SUMMERTIME VIBES
Jason Kasper, NCIDQ No. 17709, CIDQ President

Summer is upon us and with it hopefully some time for each of us to spend with friends and family and reflect upon all the great work you have been involved with thus far in 2023. CIDQ’s board, staff and many volunteers have been very actively engaged in a number of initiatives thus far this year...

HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH CIDQ

THINGS ARE HEATING UP!

Things are busy (in a good way!) at CIDQ. So far this year, we’ve seen a healthy uptick in candidate applications, exam takers, and certificate renewals/reinstatements. Congratulations to all our new certificate holders that we welcomed...

LEARN WHERE WE’VE BEEN

NCIDQ EXAM UPDATES
With the release of the official spring 2023 score results, CIDQ announced the addition of 476 new NCIDQ Certificate holders!

476
Number of New Certificates Awarded
Spring 2023

Spring 2023 Exam Pass Rates:
IDFX 55%
IDPX 62%
PRAC 62%

Applications for fall will be accepted thru July 31, 2023. The exam payment and scheduling period is open thru September 30.
We are pleased to announce the 23 NCIDQ Exam candidates who have been selected as recipients of the CIDQ DEI Exam Scholarship for the fall/October 2023 NCIDQ Exam. If you know any of these candidates, be sure to congratulate them!

SEE THE LIST OF Awardees

DESIGNER SPOTLIGHT
#whyNCIDQmatters

Michelle Jacobson, NCIDQ, MPS, LEED AP ID+C, WELL AP, ASID, LFA, TRUE Advisor, Healthy Materials Advocate
NCIDQ Certificate No. 17275

Michelle Jacobson is an interior designer with MLJacobson Design, focusing on health, wellness, and sustainability.

MEET MICHELLE

ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT MAINTAINING THE STANDARDS OF THE PROFESSION?

Do you have a desire to evolve and elevate the reputation of interior design? Do you have the commitment and skill to work diligently with a group of dedicated colleagues?

Share your interests, experiences and some of the reasons our volunteer community appeals to you - for service starting in 2024. Complete our VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM by August 31st.

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

Work experience requirements are changing
FEBRUARY 1, 2024

Click here to learn the new categories & minimum hours

OUT & ABOUT WITH CIDQ
April 14 - 15 | CIDA Idea Fair | Atlanta, GA

CIDQ was pleased to be a part of the cross-pollination of issues and ideas between organizations. Thanks to CIDA for initiating this inaugural event!

May 15 - 17 | ICOR Practice Overlap Task Force Meeting | Greenville, SC

The Interorganizational Council on Regulation (ICOR) Practice Overlap Task Force subcommittees met at NCEES headquarters. The Task Force seeks to develop uniform guidelines and definitions for competent overlap of practice that can be adopted as the recommended definitions in model law and guidance issued by the ICOR organizations. The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), and CIDQ make up ICOR.

June 11 | IIDA Annual Meeting 2023 | Chicago, IL

IIDA members and their guests jumpstarted NeoCon by attending the 2023 IIDA Annual Meeting.

Pictured above, Erin Jennings, CIDQ President Elect and Thom Banks, CIDQ CEO.
June 11 | Revel in Design | Chicago, IL

Dinner, dancing and celebrating design at REVEL - IIDA’s annual black-tie event.

Pictured left: Shauna Stallworth, NCIDQ, IIDA, LUHF Branded Environments Managing Principal; Bruce Duque with Erin Jennings, CIDQ President Elect; and Thom Banks, CIDQ CEO.

June 15 – 17 | NCARB Annual Meeting | Tampa, FL

Pictured right (in order from left to right): Ron Piester, ICC Membership/Certification VP; Erin Jennings, CIDQ President Elect; Stuart Tom, ICC Vice President; and Thom Banks, CIDQ CEO.

MEMBER BOARD SPOTLIGHT

Oklahoma is a standalone, multi-disciplinary licensing board of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Registered Commercial Interior Design. The Board’s vision is to be a leader in reasonable regulation...

MEET THE OK MEMBER BOARD

CIDQ ANNUAL MEETING 2023
November 10 & 11
Louisville, KY

State and provincial regulatory board staff, their Delegates, and representatives from interior design professional organizations will come together to discuss CIDQ, the NCIDQ Exam, and issues related to the interior design profession. Attendees will be able to learn key strategic initiatives, exchange ideas and tools, and collaborate with their peers.
President’s Message

Summer is upon us and with it hopefully some time for each of us to spend with friends and family and reflect upon all the great work you have been involved with thus far in 2023. CIDQ’s board, staff and many volunteers have been very actively engaged in a number of initiatives thus far this year, including the launch our new database, receiving and reviewing our new DEI Exam Scholarship submissions, as well as revising a number of internal policies to ensure we are keeping instep with our allied professional bodies, and following best practices wherever we can.

