Make plans now to join us at the 2012 Annual Conference in Baltimore as IDEC marks its 50th anniversary. IDEC first began to compile its history in 1972 and later had anniversary celebrations at its annual conferences in 1982, 1987, 1992, and 2008. When the first efforts to document our history began, members recognized that IDEC had made a significant contribution, both internally to its membership and externally to the profession as a whole.

Without these early efforts and those that continue today, IDEC would not have a well-documented developmental footprint, organizational archives, a historical identity, or major milestone markers. In essence, our history served to preserve our heritage and as foundation for future growth.

Since 1963, the organization has served a diverse constituency that has supported the development of FIDER/CIDA, IDEP, NCIDQ, IDCEC, licensing activities, JID, InformeDesign, sustainability and LEED requirements, and documentation of the Common Body of Knowledge, among other things. Member engagement and leadership has been critical to the evolution and advancement of interior design education and practice. And, over the years, these commitments have continued to make IDEC the only voice for interior design education in North America.

In preparation for IDEC’s 50th anniversary celebration, the planning task force has been working on a number of projects.

- **IDEC History Website:** The IDEC History Web pages (see www.idec.org > What is IDEC > History) were launched in March. This section of the site contains information on IDEC presidents, conference locations, and historical milestones. Although there are some gaps in the historical milestones, they will be addressed before the end of the 2011-2012 year.

- **Oral History Project:** During the 2010 annual conference in Atlanta, we initiated an oral history project featuring videotaped interviews with a number of IDEC Presidents, Fellows, and an array of individual members sharing their thoughts about IDEC and its history. The project continued at the 2011 annual conference in Denver and other locations throughout North America. The recorded interviews will be compiled and edited into “The IDEC History Minute,” a work that will be featured during the 2012 annual conference and used for other special activities. This oral history project will become part of our archives. We hope it will become an IDEC tradition that will continue in subsequent years.

- **Memorabilia Display:**

  During the 2012 annual conference, a variety of memorabilia including photographs, publications, and other items related to IDEC’s history will be showcased.

- **JID History:**

  There was a presentation of the Journal of Interior Design history at the 2004 IDEC annual conference in Pittsburgh. But no written history has been documented to date. In response, Dorothy Fowles and Stephanie Clemons have begun reviewing archival files, contacting past editors, and writing an article on the JID history. We anticipate their work will be published after the 2012 IDEC annual conference.

- **IDEC History Highlights in the IDEC Newsletter:**

  This newsletter will be an important means of sharing information about IDEC’s history as we approach the 2012
annual conference. Look for our “IDEC History Highlight” in each issue.

Conceived in 1962, IDEC was formally established at its first annual conference in 1963 in Philadelphia. As noted in its first Constitution, IDEC is "dedicated to the development and improvement of interior design education," to “establish and strengthen lines of communication between individuals, educational institutions and organizations concerned with interior design," and “to improve teaching of interior design and, through it, the professional level of interior design.” This broad statement of purpose enabled IDEC’s founders to lay a foundation for an enduring, significant history, that has had a major impact on the interior design profession.

(See “IDEC’s History: Important Milestones 1963-1978” published in JID in 2010.)

If you would like to help document and preserve IDEC history in written or visual form, please contact bharwood2@gmail.com BEFORE you submit any materials.

Many thanks!!

IDEC 50th Anniversary Celebration Task Force: Buie Harwood (Chair), John Turpin, Amy Roehl, Bridget May, Dorothy Fowles, and our newest member Young Lee.