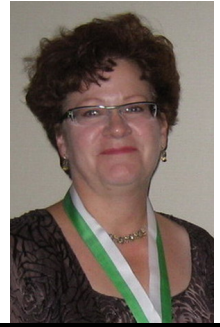


Tracy Lynn Van Niel, FCSI

“For your extraordinary dedication to promoting the principles of CSI through your work in education by serving on and chairing the Institute Education Committee; for your steadfast service and leadership at the chapter, region and Institute levels; for your consistent, passionate, and enduring promotion of student activities; and for your inspirational commitment to the mentoring of others, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on the 22nd day of June 2007.”
Baltimore, Maryland



Tracy Van Niel was born in Fort Belvoir, Virginia and has, essentially, grown up “CSI.”

Education and learning the process of specification writing were the two reasons behind Tracy’s decision to join CSI in 1980. Tracy has always believed that if you are a member of an organization than the best way to get the most from your membership is to be involved. From the time that she joined the Columbus, Ohio Chapter in 1980, Tracy has served at the Chapter, Region and Institute for twenty-six consecutive years, many times serving at multiple levels simultaneously.

Working at Trott & Bean Architects under the mentorship of George Van Niel, Tracy learned the basics of specification writing and went from being an intern specifier to a full-time specifier in the eight years she was there. Tracy has been at DesignGroup since 1991. Promoted to Specifications Manager in 1999, she became an Associate in 2000.

In her spare time, Tracy is involved in the sport of dogs (Border Terriers). She was a co-chair for the 2006 National Specialty, serves on a Border Terrier Club of America national committee (and will soon be a Board Member), and is President of the Border Terrier Club of Central Ohio. She has shown two of her dogs to championships and they have accumulated numerous performance titles as well.

In addition to her dog activities, Tracy is also a quilter, and an award winning cake decorator, and she has recently taken up beadwork. She has been a Featured Artist at several Gallery Hops, her beadwork is featured on several artist websites, and she has been teaching beadweaving classes since 2006.

Tracy, along with her father, George, are CSI’s second two-generation Fellows, and are the only two-generation Fellows who are both still CSI members.

CSI Membership

Columbus, Ohio Chapter 1980-present

Institute Offices, Committees

Nominating Committee Member FY99, FY00
Jury of Fellows FY95-FY97
Education Committee Member and Chair FY91-FY94
Programs Committee Member FY93, FY94

Region Offices, Committees

Region Education Co-Chair and Chair FY88, FY89, FY99
Region Technical Chair FY98
Long Range Planning Committee Member FY85-FY89
Region Finance Chair FY85, FY86

Chapter Offices, Committees

50th Anniversary Committee Member FY07, FY08
Strategic Planning Committee Chair FY05, FY06
Student Affiliate Committee Member FY04, FY05
Publications Committee Member FY98-FY00
Newsletter Editor FY85, FY96, FY97
Planning Committee Chair and Member FY88-89, FY92-94
Publicity Chair FY88, FY89, FY96
Trade Fair Committee Member FY87-FY89
President FY87

Vice President FY85, FY86

Budget Committee Chair FY86

Programs Committee Chair FY85, FY86

Education Committee Chair FY85

Secretary FY84

Membership Chair FY83

Technical Committee Member FY81, FY83

Hospitality Committee Chair FY81, FY82

Awards

Institute

Certificate of Merit FY87, FY94, FY97, FY00
Education Commendation FY90
Specifications Competition Award FY85

Region

Superior Journalism FY96
Education Commendation FY89
Certificate of Appreciation FY85, FY86, FY88-FY90

Chapter

20 Year Service Award FY05
Specifications Proficiency Award FY00
Member of the Year FY85
Certificate of Appreciation FY81-89, FY92-FY94, FY96-FY00, FY04-FY06