

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Committee on Academic and Student Affairs**

**AGENDA ITEM: III – H**

**DATE: April 1-2, 2015**

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**SUBJECT: Naming Request – South Dakota State University – School of Design**

Pursuant to BOR [Policy 1:6:2\(H\) Appointment, Authority, and Responsibilities of Presidents and Superintendents](#), South Dakota State University is requesting authorization to re-name the Division of Design to the School of Design (see Attachment I), located in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2015. The School of Design will bring together faculty and students from four departments spread across three colleges – Agricultural and Biological Sciences, Art and Sciences, and Education and Human Sciences.

The recommendation has been reviewed and approved by the faculty and leadership in the College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate, Provost and President. The new name accurately reflects the strategic plan of the College of Arts and Sciences and aligns with Goals 1, 2 and 3 of the University’s strategic plan, IMPACT 2018.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Authorize South Dakota State University to re-name the Division of Design to the “School of Design.”

# **School of Design**

**Including professional programs in  
Architecture, Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, and Visual Arts**

**College of Arts and Sciences  
South Dakota State University**

January, 2015

The Faculty of Design and the Board of Deans request that the Division of Design be formally recognized as a School of Design, located in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1, 2015.

The School's mission will be to educate tomorrow's leaders in the professional fields of architecture, graphic design, interior design, landscape architecture and studio art through recognized and accredited programs that prepare graduates for professional licensure and entry level careers. Graduates of these professional fields will foster a healthy, sustainable, and aesthetically pleasing environment, contributing to the vitality of South Dakota, the region and beyond. This request strengthens professional design programs in architecture, graphic design, art education, studio art, interior design, and landscape architecture, and provides an opportunity to gain national accreditation for each program, enabling graduates who are prepared for rewarding and productive careers. In order to make this vision a reality, a permanent School of Design brings together faculty and students from four departments (spread across three colleges – Agricultural and Biological Sciences, Arts and Sciences, and Education and Human Sciences).

For the past several years faculty in the academic programs of Architecture, Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, and Visual Arts have been working toward academic realignment aimed at providing students and faculty in design related disciplines with more engaging and rigorous teaching and learning experiences. In January 2012, the Faculty of Design was created to begin study of a School of Design concept. The committee engaged in a yearlong study that culminated in a report to President Chicoine and Provost Nichols on December 12, 2013. The report can be found at: [http://www.sdstate.edu/design/upload/School-of-Design-Proposal\\_12\\_12\\_13.pdf](http://www.sdstate.edu/design/upload/School-of-Design-Proposal_12_12_13.pdf). The Faculty of Design recommended organizing a School of Design to position South Dakota for full engagement in the global growth of design and its robust economic, social and technical innovation. In January 2014, the work and recommendations of the Faculty of Design was formally recognized as the interim Division of Design by the President and Provost. Faculty and academic leaders associated with the Division of Design were charged with preparing intent to plan documents for professional degree programs, revising the curriculum to capture professional and intellectual synergies, and propose an organizational infrastructure that will serve the interim Division of Design into the future. The Division of Design created an action plan that included organizing an operations committee for governance, development of a formal mission, values and goals statement, establishment of specialized sub-committees to examine First-year Experience in Design, a timeline for achieving accreditation for all professional degree programs, and a unified Design Standards Document. A comprehensive review of current operating budgets in Architecture, Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, and Visual Arts has been completed and efforts are underway to create a functional operating budget for a School of Design.

The driving forces behind the request to create a School of Design are found in South Dakota State University's strategic plan - IMPACT 2018, and in the strategic plan of the College of Arts and Sciences:

- IMPACT 2018 and CAS: Strategic Goal #1. Promote academic excellence through quality programs, engaged learners and an innovative teaching and learning environment.

Excellence is achieved through national accreditation for all of SDSU's design disciplines. Accredited programs foster engaged learning, design practice, discovery and innovation needed to achieve professional licensure and entry-level careers for graduates.

- IMPACT 2018 and CAS: Strategic Goal #2. Generate new knowledge, encourage innovations and promote artistic and creative works that contribute to the public good and result in social, cultural or economic development for South Dakota, the region, the nation and the world.

Engaged learning is achieved through stronger, enriched, and better-coordinated programs that promote professional licensure and prepares graduates for entry-level practice that embraces the design of healthy, sustainable, and aesthetically appropriate environments.

- IMPACT 2018 and CAS: Strategic Goal #3. Extend the reach and depth of the University by developing strategic programs and collaborations.

Strategic partnership is achieved by bringing together 450 students and 27 faculty now in four departments (spread across three colleges) that now teach, research, and practice design without the benefit of collaboration. A professional School fosters accreditation support, recruitment and development of faculty and students, engaged learners, experiential learning, and design scholarship and professional practice.

This request has been thoroughly reviewed and approved at South Dakota State University by the faculty and leadership in the College of Arts and Sciences, Academic Affairs Committee, Faculty Senate, and Provost and President.