integration; innovation in women's health; pollution challenges and innovations in plastics; and the new agricultural revolution.

Menchaca, who has a background in mechanical engineering and building science, specializes in analyzing the impact design strategies and innovative solutions have on long-term building performance. She is experienced in the design of natural ventilation systems and passive and energy-intensive buildings, such as laboratories and healthcare facilities. Her expertise also includes thermal comfort studies, energy modeling, daylighting, and computational fluid dynamics.

"I am honored to have been selected to participate in the U.S. Frontiers of Engineering Symposium alongside such an impressive group of accomplished individuals," she said. "The participants have already had a chance to meet virtually, and despite our diverse backgrounds, there has been tremendous collaboration and the exchange of innovative ideas."

Menchaca holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México in Mexico City and a master's degree in aeronautical and aerospace engineering and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge. She is a co-founder of Project StaSIO, an initiative of the International Building Performance Simulation Association – USA whose focus is to provide guidance and create

standards for the early energy modeling for buildings. She is also an active member of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

About Thornton Tomasetti

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