



# CIDA News

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DECEMBER 2010

## LOOKING AHEAD:

- The CIDA office will be closed December 23-31, 2010 for the holidays.
- CIDA's spring site visit season begins in January 2011.
- The Accreditation Workshop will take place on March 16, 2011 in Denver, CO.
- The Accreditation Commission will meet March 25-26, 2011 in Grand Rapids, MI.
- The Board of Directors will meet May 12-13, 2011 in Charlotte, NC.

## CIDA Celebrates 40 Years of Excellence

2010 has been a truly momentous year for CIDA, commemorating 40 years of excellence in interior design education. CIDA celebrated this milestone by looking toward the future and introducing new and exciting opportunities to elevate interior design education.

In November 2010, CIDA held a Collaborative Strategies session in Washington, DC, convening multidisciplinary practice leaders to envision future collaboration among the professions. Leaders from interior design, architecture, engineering, graphic design, construction management, environmental psychology, design research, ergonomics, technology, landscape architecture, lighting design, industrial design, and facilities management met for a day-long session facilitated by the Greenway Group. The results of this unprecedented gathering will be made available this December and used to develop educational standards that ensure graduates are well prepared to lead collaboration in the future.

Additionally, CIDA introduced and participated in two new awards programs. CIDA independently sponsored the Innovation in Interior Design Education Award and received over 20 submissions from CIDA-accredited programs highlighting innovative educational practices. Award winners will be announced in March 2011. CIDA also co-hosted a video competition elevating awareness of the value of interior design. Winners and other selected entries can be viewed at: [www.youtube.com/user/HSWInteriorDesign](http://www.youtube.com/user/HSWInteriorDesign).

CIDA also refreshed its graphic identity and developed a new website that provides better service to prospective students and others interested in accreditation. The new site has received high marks for its user-friendly design and layout. If you have not yet had an opportunity, please take a moment to visit the new website at [www.accredit-id.org/](http://www.accredit-id.org/).

As always, CIDA conducted accreditation reviews, site visitor training, the annual accreditation workshop, and standards development activities. With an eye to the future, CIDA is currently looking at new ways to support accreditation via web-based services that allow for greater efficiency while maintaining the integrity of the process.

CIDA is proud that this 40-year anniversary reflects our core values:

- Leadership
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Knowledge
- Environmental stewardship
- Accountability
- Responsibility
- Ethics
- Promoting the value of design

### A Brief Retrospective...

CIDA was established in 1970 under the name Foundation for Interior Design Education Research (FIDER). Organizational founders were the leading professional associations of the time: the American Institute of Interior Designers, the National Society of Interior Designers, and the Interior Design Educators Council. The original mission of CIDA was much the same as it is today, with the primary purposes being standard setting and accreditation of academic programs in interior design.

From its humble beginnings of initially accrediting six programs in 1973, CIDA has grown to accredit 171 programs throughout the US, Canada, and one in Qatar. This impressive growth is testimony to the interior design programs that have worked diligently to meet and exceed evolving professional standards for entry-level interior design practice. CIDA's Professional Standards for interior design programs have been revised numerous times since the early 70's to keep pace with changes in the profession.

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## CIDA Celebrates 40 Years of Excellence... continued

CIDA initially had four sets of standards for different levels of education and moved over time to a single set focused on the education required to prepare graduates for entry-level practice in interior design. A few significant milestones relative to standards development include the introduction of CADD and other computer-related skills, the introduction and strengthening of sustainability concepts and skills, and moving to a minimum of a bachelor's degree as the eligibility requirement for accreditation at the professional level.

CIDA has had incredibly strong engagement with the design community since its inception. The organization is indebted to hundreds of volunteer practitioners and educators who have been involved in providing accreditation services throughout CIDA's 40-year history. The organization's success and continued good work is a direct result of the professional contribution of these individuals.

