Public Disclosure Notice on
Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture
Scottsdale, Arizona
Effective: June 30, 2016

Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture (“the School”) in Scottsdale, Arizona, is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC).

The School, which offers a Master’s degree in architecture, is currently a division of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. In 2010, HLC updated its Bylaws and subsequently its policies to make clear that an accredited institution of higher education be separately incorporated with its primary purpose offering degree programs in higher education. HLC gave the School additional time to work out arrangements with the Foundation.

The School requested a Change of Control, Structure or Organization under HLC policy to extend the School’s accreditation to a new separately incorporated entity.

Recent Board Action
On June 30, 2016, the HLC Board of Trustees voted not to approve the School’s request in its application for Change of Control, Structure, or Organization.

The Board concluded that the School has not presented evidence that subsequent to the proposed transaction it would continue to meet the following Criteria for Accreditation:

• Criterion Two, Core Component 2.C, “the governing board of the institution is sufficiently autonomous to make decisions in the best interest of the institution and to assure its integrity;”
• Criterion Three, Core Component 3.C, “the institution has the faculty and staff needed for effective, high-quality programs and student services;”
• Criterion Five, Core Components 5.A., “the institution’s resource base supports its current educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future,” and
• Criterion Five, Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning.”

Next Steps
The Board required that the School must submit to the Board as soon as possible but no later than November 30, 2016, a revised proposal for the Change of Control that resolves the issues. The Board will consider the revised proposal at its February 2017 meeting thereafter.
About the Higher Learning Commission
The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities that have a home base in one of 19 states that stretch from West Virginia to Arizona. HLC is a private, nonprofit regional accrediting agency. HLC’s mission is to assure and advance the quality of higher learning. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The institutions HLC accredits include public, private not-for-profit, and proprietary institutions at degree levels from the associate’s through the doctoral degree level and from small, specialized institutions through large research universities.

Students, parents, and others from the general public with questions regarding the Commission’s work should contact the Higher Learning Commission by email at info@hlcommission.org or by phone at 312-263-0456.

Posted July 12, 2016