



Council
for **Interior
Design**
Accreditation

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July 20, 2023

Dr. Jose Herrera, Provost
University of Northern Iowa
Seerley Hall 20
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614-0707

Dear Dr. Herrera:

The CIDA Accreditation Commission reviewed the interior design program at University of Northern Iowa leading to the Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design degree at their May 12-13, 2023 meeting. In preparation for this meeting, the Commission reviewed the Program Analysis Report prepared by the program and the Visiting Team Report prepared by the team that visited the program on October 29 to November 1, 2022. The Visiting Team Report described weaknesses in Standard 10. History, and in Standard 11. Design Elements and Principles.

Standard 10. *Interior designers are knowledgeable about history of interiors, architecture, decorative arts, and art.* Weaknesses related to student learning expectations a, d, f, and g led the Accreditation Commission to determine that Standard 10 is in non-compliance.

Standard 11: *Interior designers apply elements and principles of design.* Weaknesses related to student learning expectations b, c, and d led the Accreditation Commission to determine that Standard 11 is in non-compliance.

In order to be accredited, a program must comply or partially comply with all sixteen standards. Program non-compliance with one or more standards leads to probation or denial of accreditation. Additional information regarding CIDA's definitions of 'compliance with standards' can be found on page 8 of CIDA's Professional Standards 2020. This document is available for download on the CIDA website at <http://accredit-id.org/professional-standards>.

Probation is an accreditation status that requires the program to improve areas of weakness within a specific period of time in order to maintain CIDA accreditation. The program maintains all rights and responsibilities of an accredited program. The CIDA policy on probation is enclosed. During the probation period, the program is expected to improve student achievement in areas noted as weak under Standards 10 and 11 as well as maintain compliance with other CIDA Standards.

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Holly Mattson, Hon. FASID
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No later than April 30, 2026, a site visit must be conducted to determine compliance with Standards 10 and 11 and to assess continued compliance with the remaining Standards. The program coordinator may request a site visit at any time prior to the end of the two-year probationary period. If possible, one of the site visitors that participated in the fall 2022 review will also participate in the probationary visit.

University of Northern Iowa will be expected to pay the cost of the visit. Specifically, the institution will be invoiced for the Site Visit Fee, Travel Fee, and will cover site visitor expenses for lodging, food, and local transportation. For additional information, please see CIDA's Accreditation Policy and Procedure, Section VIII. Fees, which is available for download at <https://www.accredit-id.org/policyandprocedures>.

The Accreditation Commission has directed the CIDA staff to assist you with managing the details of this visit. Please feel free to correspond with us if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Holly Mattson, Hon. IDC, Hon. FASID
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Brenda Bass, University of Northern Iowa
Dr. Bill Henninger, University of Northern Iowa
Dr. Gowri Betrabet Gulwadi, University of Northern Iowa
Dr. Gloria Stafford, University of Northern Iowa
CIDA Visiting Team