



**INTERIOR DESIGN  
EDUCATORS COUNCIL**

**IDEC**  
**STATE OF IDEC**

**Interior Design Educators Council**

Prepared by  
Steven B. Webber  
Past President  
August 2025

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**2024 - 2025**

## **Executive summary**

2024-2025 has been transformative for the Interior Design Educators Council. We have drastically improved our financial outlook, completed a major overhaul in our governance structure, and reinvigorated how we execute annual conferences. We have made significant strides in rebranding IDEC through industry partnerships that will enhance the interior design discipline for decades to come. The future of your organization is bright.

## **Key achievements**

- **Governance:** IDEC was due for a major update to the Policies and Procedures and a commensurate update to the organization's Bylaws. The Board of Directors also restructured the collaboratives by changing the Service Collaborative to become the Professional Development Collaborative and the Regions were expanded to include knowledge networks under the new umbrella of the Communities Collaborative. With these efforts complete, future leaders of IDEC will have a clear and current roadmap to face new challenges with agility and resilience.
- **Annual Conference:** Our flagship annual gathering was restructured to prioritize three key criteria: academic partnership, design market presence, and travel accessibility. We selected Chicago because it met all three criteria, and we set a new standard for all future conferences. While maintaining high scholarship standards we added value to the conference through design industry partnerships, Columbia College Student Center as our primary host site, and a brand-new Student Day.

## **Financial performance**

The prior two fiscal years marked a very difficult financial period for IDEC, but this fiscal year marks a positive financial performance with 25% positive budget, 14% membership growth, and 400% sponsorship growth. Sponsorship efforts led by Stephanie Sickler have played a significant role in the financial improvement of the organization. Alex Morales, Executive Director of IDEC, has provided guidance to the IDEC Board through the governance changes and fiscal improvements over the last year.

## **Future outlook**

Looking ahead, we are committed to continuing the financial climb towards long-term health and growth of the organization. Through careful management of staff support time from Bostrom, our management company, membership growth, a successful annual conference and fall symposium, and growth of industry sponsorship we will achieve this goal. Over the last year this structure has been established which will lead to a very bright future for IDEC.

## **Conclusion**

The achievements of the past year are a testament to the dedication and hard work of our leaders and members. We sincerely appreciate the support of our members and industry partners. IDEC will continue to be the preeminent interior design educators' organization.

## **Executive Committee 2024-2025 Annual Report**



**Chair:** Steven Webber (President)

**Members:** Bryan Orthel (President-Elect);  
Stephanie Sickler (Immediate Past President);  
Alex Morales (Executive Director).

### **Overview**

In 2024-2025, the IDEC Executive Committee focused on operations and governance improvements. These primary accomplishments included a streamlined workflow for all collaboratives by strategically removing some initiatives that were resource intense with a lower rate of return or benefit for the organization. Communication practices were streamlined for the organization to include one weekly newsletter and only a periodic official email communication. IDEC Policies and Procedures were comprehensively revised, and a Bylaws Task Force was convened to investigate bylaws revisions based upon the revisions to the P&P. Sponsorship was prioritized for the first time within the Executive Committee which resulted in a new fundraising standard for IDEC.

In addition, the Executive Committee continued established practices that have made the organization strong. The annual summer board retreat was held in June 2024 in Chicago just before NeoCon where we conducted IDEC business, planned for a complete revision to our policies and procedures, made significant strides in planning the 2025 Annual Conference, and met with potential industry sponsors. The Presidents' Retreat was held remotely in December 2024, and it resulted in a robust set of goals to strive for over the next several years that will lead to a stronger IDEC that is poised for renewed success. The Annual Conference in March 2025 included two half days of board meetings to conduct IDEC business and engage in strategic planning aimed at further reducing operations costs while maximizing member benefits.

### **2024-2025 Accomplishments**

The following list details the accomplishments of the IDEC Executive Committee by initiative.

#### **Communications**

1. May – August 2024:
  - a. the IDEC eNews was rebranded and streamlined.
  - b. Member email communications had been largely omitted except for extraordinary circumstances.
2. September – December 2024,
  - a. Delve Magazine expanded to include a column focused on interior design education written by IDEC members.
3. January – April 2025,
  - a. The IDEC Exchange was sunset.

