

GEORGE C. HOFFMANN AWARD

Sergio Palleroni, MSArchS



SERGIO PALLERONI, MSARCHS is a professor and director of the Center for Public Interest Design at PSU. His lifelong academic work has focused on developing and promoting the field of public interest design, and the practices, protocols, and skill sets needed to make all design practices more focused and effective in addressing the growing needs of communities globally. Recently he chaired “Design for the Common Good,” an effort to bring together regional networks that have emerged from the public interest design and community design movement. Through his efforts and those of the faculty and students at the Center for Public Interest Design, PSU has emerged as the recognized national leader in this rapidly growing field.

Palleroni earned his BArch from the University of Oregon and his MSArchS from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He previously served as a professor at the University of Texas, Austin, and the University of Washington, where he founded the Basic Initiative, a multidisciplinary fieldwork program that each year challenges students from the U.S. and abroad to apply their education in service of the problems facing marginalized communities globally.

He has worked on sustainable architecture and community design in the developing world since the 1980s for not-for-profit, governmental and international agencies.

His work with students has received recognition from both the professional field of architecture and national and international agencies in development work. Among these are the AIA/ACSA National Education Award NCARB Prize for Creative Integration of Practice and Education, the U.S. National Design Award from the Smithsonian and White House, the USGBC International Education Award in 2008, and the 2010 European Union/Chicago Athenaeum Global Impact Award.

The Hoffmann Award is given annually to a faculty member in recognition of distinguished contributions to the University in the areas of instruction, university service, and scholarship which are done in the spirit of humanism, civility, and collegiality, with particular dedication to students and loyalty to the University. These values were especially cherished by the late George C. Hoffmann, a distinguished dean and professor of history at Portland State University.