We could not do all we do without the many, many committed volunteers that give of their time throughout the year. Many of these individuals have been involved for several years and some are just beginning their volunteer journey with us. There is room for all, and for me, the chance to get to know like minds from all over is one of the most rewarding benefits of getting involved. There are a wide variety of ways we can volunteer with CIDQ. Please feel free to reach out to me or any one of the board members or staff or fellow volunteers; we are happy to share our experiences and help direct each individual toward maximizing their potential. You can also complete a Volunteer Interest Form.

We have just been through a very successful spring exam administration and I’m happy to report the addition of 476 new NCIDQ Certificate holders. Our collective commitment to keeping our profession strong through continued learning and examination makes us stronger together.

Whether you are vacationing or ‘staycationing,’ traveling abroad or camping in the backyard, I wish you some refreshing downtime away from technology and with your families and friends. We will hold a place for you around the campfire!
Things are Heating Up!

Things are busy (in a good way!) at CIDQ. So far this year, we’ve seen a healthy uptick in candidate applications, exam takers, and certificate renewals/reinstatements. Congratulations to all our new certificate holders that we welcomed in June! The payment and scheduling window opens today for the October/fall exam window, and we’re excited to build upon our spring testing momentum.

This October exam administration will be the first administered solely through our new candidate database system. We’ve received positive feedback on the more guided and intuitive candidate application process. The transition to a new database has not been without its bumps, but we are already experiencing the benefits of the increased functionality and flexibility of this new system.

If you have not yet logged in, you will be required to create a new password by clicking on the forgot password link.

CIDQ Board members, representatives from the headquarters team, and volunteer committee members have been jumping on planes, trains, and Zoom calls to engage with each other and a broad swath of our stakeholders this summer. Here’s a partial list of outreach and operational activities this summer:

- Joint ICOR Update Webinar with Member Boards (Zoom)
- ICOR Overlapping Scope Task Force meeting (NCEES headquarters in Greenville, South Carolina)
CEO’s Message Continued

- Ambassador Training Sessions (three, virtual)
- NeoCon Trade Show (Chicago)
- IIDA Annual Meeting (Chicago)
- NCARB Annual Meeting (Tampa)
- A virtual meet and greet with new Florida Board of Architecture and Interior Design Executive Director, Stacey Buccieri (Zoom) – Welcome Stacey!
- IIDA Oregon Chapter Presentation (Zoom)
- Presentation on the NCIDQ Exam and advocacy updates to the New York State Board of Interior Design (Albany)
- Town Hall on CIDQ Board Structure with Member Boards (Zoom)
- IDFX/IDPX Exam Writing/Review Committee meeting (DC)
- July Board Meeting (Minneapolis)
- Practicum Exam Writing/Review Committee Meeting (DC)
- ASID Gather Conference (Los Angeles – upcoming)

If you’re a member board interested in having CIDQ present at an upcoming meeting or planning an event with prospective test takers, we’d love to participate. Please reach out to CIDQ G.E.M Manager Kayla Karpp to discuss how we might best support you.

I hope you have a fantastic summer and find time to pause, reflect, and rejuvenate!
CIDQ believes that the practice of interior design, a discipline that places people’s health, safety, and welfare at its very core, is elevated when a broad array of voices, perspectives, and sensibilities are fully represented. We are committed to reducing barriers and increasing access to career opportunities to further the advancement of historically underrepresented minorities and underserved communities within the field.

As a key part of advancing this mission, we launched the CIDQ DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) Exam Scholarship program this spring.

We received a significant number of applications in the program’s inaugural year from exceptional candidates, and the selection process was highly competitive.

We are pleased to announce that the following NCIDQ Exam candidates have been selected as recipients of the CIDQ DEI Exam Scholarship for the fall 2023 NCIDQ Exam:

**Recipient Names**

- Katrina Best
- Danaia Brown
- Johnnifer Patrice Brown
- Ashley Caudle
- Mariam Chapa
- Marta Chavez
- Lenita Eldhose
- Linda Garcia
- Andrea Ghee
- Veronica Glaspereed
- Marisol Hoyt
- Hengzhi Hu
- Ellen Le
- Chantel Mah
- Sarosh Mitha
- Antara Naik
- Jinoh Park
- Reymond Pingul
- Anastasia Solberg
- Hoa Vo
- Anran Wang
- Geralyn Williams
- Maria Zerpa
Michelle Jacobson is an interior designer with MLJacobson Design, focusing on health, wellness, and sustainability.

Why NCIDQ?
I passed the NCIDQ Exam back in 2001 with a newborn and another child under 2. I worked very hard to pass the exam and was so excited to become an NCIDQ Certificate holder. I believe that having an NCIDQ Certificate gave me the clout to show others that I was serious about my career, and that I am ready to learn more to become a better designer. I started architecture school prior to sitting for the NCIDQ Exam and while I was in school, I learned that interior designers were simply seen as “just decorators.” I wanted to prove that I had a great education, and I could contribute a lot to a project, not just choose paint colors and fabrics.