#### **Governance**

1. May – December 2024,
  - a. The Policies and Procedures documents were revised following a 6-month process and published on the IDEC website.
  - b. Presidents' Retreat held via video conference December 17–18.
2. January – May 2025,
  - a. The Bylaws Task Force had completed a draft of recommended bylaws revisions and presented them to the board.
  - b. The board countered with revisions, and the Bylaws Task Force incorporated them.
  - c. It is expected that the IDEC Board will vote on the final proposed language in June 2025; the board is expected to present the proposed language to the membership in July 2025, followed by a vote to conclude in August/September 2025.

#### **Sponsorship**

1. May - June 2024,
  - a. The Executive Committee and Bostrom had created a Sponsorship Prospectus publication.
  - b. The Prospectus was used to create new relationships with industry representatives at NeoCon.



2. July 2024 - March 2025,
  - a. Sponsorship dollars committed exceeded \$90,000, and collections exceeded \$45,000.
  - b. The Annual Conference was the main generator of these sponsorships, particularly Promenade at the Mart, Student Day, and Exhibitors.
  - c. Sponsorship efforts continued focusing more on Legacy Sponsorships.

#### Annual Conference

1. May – December 2024,
  - a. The Call for Abstracts was released.
  - b. Avinash Rajagopal and Kay Sargent were committed as keynote speakers for the conference.
  - c. Abstract proposals were received.
  - d. The conference planning committee with local host members was convened.
  - e. Abstract reviews were completed and authors notified of acceptance/denial.
  - f. Promenade at the Mart details were largely complete.
  - g. Scholarship presentation times were determined and presenters notified.
2. January – March 2025,
  - a. Early bird registration concluded
  - b. Student Day details were largely complete.
  - c. The final conference schedule and related details were complete.
  - d. The conference execution was complete, inclusive of all presentations, posters, panels, keynotes, and related sponsorship activities and events.
3. April – May 2025,
  - a. Conference expenses and revenue were finalized resulting in a net profit for the annual conference, a first in many years for an in-person annual conference for IDEC.
  - b. Plans were underway for the 2026 Annual Conference, expecting to return to Chicago incorporating Columbia College, Fulton Market, and the Merchandise Mart.
  - c. Hotel contract has been signed and host venue contract is forthcoming.

#### **2025-2026 Priorities**

In the upcoming year, the Executive Committee will be focusing on the following items to better serve the IDEC membership and contribute to a thriving future for IDEC as an organization.

1. Membership
  - a. Retain existing membership and attract new members to the organization to result in a net 3% membership growth.
  - b. Investigate a membership model that encourages international membership growth.
2. Sponsorship
  - a. Increase sponsorship monies to \$100,000 annually.
  - b. Create a new Director of Sponsorship role in IDEC that reports to the Executive Committee.
3. Operations
  - a. Prioritize staff time reduction by repeating 2024-25 successes with an eye towards streamlining.
4. Fall Symposium
  - a. Create a symposium model that is focused on a topic that complements the Annual Conference and results in net positive revenue.
5. Annual Conference
  - a. Create a 2026 Annual Conference that brings together the leading minds of interior design and related disciplines that will energize, inspire, and challenge interior design educators to change their world for the better of all.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven B. Webber  
IDEC President (2024-2025)



## **President-Elect 2024-2025 Annual Report**



**Chair:**

Bryan Orthel (President-Elect)

**Members:**

IDEC Exchange Editor: Dan Harper;  
 Communication Committee: Tony Purvis, Kelly Gore  
 Governance Task Force: Heather Carlisle Carter, Marsha Cuddeback, Hessam Ghamari, Jill Pable, Amy Roehl.

### **Overview**

In 2024-2025, Communication Committee and Governance Task Force focused on operations and governance improvements. These primary accomplishments included re-establishing the Communication Committee, rebranding and rescoping the weekly IDEC News email, and reviewing and proposing changes to the organization's bylaws. In addition, the Board reviewed and amended the organization's policies and procedures documents.

### **2024-2025 Accomplishments**

The following list details the accomplishments of the Communication Committee, the Governance Task Force, and the Board's P&P efforts.

