IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION
NOTICE OF INTENT
To initiate a
New, Expanded, Cooperative, Discontinued, program component or Off-Campus Instructional Program or Instructional/Research Unit

Institution Submitting Proposal: University of Idaho
Name of College, School, or Division: College of Art & Architecture
Name of Department(s) or Area(s): Architecture & Interior Design

Indicate if this Notice of Intent (NOI) is for an Academic or Professional Technical Program
Academic X Professional - Technical 

This is a New, Expanded, Cooperative, Contract, or Off-Campus Instructional Program, or Administrative/Research Unit (circle one) leading to:

Discontinue MS Architecture

(Degree or Certificate)

Proposed Starting Date: July 1, 2009

For New Programs: For Other Activity:

Program (i.e., degree) Title & CIP 2000

☐ Program Component (major/minor/option/emphasis)
☐ Off-Campus Activity/Resident Center
☐ Instructional/Research Unit
☐ Addition/Expansion
X Discontinuance/consolidation
☐ Contract Program
☐ Other

Dean’s signature on file 2/2/09

College Dean (Institution) Date
Chief Fiscal Officer (Institution) Date
Chief Academic Officer (Institution) Date
President Date

VP Research & Graduate Studies Date
State Administrator, SDPTE Date
Chief Academic Officer, OSBE Date
SBOE/OSBE Approval Date

MS Architecture Program
Page 1
1. Briefly describe the nature of the request e.g., is this a new program (degree, program, or certificate) or program component (e.g., new, discontinued, modified, addition to an existing program or option).

The request is to be allowed to discontinue the MS Architecture degree. This program draws resources from other existing professional programs.

2. Provide a statement of need for program or a program modification. Include student and state need, demand, and employment potential. **Attach a Scope and Sequence, SDPTE Form Attachment B, for professional-technical education requests.** (Use additional sheets if necessary.).

The request to cancel this degree program is based on a number of factors including the following:

**Summary:**

Closure of this degree allows the department to focus its limited faculty resources on the accredited, seamless professional, graduate degree as well as the undergraduate BS Arch degree which are taught contiguously. Students receive both the BS Arch and M Arch at the same time. The Yardley Report suggested that the University of Idaho focus on degrees related to professional programs leading to state licensure.

Currently, students in this non-professional MS Arch degree program recommended for closure are taught as an overload beyond normal teaching assignments.

**Quality:** Graduates of the MS Arch program are generally of high quality and find jobs in teaching, research and in the public sector.

**Duplication:** The program does not duplicate other programs or degrees at the university.

**Centrality:** Architecture is listed in the mandate documents for the University of Idaho. It is central to the mission.

**Demand:** Approximately two to three students are admitted per year out of about 10-12 applicants per year. There are approximately six students in the program and two newly admitted.

**Resources:** The MS program is currently administered as an “overload” to normal teaching assignments. Although teaching loads in this department are very high, removal of this degree would not offset the benefits provided by MS students serving as teaching and research assistants.”.

3. Briefly describe how the institution will ensure the quality of the program (e.g., accreditation, professional societies, licensing boards, etc.).

The Master of Architecture remains the accredited professional degree. Closure of MS Arch program does not affect accreditation.

4. Identify similar programs offered within the state of Idaho or in the region by other colleges/universities. If the proposed request is similar to another program, provide a rationale for
the duplication. This may not apply to PTE programs if workforce needs within the respective region have been established.

This does not apply. The University of Idaho offers the only accredited Architecture Program in the State of Idaho and the only MS Arch in the state of Idaho.

Enrollment and Graduates (i.e., number of majors or other relevant data)
By Institution for the Proposed Program
Last three years beginning with the current year and the 2 previous years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Relevant Enrollment Data</th>
<th>Number of Graduates</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Current</td>
<td>Previous Year</td>
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<td>BSU</td>
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<td>UI</td>
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Degrees offered by school/college or program(s) within disciplinary area under review

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution and Degree name</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Specializations within the discipline (to reflect a national perspective)</th>
<th>Specializations offered within the degree at the institution</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>BSU</td>
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5. Describe how this request is consistent with the State Board of Education’s policy or role and mission of the institution. (i.e. centrality).

This closure allows us to focus on our professionally accredited degree, the Master of Architecture which is central to the role of the University.

6. Is the proposed program in the 8-year Plan? Indicate below.

Yes  X  No _____

If not on 8-year plan, provide a justification for adding the program.

8. Resources--Faculty/Staff/Space Needs/Capital Outlay. (Use additional sheets if necessary.):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Fiscal Impact</th>
<th>FY</th>
<th>FY</th>
<th>FY</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. Expenditures</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Personnel</td>
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<td>2. Operating</td>
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<td>3. Capital Outlay</td>
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<td>4. Facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</table>

| B. Source of Funds      |        |        |        |       |
| 1. Appropriated-        |        |        |        |       |
| reallocation           |        |        |        |       |
| 2. Appropriated – New   |        |        |        |       |
| 3. Federal             |        |        |        |       |
| 4. Other:              |        |        |        |       |
| TOTAL:                  | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0     |

| B. Nature of Funds      |        |        |        |       |
| 1. Recurring *          |        |        |        |       |
| 2. Non-recurring **     |        |        |        |       |
| TOTAL:                  | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0     |

* Recurring is defined as ongoing operating budget for the program, which will become of the base.
**Non-recurring is defined as one-time funding in a fiscal year and not part of the base.**

## Notice of Intent (NOI) Approval Tracking Form

Committee Chairs please append this document to the relevant NOI and send it forward to the next committee for review.

