



PHILADELPHIA
UNIVERSITY

News

Contact:
Debbie Goldberg
Director of Media Relations
goldbergd@philau.edu
215.951.2718

Barbara Klinkhammer, Dipl.-Ing, Named Executive Dean of Philadelphia University's College of Architecture and the Built Environment

PHILADELPHIA, April 18, 2012— Barbara Klinkhammer, Dipl.-Ing., a successful administrator, teacher, scholar and design professional, has been named executive dean of Philadelphia University's College of Architecture and the Built Environment effective August 1, 2012.

Klinkhammer comes to Philadelphia University from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where she has served in numerous administrative and faculty roles in the College of Architecture and Design since 1999, including as associate dean for research, outreach and operations; interim chair of interior design; assistant dean; interim chair of the graduate architecture program; and associate professor. Her administrative accomplishments include the establishment of a new intercollegiate and interdisciplinary program, successful restructuring of existing programs and raising funds for research.

"After an exhaustive national search, I am pleased to welcome Professor Klinkhammer to Philadelphia University, where her depth of experience as a scholar, practitioner and administrator, as well as her global perspective, will help further the vision and reach of our College of Architecture and the Built Environment," Philadelphia University Provost Randy Swearer, Ph.D., said.

Klinkhammer said she was drawn to the position "by the innovative and collaborative spirit, incredible energy and willingness to embrace change" that runs throughout the campus. She wants to continue to build interdisciplinary collaborations both within the College and with other programs at the University.

"Philadelphia University provides a practice-oriented, theory-infused educational experience, and its commitment to working across disciplines prepares students for an integrated approach once they enter the profession," she said. "It epitomizes today's standards in the design

profession for interdisciplinary collaboration, and I see this as an incredible advantage for Philadelphia University students and graduates.”

Prior to the University of Tennessee, Professor Klinkhammer taught for five years at Bauhaus University in Weimar, Germany. She is a scholar of color theory who has a forthcoming book entitled *After Purism: Le Corbusier and Color*. Additionally, she is principle and co-owner of Klinkhammer and Stach Architekten, an urban design, architecture and interior design practice located in Cologne, Germany. She has numerous successfully funded grant proposals, peer-reviewed publications and design competition awards to her name.

Klinkhammer has a broad global perspective and both the practical and academic experience to advance the unique interdisciplinary, collaborative and hands-on learning approach—Nexus Learning—that is foundational to a Philadelphia University education. She holds a terminal degree in architecture (*Diplom-Ingenieur*, the German equivalent to a Bachelor’s plus a Master’s) from the RWTH-Aachen, one of Germany’s leading research universities, is a registered architect in Germany and Europe, and has practiced in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

Moving forward, Klinkhammer said her vision for the College of Architecture and the Built Environment is to continue to strengthen its position as a national and international leader in sustainability education. “Sustainable practice is absolutely mandatory in the education of future design professionals, it’s foundational to the curriculum,” she said. “Buildings are major sources of the global demand for energy and we have to educate our students on these issues to make them responsible designers.”

In the global marketplace of the 21st century, Klinkhammer also believes it is important for students to study abroad and would like this to be an integral part of the educational experience in the College. “Learning to live and work in other cultures is a critical part of professional design education today,” she said.

Philadelphia University’s College of Architecture and the Built Environment includes undergraduate programs in architecture, construction management, environmental design and visual studies, interior design and landscape architecture. Master’s degree programs include construction management, interior design and sustainable design, the latter one of the first of its kind in the country.

Philadelphia University, founded in 1884, is a private university with 3,600 students enrolled in more than 60 undergraduate and graduate programs. As the model for professional university education, the University prepares students to be leaders in their professions in an active, collaborative and real-world learning environment infused with the liberal arts. Philadelphia University includes the innovative College of Design, Engineering and Commerce; the College of Architecture and the Built Environment; and the College of Science, Health and the Liberal Arts. For more information, go to www.PhilaU.edu.