Iowa State University
Department of Architecture

Focus Evaluation Team Report

Bachelor of Architecture
(164.5 undergraduate credit hours)

Master of Architecture
(40 undergraduate credit hours + 60 graduate credit hours)

The National Architectural Accrediting Board
September 2010

*The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), established in 1940, is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture. Because most state registration boards in the United States require any applicant for licensure to have graduated from an NAAB-accredited program, obtaining such a degree is an essential aspect of preparing for the professional practice of architecture.*
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I. Summary of Team Findings

1. Team Comments

We have reviewed the materials submitted by Iowa State University’s Department of Architecture in response to the NAAB request for a Focused Evaluation of Condition 12 Professional Degrees and Curriculum. Iowa State offers the following two accredited professional degrees in architecture:

B. Arch (requiring 164.5 credits)
M. Arch (requiring 100 credits plus an undergraduate degree)

The department also confers a degree titled, “M. Arch” to students completing a 30 credit, one-year post-professional non-NAAB-accredited program. This non-accredited degree is the subject of the Focused Evaluation.

In a letter dated May 28, 2010, Professor Calvin Lewis, Chair of the Department of Architecture, communicated to the NAAB that the department had approved a change of the name of the non-NAAB-accredited degree in question to a Master of Science in Architecture. This degree title change is verified through public records from the June 8, 2010 State of Iowa Board of Regents meeting minutes, where the title change was approved in the consent agenda.
II. Compliance with the Conditions for Accreditation

Program Response to the NAAB Focused Criteria

Schools must respond to the interests of the collateral organizations that make up the NAAB as set forth by this edition of the NAAB Conditions for Accreditation. Each school is expected to address these interests consistent with its scholastic identity and mission.

12. Professional Degrees and Curriculum

The NAAB accredits the following professional degree programs: the Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch.), the Master of Architecture (M. Arch.), and the Doctor of Architecture (D. Arch.). The curricular requirements for awarding these degrees must include professional studies, general studies, and electives. Schools offering the degrees B. Arch., M. Arch., and/or D. Arch. are strongly encouraged to use these degree titles exclusively with NAAB-accredited professional degree programs.

Met [X] Not Met [ ]

The University has changed the title of its post-professional non-NAAB-accredited M. Arch degree to a Master of Science in Architecture degree and this condition is met.
Appendix A: The Visiting Team

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Appendix B: The Visit Agenda

No visit was required.
IV. Report Signatures

Respectfully submitted,

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Review Chair

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Secondary Reviewer

Representing the Academy

Representing the Profession
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