**Committee:** Faculty Committee of the Whole  
Department of Architecture and Interior Design.  
2/4/2009

**Program/Degree:** MS. Architecture

**Discussion:**

Diane Armpriest began the discussion by providing an overview of the NOI Process. The recommended closure of the MS Architecture program was a result of the prioritization process that identified the MS Arch as one of the 41 programs to be closed. The NOI for each program was then developed at the college level. The NOI we are reviewing today was initiated by Dean Hoversten and sent to the department chair who reviewed it and added minor editorial changes before sending it to faculty for review and discussion. Today we need to discuss the elimination of the MS Architecture at the department meeting as a committee of the whole, revise the form as needed and send it, together with minutes of the meeting, to the college curriculum committee for discussion.

Anne said that we should state clearly that it was not the department who authored this document (NOI). The statement with our initial response to the dean should be attached to the NOI document as this outlines our position. The department believes that the benefits outweigh the costs but the administration is recommending this because of current and forecasted constraints.

Frank added that it is probably a political move and if not approved and may increase vulnerability of other department programs to future cuts.

The department preference is freezing the program rather than elimination because it would be easier to reactivate and we may want to expand it at a future date when the financial climate is healthier.

The MS Arch program does not increase the teaching/advising load for all faculty members; it affects only the major professors and committee members working with MS Arch students.

Question Yardley statement in NOI. There was no mention of the MS in Yardley, but the entire university was encouraged to support the professional programs.

The benefits outweigh the cost despite the fact that it contributes to an additional teaching/advising load.

We should acknowledge that the University of Idaho needs to make cuts.

The consensus was to recommend freezing the MS Arch program to create options in the future.

Include department’s cost benefit analysis with document.
Bruce said it is the only MS Arch program in the state.

We should be sensitive to the University’s recommendations.

End of discussion...........

At the meeting additional changes were also made directly on the NOI form by Diane in response to faculty comments, and she will circulate it to all faculty for review prior to submitting it to the College Curriculum Committee.

Vote:

The NOI, Addendum and minutes are forwarded with unanimous support to the CAA Curriculum Committee

9. Addendum

This NOI was not initiated by the faculty of the Department of Architecture and Interior Design, and the following statement presents the position of the Department relative to the proposed closure of the MS Architecture program.

The Department of Architecture and Interior Design acknowledge that the University of Idaho needs to make substantial budget cuts; however, the Department’s cost benefit analysis suggests that the benefits to the University of Idaho associated with retaining the MS Architecture program outweigh the minor costs associated with delivering the program. MS student and faculty research helps forward the University initiatives on sustainability, and we offer the only MS Arch program in the State of Idaho. In addition, student profiles typically fall into the categories of non-traditional and international, thus increasing diversity at the University of Idaho.

Again, understanding the current fiscal environment, we recommend that we freeze the program until additional resources are available, thus saving the additional time and money required to request reopening the program at a later date. A summary of the findings of our assessment of program strengths is attached.

10. Department of Architecture and Interior Design
“Sense of the Faculty” on Proposed Elimination of MS in Architecture
10/27/09

The faculty of the Department of Architecture and Interior Design discussed the proposal to eliminate the MS Architecture degree during our faculty meeting, Jan 21, 2009. As a point of clarification, there are currently six active students in the program, and 2 admitted to start in 2009. Faculty in Architecture, Interior Design and VTD participate directly in the program. The students choose our program because they are interested in university teaching, research or preparation for Ph.D. programs elsewhere.

In addition, it is important to point out that the topics pursued by most of our graduate students are in the area of sustainable design or virtual technology and design – areas that have already been identified as central to the strategic plan and focus areas of the University of Idaho.

We believe the advantages of maintaining the program outweigh the disadvantages.
• No funding is budgeted to support faculty teaching in the program, so it creates a positive cash flow for the University.
• The program is selective – admitting only 2-3 students (of approximately 10 applicants) annually. Students are admitted to the program only if a faculty member would like to work with them and help pursue their mutual research agendas. There are several examples of collaborative outcomes, including joint publications, symposia and grants.
• Some MS students serve as teaching assistants in Foundations, Architecture and VTD.
• The participation of MS students in graduate level courses enriches the experience of the professional M.Arch students who are also enrolled.
• MS students come from around the world and increase the diversity of our program.

We also noted several disadvantages to offering our current program.

• Working with MS students does increase the teaching loads of faculty who serve as major professors or on committees.
• Because the program is small, and students are often enrolled part-time, we have not established a strong MS Culture.
• There is no funding available to recruit students, and we only have very limited funding available to support the students.

