

CAUSES Faculty and Program Staff Profiles



Susan Schaefer Kliman, Ph.D., AIA, is the Chair of the Department of Architecture and Urban Sustainability and Director of the University's Architecture and Community Planning Program. Dr. Kliman is leading the department's NAAB accreditation efforts and oversees the academic programs associated with the graduate and undergraduate programs in Architecture and Community Planning. Dr. Kliman collaborates closely with the Architectural Research Institute to ensure the successful implementation of UDC's strategic objectives in experiential and active learning. She is an experienced architect, educator and firm principal, with over 25 years industry experience, including more than 20 years as firm principal, overseeing firm financial operations, strategic planning, marketing, personnel, and managing complex architectural projects. She has taught a variety of courses, including design studio, professional ethics and practice, construction systems and internship, at both UDC and the University of Arizona. Her expertise includes sustainability and high performance architecture, urban heat island effect, quantitative methods/analysis and research methodologies. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona.



Ralph Belton, RA, CSI, NOMA, ASEE, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Urban Architecture and Community Planning. With over 34 years of experience, Belton is Principal of Belton and Associates, Consulting Architects and since 1983 is licensed to practice in the state of Maryland. Past projects include the Whitelaw Hotel historic preservation rehabilitation; military facility laboratory design; churches and Board of Zoning appeals in the District of Columbia; Architectural advisor/consultant to the Embassy of Grenada and a consultant with the Architectural Research Institute. He served on the Mayor's Commission for Caribbean Affairs and is a founding member of Friends of Grenada, a 501 -c-3 organization. Mr. Belton serves President of Community Empowerment Network, an organization whose goal is self-empowerment of the Haitian people. Academic credentials include a conference presentation "The Role of Current Events and Flexible Course Syllabi: A Case Study." Belton conducted student study tours to Europe and Japan and personal study/tour of Romania – Wooden Gothic Churches of Romania. Prof. Belton holds a Master's Degree in Architecture from Howard University.



Genell Anderson, AIA, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Architecture and Community Planning. She has extensive knowledge of the design and architecture of buildings and public facilities in the Washington, D.C. - Baltimore Metropolitan Area and is an expert in the use of the DC Code for building compliance. Professor Anderson is a Certified Third Party Inspector for the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs and serves on the DC Advisory Board for Third Party Inspectors. Publisher, "Ancestors, Influence of African Architecture on American Architecture, 1986." Professor Anderson is a recipient of the Mayor's 2006 Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation. Ms. Anderson holds a Master of Architecture degree from Tulane University. Prof. Anderson is a registered architect in Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Department of Architecture and Urban Sustainability



Kathy Denise Dixon, AIA, NOMA, LEED AP BD+C, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Urban Architecture and Community Planning and licensed architect with over 20 years of experience. During her career, Kathy has worked on a number of educational facilities in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. She spent several years working on national contracts with the Federal Aviation Administration including Potomac TRACON and several Air Traffic Control facilities. Prior to moving to government and institutional projects, she worked four years with McDonald's Corporation developing new restaurants, site planning, designing commercial kitchens, and creating child oriented play areas. Most recently, she has designed civic facilities and faith-based institutions including fire stations, churches, family life centers, and schools. Prof. Dixon holds a Master's degree in Urban Planning, with a focus on Housing and Community Development. She is certified by the USGBC's Leadership in Energy and Environment Design Program the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, as well as CSI's Certified Documents Technologist program.



Clarence Pearson, Jr., FAIA, NOMA, is a Distinguished Professor with over 40 years' experience in construction and investment in real estate property. He is the Founder and current Director of the Architectural Research Institute, the clinical arm of UDC's the architectural education program. Mr. Pearson also serves as the College's academic Graduate program director for the Department of Architecture and Community Planning, having chaired the department for 18 years. He has extensive experience in the design and management of residential, commercial, civil and institutional structures. Elevated to Distinguished Professor for his years of service to UDC; was elevated to a Fellow of the American Institute of Architecture for his extensive work in education in 2005; and is the recipient of the Paul Phillips Cooke Award for Lifetime Achievement. Mr. Pearson holds a Master's Degree in Architecture from Catholic University.