



Accrediting Council for Collegiate Graphic Communications, Inc.

## PRESS RELEASE

November 2010

# Baccalaureate Program in Graphic Arts Technology at the New York City College of Technology The City University of New York Earns National ACCGC Accreditation

After completing an extensive self-study and hosting a site visit by a three-member team of industry and education experts, the Graphic Arts Technology program at the New York City College of Technology, The City University of New York, received national accreditation beginning September 1, 2010. This program is among eight, baccalaureate level, graphic communications related programs nationwide to have received this distinction. The seven other programs are at Ferris State University, Florida A&M University, California Polytechnic State University, California University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania College of Technology, University of Wisconsin-Stout, and University of Houston. The Graphic Arts Technology associate level program at Rock Valley College, Rockford, Illinois is currently under accreditation review by ACCGC.

The accrediting agency, **Accrediting Council for Collegiate Graphic Communications, Inc. (ACCGC)**, awarded the academic accreditation. The ACCGC is an independent body professionally supported by leaders in the collegiate educational area and by the management personnel in the graphic communications industry. The ACCGC Council Board of Directors is comprised of 11 educators and eight industry personnel in the graphic communications field and is dedicated to the improvement and recognition of collegiate level curricula in graphic communications. ACCGC is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt body and is supported through industry contributions and educational accreditation fees.

A formal presentation was made and a recognition plaque was given to faculty and administrative representatives from the New York City College of Technology during the October 3, 2010 annual ACCGC Board of Directors meeting that was held during Graph Expo 2010. The ACCGC annual board meeting is always held at McCormick Place in Chicago during the Graph Expo and Print shows which are the largest graphic communications expositions held annually in the United States.

Press Release – New York City College of Technology, Graphic Arts Technology Program

Professor Mary Ann Biehl, Department Chairperson at the New York City College of Technology stated: "We (the Dept. of Advertising Design & Graphic Arts) are thrilled to have received our first two-year accreditation for our Graphic Arts program. This is a significant achievement for us, and we look forward to working with the ACCGC as we move our program forward".

In addition, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs of New York City College of Technology, Dr. Bonne August, stated: "Accreditation from ACCGC is an important affirmation for City Tech's program, which we will announce with pride. An additional benefit has been the accreditation process itself, which brought us knowledgeable attention and insights from experienced professional colleagues".

A plaque recognizing the two-year accreditation was presented to Professor Biehl during the ACCGC October 3, 2010 Board of Directors meeting. The accreditation period is retroactive to September 1, 2010 and continues through August 31, 2012.



Left to Right: J. Michael Steczak (team member) Chowan University (NC); Professor Mary Ann Biehl, New York City College of Technology, Dr. Jesus J. Rodriguez (team chair), Pittsburg State University (KS); and Dr. Jerry J. Waite,( ACCGC President), University of Houston (TX).

In their "Visitation Report," the team stated that "Short and long range goals and objectives for the program were well founded and the system for review was well established. Any goals, whether short or long, are a reflection of the quality and quantity of time spent in developing those goals and objectives."

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The mission of the ACCGC is to provide viable, credible, and defensible accreditation standards that can be used to promote and encourage sound associate and baccalaureate level education programs in graphic communications. In the accreditation process, the ACCGC strives to stimulate the exchange of ideas between administrative and instructional personnel in academia and within the graphic communications industry.

The ACCGC reviews qualitative and quantitative evidence obtained through an institution's self-study and facts substantiated by a three-member campus visitation team in determining the accreditation status of an institution's graphic communications program. The academic program is evaluated in 14 areas: Mission Statements and Curricular Outcomes, Competency Identification and Assessment, Governance/Administration, Financial Support, Equipment and Facilities, Staff Support Services, Curriculum, Instruction and Evaluation, Internships/Practicums/Cooperative Study, Industry Advisory Committee(s), Faculty, Faculty Evaluation, Student Records and Advising, and Graduate Placement and Follow-up.

For more information about the ACCGC, contact Ervin A. Dennis, Managing Director, at [ea.dennis@cfu.net](mailto:ea.dennis@cfu.net) or Jerry J. Waite, President, at [jwaite@uh.edu](mailto:jwaite@uh.edu). The Council's web-site address is [www.accgc.org](http://www.accgc.org).

For more information about the New York City College of Technology, The City University of New York, Graphic Arts Technology program, contact Professor Mary Ann Biehl, Department Chair, at [mbiehl@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:mbiehl@citytech.cuny.edu) , (718) 260-5175.