#### May-August

1. IDEC News email rebranded and rescoped.

#### September-December

1. Communication Committee re-established.
2. Policy and Procedure documents amended and approved.
3. Governance Task Force established.

#### January-April

1. Governance Task Force report and proposed bylaw changes presented to the IDEC Board. The bylaw changes will be presented to the IDEC membership in July 2025.

### **2025-2026 Priorities**

In the upcoming year, the Communication Committee will focus on ongoing improvements to IDEC's website and stability in communicating opportunities and information to IDEC's membership. The Governance Task Force will support the Board as proposed bylaw changes are presented to the membership for consideration and approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan D. Orthel  
 President-elect (2024-2025)

## Finance Committee 2024-2025 Annual Report



**Chair:** Jessica Bonness (IDEC Secretary/Treasurer)

**Members:** Bryan Orthel (President), Sandra Reicis (President-Elect), Steven Webber (Past-President), Alex Morales (Exec. Dir.)

### Overview

In 2024-2025, the Finance Committee focused on growing revenue, sponsorship sales, and increasing membership and membership retention. These primary accomplishments included significant sponsorship sales and hosting a net-positive Annual Conference in Chicago.

### 2024-2025 Accomplishments

The following list details the accomplishments of the Finance Committee during the 2024-2025 reporting period:

1. Moved money from reserves (\$100K)
2. Entered into cash management
3. Focus on renewals

#### September-December

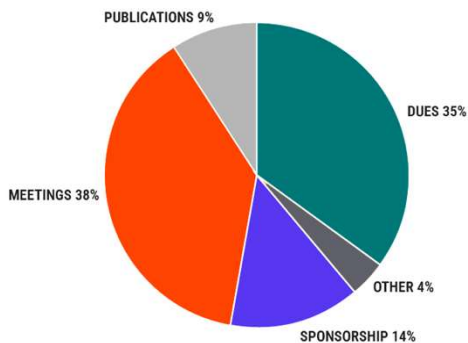
1. Finalized new fiscal year budget
2. Began customized sponsorship sales

#### January-April

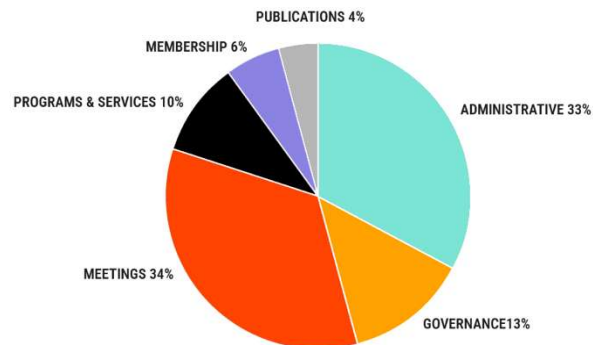
1. Conference management
2. Transition activities (leadership – Treasurer)

### 2024-2025 Revenue and Expenses Visualized

IDEC 2024-2025 FY Income Distribution



IDEC 2024-2025 FY Expense Distribution (projection)



### Projected\* vs. Budgeted Revenue and Expenses for the period October 1, 2024 – September 31, 2025

	Projected	Budgeted
Revenue	\$536,328	\$516,918
Expenses	\$500,588	\$494,538
Net Revenue	\$35,740	\$22,380

\* as of June 30, 2025



**2025-2026 Priorities**

In the upcoming year, the Finance Committee will be focusing on the following items to better serve the IDEC membership and contribute to a thriving future for IDEC as an organization:

1. Goal of 90% membership retention
2. Goal of at least \$120K in sponsorship sales
3. Budgeting to begin returning money to reserves
4. Produce a net positive annual conference in Chicago in March 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Bonness

Secretary/Treasurer (2025-2027)



## Communities Collaborative 2024-2025 Annual Report



**Director:** Connie Dyar

**Members:** Regional Committee Chairs: Dana Vaux, Jerome Gomez, Tiia Manson, Sarah Wilhoit, Cotter Christian;  
Knowledge Networks Chairs: Jessica Bonness and Georges Fares.

