



NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL ACCREDITING BOARD, INC.

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July 25, 2018

Timothy Sands, Ph.D.
President
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Burruss Hall, Room 210
800 Drillfield Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Dear President Sands,

At their July 2018 meeting, the directors of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) reviewed the Visiting Team Report (VTR) for Virginia Tech.

On behalf of the Board, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that the **Bachelor of Architecture** and the **Master of Architecture** degree programs were granted an eight-year term of accreditation, with the stipulation that the Interim Progress Report addresses in detail the following "Not Met" SPCs for the M. Arch program:

- B.2 Site Design
- B.3 Codes and Regulations
- C.3 Integrative Design

In addition, in reviewing the VTR, the Board found two inconsistencies that must be addressed as well:

- As *Accessibility* within B.3 Codes and Regulations was found to be Not Met in the M. Arch program, this means it was Not Met twice consecutively. Failure to address the *Accessibility* deficiencies may result in a reduced term of accreditation.
- The Board found the II.2.2 Professional Degrees and Curriculum condition to be Not Met. For schools of architecture currently using the "M. Arch" title for nonaccredited programs, including Virginia Tech, the deadline for changing the titles of such programs is this year. Please review the following excerpt from page 19 of the 2014 NAAB Conditions document:

Section II.2.2 Professional Degrees and Curriculum

The B. Arch., M. Arch., and/or D. Arch. are titles used exclusively with NAAB-accredited professional degree programs. The B. Arch., M. Arch., and/or D. Arch. are recognized by the public as accredited degrees and therefore should not be used by nonaccredited programs.

Therefore, any institution that uses the degree title B. Arch., M. Arch., or D. Arch. for a nonaccredited degree program must change the title. Programs must initiate the appropriate institutional processes for changing the titles of these nonaccredited programs by June 30, 2018.

We are extending the deadline for initiating the process for changing the titles of nonaccredited M. Arch programs to November 30, 2018. If indication that the change has been initiated is not submitted to the NAAB by this date, the NAAB may consider advancing the schedule for the program's next accreditation sequence.



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The term is effective January 1, 2018 and the program is scheduled for its next visit for continuing accreditation in 2026.

Please be reminded that continuing accreditation is predicated on two reporting requirements:

- a) Annual Statistical Reports. These reports capture statistical information on the institution and the program. The next statistical report is due on or before November 30, 2018.
- b) Interim Progress Reports. Programs that receive an eight-year term of accreditation must submit an Interim Progress Report (IPR) two years after a visit and again five years after the visit. Virginia Tech's first interim progress report is due November 30, 2020. There is more information on the IPR process in Section 10 of the *NAAB 2015 Procedures for Accreditation*.

Finally, public dissemination of both the Architecture Program Report and the VTR is a condition of accreditation. These documents must be made public electronically in their entirety. Please see Condition II 4.4 of the *2014 Conditions for Accreditation* and Section 5 of the *NAAB Procedures for Accreditation, 2015 Edition*.

On behalf of the NAAB and the visiting team, thank you for your support of accreditation in architectural education.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judith Kinnard', written over a white background.

Judith Kinnard, FAIA
President

cc: V. Hunter Pittman, Director
Kate Wingert-Playdon, Team Chair