May 13, 2016

Rita Cheng, President
Northern Arizona University
1900 S. Knoles Drive
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-4092

Dear President Cheng:

Congratulations! The interior design program at Northern Arizona University’s Scottsdale campus leading to the Bachelor of Science in Interior Design degree meets Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) Professional Standards and has been awarded accreditation for a term of six years, effective April 2016. The Accreditation Commission is pleased to recognize your program for this achievement.

Award of CIDA accreditation attests to the quality of your interior design program and benefits your program in many ways. Parents, students, and employers of graduates can be assured that your program meets the rigor of peer review and develops the skills and knowledge required to practice interior design. Furthermore, the accreditation process provides your program with valuable input for continued development and assists the program in adapting to meet evolving professional requirements as CIDA updates standards.

The enclosed Accreditation Report contains the evaluation of your program’s compliance with CIDA Standards. Program quality is assessed primarily through student learning evidenced in student work and interviews with students. In CIDA’s Professional Standards 2014, performance criteria and expected levels of student achievement are clearly described by student learning expectations.

An executive summary is provided for each Standard in the Accreditation Report. This narrative provides valuable information on program compliance with the Standard. In some cases, the interior design program may have fallen below or exceeded the requirements of an expectation. These expectations are considered to be strengths and weaknesses and are addressed in the executive summary.

In three years, the interior design program at the Scottsdale campus will be required to submit a Progress Report to CIDA addressing weaknesses identified during the accreditation review. This Progress Report will be due in spring 2019. A reminder notice is sent six months prior to the due date of this report. The program should be revisited in spring 2022 to seek re-accreditation.
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Published information regarding your accreditation status must comply with CIDA’s confidentiality and disclosure policy as stated in CIDA’s accreditation policy and procedure, Section 7. Accreditation, page 1 (also see Section 7. Accreditation, page 4, Program Announcement and Disclosure of Accredited Status). Accreditation policy and procedure is available for download on CIDA’s website at http://accredit-id.org/faculty-programs/policy-procedures/. It is important that all announcements of CIDA accreditation include the name of the program and the degree awarded.

The members of the Accreditation Commission join me in extending congratulations to your program. We look forward to working with your program in the years ahead.

Sincerely yours,

Holly Mattson
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Michael Vincent, Northern Arizona University
Tom Patin, Northern Arizona University
Roger Vitello, Northern Arizona University
Pauline Entin, Northern Arizona University
Sheryl McCaleb, Northern Arizona University
CIDA Visiting Team