



Council  
for Interior  
Design  
Accreditation

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December 2, 2021

Dr. Thomas Nenon, Provost and Executive Vice President  
The University of Memphis  
360 Administration Building  
Memphis, TN 38152

Dear Provost Nenon:

The CIDA Accreditation Commission reviewed interior architecture program at The University of Memphis leading to the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Architecture degree at their October 22, 2021 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 March 20-23, 2021. The Visiting Team Report described weaknesses in Standard 7. Human-Centered Design; Standard 8. Design Process; and Standard 13. Products and Materials.

Standard 7. *Interior designers apply knowledge of human experience and behavior to designing the built environment.* Weaknesses related to student learning expectations a, b, c, d, and e led the Accreditation Commission to determine that Standard 7 is in non-compliance.

Standard 8. *Interior designers employ all aspects of the design process to creatively solve a design problem.* Weaknesses related to student learning expectations a, d, e, g, and h led the Accreditation Commission to determine that Standard 8 is in non-compliance.

Standard 13: *Interior designers complete design solutions that integrate furnishings, products, materials, and finishes.* Weaknesses related to student learning expectations c and e led the Accreditation Commission to determine that Standard 13 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>.

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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 7, 8, and 13 as well as maintain compliance with other CIDA Standards.

No later than November 30, 2023, a site visit must be conducted to determine compliance with Standards 7, 8, and 13 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 spring 2021 review will also participate in the probationary visit.

The University of Memphis 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Holly Mattson', written over a horizontal line.

Holly Mattson, Hon. IDC, Hon. FASID  
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Anne Hogan, The University of Memphis  
Michael Hagge, The University of Memphis  
Michael Chisamore, The University of Memphis  
CIDA Visiting Team