

NEW announces changing of the guard for board co-chairs

Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW)'s Board of Directors announced that New York City Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster, FAIA, and Nicola Heryet, senior managing director of Colliers ABR, Inc., will succeed Board Co-Chairs, Susan L. Hayes, president and CEO of Cauldwell Wingate Company, LLC, and Louis J. Coletti, president & CEO of the Building Trades Employers' Association (BTEA).

NEW has experienced tremendous

growth and success in the past year under the leadership of Hayes and Coletti, and is the City's largest organization providing women with access to skilled blue-collar jobs. The new organization co-chairs were elected by the Board of Directors and announced at a special industry reception held Tuesday evening. In the last five years, NEW has grown from an organization training 150 women a year to an organization training 350 women a year. NEW expects to enroll

400 women in 2008.

Patricia J. Lancaster was appointed Commissioner of the New York City Department of Buildings by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in April of 2002. As Buildings Commissioner, Lancaster is responsible for setting local construction standards, enforcing the Building Code and Zoning Resolution for over 950,000 buildings and properties, and regulating New York City's \$25 billion per year construction industry.

Lancaster stated, "The recommendations of Mayor Bloomberg's Commission on Construction Opportunity have made all the difference. Women trained by NEW now have direct access to ten percent of all first year apprentice slots in the building and construction trades."

According to NEW President Amy A. Peterson, "We are grateful for the hard work of our outgoing Board Chairs. NEW is the place for women to come to gain access to long-term career opportunities in nontraditional industries. We have experienced record growth and our placement rates

are soaring as more and more women have found meaningful work in the construction industry. Susan Hayes' tireless work on behalf of NEW has paved the way for our continued success and her partnership with Lou Coletti over the past year has added increased visibility for the organization, both within the construction industry and throughout the City."

Nicola Heryet has been active in commercial real estate in New York City since 1983, and joined Colliers ABR, Inc. in 1996. In 2003, she became one of 11 stockholders and a principal of the firm, and she has been an active member of the NEW Board of Directors since 2005. She will join Lancaster as co-chair of the organization this year. According to Heryet,

According to Edward J. Malloy, president of the Building & Construction Trades Council of Greater New York, "NEW has sparked positive changes in the building trades and in the greater construction industry. Since October 2005, NEW has placed 280 women in the building and construction trades."

