

November 10, 2017

Asa Simon Mittman
Chair, Department of Art and Art History
California State University, Chico
First and Normal
Chico, CA 95929-0820

Dear Professor Mittman:

Thank you for submitting your application for review by the NASAD Commission on Accreditation. The Commission, at its October 2017 meetings, took action on the institution's application.

Please find enclosed a Commission Action Report describing this action in detail. This report contains information of note and, if applicable, any requests for further information from the Commission. Please note the Association's policy regarding *Disclosure and Confidentiality*, a copy of which has been enclosed.

This action is taken based upon a review of California State University, Chico according to the NASAD accreditation standards in effect in October 2017.

As an accredited institutional member of NASAD, the institution is reminded of its responsibility to participate in reviews and revisions to the *NASAD Handbook*, and to maintain its operations and programs current with NASAD standards as these are developed and approved.

The Commission on Accreditation and the Association appreciate the institution's efforts with regard to its application, and its careful consideration of and attention to NASAD accreditation standards and guidelines. Further, the Commission and Association appreciate the work accomplished by the institution on behalf of the visual arts and design and higher education.

Please contact the NASAD National Office staff if you have questions, or need assistance with regard to this action or any other aspect of the work of the Association.

We offer congratulations on your achievements and best wishes for the continuing success of the institution. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Karen P. Moynahan
Executive Director
KPM:jk
Enclosure

cc: Gayle Hutchinson, President
California State University, Chico

2

National Association of Schools of Art and Design
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21
Reston, Virginia 20190-5248

COMMISSION ACTION REPORT

This document provides the official action of the Commission as indicated in the cover letter of the same date.

November 10, 2017

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
Department of Art and Art History
Department of Media Arts, Design, and Technology

Action:

Action 1 of 1: Application for renewal of Membership – Response

The Commission voted to continue to defer action pending Response to the concerns listed below. This deferral by the Commission is not a negative action. Rather, it enables consideration of issues and concerns by the institution and the Commission within the framework of the present Self-Study and on-site visit.

The institution is asked to respond to the concerns below.

Items for Response:

1. The Commission notes the institution's reply regarding the degree, Bachelor of Arts-4 years: Communication Design (Graphic Design) (see Response dated September 5, 2017, p. 1). However, it continues to remain unclear whether this degree is intended as a professional or liberal arts degree. Once the nature of the degree has been confirmed, the institution is asked to provide further information (including, but not limited to, the degree's goals and objectives, an amended curricular chart in NASAD format, and a discussion of the competencies the degree is intended to develop) which demonstrates and documents that the degree is in compliance with applicable standards (see Commission Action Report dated November 11, 2016; NASAD *Handbook 2016-17*, Standards for Accreditation II.I.1.g. and 2.c.; IV.C.1.a. and b., IV.C.2.d.; IV.C. 4., and 5.; VII.-XIII.).
2. The Commission notes the institution's reply regarding the duplication of curricula in the area of Photography (see Response dated September 5, 2017, p. 1). As it would appear that there may be duplication with regard to other areas, the institution is requested to provide a list all duplicated programs, to study the necessity for any duplication, and to provide an outcome of its considerations in this regard (see NASAD *Handbook 2016-17*, Standards for Accreditation II.B.1. and II.F.1.).

2

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
Department of Art and Art History
Department of Media Arts, Design, and Technology
NASAD Commission Action Report
November 10, 2017
Page 2

Due Date:

March 1 for consideration at the Commission meetings of April 2018.

The Procedures for Submitting Responses and Progress Reports may be downloaded from the NASAD website at <https://nasad.arts-accredit.org> (see “Accreditation,” beneath that “Accreditation Materials,” and beneath that “Procedures”).

Notes:

1. Should the institution plan to propose new curricular programs in response to the above items, applications for Plan Approval will be required for each new degree. Instructions for submitting Plan Approval applications are found in the NASAD documents *Policies and Procedures for Reviews of New Curricula* and *Instructions for Preparing Curricular Tables in the NASAD Format*. These documents may be downloaded from the NASAD website at <https://nasad.arts-accredit.org> (see “Accreditation,” beneath that “Accreditation Materials,” beneath that “Procedures,” and beneath that “New Curricula”).
2. The Commission recognizes that the institution is working diligently to fulfill its educational and artistic purposes, and that it is endeavoring to address and respond to the issues raised by the Commission. At this time, as a matter of procedure, the Commission asks the institution to review the policy in the NASAD Rules of Practice and Procedure regarding continuous deferrals (see NASAD *Handbook 2016-17*, Rules of Practice and Procedure, Part II, Article IV, Section 3). The next consideration of the institution’s Response will be the third consideration of the application for renewal of Membership.

