Research Topic:
Architectural Decision Framework for Integrating Technology in the Classroom Environment

The concept of High Performance Schools is based on both Integration and Whole-Building Design approaches. Currently, instructional technology can be logically counted as one system to be integrated. Because these systems are architecturally demanding, the architect as well as other decision makers involved in the process are faced with a number of decisions dealing with the physical space in order to successfully meet pedagogical and instructional goals.

The primary goal of this research is to define different state-of-the-art instructional technologies, how they map and address different pedagogical models and instructional goals, and how they might influence architectural systems in an integrated scheme.

The outcome of this research is intended to provide decision makers in school facilities with an architectural decision framework that supports their decision throughout the process of designing a technology-based classroom environment, increasing the potential of consciously integrating instructional technology with other physical systems in the space.

Sarah K. Elmasry
EDP Ph.D. Student
Dept. of Architecture + Design
Virginia Tech
Assistant Teacher- Dept. of Architectural Engineering, Alexandria University, Egypt, with previous teaching experience in undergraduate architecture programs, as well as research in the fields of architecture and urban planning. Pursuing studies for the doctoral degree at Virginia Tech since 2003.