Faculty of Design
at
South Dakota State University

January 4, 2012

THE MISSION:
Educate tomorrow’s leaders in the professional design fields of architecture, graphic design, interior design and landscape architecture through recognized and accredited programs that prepare graduates for professional licensure and entry-level careers. Graduates of these professional fields will foster a healthy, sustainable, and aesthetically pleasing environment, contributing to vitality and well-being of South Dakota and the region.

THE VISION:
Stronger, enriched, better-coordinated, and nationally recognized and accredited undergraduate and graduate professional programs in architecture, graphic design, interior design and landscape architecture.

PURPOSE FOR THE INITIATIVE and THE OPPORTUNITY:
Develop an approach that strengthens State’s professional design programs in architecture, graphic design, interior design and landscape architecture and provide an opportunity to develop graduate professional programs, all of which avail students the opportunity to achieve rewarding and productive careers. In order to make this vision a reality, the approach must bring together faculty and students from four departments (spread across three colleges) that now teach, research, and practice in professional design programs.

The initiative will form a supportive cross-college design faculty where communication is open and contributes to the strengthening the respective professional design programs. It will also strengthen collaboration and provide synergy in such areas as accreditation support, recruitment and development of faculty and students, student engagement in study abroad or service learning, and scholarship and professional practice. The faculty will benefit through shared problem solving, mutual accountability, access to deeper expertise, and insightful creativity.

Potential outcomes of the initiative may include, but are not limited to:
- BFA in Design
- MFA in Design (longer-term)
- Fully accredited professional programs
- Robust enrollments
- Track record of graduates including licensure pass rate
- Strong faculty hires
• Shared curricula where possible
• Interdisciplinary research/creative activity and practice
• State-of-the-art facilities and equipment
• Highly regarded outreach events and professional practice

LEADERSHIP: Faculty from these four design fields will provide leadership to this effort. Department heads, Deans and the Provost will add support where needed. To provide professional practitioners expertise and insights to the initiative, a task force may be developed with a goal of assisting in refining academic programs; structure organizational options and provide overall guidance and direction.

NEXT STEPS: Bring design faculty together to begin dialogue and chart a course forward. Discuss the initiative with select design-based businesses, industry leaders, and professional practitioners in the university’s market area.

GENERAL BACKGROUND: The four professional design-oriented programs include architecture, graphic design, both located within the College of Arts and Sciences; interior design in the College of Education and Human Sciences; and landscape architecture within Plant Science in the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences.

Architecture  Brian Rex, Charles MacBride, vacancy
The Department of Architecture (DoArch) offers two degrees; a non-professional Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies and a professional Master of Architecture degree. The department is focused on an interactive, sensory, and performance-based curriculum rooted in fundamental issues of professional architecture and design practice. The undergraduate degree program begins with a unique design based liberal arts education. Professional graduates will know how to make buildings well; how to make good drawings and models of architecture; and how to make places by building.

Spring 2012 enrollment: 67
Seeking professional accreditation through National Architecture Accreditation Board (NAAB)
Architect Registration Examination through the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)
Graphic Design Tim Steele, Randy Clark, Cable Hardin

The Department of Visual Arts offers a major in Graphic Design that is comprised of design studio, lecture, and practical applications. One can pursue either a B.S. or a B.A. degree. Graphic Design majors study visual communications theory and practice in digital, print, time-based, online, and interactive media. Areas of study may include, but are not limited to, classical and computer animation, logos, computer graphics, publication and Web page design, illustration, advertising, posters, and multi-media. The program aims to develop a knowledge base for careers that can relate to professional practice, and students prepare a graphic design portfolio for use after graduation to seek positions in business and industry as well as nonprofit organizations.

Spring 2012 enrollment: 104

Seeking professional accreditation through National Association of Schools of Arts and Design (NASAD)

Professional Licensure: None available

Interior Design Angie Boersma, Tina Patel, vacancy

The Interior Design program (B.S.) promotes knowledge of the contributions of interior design to the health, safety, and well-being of people in the built environment and to prepare graduates for practice in the interior design profession through a student centered, studio-based learning environment. The program provides a broad-based education, opportunities for a variety of national and international travel, service learning experiences, opportunities for various minors, and collaboration among various disciplines. The program is built on extended student/faculty interactions, active learning environments, and critique by faculty and practicing professionals. The curriculum infuses sustainable practices, develops and increases creativity through a process-driven conceptual framework, and offers various learning environments that use technologies appropriate to expand skill levels and abilities.

Spring 2012 enrollment: 54

Accredited through Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA)

Professional licensure not required in South Dakota although required in 36 states; Certification through the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ).

Landscape Architecture Matt James, Martin Maca, Don Burger

The Landscape Architecture program (B.S.) is a landscape design field within horticulture and prepares designers to create outdoor environments to achieve environmental, socio-behavioral, and aesthetic outcomes. Design environments range from residential homes to commercial properties to community facility and regional landscapes. Landscape design combines biological science, art, architecture,
horticulture and public service. The curriculum focuses on the major design and technical areas of the profession, such as drawing, drafting, and graphic presentation. Supplemental technical courses in horticulture, art, engineering, and biology provide individualized focus. The program seeks transition to a professional accredited program in landscape architecture leading graduates to be licensed professional landscape architects.

Spring 2012 enrollment: 51

Seeking professional accreditation through Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB)

Professional licensure through the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)