

VACANCY NOTICE

Chair of MFA Interaction Design

The College for Creative Studies (CCS) seeks candidates for the position of Chair of MFA Interaction Design interested in the opportunity to build a new program at one of the leading art and design colleges in the U.S.

Program Description

The MFA Program in Interaction Design will teach students the principles and techniques used in designing effective human-to-technology interaction solutions. The program will offer a 60-credit curriculum that is unique in the specific ways it integrates user-centric research, business practices, and creative design studio courses to simulate the professional environment in the classroom. The curriculum will emphasize:

- The teaching of interaction design theory and its various technological applications with respect to a range of design solutions;
- The usage of current research methods, tools, and techniques related to understanding human behavior, performance, and cognition and their impact on user adoption;
- The execution of functionally appropriate and aesthetically compelling interaction design solutions that respond to user needs and to current and emerging market opportunities;
- A broad awareness of issues, trends and developments in business, technology, design and other related areas in order to succeed in the face of a dynamic future;

The curriculum will integrate industry-sponsored projects designed to mirror the professional studio and current business challenges. The final academic year will conclude with the Graduate Thesis, designed to help students execute a body of work that is the culmination of their graduate studies and experience.

Position Accountabilities and Essential Functions

The Chair will teach two graduate courses per semester and be responsible for:

- Further development of the graduate academic curriculum;
- Hiring and managing graduate faculty;
- Overall educational quality and leadership of the Graduate Interaction Design program;
- Recruiting students in collaboration with the Admissions Director of Graduate Studies;
- Academic guidance and advising of graduate students;
- Developing strong corporate partnerships.

Qualifications and Experience

Reporting to the Dean of Graduate Studies, the successful candidate will be a highly accomplished design professional with proven experience in interaction design across a wide-range of industries. The candidate will be familiar with global trends and have the ability to link design education to emerging economic industry as well as technology currents. The candidate will have:

- A Master's Degree (MFA, MBA, MS) or higher in Interaction Design, Graphic Design, Entertainment Arts or other digital media-related fields;
- A Bachelor's Degree will be considered if the candidate has a significant amount of professional experience in the area of Interaction Design with demonstrable understanding of user research, usability testing and product evaluation;
- Teaching experience at the college or graduate level in a lecture and/or studio setting;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively as a team leader and colleague.

About CCS

The College for Creative Studies (CCS) is a nonprofit, private college authorized by the Michigan Education Department to grant Bachelor's and Master's degrees. CCS, located in midtown Detroit, strives to provide students with the tools needed for successful careers in the dynamic and growing creative industries. CCS fosters students' resolve to pursue excellence, act ethically, engage their responsibilities as citizens, and learn throughout their lives. With world-class faculty and unsurpassed facilities, students learn to be visual communicators who actively use art and design toward the betterment of society. The College is a major supplier of talent to numerous industries, such as transportation, film and animation, advertising and communications, consumer electronics, athletic apparel, and many more. Its graduates are exhibiting artists and teachers, design problem solvers and innovators, as well as creative leaders in business.

Founded in 1906 as the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts, CCS plays a key role in Detroit's cultural and educational communities. A private, fully accredited college, CCS enrolls more than 1,400 students, pursuing Master of Fine Arts degrees in Color and Materials Design, Interaction Design, Integrated Design, and Transportation Design and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Advertising Design, Art Education, Communication Design, Crafts, Entertainment Arts, Fashion Accessories Design, Fine Arts, Illustration, Interior Design, Photography, Product Design, and Transportation Design. The College also offers free art education for more than 4,000 Detroit youth annually through its Community Arts Partnerships program. In addition, the College's Henry Ford Academy: School for Creative Studies is a public charter middle and high school enrolling more than 800 students in a high-performance academic curriculum with a special focus on art and design.

To apply

How to apply: Applicants are encouraged to apply immediately. The search will close when a suitable candidate is hired.

A cover letter, resume/CV, statement of teaching philosophy, and URL portfolio or DVD with samples of professional and student work should be sent to: hr@collegeforcreativestudies.edu with "MFA Interaction Design Chair" in the subject line.

The College for Creative Studies is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Employment decisions are made without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, veteran status or other characteristics protected by law.

3/25/2019