### Overview

In 2024-2025, the Regions and the Knowledge Networks joined to form the new Communities Collaborative. The Regions were re-organized into committees with chairs who are chosen by volunteers from each respective region. Knowledge Network committees were moved from the Professional Development Collaborative due to the natural synergies with regional committees. This new structure emphasizes networking and other grass roots efforts for IDEC members across numerous interests. To align the Collaborative's initiatives with this mission, one cohesive Virtual Symposium was hosted by the Collaborative October 31 – November 1, 2024. Additionally, a Knowledge Networks Breakfast was included at the 2025 Annual Conference in Chicago.

### 2024-2025 Accomplishments

The following list details the accomplishments of the Communities Collaborative.

#### May – October 2024

1. Virtual Symposium “Unmasking, Provoking, and Transforming Design”:
  - a. Call for abstracts released, abstracts reviewed, and authors notified; Symposium schedule created
  - b. Secured keynote speaker; Adam Nakagoshi.
  - c. Organized reviewers for best presentations
  - d. Coordinated logistics with Alex Morales and Regional Committee Chairs; Emcee the Symposium.
  - e. Symposium statistics
    - i. 33 peer-reviewed abstracts presented; 6 non-peer reviewed presentations; 1 workshop
    - ii. 74 total registrants (30 full; 29 1-day); Total registration fees: \$12,065.00
2. Revised Communities Collaborative Policies & Procedures.
3. Collaborated with Hessam Ghamari, Director of Strategic Initiatives, on member survey.

#### November – December 2024

1. Post symposium activities:
  - a. Informed authors of Best Paper Presentation awards; sent out thank you e-mail to reviewers
2. Met with Laura Cole, Director of Professional Development, Bryan Orthel, and Jessica Bonness to coordinate Knowledge Networks move.

### 2025-2026 Priorities

In the upcoming year, the Communities Collaborative will be focusing on the following items to better serve the IDEC membership and contribute to a thriving future for IDEC as an organization.

1. Regions and Knowledge Networks will join to develop several coffee chats with members across all regions
2. NCIDQ study groups will be formed to assist faculty with achieving this certification
3. Propose Network and Regional activities for Annual Conference
4. Continue to work with Teaching Collaborative to assist with securing reviewers for student design competition
5. Assist Teaching and Professional Development with Symposium when requested

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Dyar

Director of the Communities Collaborative

## Professional Development Collaborative 2024-2025 Annual Report



**Director:** Laura Cole

**Members:** Collaborative Coordinator: Michelle Pearson;  
Charette: Heather Carter, Erin Hamilton, and Jeanne Mercer-Ballard;  
Awards: Casey Franklin and Meirav Goldhour;  
Emerging Educators Professional Development: Suzie Linihan, Barbara Young and Saman Jamshidi

### Overview

In 2024-2025, the Service Collaborative was re-named the Professional Development Collaborative (PDC). We have been reconceptualizing our structure and mission to place increasing emphasis on providing professional development experiences for IDEC members across the career-span. To align our initiatives with this mission, we moved the Student Video Competition to the Teaching Collaborative. We enhanced volunteer support for a sub-committee developed for professional development activities. Much of our work was focused on events at the annual conference, which has historically been the locus of our organizing energies. Our key accomplishments are outlined below.

### 2024-2025 Accomplishments

The following list details the accomplishments of the PDC by committee.

#### Awards Committee

1. Recruitment of two new volunteers in late summer
2. Craft and disseminate the call for award nominations (August-October)
3. Organize nomination packets and recruit judges (November-December)
4. Facilitate the judging process, including a new process for collecting reference letters (January-February)
5. Notify all applicants of jury results ahead of the annual conference (February)
6. Organize awards across the organization to plan the Awards Ceremony at the annual conference (March)

#### Charette Committee

1. Due to low participation numbers at the last three Conference Service Charettes, the event was reimagined as a central feature of the newly launched IDEC Student Day.
  - a. The change exceeded expectations, both in turnout and impact. The Service Charette committee also established an ongoing relationship with local partners in Chicago to continue the work in the coming year. Supplies were collected for reuse in 2026, with plans to build on this momentum and expand the charette's reach and effectiveness.
2. Published in Legat Architects Newsletter
  - a. *Monique Taylor of Legat Architects led the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) Service Charette during IDEC's Annual Conference at Columbia College Chicago. The event brought together more than 100 participants—primarily students, along with interior design educators, practitioners, and community stakeholders—for a dynamic, 2.5 hour design challenge. This year's charette focused on envisioning a new community hub for the GSJ Family Life Center, a nonprofit serving Chicago's Austin neighborhood. The effort directly supports GSJ's mission to promote financial stability, social equity, and long-term resilience for local children and families.*

