

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: IDEC MEMBERSHIP SURVEY 12/14/08 JT & SP-G

In the summer of 2008, IDEC's Board of Directors surveyed its membership to better understand the profile of its growing membership. Below is a brief summary of some of the highlights. Approximately 30% of the membership completed the survey. Less than 5% of respondents were from Canada, making the results of this survey more indicative of members in the US. We hope to continue our efforts in learning about our membership through future surveys. The raw data is available on the IDEC website at <http://www.idec.org/documents/membershipsurveyresults.pdf>.

Individual Profile

Twenty-five percent of respondents entered Interior Design education between 26-30 years of age and 24% entered in the age range of 31-35. Sixteen percent answered that they entered between the ages of 36-40. Interestingly 4% entered over the age of 50 and 17% entered between 41-50.

Sixty-three percent of members had more than ten years before retirement. But, 22% had less than five years to retirement, which has been identified as a real concern for Interior Design education

Of those respondents who taught in the United States (36%) taught at Public institutions. Thirty percent taught at Private and 21% of our members taught in Land Grant institutions in the United States. Another 9% taught at proprietary institutions. Canadian respondents indicated that their institutions were almost equally split between Colleges and Universities.

IDEC's recent growth in membership is evidenced by the number of respondents who have been in the organization for five years or less (51%). Almost half of the respondents also belong to ASID; 40% are members of IIDA. The diversity of IDEC's membership is indicated by the variety of other organizations listed: ACSA, AIA, ARIDO, EDRA, IDC, IES, and NKBA.

Education

Responses indicated 14% of members have an March, and 12% have an Masters of Fine Art degree, with 20% having attained a Ph. D. The highest number of respondents' degrees were awarded in the subject matter of Interior Design (58%), followed by Art/Art History (14%), Education (13%) and Architecture (12%). Most respondents who hold a Ph. D. received their degree pre tenure (91%). Twenty one percent of the respondents are currently pursuing an advanced degree and over half of those (57%) are pursuing a Ph. D. The growing number of doctoral degrees reflects the requirements of scholarship at institutions with a tenure system. Seventy percent of respondents identified their institution as having a promotion and tenure system and 55% had post tenure review.

Professional Credentials

Sixty five percent of respondents are certificate holders through a professional design certification agency. Seventy nine percent of those are NCIDQ certificate holders. In

addition 11% are NCARB, 6% LEED, and 3% NKBA. Forty-one percent are currently pursuing professional certification and of those most (48%) were in the process of pursuing LEED (a clear response to growing issues of sustainability), 35% were pursuing NCIDQ, and 9% NCARB.

Of those who have professional practice the largest number of respondents have 21 years or more (32%). Thirty percent of the membership responded that they had 11-20 years of practice. Twelve percent have less than two years of practice experience. Some respondents continue to practice ID on a part time or consultant basis at less than 20 hours a week (53%), and 40% do not currently practice.

Faculty Profile

The majority of respondents (89%) indicated that their programs hire adjunct/part-time faculty to teach interior design courses. Seventeen percent of respondents indicated that their institution's faculty consisted of more than 10 adjunct/part time faculty.

Requirements for Teaching

The masters degree is most often viewed as the minimum degree for hiring and required for a full-time, tenure-track position (73%). Twelve percent indicated that their institution required a Ph. D. for a tenure-track position. Only 14% were allowed to hire with a combination of undergraduate degree and extensive practice experience in a tenure-track position, but 54% were allowed to hire faculty with those qualifications for a non tenure-track position.

Though preferred, the NCIDQ was not required for a tenure-track position (58%), non-tenure track position (81%) or part-time position (82%).

Creative Scholarship

When asked if their institution considered creative scholarship equivalent to traditional research and publishing as criteria for tenure 66% replied yes. Thirty four percent responded that their institutions still considered it not equivalent.

Program Profiles

Most (80%) of the undergraduate degree programs were four-year programs. Nine percent were 3 years and 9% were two year programs. One and a half percent were five years.

CIDA (79%) and NASAD (28%) were the most prevalent accreditations held by member institutions. Eighty-nine percent of CIDA accredited programs were first professional, bachelor degree programs. Three percent were Masters Level Professional and 8% were both.

Value of IDEC Membership

Learning and sharing new teaching techniques, attending the annual conference, networking, and opportunities to serve the profession were ranked as the most important

benefits by respondents. These answers concerning benefits were based on existing categories suggested in the survey.