

July 8, 2011

## **Architecture School Budget Challenges Continue Survey Results**

*Budget cuts outnumber increases 3 to 1*

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Based on responses from a representative sample of ACSA programs, architecture school budgets overall are being tightened. For every program showing a budget increase in the 2010-11 academic year, nearly 3 others faced budget decreases, and nearly twice as many had budget cuts of 5% or more.

For 2011-12, the gap between budget decrease and increase narrows slightly, with 25% of programs projecting budget increases, while nearly 50% see a budget decrease coming.

88% of programs with budget decreases are at public universities.

The effects of these budget cuts include smaller budgets for faculty, increased reliance on part-time faculty, increased teaching loads and class sizes, and reductions in travel and other discretionary costs that support faculty development and improve student experiences. Relevant findings include:

- Programs are increasing teaching loads and adjusting faculty hiring to accommodate program growth, larger class sizes, and other ways to raise program income and reduce costs. 33% of programs increased the ratio part-time faculty to full-time faculty. Several reported that retiring full-time faculty are being replaced with part-time or adjunct faculty.
- After years of reductions, travel funds continued to decrease or stayed flat for nearly 70% of programs in 2010-11 and 2011-12. The outlook for 2013 shows a slight improvement, although only a few programs were able to report.

Discretionary funds for publications, lecture series, and other program assets shrank for nearly half of architecture programs in 2010-11, but the outlook for 2011-12 and 2012-13 improves slightly.

Full results of the survey, which was completed in June and early July 2011, follow.

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## 2011 ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

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In late June 2011, ACSA asked its member programs to complete a survey on the status of their program's budgets. A total of 47 responses were received from 46 programs, representing more than a third of ACSA's full and candidate member programs. Following are results of the survey.

### BUDGET CHANGES

**1. Please indicate the closest net change of the architecture program's budget from all sources for each of the following years (relative to the preceding year). Options were a range of percentages from More than -6%, -5%, etc. to More than +5%, and Not Available**

#### Total Architecture Program Budget Change

	Budget Reduction	5% or greater decrease	No Change	Budget Increase
2010-11	53%	35%	28%	19%
2011-12	48%	28%	25%	28%

Fewer than half of respondents could say their budget outlook for 2012-13. Nearly 1/3 predicted no change in total architecture program budget. Nearly 1/2 predicted an increase.

#### Total Salaries for Faculty (excluding raises)

	Budget Reduction	5% or greater decrease	No Change	Budget Increase
2010-11	23%	8%	42%	35%
2011-12	27%	11%	41%	28%

Fewer than half of respondents could say their faculty salary budget outlook for 2012-13. Nearly 35% predicted no change. Slightly more than 1/2 predicted an increase.

**Funds for Travel**

	Budget Reduction	5% or greater decrease	No Change	Budget Increase
2010-11	37%	32%	47%	16%
2011-12	20%	11%	49%	26%

Fewer than half of respondents could say their travel budget outlook for 2012-13. Nearly 60% predicted no change. About 1/3 predicted an increase.

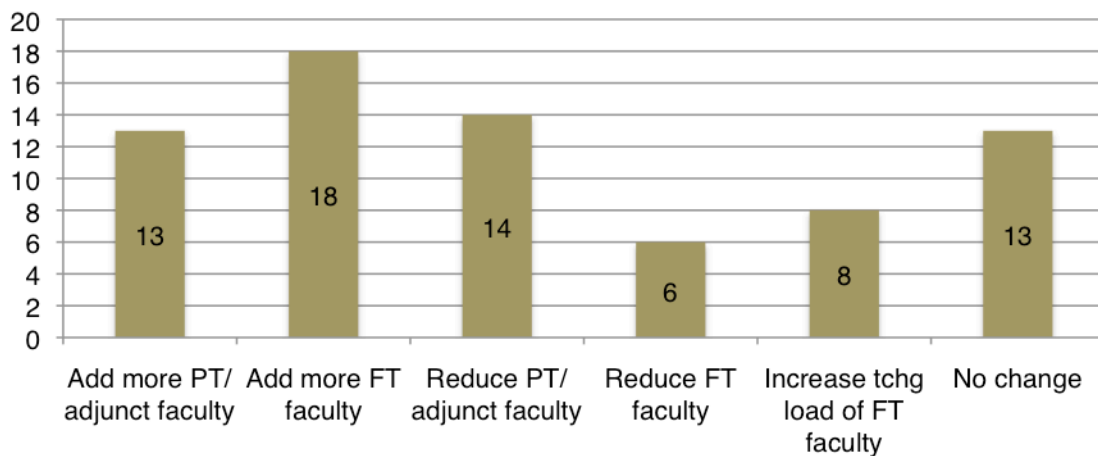
**Other Discretionary Funds**

	Budget Reduction	5% or great decrease	No Change	Budget Increase
2010-11	45%	29%	42%	13%
2011-12	29%	23%	43%	29%

Fewer than half of respondents could say their travel budget outlook for 2012-13. 55% predicted no change. More than 40% predicted an increase.

**CHANGES IN FACULTY RESOURCES**

**2. Which of the following do you anticipate for 2010-11. Check all that apply.**



### **STANDARD TEACHING LOAD**

**3. Is the normal teaching load for full-time faculty at your school 1 studio + 1 seminar/lecture course per semester? Yes, No, Does Not Apply, and field for comments.**

75%=Yes

Other responses varied to account for academic quarters, non-studio teaching, team teaching, etc.

Key finding: 18-20 credit hours of course delivery per year seems common, based on all responses.

### **NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN STUDIO**

**4. On average, how many students are in each studio course at your school? (Please enter a number.)**

Average = 15 students (based on 32 responses)

Most common response = 12 students

Key finding: 12–15 accurately represents all of the responses (some gave ranges or other information).

Many noted graduate studios were smaller than undergraduate or first-year studios.

### **FULL-TIME VS. PART-TIME FACULTY**

**5. Has the ratio of full time to adjunct faculty at your school dropped over the past three years? (i.e., more adjuncts or fewer full-time faculty) Please comment on the reasons or how this is affecting your program.**

Yes = 33%

No = 40%

No change = 18%

Opposite (fewer part-timers, more burden on existing full-timers) = 9%

Multiple responses noted the process for faculty hiring were complex, including visiting professorships, temporary replacements, and research buy-outs. Changes in hiring practices due to retirements, including early retirements, were mentioned six times,

## **SCHOOLS COMPLETING SURVEY**

46 schools represented in the survey, including 37% of U.S. accredited programs. Another 7 schools responded with anecdotal information, which largely confirm the survey results, but are not reflected in the data above. Following is a full list of schools providing information.

Andrews University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Ball State University	University of Kansas
Carleton University	University of Louisiana at Lafayette
California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo	University of Maryland
Carnegie Mellon University	University of Memphis
Clemson University	University of Minnesota
Cooper Union	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Florida A & M University	University of Pennsylvania
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Texas at Arlington
Hampton University	University of Texas at Austin
Judson University	University of Virginia
Kansas State University	University of Puerto Rico
Kent State University	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Lawrence Technological University	Washington State University
Miami University	Washington University in St Louis
Mississippi State University	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Montana State University	
Morgan State University	
New Jersey Institute of Technology	
NewSchool of Architecture and Design	
Ohio State University	
Parsons The New School for Design	
Princeton University	
Rhode Island School of Design	
Savannah College of Art and Design	
School of the Art Institute of Chicago	
Southern Illinois University Carbondale	
Texas A&M University	
Tulane University	
University of Arizona	
University of California, Berkeley	
University of California, Los Angeles	
University of Hawaii	
University of Houston	