

MEMORANDUM

TO: Accreditation Manager

FROM: Architecture Department
College of Environmental Design
University of California Berkeley
Tom J. Buresh
Professor and Chair of Architecture

DATE: November 29, 2010

RE: University of California Berkeley Architecture Department 2010 Annual Report

The architecture department was visited and reviewed by NAAB this year and the following is our response to the April 21, 2010 Visiting Team Report, received August 24, 2010. We were pleased to receive the maximum 6-year term for accreditation. In response to the NAAB VTR and a university mandated external review conducted the previous Fall the department has initiated a series of faculty conversations and initiatives to examine departmental policies, BA in Arch/M.Arch/MS in Arch/PhD curricula as well as cultural and community building concerns. Subsequent to these reviews the architecture department has charged the curriculum committee to reassess learning objectives for courses in general and retool required course specifically to address student performance responsibilities. The following NAAB concerns highlighted in the 3/2010 VTR provide the foci of our BA in Arch and M.Arch discussions.

4. Conditions Not Met
 3. Public Information

The required text-

“In the United States, most state registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture. A program may be granted a 6-year, 3-year, or 2-year term of accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established educational standards. Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may consist of a pre-professional undergraduate degree and a professional graduate degree that, when earned sequentially, constitute an accredited professional education. However, the pre-professional degree is not, by itself, recognized as an accredited degree.

University of California Berkeley, College of Environmental Design, Department of Architecture offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:

- M. Arch. (pre-professional degree 120 credits + 48 graduate credits)
- M. Arch. (non-pre-professional degree + 72 credits)

Next accreditation visit for all programs: 2016.”

will be included in the forthcoming Architecture Department Catalogue of Courses and featured on the department's website.

13.16 Program Preparation

Ability to prepare a comprehensive program for an architectural project, including assessment of client and user needs, a critical review of appropriate precedents, an inventory of space and equipment requirements, an analysis of site conditions, a review of the relevant laws and standards and assessment of their implication for the project, and a definition of site selection and design assessment criteria.

“Evidence of ability in programming was found in several instances, but was not consistently observed for all students.”

Discussions and underway to revise the pedagogy and content of A201 Comprehensive Studio, A203 Thesis Seminar, A202 Research Studio Seminar and A204 Thesis Studio to specifically address program preparation.

13.22 Building Service Systems

Understanding of the basic principles and appropriate application and performance of plumbing, electrical, vertical transportation, communication, security, and fire protection systems

“Understanding of building service systems was not consistently observed in student work. Awareness of building service systems was observed in the studio visits.”

Discussions and underway to revise the pedagogy and content of A201 Comprehensive Studio and A260 Construction to specifically address SPC 13.22, Building Service Systems.

13.23 Building Systems Integration

Ability to assess, select, and conceptually integrate structural systems, building envelope systems, environmental systems, life-safety systems, and building service systems into building design

“While there is some evidence of the students understanding of structural and building envelope systems, there is insufficient evidence of the student's ability to integrate these systems. The team did not find consistent evidence of the ability to assess and integrate building service systems.”

Discussions and underway to revise the pedagogy and content of A201 Comprehensive Studio and A260 Construction to specifically address SPC 13.23, Building Systems Integration.

13.25 Construction Cost Control

Understanding of the fundamentals of building cost, life-cycle cost, and construction estimating.

“The team was unable to find sufficient evidence of building cost, life-cycle cost or construction estimating prepared by students.”

Discussions are underway to revise the pedagogy and content of A260 Construction, A201 Comprehensive Design and A207 Practice to specifically address SPC 13.25 Construction Cost Control.

13.28 Comprehensive Design

Ability to produce a comprehensive architectural project based on a building program and site that includes development of programmed spaces demonstrating an understanding of structural and environmental systems, building envelope systems, life-safety provisions, wall sections and building assemblies, and the principles of sustainability

“While ability is demonstrated as evidenced by student work in some sections of the comprehensive design studio, ARCH 201, it is lacking in other sections.”

