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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 4, 2016

IIDA AND MILLIKEN HOST INAUGURAL IIDA EDUCATORS ROUNDTABLE

Spartanburg, SC — The **International Interior Design Association (IIDA)** Educators Roundtable, held Friday, Sept. 29 through Saturday, Oct. 1, in Spartanburg, South Carolina, tackled the important topics of interior design education, diversity and inclusion in the industry, and how to support design students to ensure a successful transition into the profession. Hosted by Milliken, the lively, engaging, and useful discussion was moderated by **IIDA Executive Vice President and CEO Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. FIIDA**, LEED AP, and culminated in IIDA and allied organizations committing to aggregating information and resources for design students, including a scholarship database.

“What does a rigorous design education mean, what does it do, and how does it prepare students? These are significant issues facing the Interior Design industry today, and answering these questions was the fundamental purpose of the IIDA Educators Roundtable,” said Durst. “Bringing educators from a broad range of interior design programs together with industry professionals gave us an opportunity to address the gaps that exist in how we teach, mentor, and train the next generation of design professionals.”

Diversity in design education and recruiting and retaining students who are representative of diverse backgrounds were a vital focus of the Roundtable. A conversation about this topic can be viewed on [Milliken Floors' Facebook page](#). The group also discussed how the [IIDA Foundation Diversity Award](#), which recognizes and celebrates an educator who is actively advancing diversity in the Interior Design industry, could be expanded to further support diversity in interior design. An executive report detailing the Roundtable will be available in late 2016.

“Milliken is committed to creating innovations that help solve the world's problems, add value to people's lives, improve health and safety, and make this world sustainable. We look to the next generation of designers to drive these innovations, and we recognize the critical role that educators play in shaping these up-and-coming professionals. We were honored to host and participate in the inaugural IIDA Educators Roundtable,” said **Stacy Walker, Industry IIDA**, Director of Customer Experience at Milliken.

Five previous IIDA Educator of the Year honorees participated in the Educators Roundtable, including **Amy Campos** (Principal, ACA - Amy Campos Architect and Associate Professor, Interior Design Program, California College of the Arts); **Liset Robinson, IIDA** (Associate Chair, SCAD-Atlanta); **Virginia San Fratello, IIDA** (Associate Professor, San Jose University); **Lisa M. Tucker, Ph.D., IIDA**, FIDEC, FASID, AIA, LEED AP BD+ C, WELL AP (Professor and Chair, Interior Design, School of Architecture + Design, Virginia Tech); and **So Yeon Yoon** (Associate Professor, Cornell University). The IIDA Educator of the Year award is sponsored by Milliken.

Additional participants included: **Bill Bouchey, IIDA** (Director of Design, Interiors, HOK); **Mary Bledsoe, IIDA**, RID, LEED AP ID+C (Design Director, Studio Director, Gensler); **Annie Chu, IIDA**, FAIA (Principal, Chu + Gooding Architects and Professor of Interior Architecture, Woodbury University); **Pamela Evans, Ph.D., IIDA**, FIDEC, LEED AP (Chair Board of Directors, CIDA and Director, Interior Design, College of Architecture and Environmental Design, Kent State University); **Tara Headley, Assoc. IIDA**, Allied ASID, NEWH (Junior Interior Designer, Hendrick); **Migette L. Kaup, Ph.D., IIDA**,



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FROM IIDA HEADQUARTERS

IDEC, ASID, EDAC (IDEC President and Interior Design Program, College of Human Ecology, Kansas State University); **James Kerrigan, IIDA**, LEED AP ID+C (Design Principal of Interiors, Jacobs); **Jon P. Otis** (Principal & Creative Director, Object Agency and Professor Interior Design, Pratt Institute); **Felice Silverman, FIIDA** (Principal, Silverman Trykowski and Assoc., Board of Trustees member, Boston Architectural College); and **Mary King Sullivan, IIDA**, CDT, LEED AP BD+C (Workplace | Interior Architecture, Director of Strategic Relationships, Little).

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About International Interior Design Association

The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) is the Commercial Interior Design Association with global reach. We support design professionals, industry affiliates, educators, students, firms and their clients through our network of 15,000+ members across 58 countries. We advocate for advancements in education, design excellence, legislation, leadership, accreditation, and community outreach to increase the value and understanding of Interior Design as a profession that enhances business value and positively impacts the health and well-being of people's lives every day. www.iida.org

About Milliken's Global Floor Covering Division

Milliken has a rich history of delivering innovative flooring solutions from its award-winning global design studios, research center and manufacturing facilities. Milliken's progressive and purposeful flooring products offer great design solutions built from unique insights and an exceptional array of technical capabilities. Visit us at any of our product showrooms around the world and see what inspires our community of innovators. Or, learn more about Milliken floor covering at www.millikenfloors.com, on Twitter at www.twitter.com/millikenfloors, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/millikenfloors, on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/millikenfloors and Instagram at www.instagram.com/millikenfloors.

About Milliken

For 150 years, Milliken has been innovating with the purpose to explore, discover and create ways to enhance people's lives. Our community of innovators has developed one of the larger collections of United States patents held by a private U.S. company. With expertise across a breadth of disciplines, including specialty chemical, floor covering and performance materials, we work around the world every day to add true value to people's lives, improve health and safety, and help make this world more sustainable. For more information, visit www.milliken.com and join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).