

Executive MBA Council honors Catherine Molony with 2005 Bud Fackler Award

Catherine Molony, senior associate director and director of admissions for the University of Pennsylvania Wharton MBA Program for Executives, received the Bud Fackler Service Award from the Executive MBA Council in November.

The Bud Fackler Service Award recognizes contributions to the Executive MBA Council and to Executive MBA Programs worldwide, including efforts to help other programs, to share best practices, and to raise the level of Executive MBA Programs. The council named the award after Bud Fackler, the late director of the Executive MBA Program at the University of Chicago and one of the council's founders.

"Cathy has been a global visionary for the council," says Penny Oslund, executive director of Executive MBA Programs at the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill and past chair of the council Board of Trustees. "She embodies the soul of the international Executive MBA Council."

In 1999, Molony collaborated with a European colleague to coordinate the council's first European Regional Meeting and began discussions on future collaborations with the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD) that led to EFMD joining the council as a strategic partner. She also advocated for the board to consider hosting the council's annual conference at a non-North American location. In 2005, her vision was realized when the council held its conference in Barcelona, Spain.

"I've always felt passionate about expanding our reach into the international arena," says Molony. "Why? It's because we cannot hope to learn or grow in isolation. Unquestionably, some of the most important trends in Executive MBA education occur outside of North America."

Molony was elected to the council Board of Trustees in 1997 and re-elected in 2000. She served as board co-chair in 2003 and past co-chair in 2004. She also chaired the council conference in 1998, which took place in Scotsdale, Ariz.

"Cathy has made extraordinary contributions that have helped fuel the growth of the council," says Oslund. "She and her school are models of best practice. She is a highly valued colleague."

While on the board in 2000, Molony assisted with another rewarding and important change: the decision and actions that led the council to its current status as an independent organization.

"To see what the organization has become is just amazing," she says. "My involvement with the Executive MBA Council has allowed me to grow both professionally and personally, giving me lifelong friends and colleagues."

The Executive MBA Council fosters excellence and innovation worldwide in Executive and Professional MBA Programs, as well as in other business-related degree programs for professionals. The council provides a place for programs to share best practices and gathers data that helps members improve their programs and that reveals the importance of business degree

programs for professionals. The council has more than 200 members worldwide, which offer more than 300 programs.

For more information, contact Maury Kalnitz, managing director of the Executive MBA Council, at 770.352.0854 or maury@embac.org.