

## Education Constraint: Artistic Interior Designer vs Interior Design Project Manager

Nur Maizura Ahmad Noorhani<sup>1,a\*</sup>, Arniatul Aiza Mustapha<sup>2,b</sup>, Zainullah Zainal Abidin<sup>3,c</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Interior Architecture department, Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Surveying,  
Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM)  
Shah Alam, 40450, Selangor  
MALAYSIA

<sup>a</sup>[inas\\_03@yahoo.com](mailto:inas_03@yahoo.com); <sup>b</sup>[arniatulaiza@yahoo.com](mailto:arniatulaiza@yahoo.com); <sup>c</sup>[mdf\\_fiz@yahoo.com](mailto:mdf_fiz@yahoo.com)

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**Abstract.** There are several interior design organizations including ASID, BIDA, CIDA, IDEC and FIDER offer a definition of interior design and interior designers. However, NCIDQ defines professional interior designer as one who is qualified by education, experience and examination for the purpose of enhancing the function and quality of interior space. Therefore, there are a huge disparity of being an interior designer as an artist and interior designer as a project manager. The discrepancies are including the scope of work and the roles and responsibility of interior designer towards the project. An investigation with the aim to expose the truth behind the interior design education program in higher institution in Malaysia in producing artistic interior design or interior design project manager was conducted. This paper presents the finding from the interior design syllabus in higher institutions using the document analysis to analyze the data. A framework of interior design competencies will be drawn from the literature. Then a comparison between the interior design syllabus and the framework of interior design competencies will discover the holes within interior education in creating a future interior designer. Expectantly, the result will give a good impact on the relationship between higher education institutions and the interior design industry that should be strengthened in order to placing the young interior designers. The study also helps to formulate the new program and improve the curriculum for interior design education in a wider context.