

# FOUNDATION FOR INTERIOR DESIGN EDUCATION RESEARCH

EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 • 212-929-8366

October 18, 1985

Dr. Wendell H. Nedderman  
President  
The University of Texas, Arlington  
300 Davis Hall  
Arlington, Texas 76019

Dear Dr. Nedderman:

Enclosed is a copy of the accreditation report prepared by the Foundation for Interior Design Education Research for the four-year Baccalaureate program conferring the Bachelor of Science in Interior Design at The University of Texas at Arlington. The report was prepared by an accreditation team made up by the following persons: Erli Gronberg, IDEC; Ben Gunter, FIDEC; and David Cooke, FIBD. The visit to your campus was made on April 7-10, 1985.

A FIDER Board of Trustees meeting was held on August 17, 1985 in Denver, Colorado. At this time, all related material pertaining to the application by your interior design program for the Interim Review was thoroughly reviewed. In addition, the chairman of the visiting team, Erli Gronberg, IDEC, was present for discussion. The Visiting Team Report had been reviewed by the FIDER Committee on Accreditation prior to the Board meeting.

The Trustees voted to grant continued provisional accreditation for a period of two years to the four-year Baccalaureate program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Interior Design. The expected date for a revisit to the program is Fall 1987. At that time, a three-person team will be called to visit the program to review its status and report to the Trustees in relation to the continuation of an accreditation status.

The Trustees call your attention to the Recommendations for improvement which are part of the accreditation report and which indicate the bases for the decision granting provisional status. The program faculty should provide evidence of progress in addressing the recommendations by the time of the Annual Report (July 1).

The Board of Trustees believes that there is evidence of some progress since the last visit. We encourage the program to continue to fulfill the recommendations as quickly as possible. Attention to Recommendation twelve should be immediate.

## Board of Trustees

Ronald P. Covington, FIDEC  
446 28th Street  
San Diego, California 92104  
619-295-9749

Arthur W. Hawn, IDEC  
2112 Charnelton Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97405  
503-342-2202

Dianne Jackman, IDC  
398 Kingston Crescent  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2M 0T8  
204-474-9579

Binnie Kramer, FASID  
2892 Northwest Upshur Street  
Portland, Oregon 97210  
503-221-1017

Hugh L. Latta, ASID  
1819 Peachtree Road, N.E., Suite 410  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309  
404-351-8713

Michael Wirtz, FIBD  
345 West Palmetto Park Road  
Boca Raton, Florida 33432  
305-428-6688

## Director of Administration

Edna V. Kane

Dr. Wendell H. Nedderman  
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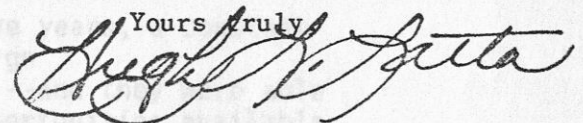
It is the policy of FIDER that an accredited program will submit an Annual Report on July 1 (except in the year of an accreditation visit). The report will give descriptions of the actions taken in response to the recommendations made by the FIDER Board of Trustees, and will be reviewed by the Board to determine that progress is made and that retention of the accreditation status is justified. Failure to submit the Annual Report by July 1 may cause suspension of the accreditation status.

Publicity, promotional or advertising materials prepared by the institution must indicate that the accreditation status applies only to this specific program.

The Foundation will advise you of changes in FIDER Standards and Guidelines, procedures, or other modifications as may be developed through FIDER Standards Committee research or through COPA, ED and other appropriate agencies.

The Trustees have instructed me to convey our appreciation for the commitment your institution has made to interior design education.

Yours truly



Hugh L. Latta, FASID  
Chairman, Board  
of Trustees

/ee

ccs: ✓ Dean George S. Wright  
Professor Fabio N. Fabiano  
Dr. W. A. Baker  
Mr. Richard Ferrier, Assistant Dean  
Visiting Team  
Professor Nikki J. Spencer, IDEC,  
Chairman, Accreditation Committee  
FIDER Board of Trustees



The University of Texas  
at  
Arlington

School of Architecture and  
Environmental Design  
Box 19108  
Arlington, Texas 76019  
(817) 273-2801

April 25, 1986

Ms. Edna V. Kane  
Director of Administration  
Foundation for Interior Design  
Education Research  
322 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

Dear Ms. Kane:

This letter is to inform you that, after giving considerable thought to the matter, the Dean of the SAED, our faculty and I have decided not to seek FIDER accreditation for our ID Program, at least for the time being.

