

Weber State University- Program Review Report
Interior Design Technology
Dean Response
July 8, 2014

Overview:

The site visit team found areas of concern expressed by the faculty in a self-study and a meeting between faculty and dean prior to the report. The dean does not concur totally with the findings of the site visit and the recommendations noted on the report. This report will be beneficial for the faculty in preparing for external accreditation by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation in 2015 but they should realize the limitations to resources available.

Areas of Concern:

The site visit team noted several areas of concern that were also brought to light in the self-study report. Issues were raised for faculty capacity, support staff, and resources such as the copy center capabilities for faculty and staff. It is unclear at this point if copy center capabilities are the only avenue for solving printing needs. It is suggested that multiple alternatives are explored.

A knowledgeable and experienced administrative assistant – even at once per week – could help the program. Since the program is essentially one fifth the size of its parent department – Sales – that seems reasonable. We have been exploring getting assistance from the Construction Management Technology – a department with some ties already - secretary for that purpose. In addition, student aides will assist in helping the needs of the program in regards to support staff. It is something we are exploring in three other departments.

Additional recommendations:

As noted by the site visit team, the importance of the Professional Sales emphasis within the design curriculum is an asset to the program. I assume that emphasis (since the program resides within Sales) will continue for the foreseeable future.

Proposed plan of action by program and dean response:

- 1) The program will petition the Dean for funds for a new position as recommended in Section IV. The Dean will not have funding for an additional hire. The program will need to look at adjuncts and already existing courses to fulfill the needs.
- 2) The program will petition the Dean for funds to hire part-time experienced administrative support. The Dean will attempt to utilize an existing administrative individual and supply funding for the additional effort.
- 3) The program will petition the Dean for solutions for IT support at Davis to expedite immediate problems to assist faculty with classroom support. The Dean notes that this program has expressed concern about IT issues more than any other despite the availability of both college and IT assistance. It is the Dean's opinion that much of the concern has arisen because of hiccups in startup in the first year of Building Three. Any additional assistance will have to be looked at closely.
- 4) The program will continue to petition the Davis Campus administration and Davis copy center administration for expansion of copy center resources for faculty and students including but not limited

to: regular- and full-size color printing equipment and qualified staff. The Dean, again, believes this needs to be looked at. It is possible this can be accommodated with equipment, for example.