



PennState

Cocoziello Institute of
Real Estate Innovation

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DIFFERENCE

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***Double the Impact of your gift to
Penn State for a limited time by
supporting the Cocoziello Institute!***

Longtime Penn State supporters Peter and Sharon Cocoziello stepped forward with a major gift commitment to launch the Cocoziello Institute of Real Estate Innovation. The institute is administered by Invent Penn State and housed at the University's Eric J. Barron Innovation Hub in downtown State College.

The institute facilitates collaboration between Penn State faculty, students and external partners as they analyze trends related to capital markets, energy, hospitality, sustainability, materials, labor economics and law and policy, all in terms of their impact on the real estate industry.

The Cocoziello Institute of Real Estate Innovation

*Identifying and solving real estate's
most pressing challenges*



Visit our website



PROMOTE INNOVATION



**SUPPORT
SUSTAINABILITY
RESEARCH**



**ENHANCE THE BUILT
ENVIRONMENT**



**EDUCATE FUTURE
GENERATIONS**

Why was the institute necessary?

Because real estate is a truly multifaceted industry, engaging with many diverse fields, including:

- Finance
- Energy
- Materials Science
- Information Science
- Supply Chain

- Public Policy
- Engineering
- Architecture
- Hospitality
- Law
- Manufacturing



“We created the institute to spur continuous learning and foster entrepreneurship—but most importantly, we saw a way to finally break through silos with cross-disciplinary conversations.” -- Peter Cocoziello

The industry's most pressing challenges can't be solved from within any single discipline.

- With energy demands increasing across America's work and living spaces, especially with the growth of **new technologies** like AI, we need new, more sustainable and resilient approaches to producing energy.
- Buildings must also be **constructed or adapted** to be more resilient in the face of extreme weather events and changing climate conditions.
- Buildings are major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, so developers must design and retrofit structures to be more **energy efficient**, use sustainable materials, and integrate renewable energy sources.
- As manufacturing moves out of China, how do our efforts to **reshore** those plants affect supply chains, urban development, and workforce development, and how can we navigate those changes in a sustainable way?

Our impact:

Sponsor seed grants to spur innovation:

Fund Penn State's top researchers to explore new concepts, methodologies, and technologies related to the built environment.

Provide education and training:

Disseminate the institute's findings and insights to the broader community—and help prepare the next generation of industry leaders—through workshops, seminars, conferences, speaker series, and interdisciplinary coursework.

Collaborate with industry and academic partners:

Work closely with stakeholders such as real estate developers, architects, and engineers, to exchange ideas and insights.

Support technology commercialization:

Help translate Penn State research discoveries into exciting ventures that drive progress across the real estate industry.



What Are Our Focus Areas?

Onshoring/Offshoring/Reshoring:

Analyze challenges and opportunities in onshoring and forecast their impact on the supply chain.

Insurance and Risk Analysis:

Forecast risk and return on self-exposure and casualty insurance.

Future Energy Landscape:

Explore the impact of alternate energy sources (e.g., micronuclear reactors) on the built environment.

Environmental, Social, and Governance:

Maximize sustainability in the built environment by leveraging big data, ensuring compliance, and fostering ethical design practices.

Next Generation Built Materials:

Explore radical material innovations poised to revolutionize the built environment.



About the Cocoziello Institute



- The institute currently involves faculty members from colleges such as: Engineering, Earth and Mineral Sciences, Arts & Architecture, Liberal Arts, The Eberly College of Science and the Smeal College of Business.
- It adopts a broad, systems-level view that considers the entire built environment—all aspects of the human-made structures in which people live, work, learn, and play.
- Focus on sustainable development is central to the institute's mission.



Scarlett Miller, professor of industrial engineering and of mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering at Penn State, is the **director of Penn State's Cocoziello Institute of Real Estate Innovation**.

Scan the QR code to learn more about Scarlett and the Institute or click [here](#).



Endowed gifts of \$25,000 or more are eligible to be matched 1:1 until June 30, 2025, or until the pool of \$5 million in matching support is fully utilized.

There is a wide range of philanthropic naming opportunities including:

- **Endowed institute directorship**
- **Endowed University Faculty Fellowships**
- **Graduate Student Fellowships**
- **Research fund for each focus area**
- **Undergraduate Student Support Funds**
- **Seed funding for research and entrepreneurial endeavors involving students as well as faculty**
- **Workforce development training fund**
- **And many more**

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WIIIFY?

What's in it for you?

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