



Accrediting Council for Collegiate Graphic Communications, Inc.

PRESS RELEASE

September 2016

Baccalaureate Program in Graphic Communication at California Polytechnic State University Earns National ACCGC Re-Accreditation

After completing an extensive self-study and hosting a site visit by a three-member team of industry and education experts, the Graphic Communication program at California Polytechnic State University received national re-accreditation beginning September 1, 2016. Initially, the program was awarded full six-year accreditation commencing on September 1, 2003 and was re-accredited one time previously to the current re-accreditation. The California Polytechnic State University program is among 13, associate and baccalaureate level, graphic communications related programs nationwide currently holding this distinction. The 12 other programs are Arizona State University, California University of Pennsylvania, Ferris State University, Harper College, Illinois State University, New York City College of Technology, Rock Valley College, University of Houston, University of Northern Iowa, University of Wisconsin-Stout, Western Illinois University, and Western Michigan University.

The Graphics & Imaging Technologies baccalaureate level program at Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas is currently under accreditation review by ACCGC.

The accrediting agency, **Accrediting Council for Collegiate Graphic Communications, Inc. (ACCGC)**, awarded the academic accreditation. ACCGC is an independent body professionally supported by leaders in the collegiate educational area and by management personnel in the graphic communications industry. The ACCGC Council Board of Directors is comprised of eleven 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 were given to the department chair and program coordinator, Dr. Kenneth L. Macro, Jr., Professor, CalPoly during the September 25, 2016 annual ACCGC Board of Directors meeting that was held during Graph Expo 2016 in Orlando, Florida. The ACCGC board members meet annually during the Graph Expo and Print shows which are the largest graphic communications expositions held in the United States.

Dr. Macro stated: “In this industry, overwhelmed with change, continuous improvement is key. A peer group comprised of seasoned professionals, ACCGC not only makes our program stronger and better, it also provides a venue for sharing best practices and assures that communication and improvement continue.”

A plaque recognizing the six-year ACCGC re-accreditation was presented to Dr. Macro during the ACCGC September 25, 2016 Board of Directors meeting. The re-accreditation period is retroactive to September 1, 2016 and continues through August 31, 2022.



Left to Right: Dr. Thomas E. Schildgen, ACCGC President, Hans P. Kellogg, Team Member, Ball State University (IN), Dr. Kenneth L. Macro, Jr., Cal Poly Department Chair, and Guy H. Broadhurst, Team Member, Vice President, Canon Solutions America, Inc.)

In their Visitation Report, the team stated that “The dedication and passion of the faculty, the support from administration, and the quality of young adults choosing graphic communications as a profession have made the Cal Poly graphic communication program a clear leader in the USA for providing well educated and well prepared professionals for the graphic communications industry.”

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.

Press Release – California Polytechnic State University, Graphic Communication Program

ACCGC personnel review 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 Learning Outcomes, Competency Alignment and Outcomes 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 ACCGC, contact Dr. Ervin A. Dennis, Managing Director, at ea.dennis@cfu.net. The Council's web-site address is www.accgc.org.

For more information about the California Polytechnic State University, Graphic Communication program, contact Dr. Kenneth L. Macro, Jr., Professor and Department Chair, at Ph: (805) 756-2146 or kmacro@calpoly.edu.