Our Woman of Achievement Award goes to Laura Cruickshank, FAIA, University of Connecticut’s Master Planner and Chief Architect and Associate Vice President for University Planning, Design & Construction. Laura is responsible for the immediate and long-range planning, design and construction of UConn’s $2B Capital Plan for Storrs, the Regional Campuses and Law School. Prior to UConn, Laura Cruickshank was the Yale University Planner and directed planning and design on the Yale central campus; and led Yale planning, design and construction for the Yale-NUS College in Singapore. Prior to Yale, she was in private practice for over twenty years. Ms. Cruickshank received a Bachelor of Arts from Mount Holyoke College and Master of Architecture from the University of New Mexico School of Architecture & Planning. She holds architectural registration in Connecticut and is a member of the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects, the Society for College and University Planning, the Association of University Architects and the National Organization of Minority Architects.

Laura has made noteworthy strides in support of the next generation of women (and men) who are members of her team at UCONN, or who work for professional firms doing business for the university . . . and who will continue on in our field for many years to come. She has participated in, and generously supported many AEC Industry Associations, including PWC-CT, CBC, AIA, and SCUP to name just a few. PWC-CT has been fortunate to have Laura as a speaker and moderator for its Southern New England Higher Education event since she joined UCONN in 2013. Laura has recommended and wholeheartedly supported her staff members’ participation, attendance and support of PWC programs and events. It is difficult to quantify the full impact Laura has had, and continues to have, in support of our industry and the women and men who – like her – have dedicated their professional lives to architecture, engineering, construction – and the many associated disciplines included under AEC auspices.