#### Emerging Educators Professional Development Committee

1. Offered 'IDEC 101' for members and potential members to learn more about IDEC, the available resources, and opportunities to serve (January 2025)
2. Expanded CV review offerings beyond graduate students to include faculty members preparing for tenure and promotion to associate and full professor ranks. (Annual Conference, March 2025)
3. Participated in the organization of and execution of student day. Our roles specifically included developing questions for the panel, leading the panel with industry leaders, leading students on tours of showrooms, and leading the Service Charette (see above). We additionally collected survey feedback from participating students to inform future events and share with future sponsors. (Annual Conference, March 2025)

## 2025-2026 Priorities

The PDC will continue to define our mission under our new collaborative name and align priorities with a focus on professional development opportunities for IDEC members. In the upcoming year, the PDC will be focusing on the following items to better serve the IDEC membership and contribute to a thriving future for IDEC as an organization.

### Awards

We have a strong format and protocol for Awards. However, the number of nominations annually remains low. Key priorities are on increasing applications and continually improving the process to reduce demands on volunteers.

1. Improve marketing and promotion of IDEC awards to increase applications in all award categories.
2. Releasing the call for Awards to an earlier timeframe to ensure that awardees are notified well in advance of the annual conference.
3. Adjust the call of the awards to encourage self-nomination. As it is now, the burden is on the nominator, which may be decreasing interest and applications.
4. Ask for reference letters to be included in the original application to reduce volunteer time chasing down references

### Charrette

Our efforts this year yielded strong connections to professionals in the Chicago area that can be engaged again in 2026 to run a similarly successful event. We expect to host a 2026 charrette at the annual conference working closely with conference organizers. The PDC debriefed on the 2025 charrette and have substantial notes regarding details to refine and improve in the future. Key improvements we identified were:

1. Improved communications between the PDC and the conference organizers throughout the planning process
2. Enhance participation of IDEC members who can be embedded on teams and actively designing
3. Consideration of a cap on participation to ensure logistical feasibility

### Professional Development

This committee has the most potential for growth and innovation. We would like to expand this team and continually improve our processes. Key priorities include:

1. Expand the team
2. Look for additional opportunities to expand professional development opportunities for members in potentially working with other collaboratives
3. Consider gathering membership feedback to guide PD offerings
4. Rethink the time commitment required of team members for student day ahead of the 2026 annual conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Cole

Director of the Professional Development Collaborative



Students, practitioners, and faculty engage in the IDEC Annual Conference Student Service Charrette at Columbia College in March 2025 (Photo Source: Laura Cole).

## **IDEC Scholarship Collaborative 2024-2025 Annual Report**



**Director:** Tina Patel

**Members:** Collaborative Coordinator: Sarah Angne Alfaro;  
Abstract Coordinator: Natalie Ellis;  
Creative Scholarship: Britta Bielak;  
Grants Coordinator: Isabella Trindade;  
Proceedings Coordinator: Patrice Brown.

### **Overview**

In 2024-2025, Scholarship Collaborative focused on operations and governance improvements. These primary accomplishments included promoting design excellence by supporting, enhancing, and expanding the body of knowledge in the interior design discipline. Primarily, the Scholarship Collaborative does this through the scholarship efforts associated with the annual conference: 1) call for abstracts, 2) the abstract review process, 3) the acceptance and rejection of abstracts, 4) proceedings publication and 5) recruiting and managing the reviewers for the abstract reviews. In addition, the collaborative ensured the smooth operation and administration of grants funded by the IDEC Foundation (IDECF) and the IDEC Board of Directors (BOD), successfully managed the secret review process at the annual conference, and is assisting with the 2025 Symposium.

### **2024-2025 Accomplishments**

The following list details the accomplishments of the Scholarship Collaborative.

