

## **AIGA Design Educators Community CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

Deadline May 23, 2014

**Dear Colleagues,**

AIGA seeks active, dedicated educators and practitioners to provide service and leadership on its Design Educators Community Steering Committee. Nominations are now being accepted for three-year positions starting August 1, 2014. **The committee seeks two new members.**

Minimum qualification for consideration to AIGA's Design Educators Steering Committee is experience teaching visual communication or graphic design, or a related field of study, at the college or university level. All applicants must be current AIGA members. Candidates with experience in local chapter board leadership or committee service are encouraged to apply. Information about the committee, its purpose, and current initiatives and events can be found at the AIGA Design Educators website at **[educators.aiga.org](http://educators.aiga.org)**.

Committee members meet once a month for a conference call and annually for a retreat, which typically takes place at the fall AIGA Design Educators conference or the biennial AIGA national conference. Members are expected to participate in ongoing DEC projects, to further existing initiatives, or to begin new initiatives that will benefit the Design Educators Community.

To apply, complete the application and email it to **[kzim@email.arizona.edu](mailto:kzim@email.arizona.edu)**. Members will be selected in order to represent a range of geographic locations, institutions and programs while identifying those best able to contribute to our mission. **Applications are due May 23, 2014** and notification of results will be sent in July.

For more information, visit the website at [educators.aiga.org](http://educators.aiga.org).

### **Mission of the AIGA Design Educators Community**

Our mission is to enhance the abilities of design educators and educational institutions to prepare future designers for excellence in design practice, design theory and design writing at the undergraduate and graduate levels, while supporting the fundamental mission of AIGA.

AIGA's purpose is to further excellence in design as a broadly defined discipline, strategic tool for business, and cultural force. AIGA is a professional association committed to stimulating thinking about design through the exchange of ideas and information, the encouragement of critical analysis and research, and the advancement of education and ethical practice.

### **Objectives**

AIGA Design Educators Community was established to support the unique activities and responsibilities of the design educator at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels in a wide variety of institutional settings. The goals of this community are to: facilitate communication among design educators; create, foster and promote dialogue; produce design education events such as conferences and competitions; present current research and teaching methods; establish standards for design education; differentiate between design's various sub-disciplines; raise the level of design-driven thinking in schools across the country; and communicate the value of design education to the larger profession.

Subjects of interest to this community span teaching, research and service. They include curriculum and program development, design theory and history, methodology, typography, usability research, and the social roles of designers, as well as tenure, promotion, teaching standards and school accreditation.

### **Current members the steering committee**

Helen Armstrong, Co-Chairperson, Miami University, Miami, OH  
 Julie Spivey, Co-Chairperson, University of Georgia, Athens, GA  
 Troy Abel, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA  
 Eric Benson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL  
 Frank Armstrong, California State University, Chico, CA  
 Amy Fidler, Bowling Green State University, OH  
 Kenneth Fitzgerald, Old Dominion University, VA  
 Michael Gibson, University of North Texas, TX  
 Annabell Gould, University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
 Lara McCormick, New Hampshire Institute of Art, Manchester, NH  
 Ruki Ravikumar, Ex-Officio, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK  
 Karen Zimmermann, University of Arizona, AZ

### **Initiatives of the AIGA Design Educators Community**

Initiatives address the mission of the organization, are managed by committee members and are expected to be addressed during the three-year term of members. Below is an abbreviated list of active projects. More information can be found on the website.

#### **CURRENT INITIATIVES**

- **DESIGN TEACHING RESOURCE**

Develop a shared resource of design projects to be shared among educators.

- **DESIGN FOR GOOD IN EDUCATION**

Develop information and resources in support of the Design for Good movement within AIGA National, specifically for design educators.

- **DESIGN JOURNAL**

Determine the parameters of a new peer-reviewed journal dedicated to design education and research.

- **COMMUNITY COLLEGE EDUCATORS**

Expand support and participation of two-year colleges in AIGA's educator community.

#### **ONGOING EFFORTS**

- **DESIGN FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS**

Competitive grants totaling \$10,000 awarded biannually through a peer-review process to provide support for educators undertaking design research.

- **CONFERENCES AND WEBINARS**

Solicit and fund conference proposals that address issues in design education and plan and deliver appropriate webinars.

- **CONFERENCE HANDBOOK**

Share best-practices for conference planners.

- WEBSITE

Develop AIGA DEC online presence as the go-to place for information about design education.

## DEVELOPED RESOURCES

- PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF TEACHING

A set of living principles to guide design educators in putting ethics into practice and collect resources to assist with teaching ethics and sustainability to students.

- PROMOTION AND TENURE

Collected resources that inform faculty members about best practices in the promotion and tenure process.

- AIGA/NASAD TWO-YEAR EDUCATION BRIEFING PAPER

Contributes to the spectrum of other briefing papers prepared by AIGA for NASAD. This paper is intended to help all concerned consider the extent to which two-year graphic design programs can accomplish their published goals.

**For more information, please contact Karen Zimmermann at [kzim@email.arizona.edu](mailto:kzim@email.arizona.edu)**