

For Immediate Release

Woodbury University Unveils New Master of Interior Architecture Program at San Diego Barrio Logan Campus for Fall 2016

New Degree Program Complements MIA in Los Angeles, Anticipates Master of Landscape Architecture Degree in San Diego



SAN DIEGO (September 30, 2015) – Expanding the graduate curriculum at its Barrio Logan campus, <u>Woodbury University</u> today announced a new Master of Interior Architecture (MIA) program, commencing in Fall 2016. The MIA joins the established Master of Architecture (MArch) program and the upcoming Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree in San Diego. The MIA program in Los Angeles is now in its second year.

The MIA argues for Interior Architecture as a unique body of knowledge, with a distinct discourse, canon, and set of methodologies, filtered through the lens of art and architectural criticism and theory. As contemporary architectural practice continues to focus on issues of technology, technique, urbanism, and other aspects of exteriority, the MIA program looks to advance the role of the human condition in the discourse, and to argue for the social, cultural, material, sensorial and communicative realms of design.

The Master of Interior Architecture program offers an education in critical spatial inquiry that elevates and reinvents the discipline of Interior Architecture by mining and imagining human conditions in our built environment. In doing so, the program adds criticality to the

profession, cultivating scholars, academics, and critics, while generating emerging and alternative professions.

Students who possess baccalaureate degrees in any discipline can enter the Master of Interior Architecture three-year track, while students who possess baccalaureate degrees in Interior Architecture, Interior Design, Environmental Arts, or Architecture are eligible to enter the Master of Interior Architecture two-year track. Both the two-year and the three-year tracks are considered terminal degrees.

"We're excited at the prospect of expanding the MIA program to our San Diego campus, where we can now draw on the area's rich talent pool and exceptionally strong professional community," said Christoph Korner, Department Chair, Interior Architecture, in Woodbury's School of Architecture. "Interior Architecture is the discipline that bridges the gap between architecture and interior design -- the relationship between body and space, the experience of our environment with all senses. Space, materials, surfaces, light, colors, the things we see, touch, even smell – all comprise Interior Architecture. The new MIA program will complement both its Los Angeles counterpart and the thriving MArch cohort at Barrio Logan."

Projects within a typical IA practice range from residential and commercial, to hospitality, education, institutions and healthcare. Careers vary from interior design, furniture design, lighting design, product design, stage and set design, exhibition design, game environments, and material development. The Master of Interior Architecture degree opens the way to continuing in a PhD. program, or pursuit of a career in higher education.

In December 2014, <u>Woodbury University</u>'s undergraduate Interior Architecture program in Los Angeles was ranked second best in the West, according to the *DesignIntelligence* 2015 ratings of America's Best Architecture & Design Schools 2015 (http://www.di.net/articles/americas-best-interior-design-schools-2015/).

About Woodbury University

Founded in 1884, Woodbury University is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Southern California. It offers bachelor's degrees from the School of Architecture, School of Business, School of Media, Culture & Design, and College of Transdisciplinarity, along with a Master of Arts in Media for Social Justice, Master of Architecture (MArch), Master of Interior Architecture (MIA), Master of Science in Architecture (MSArch), and Master of Leadership. The San Diego campus offers Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture, Master of Interior Architecture and Master of Landscape Architecture degrees, as well as an MSArch degree with concentrations in Real Estate Development and Landscape + Urbanism. *DesignIntelligence* has ranked the Interior Architecture BFA #2 in the West. Woodbury ranks 15th among the nation's "25 Colleges That Add the Most Value," according to *Money Magazine* and is a 2014-2015 College of Distinction. Visit woodbury.edu for more information.

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