Our Program, in the last ten years, has gone through several changes and improvements and has reached a very high and constant level of quality, which is unique in this area and we certainly believe, also, at a national level.

Our graduates have enjoyed, in the last five years, a constant and growing recognition from the local design community---interior designers, architects---and they were able to profit from the most prestigious job opportunities available locally. We constantly receive job offers from the best interior and architectural offices in the area.

We have now gone through four accreditation visits---three in which I participated---and, despite the evidence of progress accomplished and the outstanding design quality of student work, we have been kept, so far, on a provisional accreditation.

During the visits, we had the opportunity to meet with different team members and patiently explain our philosophy and the coherence of our educational approach. Notwithstanding these efforts, the recommendations of the 1982 FIDER team were exactly the same, word by word, of those given by the 1980 team. The 1985 FIDER team acknowledged that we had responded to most of these recommendations, but offered us, in their 1985 report, a new set of different recommendations in 12 points.



Ms. Edna V. Kane  
April 25, 1986  
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April 12, 1986

Fabio Fabiano  
Director of Interior Design

Without going into details, we frankly feel that we are no longer interested in trying to interpret what the FIDER teams demand from us in order to grant full accreditation to this Program, which is the minimum it deserves.

It is our view that the Program is providing top quality teaching in Interior Design in accordance with the demands of an evolving profession, in tune with what is going on in the USA and all over the world in the most respected and qualified schools, and in accordance with criteria of IFI, as well as with those of FIDER.

We are sorry to be compelled to reach this decision, but we hope to remain in contact with you and see if, in the future, there might be a change of attitude on your part.

Sincerely,

Fabio Fabiano  
Director of Interior Design

FF:bca

cc: Dean George S. Wright

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322 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 • 212-929-8366

Page 2  
April 12, 1986

Professor Fabio Fabiano  
Director of Interior Design  
School of Architecture and Environmental Design  
The University of Texas at Arlington  
Arlington, Texas 76019

Dear Professor Fabiano:

We acknowledge receipt of your April 25 letter to Edna V. Kane informing FIDER that the Dean of Architecture and Environmental Design, faculty and yourself, have "decided not to seek FIDER accreditation" for your accredited program.

The record of FIDER site visits to your program, visiting teams, and accreditation status granted is as follows:

November 1977 visit -- Dean Jerry L. Nielson, FIDEC, Team Chairman  
Jody Greenwald, ASID  
Professor Lawrence Cindrich, IDEC

Granted initial provisional accreditation for two years.

March 1980 visit -- Professor Gaines Blackwell, IDEC, Team Chairman  
Jody Greenwald, ASID  
Roi C. Nevaril, ASID

Granted continued provisional accreditation for two years.

October 1982 visit -- Jody Greenwald, ASID, Team Chairman  
Professor Ben D. Gunter, IDEC

Granted continued provisional accreditation for two years.

April 1985 visit -- Professor Erli Gronberg, IDEC, Team Chairman  
Professor Ben D. Gunter, FIDEC  
David F. Cooke, FIBD

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FIDER accreditation categories are defined as follows and indicate compliance with FIDER Standards. Provisional or continued provisional status does not mean a loss of accreditation.

Initial provisional accreditation is granted to programs complying, at least minimally, with FIDER Standards, and having the resources needed to respond to recommendations in two years. All programs are given provisional accreditation for a two year period after an initial accreditation review.

## Board of Trustees

Arthur W. Hawn, IDEC  
2112 Charnelton Street  
Eugene, Oregon 97405  
503-342-2202

Dianne Jackman, IDC  
398 Kingston Crescent  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2M 0T8  
204-474-9579

Binnie Kramer, FASID  
2892 Northwest Upshur Street  
Portland, Oregon 97210  
503-221-1017

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215 Columbia Street  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
206-682-1133

Betty McKee Treanor, IDEC  
10806 B Pinehurst Drive  
Austin, Texas 78747  
512-245-2420

Michael Wirtz, FIBD  
345 West Palmetto Park Road  
Boca Raton, Florida 33432  
305-428-6688

## Executive Director

Edna V. Kane, CAE

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Director of Interior Design  
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Edna V. Kane, CAE

Professor Fabio Fabiano  
April 12, 1986

Page 2

Continued provisional accreditation is granted to programs demonstrating substantial progress in responding to recommendations made following the initial site visit, justifying an extension of time to allow for implementation of resulting changes.

