SAN LUIS OBISPO – DesignIntelligence (DI) has named Cal Poly Architecture Professor Thomas Fowler a Top 25 Most Admired Educator of 2012.

DI, published bimonthly by the Design Futures Council, reports on future trends, original research, commentary and best practices. Annually it honors 25 individuals who exemplify excellence in education and education administration. The award is given to individuals in architecture, industrial design, interior design, and landscape architecture.

Fowler has more than 20 years of experience in the private and public sectors of the architecture industry, including many years of service to the National Architectural Accrediting Board.

At Cal Poly, Fowler teaches a third-year building-design laboratory and serves part time as an administrator, preparing for reaccreditation visits and reports. In 1997 he founded -- and now serves as director of -- the Community-Collaborative Integrative Digital-Design Studio (CIDS).

CIDS links academia with professional development through team research and community service design projects locally and nationally, bridging diverse disciplines and systems of learning. Fowler considers it his most significant project because it facilitates a non-traditional way for him to practice architecture in collaboration with his students while teaching and offers unique opportunities in a classroom environment.

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