

## TEACHING TIPS

Thank you for your interest in the IDEC Make a Difference 2 [MAD2] project. Since 2007, hundreds of students have completed over 250 projects in numerous states serving the needs of local non-profits, individuals or incubating ideas for future development. The MAD project provides opportunities for team work, exposure to non-profits, client interaction and often, problem identification.

The Teacher's Tips page was created to help you integrate the MAD2 project into your courses. We hope you find the following tips and learning objectives useful.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The MAD2 project is an excellent way for your courses to meet these CIDA Standards [as noted from the July 2011 revision found at <http://www.accredit-id.org/professional-standards>].

#### Standard 2. Global Perspective for Design

- Students understand: c) how design needs may vary for a range of socio-economic stakeholders.
- The interior design program provides: d) exposure to contemporary issues affecting interior design. e) exposure to a variety of business, organizational, and familial structures.

#### Standard 4. Design Process

- The interior design program includes: h) opportunities to develop critical listening skills.

#### Standard 5. Collaboration

- The interior design program includes learning experiences that engage students in: c) collaboration, consensus building, leadership, and team work [if you require them to work in teams].

#### Standard 7. Professionalism and Business Practice

- f) The interior design program provides exposure to various market sectors and client types.
- The interior design program provides exposure to the role and value of: j) public and community service.

### CONNECT YOUR STUDENTS

Encourage your students to connect with an organization that is meaningful for them. If a student is passionate about the organization's cause, it will maximize their experience.

If your campus has a service-learning office, contact them for support [they make the process easy!].

Check out the site: <http://www.servicelearning.org/>

Consider national, regional and local non-profit organizations. Ask colleagues for suggestions of non-profits organizations.

### PREPARE YOUR STUDENTS

Facilitate a pre-service discussion with your students. Discuss ethics, responsibility, appropriate behavior, dress, teamwork [if required], etc.

Provide them with a phone number for "emergencies."

Encourage them to seek to go beyond the requirements of the challenge. Ask them to think about how they can exceed the organization's and project's expectations.

## TIME REQUIREMENT

While it may take longer to identify the organization and project, encourage your students, as an individual or within teams, to complete the design and implementation phases within 36 hours. Understanding how a quick project can be meaningful is an important part of the experience. Giving a little means much to these organizations and individuals. We suggest that you complete the project in conjunction with the National Make a Difference Day. National Make a Difference Day October 22, 2011 <http://www.usaweekend.com/section/MDDAY/Make-A-Difference-Day>

## SUBMISSION

All entries must be received by December 1st, 2011 to be included in the 2012 IDEC Make a Difference Exhibit. After you have reviewed the submissions, send files individually – one project per file, en masse by school. Please identify MAD, the school and the email sequence [if multiple emails are required due to total size] in the *Subject* [e.g. MAD\_FIU\_1, MAD\_FIU\_2, MAD\_FIU\_3, etc]. Individual files must be PDF format and not exceed 5.0MB [or 5,000KB] in size. Instructors must send all files to [MAD@fiu.edu](mailto:MAD@fiu.edu)

Although the requirements have changed slightly since the inception, past projects can be viewed at: [http://www.idec.org/events/special\\_events.php](http://www.idec.org/events/special_events.php)

## NOTE

\*Please note the students' projects must be safe and conform to local codes and other restrictions.

Responsibility for student projects rests with the sponsoring institution and not IDEC or the IDEC Social Responsibility Network.

## QUESTIONS?

Contact an IDEC Social Responsibility Network co-chair:  
Sarah Sherman at [ssherman@fiu.edu](mailto:ssherman@fiu.edu)  
or Jeanne Mercer-Ballard at [mercerja@appstate.edu](mailto:mercerja@appstate.edu)

