

## Leslie Bellavance Named New Kendall President

It is a pleasure to share with you that Leslie Bellavance has accepted our invitation to be the next president of Kendall College of Art and Design. Ms. Bellavance is currently dean, director of graduate programs and professor at the School of Art and Design at the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. The MFA programs there are ranked among the top in the nation. Her appointment begins officially on July 1.

She brings to Kendall thirty-five years of experience in higher education. This includes twenty-four years with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where she was director of graduate studies in the Department of Visual Art, and interim associate dean of the of the Peck School of the Arts and professor of Visual Arts. She was also a professor of art and director of James Madison University's School of Art and Art History. Active in her profession, she serves on the Board of Directors for the College Art Association, the National Association of School of Art and Design, and the National Council of Arts Administrators.

Leslie earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Temple University's Tyler School of Art, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Chicago with photography and drawing as her major areas of study. She also studied at St. Mary's College in Rome, Italy, at the University of Rhode Island in Wakefield, and St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind.

An accomplished artist, her extensive list of professional achievements include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Wisconsin Arts Board, among others. She has exhibited her work widely including solo exhibitions at the Milwaukee Art Museum, the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit and the Randolph Street Gallery in Chicago. Her work has also been featured in more than 40 group and invitational exhibitions, including in international venues.

This search process has been wonderfully led by Cindy Todd, art education program chair and Ron Riksen, interim academic dean at the Kendall College of Art and Design. The search committee did a remarkable job of identifying a strong candidate pool, and students, faculty and staff fully engaged the candidates while they were on campus. Please join me in thanking committee members for the considerable time and energy they invested in this search -

Mary Bradshaw, Administrative Assistant, Administration and Finance

Elise Brown, Instruction/Reference Librarian

Lee Davis, Associate Professor of Interior Design

Adam DeKraker, Professor of Photography

Suzanne Eberle, Professor of Art History

Dirk Hoffius, Partner, Varnum LLP, Kendall trustee emeritus

Kris Jones, Director of Talent Acquisition and Recruitment

James Laubach, Kendall student

Jon Moroney, Assistant Professor of Industrial Design

Phil Renato, Professor of Metals Jewelry Design

Valerie Schmieder, Principal, Via Design, Kendall alumna

Jill Schneider, Assistant to the President, Director of Alumni Relations

Samantha Schultz, Registrar

Mariel Versluis, Professor of Printmaking

Jason Zylstra, Director, Foundation Administration, RDV Corporation

Kim Sapkowski, Administrative Assistant to the Dean of the College

More information is included in a news release posted on the Ferris home page, [www.ferris.edu](http://www.ferris.edu) . I know that you join me in welcoming Leslie Bellavance to the Kendall and Ferris communities.

David L. Eisler  
President