Commendation:

The Commission commends the institution on the additional financial support made available to address facilities issues in Ayres Hall. Continuous support of this kind assists the art/design unit to continue to meet artistic and curricular purposes and goals.



Karen P. Moynahan
Executive Director

KPM:jk

RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

**PART II: ARTICLE XIII
DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

Section 1. NASAD provides numerous services that include the publication of policy statements, reports, and surveys. These are available to the public, some for a fee. Upon request, NASAD will provide the academic and professional qualifications of the members of its policy and decision-making bodies and its administrative personnel.

Section 2. Upon request, NASAD will make publicly available all information about an institution/program that is published in NASAD literature (see Rules of Practice and Procedure, Part II., Article XI., Section 3.). NASAD will also indicate whether or not an institution/program holds or has held accredited membership.

Section 3. NASAD will not make publicly available any information supplied by the institution or by representatives of NASAD in the course of the accreditation process. This includes Self-Study reports, Visitors' Reports, and correspondence. While NASAD encourages institutions/programs to make publicly available information about their accredited status and to share accreditation materials with individuals and agencies having legitimate claim to information beyond that available to the general public, the Association regards all accreditation materials as the property of the institution. Therefore, release of these materials is either through the institution or by its permission.

Section 4. NASAD will not make publicly available any information provided in third-party comment or an institution's response to third-party comment or any correspondence related to third-party comment. See Rules of Practice and Procedure, Part II., Article IV., Section 1.

Section 5. If an institution releases information that misrepresents or distorts any action by NASAD with respect to any aspect of the accreditation process, or the status of affiliation with NASAD, the chief executive officer of the institution and the program director, where applicable, will be notified by the NASAD Executive Director and informed that corrective action must be taken. If the misrepresentation or distortion is not promptly corrected, NASAD, at its discretion, may release a public statement in such a form and content as it deems necessary to provide the correct information.

The same rule and sequence are applied to individuals and organizations misrepresenting or distorting accreditation actions of NASAD.

NASAD reserves the right to correct false or misleading information at any time.

Section 6. Certain relationships yield information which legally cannot be disclosed without the consent of the person who provides it—for example, the relationship between physician and patient, between attorney and client, between clergy and penitent, etc. Should such information, or other information that is protected under law by a comparable privilege or safeguard, come into the hands of NASAD or an NASAD evaluation team, its disclosure to persons other than the immediate recipients is forbidden.

Explanation of Deferral

In the accreditation process, the Commission on Accreditation often finds a situation in which an institution cannot be granted initial accreditation or renewal of accreditation on the basis of evidence presented. This may be because the institution clearly does not meet the standards as outlined in the *NASAD Handbook*, or because sufficient information has not been provided.

Rather than deny accreditation or place the institution on probation, the Commission defers any action until certain conditions are met that clarify the situation and/or bring the institution into compliance. Deferral is not a negative action, but rather a mechanism for dialogue between the Commission and an institution. The deferral concept is intended to prevent short review cycles and to obviate the need for other review procedures that would be expensive to the institution.

Member institutions whose applications are deferred continue their current membership status and maintain all rights and responsibilities of Membership. Deferral does not mean that an institution has lost its accreditation, its right to vote during the Annual Meeting, or its listing in the *NASAD Directory*. Deferral simply indicates that the institution has one or more issues that need to be addressed, reviewed, or explained in more detail before the institution's application can be approved.

There is no public notice of deferral. Letters reporting accreditation actions are sent only to the primary institutional representative to NASAD and the chief executive officer of the institution. The NASAD National Office staff does not discuss an institution's status or application with anyone other than the art/design executive or other designated administrative officials of the institution.

Please do not hesitate to contact the National Office staff if we may provide further clarification or information concerning the actions of the Commission.

Thank you.