#### May – August 2024

1. Welcomed new leaders and organized the yearly calendar, tasks, responsibilities, and online resources.
2. Published the Proceedings from the 2024 Annual Conference.
3. Reviewed, refined, and published 2025 Annual Conference Call for Abstracts and rubrics.
4. Organized the academy of reviewers to prepare for the 2025 Annual Conference.
5. Revised Policies and Procedures documents.

#### September - December 2024

1. Trained abstract reviewers, coordinated abstract review process, and tracked submissions,
2. Determined the final abstract acceptance quantities, email notice of acceptance/rejection to authors,
3. Send a thank-you email to the reviewers.
4. Developed conference schedule.

#### January - April 2025

1. Coordinated the Secret review process for the annual conference
2. In collaboration with committees, oversaw the scholarship planning and communication for IDEC symposia,
3. Recruited new volunteers for the next term, created schedule for the next service year

### **2025-2026 Priorities**

In the upcoming year, the Scholarship Collaborative will be focusing on the following items to better serve the IDEC membership and contribute to a thriving future for IDEC as an organization.

1. Revise the abstract call and rubrics as needed
2. Assist with the grant review process
3. Publicize the SODP category early on to the Practitioners

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Patel, Director of the Scholarship Collaborative, and  
Sarah Angne Alfaro, Coordinator of the Scholarship Collaborative



## **Strategic Initiatives Collaborative 2024-2025 Annual Report**



**Director:** Hessam Ghamari

**Members:** Many individuals gave of their time to serve IDEC on the IDEB Committee, Sustainability Committee K-12 Committee, and the Membership Committee.

### **Overview**

In 2024–25, the Strategic Initiatives Collaborative focused on strengthening the infrastructure of the collaborative in alignment with the board’s emphasis on operations and governance. This included leading the IDEC committee to develop a mission statement for IDEB and providing guidance in finalizing key governing documents related to IDEB, Membership, Sustainability, and K–12 initiatives. We also co-chaired the IDEC Bylaw Taskforce to update bylaws as needed. Additionally, we developed a membership survey designed to align with IDEC’s strategic goals and vision.

### **2024-2025 Accomplishments**

The following list details the accomplishments of the Strategic Initiatives Collaborative.

#### **Bylaws Review and Revision**

1. Co-chaired the IDEC Bylaw Taskforce with Bryan Orthel.
2. Reviewed, revised, and updated IDEC’s bylaws to ensure alignment with current governance practices.
3. Updates were made to reflect the mission and vision of IDEC.

#### **Policies & Procedures Revision**

1. Finalized P&P documents for the IDEB, Membership, Sustainability, and K–12 committees
  - a. Aligned all procedures with IDEC’s mission, vision, and strategic goals
  - b. Enhanced transparency and consistency, reduced redundancy and unnecessary budget expenditures
  - c. Improved internal communication and decision-making processes

#### **IDEB Development**

1. Led the IDEC committee in the creation of a mission statement for IDEB.
2. Provided strategic leadership and guidance to support the early development of IDEB as a key initiative.

#### **Membership Survey**

1. Created an IDEC membership survey.

### **2025-2026 Priorities**

Building on the foundational work completed in 2024–25, the Strategic Initiatives Collaborative will shift its focus toward implementation, assessment, and continued alignment with IDEC’s strategic vision. The upcoming year will emphasize activating newly developed structures, evaluating their effectiveness, and deepening member engagement across the collaborative in the following areas:

1. Implement the finalized P&P frameworks across IDEB, Membership, Sustainability, and K–12 committees.
2. Support IDEB in its next phase of development, including leadership onboarding and initiative planning.
3. Implement and analyze membership survey data to refine engagement strategies.
4. Foster collaboration across committees to ensure cohesion and strategic alignment.
5. Develop an institutional members database to better understand member needs and their institutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Hessam Ghamari  
Director of Strategic Initiatives

## Teaching Collaborative 2024-2025 Annual Report



**Director:** Seyeon Lee

**Members:** Collaborative Coordinator: Miranda Anderson  
 ITI Coordinator: Jake Son  
 T&L in Round: Erin Hamilton, Shelby Hicks, Sarah Wilhoit  
 Student Design Competition: Collette Cosminski, Hua Vo, Daniel Ronderos

### Overview

In 2024–2025, the Teaching Collaborative focused on improving operations and governance. Key accomplishments included facilitating our annual initiatives: *Innovative Teaching Ideas*, the *Student Design Competition*, and *Teaching and Learning in Rounds* as part of the annual conference. We also supported the Board of Directors by reviewing and enhancing the bylaws and Policies & Procedures documents.