Throughout the years, CIDA has received robust financial and philosophical support from organizational partners, ASID, IDC, IDEC, IIDA, and NCIDQ. Foundations, industry partners, and individual contributors have also been key to CIDA's growth and financial security. The Interior Design Magazine Hall of Fame event, the Donghia Foundation, the ASID Foundation, and numerous furniture manufacturers have contributed funds to support CIDA's mission and endeavors.

### CIDA thanks you...

Simply put, CIDA would not be here today without the dedicated and unwavering contributions of the entire design community. The CIDA Board of Directors wishes to thank all who have joined the cause of promoting and ensuring excellence in interior design education. CIDA looks forward to a bright future with your continued partnership.

### NEWLY APPOINTED SITE VISITORS

CIDA's Board of Directors recently appointed four new site visitors. CIDA welcomes these newly appointed site visitors and thanks them for their willingness to serve.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Windy J. Neff, ASID, IDEC           | The Art Institute of Pittsburgh                 |
| Krista Atkins Nutter, ASID, LEED AP | The Art Institute of Pittsburgh—Online Division |
| Kelly JK Spewock, IDEC              | The Art Institute of Pittsburgh                 |
| Matthew Christopher Swiertz, IDEC   | The Art Institute of Pittsburgh—Online Division |

## 2010 Site Visitor Training



Anne Savill, Nancy Hiss, Lesley Hayman Sager, and Mark Hinchman participate in a group exercise.

On September 11, 2010, CIDA held a training workshop for site visitors in Grand Rapids, MI. Suzanne Scott, the representative of accredited programs on CIDA's Accreditation Commission, and Diana Wright, an experienced CIDA site visitor, assisted CIDA staff in developing and delivering this workshop. Seventeen site visitors were in attendance, including 12 newly appointed site visitors.

were also question and answer sessions focused on Professional Standards 2009 and what to expect during a CIDA site visit. In addition to the presentations and discussions, workshop attendees participated in a group exercise that enabled them to evaluate digital student work and write a portion of a Visiting Team Report. The experienced site visitors shared best practices with new site visitors throughout the day, which created a rich learning atmosphere.

The September 2010 training workshop also included time for CIDA site visitors to network and socialize. Since this workshop was held in CIDA's hometown for the first time in a number of years, attendees were invited to a welcome reception at CIDA's new office. On Friday and Saturday evenings, site visitors were able to experience more of Grand Rapids during dinners at downtown restaurants.

The training workshop included presentations on the accreditation process, important CIDA policies, Professional Standards 2009, and writing the Visiting Team Report. There

## Lorraine Cutler and Joanne Greathouse Conclude Their Terms on CIDA's Accreditation Commission



Joanne Greathouse and Lorraine Cutler served on CIDA's Accreditation Commission 2007-2010.

Lorraine Cutler and Joanne Greathouse will conclude their respective terms on CIDA's Accreditation Commission in December 2010. The Commission is the final authority on all decisions related to the accreditation status of programs, and Commissioners spend countless hours reviewing materials related to programs engaged in the accreditation process each season. The past three years have been particularly demanding for the

Commission, with heavy site visit schedules and the implementation of new accreditation standards. Both Lorraine and Joanne have made truly valuable contributions to CIDA, interior design education, and the profession.

### Lorraine Cutler, IIDA

Lorraine Cutler's years of experience with CIDA's accreditation process proved to be a valuable asset during her time on the Accreditation Commission. She began her service with CIDA in 1998 as a site visitor, and in 2002 she accepted a promotion to chair visiting teams. In 2008, CIDA's Board of Directors appointed her to serve on the Accreditation Commission. Above and beyond her role as a site visitor and Commissioner, Lorraine was a valued member of two special task forces focused on streamlining and improving CIDA's accreditation process.

When asked about her work with the Accreditation Commission, Cutler replied, "It has been an honor and a pleasure serving on CIDA's Accreditation Commission. Each meeting unfolded another layer of understanding about why we need an accreditation board and its responsibility in maintaining the integrity of the standards."

