

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Amber Zilemba
Director, Brand Strategy and Global Communications
Perkins Eastman
+1.202.861.1325
a.zilemba@perkinseastman.com

PERKINS EASTMAN AND DREXEL UNIVERSITY WIN 2019 AIA LATROBE PRIZE

The Consortium for Design and Education Outcomes (CDEO) receives the highly regarded research grant to address how high-quality buildings can positively impact education outcomes.

Perkins Eastman
Architects DPC

New York, NY (June 10, 2019) The Consortium for Design and Education Outcomes (CDEO), a research collaboration between global architecture and design firm Perkins Eastman and Drexel University, a Tier 1 Research university, is pleased to announce the collaboration is a recipient of a landmark grant that will help fund research to address how high-quality buildings can positively impact education outcomes. The Latrobe Prize, named for architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe, is awarded biennially by the American Institute of Architects' (AIA) College of Fellows for a two-year program of research leading to significant advances in the architecture profession. The \$100,000 award will enable the team to work with two large school districts, Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD, to assess indoor environmental quality, educational adequacy and community impact in modernized and non-modernized schools to draw direct connections between the built environment, student and staff satisfaction, and education outcomes. This will inform a set of tools and design guidelines that will provide architects and school districts with means to assess their own facilities and access actionable interventions that have a demonstrably positive impact on education outcomes.

PERKINSEASTMAN.COM

Boston
Charlotte
Chicago
Costa Mesa
Dallas
Dubai
Guayaquil
Los Angeles
Mumbai
New York
Oakland
Pittsburgh
San Francisco
Shanghai
Stamford
Toronto
Washington DC

“Washington, DC is on track to invest \$4 billion in the modernization of its school facilities,” says Patrick Davis, Chief Operating Officer, District of Columbia Public Schools. “As DC Public Schools continues to implement its robust plan, we will work with Perkins Eastman and Drexel University to leverage this research to better understand how our investment in modernized environments impact our students, our teachers, and our community members. This research will give DC Public Schools and school districts across the country the data and tools to make informed and impactful design decisions that improve education outcomes.”

Perkins Eastman recently completed a research study, “Investing in Our Future” that has already begun to explore these connections, finding that teacher and student satisfaction and well-being is strongly connected to indoor environmental quality (IEQ) factors. “By receiving the Latrobe Prize, we are able to build on this research and continue to identify the impacts of environmental design on education outcomes,” says

Sean O'Donnell, FAIA, LEED AP, Principal and Perkins Eastman's K12 Practice Leader. "Co-leading the research effort through our collaboration with Drexel University, CDEO will expand beyond IEQ to also evaluate educational adequacy and community impact." The analysis of Washington, DC's schools will be complemented by an assessment of similar schools in the City of Baltimore, which shares similar demographics, architecture, and community contexts. "The study's broadened scope will seek connections between programmatic configuration, technological integration and flexibility to educational, health and safety outcomes, and assess facilities' impacts on community perception, use, and quality of life," says Bruce A. Levine, JD, Associate Clinical Professor at Drexel University's School of Education, and co-leader of CDEO.

Penny Hammrich, PhD, Dean of Drexel University's School of Education remarked, "At a time when so many education systems, including the School District of Philadelphia, our 'home' system, are going to have to replace or expand upon aging infrastructure, the timeliness of our research collaboration supported by the Latrobe Prize could not be more appropriate as we hope to inform decisions about the billions of dollars that will be spent in future years."

Led by Sean O'Donnell and Bruce Levine as co-Principal Investigators, CDEO has formed an interdisciplinary team to conduct this research and includes Drexel University's Schools of Education and Public Health, its Department of Architecture, Design & Urbanism, and the American Federation of Teachers, to name a few. J&J Flooring will provide matching funds to help support the research and dissemination of the results.

ABOUT PERKINS EASTMAN

Perkins Eastman is a global design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people's lives. The firm's award-winning practice draws on its 1,000 professionals networked across 17 offices worldwide. By keeping the user's needs foremost in the design process, the firm enhances the human experience across the spectrum of the built environment. For more information visit perkinseastman.com.

ABOUT DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1891 in Philadelphia, Drexel is a nationally-ranked, comprehensive research university recognized for its focus on experiential learning through cooperative education, its commitment to cutting-edge academic technology and its growing enterprise of use-inspired research. With more than 24,000 students, Drexel is one of the nation's largest private universities. Drexel is committed to translational research and is poised to respond to novel opportunities for research, scholarship and technological development. Drexel is one of Philadelphia's top private employers, and a major engine for economic development in the region.

#####