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L.A. AREA CHAMBER'S CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AWARDS HONORS PETER W. BLACKMAN AND CURTIS D. WILLIAMS WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

L.A.'s builders of distinction honored for thinking ahead; Harold M. Williams receives Ira Yellin Distinguished Achievement Award

LOS ANGELES – More than 400 construction industry and architecture professionals gathered Thursday to honor three individuals who contributed to the built environment of Los Angeles at the L.A. Area Chamber's 71st Annual Construction Industry Awards at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel.

This year's event honored three individuals from revered institutions, who made significant achievements in thinking ahead and planning for growth. The University of California, Los Angeles, the University of Southern California and the Getty Center are cultural and academic institutions that have developed master plans that have allowed their organizations to flourish and grow within the community.

"The built environment of L.A. is extraordinary," said Chamber President & CEO Gary Toebben. "These leaders have created renowned communities within the city, thriving centers that have a dramatic impact on the city around them."

The Lifetime Achievement Award is given to individuals who have dedicated a lifetime to contributing to the built environment of Southern California. This year the award was presented to Peter Blackman, administrative vice chancellor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Curtis Williams, vice president for Campus Development and Facilities Management at the University of Southern California.

"It's been an extraordinary opportunity—a professional task, hobby, an obsession and a labor of love," Blackman said upon receiving the award.

The Ira Yellin Distinguished achievement Award is presented to an individual or group whose work embodies the values of Ira Yellin—combining social, aesthetic and economic goals. Harold Williams, of counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom,

LLP and President Emeritus of the J. Paul Getty Trust in Los Angeles, received the Ira Yellin Distinguished Achievement Award.

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information visit www.lachamber.org.