A201 Comprehensive Design was substantially revised for Fall 2010. We will review the success of the course in Spring 2011. Further discussions are underway to fine-tune the course to better address SPC 13.28 Comprehensive Design.

5. Causes of Concern

A. “Practice-Related Criteria: Student Performance Criteria numbers 29-34 rely heavily on Arch 207: Introduction to Methods & Conventions of Practice and, for the past two years since Arch 120 ceased being offered, Arch 208: Introduction to Construction Law, which historically was an elective. The depth with which these two courses treat the subjects appears to vary, with the prior offering just a single hour or less on a given subject. Thus, they are not equal. The addition of Arch 207 into the curriculum is commendable, but needs to be expanded in order to more convincingly satisfy the multiple practice-related Student Performance Criteria that it seeks to address.”

Current curricular discussions suggest adding a required practice course to the M.Arch curriculum to address this concern.

B. Life Safety: Increased efforts need to be made to integrate exiting related life safety issues into coursework that is clearly provided to all students.

The current offering of Comprehensive Studio will go a long way toward responding to this deficiency. The faculty will review the work from the Fall 2010 course this Spring. Meanwhile, discussions are underway to further revise the pedagogy and content of A201 Comprehensive Design to specifically address shortcomings in SPC 13.28 Comprehensive Design.

C. Studio Culture: Though there is a clear and positive culture within the student body, there is concern that the Studio Culture policy was developed and implemented by the faculty in a top down approach, rather than taken on as a student initiative from the bottom up. As the studio culture policy is noted as a living document, its maintenance by the student body remains a critical component to its eventual success within the walls of Wurster Hall.

The chair is in the process of forming a representative student group to meet with the chair on a regular basis. The Studio Culture policy will become one of their responsibilities.

D. Freehand Drawing: There is a concern that as the technology tools continue to become more advanced, and an even more common tool within the design profession, that the evidence and importance of freehand drawing as part of the design process will further be dismissed within the curriculum.

The faculty and administration agree with this concern and are determined to keep freehand drawing central to the education of the architect. A new course in representation is in the development stages.

NAAB RESPONSE TO UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Date Report Received: November 30, 2010

Current Term of Accreditation: 6 Years

Year of Next Visit: 2016

Focused Evaluation: N

Section One: Checklist of required elements

Part I Statistical Report	√Included	Not Included
Part II Narrative Report	√Included	Not Included

Section Two: Assessment of Narrative Report

NOTE 1: If a deficiency is included in the scope of an FE, the program may not be released from reporting on it in Part II of the Annual Report, except by the FE Team.

NOTE 2: Although an area may be marked "satisfied, no further reporting required," the next visiting team will still make its own assessment of the program's response to the deficiency in the next *Visiting Team Report*.

DEFICIENCIES

3. Public Information

This deficiency has been corrected; no need to continue reporting.

13.16. Program Preparation

Please continue to report on how the revisions to the four studios (A201, A202, A203, and A204) address this deficiency.

13.22. Building Service Systems

Please continue to report on how the revisions to A201 and A260 address this deficiency.

13.23. Building Systems Integration

The program should continue to report on efforts to address this deficiency.

13.25. Construction Cost Control

The program should continue to report on efforts to address this deficiency. Please note that in the 2009 Conditions for Accreditation, this SPC is now covered in Part Two, Section 1, B9. Financial Considerations.

13.28. Comprehensive Design

Please continue to report on how the revisions to A201 address this deficiency.

CAUSES OF CONCERN

Practice-Related Criteria

Please continue to report on efforts to address this concern, including whether a new course will be added to the MArch curriculum.

Life Safety

Please continue to report on efforts to address this concern, particularly on the review of work in the fall 2010 Comprehensive Studio.

Studio Culture

Please continue to report on efforts to address this cause of concern.

Freehand Drawing

Please continue to report on the development of a new course and other efforts to address this concern.

CHANGES TO THE ACCREDITED PROGRAM

None Listed