Five-year accreditation is granted to programs meeting or exceeding all Standards and having made substantial progress in responding to recommendations made following the initial site visit.

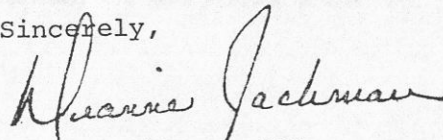
Provisional accreditation is granted to programs if their compliance with FIDER Standards has declined to a degree sufficient to indicate a diminished quality in the program. A program's status may be changed from five-year accreditation to two-year provisional accreditation.

Your program has FIDER provisional accreditation status to August 31, 1987 and as such is listed as an accredited program in all of our publications. Accredited programs are required to pay annual dues each calendar year of their accreditation period. According to our published procedures "in certain instances and under various circumstances a school may wish to abandon its program in interior design and may request revocation of accreditation." This situation may apply to the contents of your April 25th letter. Please let us know in writing if your intent is to request immediate revocation of your accreditation status, or let your accreditation lapse August 31, 1987.

FIDER regrets your intention to withdraw from the voluntary accreditation process. However, we will need to know at what effective date you wish to revoke your accreditation status, so that we can remove your program from our published list of Interior Design Programs Accredited by FIDER. At that time you will need to make sure that your advertising, catalogs, and any other printed matter no longer indicates FIDER accreditation for your interior design program.

Should you wish to re-apply for accreditation at any time in the future, you will need to file an application for accreditation. A decision to re-apply for initial provisional accreditation requires that the process be followed as for any non-accredited program.

Sincerely,



Dianne Jackman, IDC  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

DJ/ek

cc: Dean George S. Wright ✓  
Dr. Wendell H. Nedderman, President  
Edna V. Kane, CAE, Executive Director  
FIDER Trustees



The  
University of Texas  
at  
Arlington

School of Architecture and  
Environmental Design  
Box 19108  
Arlington, Texas 76019  
(817) 273-2801

May 31, 1988

Edna V. Kane, Executive Director  
FIDER  
322 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10001

Dear Ms. Kane:

As the new Dean of the School of Architecture and Environmental Design here at the University of Texas-Arlington, I am much concerned that previous personnel allowed our Interior Design Program's FIDER accreditation to be dropped.

We wish a re-accreditation visit as soon as possible. The student work continues to be very good indeed, and the graduates sought after -- even in the region's slow market.

A new Director of the Interior Design Program will be announced shortly, replacing Professor Fabiano, who is now at the University of Maryland. While I cannot identify him just yet (pending our press releases, etc.), he is a national leader in the interior design field with several decades of exemplary work in office, commercial, and institutional areas. He heads the interior design section of a major national firm of architects, interior designers, and planners.

This early letter testifies to the importance I put on FIDER accreditation and on our determination to make a truly outstanding program in interior design.

Please send me the information necessary to apply for re-accreditation of the Program. Also, please let me know the procedure for scheduling the required visit at a very early date.

Be assured that the awkward relationship this School has had with FIDER in the past will become a thing of the past.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Baum  
Dean

EMB:ak  
copy: Diane Jackman



F I D E R

July 19, 1988

Dr. Edward M. Baum, Dean  
School of Architecture and  
Environmental Design  
Box 19108  
Arlington, TX 76019

Dear Dr. Baum:

The FIDER Board of Trustees was very pleased to learn from your May 31 letter that U. Texas - Arlington maintains its interest in FIDER accreditation. We will be glad to provide the information requested and to see that an accreditation visit can take place.

An application from U. Texas - Arlington will be considered an initial accreditation visit, so new Standards and Guidelines for First Year Professional Level programs will be applied to the U. Texas - Arlington program when it re-applies. There is a moratorium on initial accreditation visits in 1988-89, so that in September 1989, FIDER can initiate the new Standards, and phase out the current standards. A number of related documents, such as guidelines for preparing the Program Evaluation Report, are in the final stages of development and should be available in the fall as part of a new Application Package. After the Program Evaluation Report is underway, it is time to discuss scheduling the site visit.

