

2009 RANKINGS

Academic programs in the K-State College of Architecture, Planning and Design were ranked as follows in the 2009 nation-wide survey of leading firms across the United States:

- bachelor of interior architecture/design programs—first;
- master of interior architecture/design programs—second;
- bachelor of landscape architecture program—second;
- master of landscape architecture program—eighth; and
- master of architecture program—eleventh.

The College of Architecture, Planning and Design is currently transitioning its professional five-year bachelor's degree programs into five-year master's degrees in architecture, interior architecture and product design, and landscape architecture. In two of the three disciplines, both the former undergraduate and the new graduate programs were ranked.

K-State's programs in landscape architecture and interior architecture/design have continually ranked in the top eight of the survey. This is the eighth time the K-State architecture program has been in the top twelve.

The study has been conducted during the past 10 years for architecture and interior architecture/design, and during the past five years for landscape architecture.

Each year, *DesignIntelligence* and the Design Futures Council conduct this study, in conjunction with the *Almanac of Architecture and Design*, to rank accredited undergraduate and graduate programs throughout the U.S. from the perspective of leading practitioners who have had direct experience in the hiring and performance evaluation of recent architecture and design graduates.

These leading firms were queried about which college and university programs have best prepared students for today's and tomorrow's professional practice. A cross section of U.S. firms with disbursed geographic profiles were invited to participate, including firms that are leaders in market sectors such as health care, commercial and institutional, as well as those that have won major national, state, local and market-sector awards.

More than 200 leading professional practices were included in the research, which had a response rate of more than 85 percent of the largest architecture and design firms in the U.S. Also responding were small- and medium-sized firms that rank

among the most respected design organizations. In addition, deans and chairs from more than 100 academic programs participated in this study.

The 2009 study also queried participants regarding other issues, including the preparedness of recent graduates in a range of vital skills. K-State architecture graduates ranked fifth in communication skills and in design, while K-State's landscape architecture graduates were ranked first in construction methods and materials, second in security design principles and third in design.

In a ranking that used several criteria to assemble a list of architecture programs that have distinguished themselves over the years, the K-State architecture program scored "With High Distinction."

Academic deans were also asked to indicate the programs they most admired from among those accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation. The K-State interior architecture/design programs were ranked second, cited for excellent technological solutions, reputation and design quality.

Although K-State offers separate programs in interior architecture, through the College of Architecture, Planning and Design, and in interior

design, through the College of Human Ecology, both programs are combined for survey purposes.

Lastly, each year *DesignIntelligence* selects a team of educators and education administrators who exemplify excellence in design education leadership. The 2009 class of education role models was selected by *DesignIntelligence* staff with extensive input from hundreds of design professionals, academic department heads and students. Dennis Law, former dean of the K-State College of Architecture, Planning and Design, was included in that list of 26 educators. This is the third time he has been selected.

According to its sponsors, this survey can be used, along with other considerations, to help current and future students plan their educational paths.

There are approximately 149 accredited interior architecture/interior design programs, 122 accredited architecture programs and 81 accredited landscape architecture programs in the U.S.