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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **IFMA NAMES KATHY O. ROPER OF GEORGIA TECH TO 2007 CLASS OF FELLOWS**

HOUSTON — (Oct. 16, 2007) — The International Facility Management Association (IFMA) is proud to announce the 2007 class of IFMA Fellows. William T. Conley, CFM, CFMJ, LEED® AP; Diane H. MacKnight, CFM, FRICS; Kathy O. Roper, CFM, CFMJ, MCR, LEED® AP; and Sheila M. Sheridan, CFM, CPM, will receive the honor of IFMA Fellowship during IFMA's Awards of Excellence banquet on Friday, Oct. 26, during IFMA's World Workplace 2007 Conference & Expo in New Orleans, La.

Kathy O. Roper, CFM, CFMJ, MCR, LEED® AP, IFMA Fellow, is a professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Ga., where she is responsible for teaching facility management graduate courses and researching various facets of the field. She earned the Certified Facility Manager designation from IFMA in 1994 and was granted the Certified Facility Manager Japan designation in 2003.

"I am honored to be recognized in this class of IFMA Fellows," Roper said. "The industry has reached the level that needs more recognition—so that education, recruiting and hiring will all benefit facility managers and the organizations they support. I hope that the work I contribute to IFMA will help to improve the profession and stature of facility management internationally."

Roper received the Distinguished Educator Award of Excellence from IFMA in 2005. She has served as president and vice president of the Atlanta Chapter of IFMA and has received the Certified Facility Manager of the Year Award from the chapter in 2003.

She was also an integral part in IFMA's Recognized Degree Program with Georgia Tech's College of Architecture, Building Construction Program. She recently received the Faculty Service Award from Georgia Tech's College of Architecture for her many contributions to the profession.

A member of the Corporate Facilities Council of IFMA, Roper brings 29 years of real-world facility management experience as both a practitioner and an educator. She has been active in other professional organizations including CoreNet Global and the U.S. Green Building Council. Roper currently acts as chair of the IFMA Recognized Degree Program Committee and established the first World Workplace student E-poster competition, which recently debuted at this year's event.

The IFMA Fellowship program was established to create an elite core of respected industry leaders in facility management. Being named an IFMA Fellow is the highest honor the association can bestow upon a member. To date, 71 other facility professionals, educators and affiliated individuals have been honored with IFMA Fellowship.

The 2007 IFMA Fellow recipients have made tremendous impacts upon IFMA since joining the organization. IFMA bestows this honor upon them in recognition of their continued dedication to the facility management profession. This year's recipients have all received IFMA's Certified Facility Manager designation; all are

prolific speakers; some have been published worldwide; all have held leadership roles through IFMA and many have also volunteered for other professional organizations.

Their numerous accomplishments, leadership capacities and years of experience remain unparalleled, and the recipients are representative of the talented and outstanding membership that IFMA holds.

IFMA is the world's largest and most widely recognized international association for professional facility managers, supporting more than 19,000 members in 60 countries. The association's members, represented in 125 chapters and 15 councils worldwide, manage more than 37 billion square feet of property and annually purchase more than \$100 billion in products and services. Formed in 1980, IFMA certifies facility managers, conducts research, provides educational programs, recognizes facility management degree and certificate programs and produces World Workplace, the world's largest facility management conference and exposition. For more information, visit [www.ifma.org](http://www.ifma.org).

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