Please order the new application package after October 1. We are glad to know of your support for FIDER accreditation, and welcome the opportunity to work with you and the new Director of Interior Design in the effort to offer a program of high quality.

Sincerely,

Doris Burton, FIDEC  
Acting Executive Director

cc: Board of Trustees  
Elnora Egland, Director of Accreditation

7/27/88  
Please note that  
the original of  
this letter was  
sent previously,  
but minus the  
enclosures. E. Egland

Board of Trustees

Dianne Jaciman, FIDC  
398 Kingston Crescent  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada R2M 0T8  
204-474-9579

Binnie Kramer, FASID  
2892 Northwest Upshur St.  
Portland, Oregon 97210  
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8009 Tolliver Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23229  
804-285-2183

Betty McKee Treanor, IDEC  
10806 B Pinhurst Drive  
Austin, Texas 78747  
512-245-2420

Michael Wirtz, FIBD  
345 West Palmetto Park Rd.  
Boca Raton, Florida 33432  
407-428-6688

Executive Director

Dominic F. Ferrone

# F I D E R

January 24, 1991

Michael Tatum, IBD  
Director  
Interior Design Program  
School of Architecture  
Box 19108  
University of Texas/Arlington  
Arlington, TX 76019-0108

Dear Professor Tatum:

I acknowledge receipt of six copies of your Program Evaluation Report. Thank you for providing preferred dates for the forthcoming FIDER accreditation visit to your interior design program. We are scheduling the visit for Saturday, March 9-12, 1991. The team will arrive for a previsit conference by 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 9, and leave Tuesday, March 12, in the afternoon. Should the visit need to be changed because of bad weather or unforeseen circumstances, we will reschedule the visit.

According to FIDER policy, the accreditation team selected to visit your school program will consist of three members representing educators and professional design organizations. The team chairman will be a member of the Accreditation Committee; the other members of the team are selected from the members of the Board of Visitors. The interior design program seeking accreditation may request that one or two observers be added to the visiting team. The cost of such observers would be borne by the program. FIDER may add one or two observers to the team at its own expense. (See Accreditation Manual, pp. 19-20, Inclusion of Observers on Site Visits.)

The proposed team members recommended by the Accreditation Committee Chairman are: Keith Hooks, IBD, AIA, Chairman; Paula Stafford, IBD, and Robert Wolf, ASID, AIA, IBD, IDEC. Enclosed are their abbreviated credentials for your review. Your prompt confirmation of the proposed team composition will be appreciated.

Enclosed you'll find "Recommended Student Selection and Interview Techniques for the Interior Design Accreditation Visit" and "Student Work Requirements for a FIDER Visit." You have already received the suggested "Visiting Team Schedule." FIDER policy requires that copies of all advertising concerning the program be

# F I D E R

Michael Tatum  
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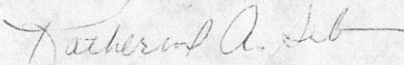
included in the Program's report or be made available to the team for inclusion in their accreditation report.

The team should be housed near the campus, in a hotel or motel which is easily accessible from the airport, in comfortable but not elaborate accommodations. The team will need to be quartered in three single rooms. The room for the team chairman should contain a work table and three chairs for the team's evening work sessions.

If possible, the lodgings should be within walking distance of the campus. The rooms should be reserved in the names of the team members. The school is responsible for the expenses of the visiting team (lodging, meals, and ground-transportation.) Be sure to make arrangements with the hotel so that the team may check-out without using their personal funds. If there are any problems, please contact the FIDER office.

Your program will be reviewed using FIDER Standards #402. Please advise me at your earliest convenience if you have questions concerning the team or the visit. In any case, I would appreciate confirmation of the team composition and the visit dates from you within ten days, or no later than February 4, 1991. If you have questions to direct to the Accreditation Committee Chairman, Erli Gronberg can be reached at (616-451-2787), (616-335-9920), or feel free to contact me at FIDER Headquarters in Grand Rapids.

Sincerely,



Katherine A. Srb  
Director of Accreditation

Enclosures

cc: Prof. Erli Gronberg, Chairman  
Accreditation Committee  
Visiting Team Chairman