



## Professional Experiential Learning

Ringling College of Art and Design prides itself on its ability to prepare its graduates for successful entry into their chosen careers in the art and design industries. The College's curriculum is designed to integrate curiosity and creativity with the practical skills of the professional world. It is of critical importance that the curriculum and supporting programs adapt to the changing realities that our students face upon graduation.

Over the past several years, the evolution of Ringling College's curriculum and student life has incorporated more client-based learning experiences into the learning process. As a result, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) has identified as its goal the need to ensure that in the next five years, the College has fully developed a mechanism by which every student will have the opportunity to engage in Professional Experiential Learning that is associated with the student's individual career interest or aspirations and the College's educational mission.

To implement the College's QEP effectively, the following focus statement was developed: **Ringling College of Art and Design's 2015 QEP plan is to strengthen the professional development of its students with meaningful "real world" learning experiences.** The intention of this plan is to improve the career readiness of its graduates. The function of the Ringling College of Art and Design QEP is to provide the opportunity for all students to have the opportunity to have a professionally-focused learning experience.

We know that Professional Experiential Learning is occurring in a variety of ways on our campus. Students interact with clients through the Ringling College Collaboratory, Design Center, Studio Lab, Art Network, Career Services and academic department internships, Student Life, and faculty-driven experiences housed within specific courses. The QEP intends to provide assurance that these experiences are available to all students and are of a high quality through the application of QEP-specific Student Learning Outcomes and corresponding and measureable assessment for those outcomes.

The Ringling College QEP assessment plan will focus on measuring whether these experiences improve the following Student Learning Outcomes: Collaboration; Professionalism; Problem-Solving; Creative and Innovative Solutions; Oral Communication; and Visual Communication. These QEP learning outcomes align to the College's pre-existing student learning outcomes and processes.

For further information about our QEP, please contact Ryan Hansen, QEP Director and Interior Design faculty member at [rhansen@c.ringling.edu](mailto:rhansen@c.ringling.edu).