The preference of the faculty is to continue the MSArch program. As an alternative approach, recognizing that the University is in a serious fiscal crisis, we would propose “freezing” the program rather than eliminating it. By taking that action, it would be easier to reactivate it at such time as resources become available.
Notice of Intent (NOI) Approval Tracking Form

Committee Chairs please append this document to the relevant NOI and send it forward to the next committee for review.

Committee: College of Art and Architecture Curriculum Committee
Jill Dacey (chair), Brian Sumption, Anne Marshall, Diane Armpriest, Shauna Corry, Elizabeth Graff.

Program/Degree: Discontinue the MS Architecture degree

Discussion:

It should be noted that this NOI was not initiated by the Department of Architecture and Interior Design, but by Mark Hoversten, Dean of the College of Art and Architecture.

Diane Armpriest and Anne Marshall presented in support of the MS Arch degree. The students teach and enhance research. The students have contributed to an increased research output and increase in diversity…most students are International students.

The department realizes the situation the University is in and that we are being requested to make cuts; however, they want to freeze the program rather than do away with it, in order to have the option of reinstating the program later.

There are no separate classes but the students do a thesis, so there is an extra cost. Elizabeth Graff asked what additional demands are placed on the department by having these students. Response was that it requires one-on-one with faculty members to design their program and then with the committee.

Most MS students don’t have a professional degree in architecture. The student may be from another discipline completely. Diane says that it takes about an hour a week for a year to mentor a student. May or may not contribute to the faculty members’ research. Only take the student if there is a faculty member who wants to take this person on, otherwise they are not admitted. The one hour is not off-loaded by teaching by the student.

There is concern that if we don’t do this that the degree will be eliminated without input. Mark added that if there are compelling reasons to keep a program, these will be listened to.

Vote: To support the NOI to discontinue the MS Architecture degree, not unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to reconsider the NOI to Discontinue the MS Architecture after the NOI to discontinue the MAT Art was discussed.

For consistency in how the NOI was presented and the vote taken, the committee determined that the question was not presented consistently with all NOIs being considered. After further clarification of the similarity to the MAT Art in terms of faculty time and positive aspects of the program, the College Curriculum Committee re-voted.

Vote: To NOT support the NOI to discontinue the MS Architecture degree, unanimously.
Notice of Intent (NOI) Approval Tracking Form

Committee Chairs please append this document to the relevant NOI and send it forward to the next committee for review.

Committee:  Graduate Council

Program/Degree:   Master of Science Architecture

Discussion:

Jill Dacey opened discussion. The AA curriculum committee voted to keep the program but not admit students rather than eliminate the MS in Architecture. This degree is the thesis program for the Architecture program. Only a few students are allowed into the program each year. The students participate with faculty and faculty research.

The department approved, under protest, to close it. College Curr Comm, voted for the NOI- College voted unanimously not to approve.

Discussion points are summarized. The dept savings would be felt at the faculty level, as faculty help students write theses. The thesis is in line with the faculty’s research. The students take the same courses as the March (non-thesis option) students. Students in this degree do not help create the threshold number for classes, as there are so few students. Another advantage to maintain a small program is to enhance scholarly productivity, as the University of Idaho strategic plan indicates.

Move to vote on the NOI to discontinue MS Arch
y=2, n=6, abstain=4

Vote:   __2__ In Favor

        __6__ Opposed

        __4__ Abstain
Notice of Intent (NOI) Approval Tracking Form

Committee Chairs please append this document to the relevant NOI and send it forward to the next committee for review.

Committee: University Curriculum Committee  Date: 3/09/09

Absent: Mark Secrist, Garrett Holbrook.
Others Present: Diane Armpriest, Thea Lu, Charles Tibbals, Dwaine Hubbard

Program/Degree: Discontinue the Master of Science (M.S.) major in Architecture

Discussion:

UCC-09-105  College of Art and Architecture
Committee chair Dacey introduced the proposed Notice of Intent (NOI) from the College of Art and Architecture to discontinue the Master of Science (M.S.) major in Architecture. Committee member Battaglia asked what where the differences between the B.S.Arch, M.S. in Architecture, and M.Arch programs. Dacey explained the differences between the programs. Diane Armpriest added that the MS. In Architecture does not necessarily require an architecture background, although it does require in interest in architecture. Committee member Machleidt asked if the M.S. in Architecture is the departments only research focused graduate program since the department does not offer a Ph.D. Dacey indicated that is correct. Committee member Marshall asked about the culture in Architecture and whether the University of Idaho would lose credibility by losing its only research focused graduate program in Architecture. Armpriest indicated that it is a matter of opinion. Armpriest noted that the M.S. in Architecture program served as a stepping stone for students who wish to go one to earn a Ph.D. Armpriest explained that the department is very selective about who is admits to the program and only chooses applicants that the faculty are interested in working with. Machleidt asked what the strategic plan of the department is and if it includes expanding research in architecture. Committee member Eckwright noted that it is the University of Idaho’s responsibility to the State of Idaho to provide architecture instruction and training. Committee member asked what freezing a program meant as indicated by the college curriculum committee. The committee Denied the proposed NOI 0 for and 10 against, and will forward the proposed NOI to Faculty Council for review.

Vote: Denied – 0 for and 10 against