Lorraine Cutler earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in English with a minor in Sociology and a Bachelor of

Fine Arts in Environmental Design from Arizona State University. She also has a Master of Arts in Management/Human Relations and Organizational Behavior from the University of Phoenix, where she graduated with high distinction. Lorraine has a great deal of experience in the field of interior design as a practitioner and an educator. She spent more than ten years with the interior design program at Arizona State University as program coordinator, professor, associate dean, and chair of interior design. Lorraine is currently a professor in the Department of Interior Architecture & Product Design at Kansas State University.

### Joanne Greathouse, Ed.S., R.T.®, FASRT, FAERS

CIDA was extremely fortunate to have Joanne Greathouse serve as the public representative on the Accreditation Commission. Joanne was the chief executive officer of the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) and brought vast knowledge and expertise in specialized accreditation to the Commission. In addition to her experience at the JRCERT, Joanne was active in the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA).

When asked about her time on CIDA's Accreditation Commission, Greathouse stated, "I particularly enjoyed serving with the other Commissioners and with CIDA staff and witnessing their devotion to quality education in interior design. It also expanded my vocabulary with words like charette and luminaire."

Joanne Greathouse earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and Music from Carthage College. She also has a Master of Education in Adult Education from Virginia Commonwealth University and an Education Specialist degree (Ed.S.) in Higher Education from the College of William and Mary. Additionally, Joanne received a certificate in Radiologic Technology from the Methodist Hospital of Central Illinois and is a licensed radiologic technologist. Joanne is currently the director of the radiography program at Carrington College in Phoenix, AZ.

## Norman Polsky Dies at Age 86

An extraordinary benefactor of the design community, Norman Polsky passed away on September 2, 2010 at the age of 86. Norman founded the Norman & Elaine Polsky Family Supporting Foundation in 1990, which currently has nearly 50 endowments supporting numerous causes and organizations in the design community and the greater Kansas City area.

CIDA was one benefactor of the Polsky Family Foundation's generosity and commitment to the betterment of society. In October 1982, the Polsky Family and Fixtures Furniture of Kansas City established the Joel Polsky-Fixtures Furniture/CIDA Endowment Fund in memory of Joel Polsky, Vice President of Fixtures Furniture, and in recognition of the importance of establishing quality in education for professional interior design

through CIDA. From 1983 to 2002, CIDA granted over \$100,000 in grants from earnings for projects related to interior design education, accreditation, or the accreditation process.

Norman received one of his industry's highest honors when he was inducted as the first Honorary Fellow of the American Society of Interior Designers in August 1993. He was a passionate advocate for financial investment. Among Norman's greatest legacies were his monthly investment articles showing how to achieve financial independence through mutual fund investing. These articles were passed out to thousands, and Norman always enthusiastically shared his wisdom to help others achieve financial success. Norman's giving and tenacious spirit will be missed, and the design community mourns its loss.

## CIDA Answers Your Questions

**Q** Does CIDA accredit master's degree programs in interior design?

**A** CIDA uses one set of Professional Standards to evaluate interior design programs that culminate in a minimum of a bachelor's degree and prepare students for entry-level interior design practice. Therefore, CIDA does not accredit traditional post-professional master's degrees because these degree programs are not meant to prepare students to enter the profession.

**CIDA does accredit professional-level master's degree programs** (also called first-professional master's degrees), Like

bachelor's degree programs, professional-level master's degree programs prepare students to enter the interior design profession. Professional-level master's degree programs are geared toward students who have already earned a bachelor's degree in an unrelated field or for students who are completing a 5-year degree program that results in both a bachelor's degree and a professional-level master's degree.

Currently, CIDA accredits 11 first-professional master's degree programs, which can be found on the list of accredited programs available on CIDA's website at <http://www.accredit-id.org/accredited-programs/>.



Council  
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