I have never regretted taking the exam and have only expanded on the knowledge that I initially received as an undergraduate student. I make sure that my students know that taking the NCIDQ Exam will only add to their resume and help them to land jobs with potential employers and clients. I think the letters “NCIDQ” show that I am a professional who can contribute valuable information to a project. The certification matters and means that I value my education and have the knowledge to work with architects, builders, contractors, and clients on any project that comes my way. I also believe that having the certification gives me more confidence when working with others and offering suggestions, comments, and critiques.

Paying It Forward
Anyone who has the time can contribute to the organization. There are so many young people who want to learn more about being a designer and they are thirsty for knowledge, stories, and education. If you hold an NCIDQ Certificate, you hold a key that can help unlock opportunities for others. Sharing our knowledge and our strengths only helps to make our organization stronger.

Value-Add
I decided to go back to school at age 50 to get a graduate degree in sustainable environments. I moved to New York City where I had never lived and didn’t know a soul. I decided that after 23 years of practicing, I needed to add more education and value to my resume and business. I want to make a difference in our environment as a designer and now, with a science and technology education, I know that I can add so much more to my clients by offering sound advice on health, wellness, and sustainability.

I love to travel and visit places in the world where I can bring back unique items to use in my designs. I am also an amateur photographer and love to use my photographs as inspiration for color and design.
Oklahoma is a standalone, multi-disciplinary licensing board of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Registered Commercial Interior Design. The Board’s vision is to be a leader in reasonable regulation; with the mission to serve the State of Oklahoma by protecting and preserving the health, safety, and welfare of Oklahomans who live, work, and play in the built environment by ensuring professional competence through education, examination, experience & practice.

Accomplishment & Challenges
Oklahoma has been a leader in successful interior design legislation, recognizing the need to protect the public. In 2007, the original title act legislation was passed into law. Fast forward to today and the title act has evolved to include permitting privileges for Registered Commercial Interior Designers (“RCIDs”).

2023 brought about HB1793 which was introduced as a result of a multi-year collaborative effort of the Oklahoma Interior Design Coalition, AIA Oklahoma, and the Board. The Joint Task Force’s focus has been to define a scope that reinforces the need for a practice act. The Board had the privilege of facilitating the conversations that resulted in the proposed language. There has also been a collaborating effort to educate those that have questions and concerns. The Joint Task Force’s work has been touted on more than one occasion as an example of “…how state government is supposed to work”. Ultimately, the bill ran unopposed and made it to the final floor agenda of the Senate; however, time constraints did not allow it to be heard. HB1793 is eligible for holdover to next year’s session.

The Joint Task Force worked on “creating a lane” for “licensed” interior designers. The proposed Oklahoma Licensed Interior Designers Practice Act is worth highlighting.

What is in the scope of practice:

- Enhancing and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public in interior environments. Specification of code-compliant interior finishes, furnishings, fixtures, or equipment.
- Design or modification of existing nonstructural interior partitions, doors, and ceilings. Design or modification of existing internal circulation systems or number and configuration of interior exits for suite occupant load.
- Review, analysis, and evaluation of building codes, accessibility standards, or guidelines for interior planning, design, and nonstructural interior construction compliance.

What the scope does not include:

- Role of Coordinating Professional. Architectural and engineering work.
- Alterations to primary structural, fire and life safety, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. Fire and life safety systems refer to fire sprinklers, alarms, smoke evac systems, fire walls, fire barriers, and smoke barriers.
- Alterations to the core and shell.
It is important to note:

- Licensed Architects are still able to practice and seal the work, even if it falls within the scope of practice for Licensed Interior Design. If a project includes work that falls under the definition of the practice of Licensed Interior Design, it does not mean that a Licensed Interior Designer is required to seal those drawings; a Licensed Architect may also seal those drawings.

**Active Licenses & Registrations**

- 265 Registered Commercial Interior Designers
- 232 Landscape Architects
- 2724 Architects
- 1116 Firms

**Board Members**
The Board is comprised of 11 members; 6 Architects, 2 Landscape Architects, 2 RCIDs and 1 public member, all appointed by the Governor.

**RCID Mark Taylor** was reappointed by Governor Kevin Stitt to serve his third term, expiring in July 2026. He has served many roles with the Board, including Chairman and has been an ongoing member of the Board’s Path to Licensure Scholarship Committee. He is currently the Chair of the Act & Rules/Legislative Committee.

**RCID Vicki VanStavern** was appointed by Governor Kevin Stitt for a 5-year term, expiring in January 2027. Most recently she was voted by the members of the Board as the FY24 Secretary-Treasurer. By statute, this role oversees enforcement. She will also continue with her ongoing role on the Board’s Investigations Committee, serving as Chair.

**Executive Director**

**Leslie Hanska** has 24 years of experience with the Oklahoma board; the last five years serving as the Executive Director.