In addition to these efforts, members of the Teaching Collaborative served as panelists to promote our work and engage the broader IDEC membership. These outreach efforts were aimed at increasing volunteer participation and submissions, as well as gathering feedback to guide the future direction of the Teaching Collaborative. Our goal remains to better serve and support IDEC's mission related to teaching.

### 2024-2025 Accomplishments

The following list details the accomplishments of the Teaching Collaborative by timeline.

#### May-December

1. *Innovative Teaching Ideas* – In collaboration with K-12 committee, we facilitated the ITI call, and the review process.
  - a. 2024 Collection – Each submission was double-blind reviewed by two qualified reviewers. Out of 15 submissions, 7 submissions were selected, acceptance rate 46.67%.
    - i. *Hands-on Exercises for Understanding of Five Human Factors in Interior Design*, Author: Yongyeon Cho, Iowa State University
    - ii. *ReVeal, RePresent, ReForm – Lost, Oppressed, or Underrepresented History*, Authors: Dalton Kline, Kent State University | Tina Patel, Kent State University
    - iii. *From the Design Challenge to the Design Concept: The application of Designer-Centric AI in Interior Design Projects*, Author: Daniel Ronderos, University of Andes Colombia
    - iv. *Generative AI for History of Architecture and Interior Design*, Author: Jamie Lynn Slenker, University of New Haven
    - v. *Platonic Solids: From Form to Fashion*, Authors: Torrey Tracy, University of Arkansas | Jonathon Anderson, Toronto Metropolitan University
    - vi. *Lighting Field Documentation: Virtual Case Study and On-site Visit*, Author: Khanh Hoa Thi Vo (Hoa Vo), Indiana University
    - vii. *Construction Detailing – Field Trip*, Author: Mengni Zhang, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2. Student Design Competition – Launched the call for submissions; facilitated review process.
3. Teaching and Learning in the Round – Collaborated on the call for abstracts; facilitated review process

#### January-April

1. Annual Conference
  - a. Teaching and Learning in the Round: Each submission was double-blind reviewed by two qualified reviewers. Out of 4 submissions, 2 submissions were selected, acceptance rate 50%.
    - i. *Water Guns and Lego Wheels: Flexible Thinking for Fostering Innovation in Design Foundation*, Author: Stephanie Sickler, Florida State University
    - ii. *Nixing the Numbers from the Rubric: Alternative Grading in the Studio*, Author: Laura Cole, Colorado State University
  - b. We also invited 2 selected authors from this year's ITI selection to present in the TL in the Round at the Conference as well.
    - i. *Hands-on Exercises for Understanding of Five Human Factors in Interior Design*, Author: Yongyeon Cho, Iowa State University

- ii. *From the Design Challenge to the Design Concept: The application of Designer-Centric AI in Interior Design Projects*, Author: Daniel Ronderos, University of Andes Colombia
2. Student Design Competition – Facilitated the review process; each submission was double-blind reviewed by three qualified reviewers. Out of 62 submissions, 1 submission was disqualified due to the personal identifiers.
  - a. Graduate Student Winner: First Place – Symphony Grove
    - i. Students: Zhuyun Xu and Gabriella Sulzer
    - ii. Instructor: Danya Hakky
    - iii. Institution: Marymount University
  - b. Undergraduate Student Winners:
  - c. First Place – The Clearing
    - i. Students: Elena Cortes, Madison Smith, Amalia Ventre, & Malia Cronin
    - ii. Instructors: Elif Tural & Michelle Huh
    - iii. Institution: Virginia Tech University
  - d. Second Place – Metadome
    - i. Students: Lauryn Neil, Shanelle Guillemette, & Sadie Bowers
    - ii. Instructors: Meghan Mastronardi & Mariam Wifi
    - iii. Institution: Fanshawe College
  - e. Honorable Mention – Sand and Soul
    - i. Students: Chelsie Ramirez, Sarah Tavares, Hanna Watson, & Lara Sandborn
    - ii. Instructors: Amy Huber
    - iii. Institution: Florida State University
3. Teaching Collaborative Panel Presentation: *Forecasting and Navigating the future of IDEC Teaching Resources*
  - a. This year, a panel of committee members from the Teaching Collaborative presented current initiatives and facilitated a discussion on how we can better support our members.
4. Innovative Teaching Ideas – Prepared and launched a new call for submissions
5. Annual Committee meeting - Held the Teaching Collaborative committee meeting at the annual conference

