



## Ivy Cutting Speaker Karen Gutowsky-Zimmerman

Karen Gutowsky-Zimmerman is professor of visual communications and associate dean for alumni and community relations within the College of Arts and Sciences, Arts and Humanities Division, at Seattle Pacific University.

Originally from the Chicago suburbs, she graduated with a BFA in Graphic Design from University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and completed her graduate studies in 2000 with an MFA in Visual Communications at the University of Washington. Her thesis research focused on "experience design" and exhibited at Seattle's Henry Art Gallery.

In 1988, Professor Gutowsky-Zimmerman and her husband, John Zimmerman, started a multidisciplinary design studio, where she continues design services for established clients. She has two adult children: her son is a Fellow at Wyss Institute-Harvard University, and her daughter is an adjunct professor at SPU in fashion merchandising, while also working in corporate e-commerce.

Professor Gutowsky-Zimmerman is co-author of the book *Conversations: Connecting Generations of Women*, and gives lectures, conducts workshops, and speaks internationally, nationally, and locally on the subject of visual literacy, visual communications, and design histories. She is currently on the Seattle Advisory Board of AIGA, American Institute of Professional Designers. She and her family are longtime members of University Presbyterian Church, where she has served as an elder.