University of Utah College of Architecture + Planning  
Multi-Disciplinary Program  

Director of Multi-Disciplinary Design Program  

The Multi-disciplinary Design Program (MDD) within the School of Architecture at the University of Utah is seeking a new Director. This position will be a full-time appointment to the MDD faculty at the rank of Associate Professor. The successful candidate will be a dynamic leader with academic experience and extensive knowledge of product design and related design fields. The Director will continue to develop current initiatives and manage a full-time faculty of 4 individuals + 15 adjuncts, while guiding the Program to become a Division of Multi-disciplinary Design within the College of Architecture + Planning, with the assumption the Director will then become the first Chair of that division.  

The MDD Program is a new approach to undergraduate design education that has proven to be innovative and successful in educating design professionals, leaders, and scholars. Our curriculum acknowledges the diverse and complex context in the professional community into which our students enter and seeks to educate thinkers and makers to the highest standard. This broad perspective allows students to see the connections between these design specialties and focus on the process of design as a creative idea and development framework. We are committed to educating students to have the ability and engagement to affect the world with positive impact. The program has existing partnerships with Art, Business, Communication, Engineering, Health, Medicine, and Psychology.  

Now entering its fourth official year, the Program is the perfect opportunity for a visionary Director to expand on how education can meet the future of the design profession. The new Director also will have the opportunity to engage with colleagues in the broader University community for collaboration and research that will continue to promote the value of design in all areas of the academy and entrepreneurship.  

This is a full-time 10-month (9-month academic + 1-month administrative salary) appointment with a start date of July 1, 2016. Applications received by February 1, 2016, will receive a full review, however the position remain open until filled. To apply, please see https://utah.peopleadmin.com/postings/47680.  

Qualifications:  

- Possess a terminal degree in design (product, industrial or interaction) or a closely related field;  
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to higher education with a minimum of six years of relevant experience;  
- Have an exceptional record of creative, professional, scholarly and/or academic activities;  
- Have an exceptional teaching record and compelling teaching philosophy;  
- Possess a thorough understanding of the professional practice of design; and
• Have demonstrated experience in forming and fostering relationships with affiliated colleges and programs such as architecture, art, business, communication, engineering, medicine, and urban ecology and planning.

• Experience with academic administrative leadership and management is highly preferred.

• Experience with fund raising is highly preferred.

Duties and expectations:

• Oversee budgetary, personnel, and program activities of the MDD Program.

• Set agenda and direction for the Program with short-term and long-term objectives.

• Establish faculty workloads.

• Represent, promote and expand Program relationships within the University and external community.

• Teach within the Program.

• Maintain and grow scholarly activity within the Program.

The College of Architecture + Planning at the University of Utah is a community of award-winning and highly recognized faculty, entrepreneurial students, and supportive staff who together form a creative community unlike any other. Structurally, the College is made up of the Department of City and Metropolitan Planning and the School of Architecture, with the Multi-disciplinary Design Program located within the School. We also are home to three research centers: the Ecological Planning Center, the Integrated Technology in Architecture Center, and the Metropolitan Research Center, as well as the Spark Design Initiative.

Positioned on the East Bench of the Wasatch mountain range, the University of Utah is the flagship of the state higher education system. The location in Salt Lake City has a reasonable cost of living, beautiful scenery, multiple outdoor recreation opportunities, convenient transit, an active design and art community, and a surprisingly cosmopolitan and diverse culture, which enhance the quality of life in the region. The Kiplinger Report recently indicated that Salt Lake City was one of the "best cities for the next decade."

Potential applicants are encouraged to consult the program web site at www.design.utah.edu.

Qualified applicants must submit a curriculum vitae, a letter of intent which addresses your leadership approach and initial impressions of what you may seek to emphasize within this leadership role, your pedagogical approach, a website link with portfolio and/or a scholarly/design portfolio (10 MB limit submitted as a pdf), and a list of five references (with phone/fax numbers, mailing and e-mail addresses) to https://utah.peopleadmin.com/postings/47680. Submissions must be received by February 1, 2016, to receive a full review.
Please address questions for this position to Mimi Locher, Chair, MDD Director Search Committee, University of Utah, School of Architecture, 375 South 1530 East, Room 235, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112-0370 (phone: 801-585-8946 or email: locher@arch.utah.edu).

The University of Utah is fully committed to affirmative action and to its policies of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in all programs, activities, and employment with regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, status as a person with a disability, religion, sexual orientation, and status as a veteran or disabled veteran. The University seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. Reasonable prior notice is needed to arrange accommodations. Evidence of practices not consistent with these policies should be reported to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, (801) 581-8365 (VITDD).

The University of Utah values candidates who have experience working in settings with students from diverse backgrounds, and possess a strong commitment to improving access to higher education for historically underrepresented students.