

Item "A"

The Senate Council and the Senate Committee on Academic Organization and Structure unanimously recommend that the Senate approve the establishment of a School of Interior Design. A 17 page description of the proposal can be found at the Senate web site <http://www.uky.edu/USC/Comms/AOaS.html>. If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please call or email Cindy Todd (257-5871, ctodd@pop.uky.edu).

The proposal is to separate Interior Design from the Department of Interior Design, Merchandising and Textiles within the College of Human Environmental Sciences and to establish a School of Interior Design within that college, with Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles to revert to its original departmental designation. In brief, the rationale for the proposal is as follows:

- 1) Over the past twenty years Interior Design has established an identity separate from Merchandising and Textiles, and separating Interior Design from Merchandising and Textiles will do no harm to the department.
- 2) Interior Design has national and regional attention through its symposium, Designs on the Edge, and is poised to become nationally prominent.
- 3) Interior Design is a profession in which professional standards are being developed and states are moving toward certification. As a professional discipline, Interior Design may be expected to continue to develop its own unique identity.
- 4) Establishing a School of Interior Design, with a school director, will enhance the visibility and reputation of the school within the profession and within other universities.
- 5) Fund- raising is expected to accelerate with school status.
- 5) The expected benefit greatly exceeds the projected cost of \$53,987 recurring and \$32,000 non-recurring.
- 6) The proposal is strongly supported by the Chancellor and the Dean and faculty of Human Environmental Sciences.

For the foregoing reasons, both the Senate Committee on Organization and Structure and the Senate Council voted unanimously to recommend approval of the proposal.

Note: If approved the proposal will be forwarded to the Administration for appropriate action