

Architecture
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A. ALFRED TAUBMAN COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + URBAN PLANNING
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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University of Michigan Architecture Program 2011 Annual Report, Part II Narrative

29 November 2012

Name of institution: University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Name of academic unit: Architecture Program

Name of program administrator as identified in Section A: John McMorrough

Date of last accreditation/candidacy: February 2011

Response to conditions not met:

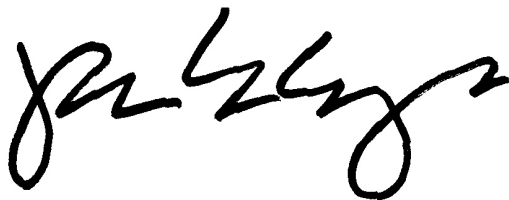
A.4: Technical Documentation - According to the visiting team this condition was not met because there was not coverage of specification writing in the curriculum. The architecture program has addressed this by adding coverage of this topic (both in lecture and in exercise form) to the course ARCH 527 Building Anatomies.

Response to Causes of Concern:

A. Physical Resources to Size of Program: The student population has increased over the last several years. Although the school appears to have adequate resources to handle the current enrollment, further growth could be a problem. Physical resources are at their limits and an increase in the number of graduate students would be difficult to accommodate in existing studios and classrooms. - The limits of our current building both in size and quality are deficiencies that the college plans on addressing by making a substantial renovation and expansion of facilities in the coming years. The architectural firm ARO (Architecture Research Office) has completed a feasibility study for such an expansion, and a development campaign to fund the new building was started 2011.

B. Consistency in Instruction: Due to the overall size of the program and the relatively low faculty student ratio, there are as many as nine professors teaching the different sections of each studio. Though differences in perspective and approach can be productive, there is a concern that all groups may not address the required student performance criteria to the same level. - The architecture program has increased the level of coordination for the first two years of "core" architectural design studio. This coordination includes shared lecture series, programs, and sites for all of the studio sections.

C. Comprehensive Design Studio as part of Study Abroad: The team did not see work produced by the Comprehensive Studio being taught in Italy. There is concern that the broader cultural goals of international study may not be compatible with the professional focus and technical integration central to the comprehensive studio. - The architecture program no longer offers the study abroad program that caused the comprehensive studio to be taught outside the school. As the program looks for new study abroad opportunities for our students, we plan to offer such a program in a term other than the one in which the comprehensive studio is taught.



John McMorrough, Ph.D.

Architecture Program Chair / Director, Ph.D. in Architecture degree / Associate Professor of Architecture