

# Board of Directors New Directors—January 2015

#### **Matthew Bergheiser**

Matthew (Matt) Bergheiser serves as Executive Director of University City District (UCD), a partnership of universities, health systems, business leaders and community groups dedicated to the notion of a vibrant University City. Matt joined UCD in July 2009 and, during his tenure, UCD has developed and opened The Porch at 30th Street Station, launched the West Philadelphia Skills Initiative, created Project Rehab to focus on the rehabilitation of derelict properties, and grown its operating budget by more than 35 percent. Previously, Matt served as Philadelphia Director for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, overseeing a \$6 million annual grant-making budget in the city and surrounding counties. He is founder of the Job Opportunity Investment Network and currently serves as chairman of the board of trustees for the Community College of Philadelphia. He received a BA from Princeton University in 1991, and earned his MBA in 1996 from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

#### Donna Marie De Carolis, Ph.D.

Donna Marie De Carolis, Ph.D., is the founding Dean of Drexel University's Charles D. Close School of Entrepreneurship—the nation's first freestanding school of entrepreneurship to grant degrees. In this role, Donna has overseen the creation of 35 new courses for both an undergraduate and graduate degree in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, as well as pioneering programs for Drexel's Baiada Institute for Entrepreneurship, which incubates and mentors student-run companies. In 2014. Donna was named the Silverman Family Professor of Entrepreneurial Leadership. Prior to her deanship, Donna held the position of Associate Vice-Provost for Entrepreneurship Education at Drexel University. In this position, she oversaw the development and coordination of all academic entrepreneurial offerings and student activities at Drexel, served as the spokesperson for Drexel University's entrepreneurial education initiatives and oversaw the Baiada Institute. Additionally, she served as the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs at the Drexel University's LeBow College of Business, as well as Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives. As an educator, Donna has researched, written and lectured extensively on various aspects of entrepreneurship, technology management and technology commercialization. Her research has appeared in journals such as the Strategic Management Journal, the Journal of Management, the Journal of Business Venturing and Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice. She is the recipient of the prestigious Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching and the Distinguished Teaching Excellence Award from Executive MBAs. Donna is a weekly commentator on KYW Newsradio on trends in entrepreneurship and leadership. In addition, her opinions and commentaries have appeared in Forbes, The Philadelphia Inquirer, the Philadelphia Business Journal and Businessweek. Donna earned her doctoral degree in Strategic Management from Temple University, and holds an MBA from Villanova University

## Valerie V. Gay

Valerie V. (Val) Gay is Executive Director of Art Sanctuary, the mission of which is to use the power of black art to transform individuals, create and build community and foster cultural understanding. Prior to joining Art Sanctuary in July 2012, Val was assistant dean of Institutional Advancement for the College of Education at Temple University. Prior to joining Temple University in 2004, Val was Vice President and Portfolio Manager at PNC Financial Services. An accomplished singer, Val's performing repertoire includes singing in operas, gospel, solo concert recitals and conducting ensembles in special events across the Philadelphia region as well as nationally and internationally. In 2006, she founded Fortress Arts Academy, which provides experiential access to music, for children and adults, especially those in lower economic areas. Holding a Master of Music and Professional Studies Certificate from Temple University and a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the University of the Arts, Val has completed degree course work at Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, holds a German language certificate from Goethe Institute, Germany and has achieved the professional designation of Certified Financial Planner.

### Laura A. Williamson

Laura A. Williamson is the Chief Operating Officer for Glenmede. She is a member of the company's management committee and oversees financial management, human resources, information technology, back office operations and facilities management. Prior to joining Glenmede in 1993, Laura was a senior auditor with Ernst & Young, LLP. Laura earned a BS in Business Administration, magna cum laude, from Bucknell University in 1989 and an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 2002. She attained the certified public accountant designation in 1990 and remains actively licensed today. A long-time resident of Philadelphia, Laura has been actively involved with Bucknell University and Philadelphia Futures. At Bucknell, she served in an advisory capacity with the Management faculty in the formulation of a vision for a School of Business. As a Director with Philadelphia Futures, she currently serves as President of the Board and was a lead director in the merger with White Williams Scholars and the subsequent strategic planning process. Laura has been an active committee member with The Pennsylvania Ballet and served with Business Volunteers for the Arts.