The very first Earth Day occurred when Barbara was in sixth grade, and she saw that the health of the planet was something worth fighting for. Later, as a young woman, Barbara stayed with relatives in Sweden where she witnessed recycling as a way of life, hydro power that served an entire neighborhood, and bicycle paths on all the roads. “It’s a very advanced way of living, and everything flowed so naturally,” she notes. “When I returned to the U.S., I attended lectures and classes in landscape architecture which also influenced my architecture studies, and I worked in capital project management in the pharmaceutical world, where I was exposed to a lot of high-performance buildings.

After receiving an architecture degree, Barbara obtained a Master of Science in Engineering Management. She became excited by the immense opportunities of commercial recycling to keep projects like ceiling tiles and carpeting out of the landfill. Working as the Project Architect/Director of Sustainability at Drexel University, Barbara led the green building charge on many projects. Now a Director of Sustainability at JL Architects in New Jersey, her 30 years of expertise informs each of her projects.

While working at Drexel, Barbara was involved in three Green Globes projects and she became a GGP. Because she’s worked on the client’s side, the project manager’s side, and as a GGP, she brings a multi-faceted perspective to Assessments. “So often, all the pieces of the puzzle are there and just need to be put together. A team shouldn’t have to walk away from less points than their project deserves,” she explains. “I get to see many clients who are forward-thinking and the difference their efforts make. That’s the exciting thing - to have a job that can make a difference in the world.”