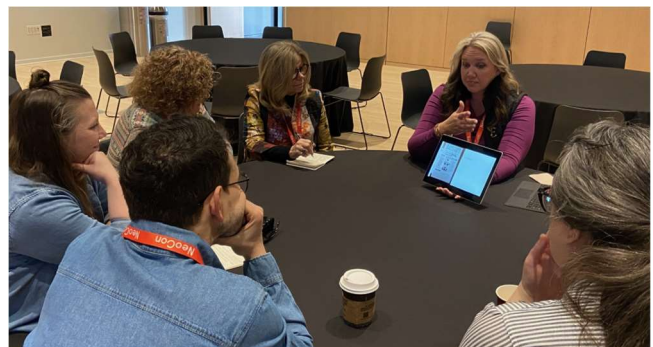
### 2025-2026 Priorities

In the upcoming year, the Teaching Collaborative will focus on the following priorities to better serve the IDEC membership and support a thriving future for the organization:

1. We welcome a new leadership team. Miranda Anderson, a long-time volunteer, has stepped down from her role, and Collette Cosminski has stepped in as the new coordinator.
2. We plan to recruit additional volunteers to bring fresh perspectives and new ideas to the Collaborative.
3. We will revisit the Student Design Competition to explore strategies for increasing participation and engagement.

Respectfully submitted,

Seyeon Lee, PhD  
Director of Teaching



Teaching and Learning in the Round sessions took place at the 2025 IDEC Annual Conference in Chicago, 3/17-19/2025.



Teaching Collaborative volunteers lead a panel presentation on the best methods to enhance interior design teaching at the 2025 IDEC Annual Conference in Chicago, 3/17-19.





## **Executive Director 2024-2025 Annual Report**



**Chair:**

Alex Morales, M. Ed., CAE

**Members:**

Ramona Hopkins (Development Manager);  
Alexander Iula (Event Manager).

### **Overview**

In 2024-2025, IDEC staff focused on membership, event, and sponsorship operations. Staff successfully managed a membership renewal campaign (550+ dues paying members), a Fall 2025 Virtual Symposium (on the Zoom Pro platform), and the 2025 Annual Conference in Chicago.

### **2024-2025 Accomplishments**

The following list details the accomplishments of the Bostrom staff.

#### May-August

1. Prepared and launched membership renewal campaign
2. Launched the Call for Abstract for the Fall 2024 Virtual Symposium
3. Launched the Call for Abstracts for the 2025 Annual Conference
4. Finalize the Sponsorship Prospectus and attended NeoCon 2024 to begin sponsorship sales activities

#### September-December

1. Finalized 2024/2025 membership renewals with more than 550 dues-paying members
2. Conducted the first Virtual Symposium
3. Supported the annual conference abstract review process and began conference planning activities

#### January-April

1. Finalized Annual Conference schedule, planned logistics, and managed on-site conference activities
2. Finalized Sponsorship contracts and executed on sponsor deliverables at the Annual Conference
3. Planned student day activities and supported student promotion and registration

### **2025-2026 Priorities**

In the upcoming year, the IDEC Staff will be focusing on the following items to better serve the IDEC membership and contribute to a thriving future for IDEC as an organization.

1. Website organization and navigation improvements
2. Membership database functionality and members-only portal integration
3. Administration of 2025 Fall Symposium and 2026 Annual Conference
4. Administration and support for all collaboratives and committees

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Morales, M. Ed., CAE  
IDEC Executive Director