Green Building Alliance Names Christopher Leininger Senior Director of Workforce Innovation

PITTSBURGH – November 10, 2026 – Green Building Alliance has named Christopher Leininger, PhD. Building Performance and Diagnostics, LEED GA, to the newly created position of Senior Director of Workforce Innovation.



Dr. Christopher Leininger, Senior Director of Workforce Innovation, Green Building Alliance

In this new capacity, Dr. Leininger will expand and present GBA's regional workforce innovation training, upskilling, and professional credentialling for students, new and incumbent workers, and career professionals in the areas of sustainable design, high performance building and operations, innovative building products and materials, and sustainable construction management.

GBA is a regional leader in workforce training and education that equips workers with the knowledge and skills to adopt high performance building and manufacturing practices that are as healthy for people as they are for the environment.

High performance buildings exceed standard building codes by maximizing energy use, water efficiency, indoor air quality, safety, resilience to extreme weather and grid shocks, occupant comfort and well-being, and circularity. High performance buildings go beyond energy efficiency to optimize all aspects of building performance, including functionality, resilience, and long-term operational costs. They incorporate innovative building materials and products that reduce resource use while contributing to efficiency, sustainability, and the health of occupants and the environment.

"Chris brings a wealth of design and construction industry knowledge and teaching experience, and we are delighted to welcome him to our team as we continue to grow our outreach, training programs, and curriculum across a spectrum of sectors, including building design, construction, and high-performance product manufacturing," said GBA President & CEO Jenna Cramer. "A pioneering educator and highly respected expert in sustainability innovation and application within the built environment sector, Chris was instrumental in founding GBA in 1993 at a time when Pittsburgh was working diligently to reinvent itself to advance economic opportunity and improve quality of life to attract residents, students, and businesses. Pittsburgh has since become a global model for revitalization, sustainability, and rebirth, and Chris's early work with GBA helped to lay the foundation for that success.

A tenured faculty member in the Parks and Conservation program within the Biology Department at Slippery Rock University, Dr. Leininger has more than 25 years of teaching experience across a range of topics, including environmental resource analysis, sustainable park and conservation planning, environmental grant writing, construction technology, sustainable design, and building

performance. He was also the Lead Faculty and Director of the Mascaro Construction Technology and Management program at Community College of Beaver County.

Dr. Leininger completed his PhD. at Carnegie Mellon University's School of Architecture - Center for Building Performance and Diagnostics. He has presented and consulted on projects internationally in Istanbul, Turkey, and has worked in architectural offices in New Jersey; Washington, D.C.; and Western Pa.

Learn more about GBA programming, including upcoming education and workforce events and training, at www.gba.org.

Green Building Alliance (GBA) positively transforms the world through the built environment to create a sustainable, healthy, and economically vibrant future for everyone. As Pennsylvania's authority on smart, high-performance building design, construction, products, and operations, GBA works alongside designers, developers, businesses, manufacturers, municipalities, community leaders, K-12 schools, nonprofits, and more, equipping them to adopt building practices that are as healthy for people as they are for the environment. GBA manages the largest 2030 District in North America (the Pittsburgh 2030 District), and in 2019, established Pittsburgh as the 2nd International Center of Excellence on High Performance Building in the world. GBA works throughout Pennsylvania and Appalachia, and across the region, country, and world through strategic alliances including the 2030 Districts Network, United Nations, International Living Future Institute, and the High Performance Building Alliance (Ireland).

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