

## Proposal of Quality Initiative Interior Design, B.F.A. Program

Due time:00/00/00

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Quality Initiative Proposal: A brief summary.

School of Architecture and Design

Interior Design, B.F.A. Program

Dean Maria Perbellini, Associate Dean Anthony Caradonna, Trudy Brens Interim Director

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1. Describe the purposes and goals for the initiative and its relevance and significance for the department, division...etc., and the institution.

The Interior Design Department at New York Institute of Technology is the only CIDA program on Long Island and a leading program in New York city. The academic focus of our program is to make certain that graduates can make significant design contributions to the built environment by generating human-center design that improves lives and that is also sensitive to our natural environment. The department aims to hold a leadership position among other higher education institutions by generating students that are professional and forward-thinking individuals.

2. Describe how the department set up the baseline (if possible) and expected outcomes, evaluate progress, make adjustments and determine its effectiveness.

As a CIDA accredited program, the Interior Design department complies and aims to exceed industry standards in preparing students for successful careers. Project portfolio, exams and assignments serve as measure during the student's journey at NYIT, while job placement and leadership positions in the professional environment serve as indicators for the success of program graduates.

Adjustments to the program are influenced by industry changes and demands, technological advancement needed to help students prepare for future professional responsibilities.

3. Describe the primary activities of the initiative and timeline for implementing them (when and what)

- COVIT 19 global pandemic shifted focus to maintaining or **increasing student enrolment**. As result of leadership team effort, the Interior Design department is experiencing an increase on enrolment for the second year this Fall.
- Extensive time and effort have been invested in **curriculum reevaluation** to integrate new technology, increase healthy building materials awareness, improve student project, increase student's exposure to industry trends.
- Prepare **the Interior Design department for leadership position** among other higher education institutions.
- **Integrate Technology** into interdisciplinary freshmen AAID courses

- Recruit Faculty with ID MFA degree credentials and NCIDQ licensure
- **Reconnect with NYIT faculty** in medical department.

4. Describe the level of support for the initiative by internal (commitment of leadership, people, and groups), and (or) external stakeholders from other department and divisions.

All programs operating with the School of Architecture and Design have benefited from a close relationship among members of Dean Perbellini leadership team. Consistent support from Dean Perbellini and Associate Dean Caradonna have secured the success of program directors working toward a common goal of excellence in education, support for students, and improvement of all SoAD programs.

5. List the human, financial and other resources that the initiative need.

-We need Full-time Interior Design faculty lines. (CIDA accreditation team identified this point as a department weakness).

-Full time student advisor to serve Interior Design and Architecture students.

-Exposure of Interior Design program – Marketing strategy improvement to increase program awareness.

-Technology improvement – upgrade of computer lab facilities.

### **What are we doing to improve the Interior Design Program?**

-Dean Perbellini **reappointed Interim director** Trudy Brens

-Faculty teaching in the Interior design department has been carefully selected to increase student exposure to active professionals in the design field.

-The Interior Design team has invested significant time and resources in **recruiting and maintaining** student enrolment. Through the commitment of SoAD Associate dean Anthony Caradonna, the department will start with a healthy freshman class for the second years in a row.

-Pre-semester **Boot camp** for freshman entering Fall 2021 will get students ready to succeed by providing early exposure to software needed in their studio courses.

- **Constant communication** between students in the program and leadership team immediately after students are admitted into the program.

- Fabrication **Lab facility improvement** – New facility at Old Westbury campus.

-**Increased overall communication** between the department leadership team that provide support to increase efficiency of program operations.

**Assisting and mentoring** student as soon as they are accepted into the program.

Focus on improved **student Advising** so that they are mentored as often as they need.

Guide students through **opportunities outside of NYIT** – Example: Interior Design student, Nicole Wolert, was selected among Metropolis Future 100 after being assisted through application process by Interior design director. This is great for the students, but also beneficial for the exposure of the Interior design program.

**Reinforce common goals among ID courses** so they operate in an interconnected way. Each reinforcing the important aspects of the individual classes in relationship to the whole program.

Additionally, we have **re-evaluated the curriculum** so that we are not only meeting CIDA accreditation standards, but also preparing ID students for the profession of the future.

Increased individual and team **communication with ID faculty** so concerns can be address quickly and effectively.

**Support ID students** so they see themselves as part of a **larger community** under the umbrella of the school of Architecture and Design and NYIT as a whole.