

Ellen S. Cathey, AIA
Associate Director
National Architectural Accrediting Board
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006

December 6, 2019

Dear Ellen,

NYIT is pleased to have experienced a full and fair review of our M.ARCH program, and we are grateful to the Visiting Team and to the NAAB for the professionalism with which they carried out their work. Many thanks.

Please accept this letter as our response to the Draft VTR that you shared with me on November 26. Our response offers a small number of corrections of fact, and comments regarding consistency within the report. It is submitted with a marked-up copy of the VTR to make it easier for the NAAB to track our comments. Below, blue font indicates our comments. Red indicates what we believe to be errors of fact.

Page 4, II Progress on the Plan for Achieving Initial Accreditation:

Since the initial candidacy NAAB Team visit in 2017, the M.Arch program has enrolled its first two cohorts . .

- *(9 students were admitted in fall 2018, 6 of whom remain in the program. 7 new students admitted in fall 2019).*
- *There are currently (3) Track I students at the 600 level (Y1), admitted in fall 2019 and expected to graduate in spring 2022.*
- *There are (3) additional Track I students now at the 700 level (Y2), admitted in fall 2018. They are joined at the 700 level (Y2) by 4 new students, admitted to Track II in fall 2019. These students are expected graduate in spring 2021.*
- *Additionally, (3) Track II students at the 800 level (Y3), admitted in fall 2018, are expected to graduate in spring 2020.*

David Diamond, Professor
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Page 8, line 3:

“The Institution is planning to relocate the Manhattan campus in ~~(by)~~ 2021. . . .”

- Please replace the word “by” with “in”. We have been told that NYIT plans to relocate us during the summer of 2021, not in advance of spring 2021 as the above VTR text may indicate. The timing of NYIT’s Manhattan campus move is likely to impact our Timeline for Achieving Initial Accreditation.

Page 8, 2019 Visiting Team Assessment, A, line 5:

“Per the revised proposed Timeline for Accreditation, the program ~~is planning to pursue initial accreditation in 2021.~~”

- *Our Timeline for Accreditation Document, shared with the Team Leader (attached) indicates July 2021 as the earliest possible date when we would be eligible to request initial accreditation, not our intention to do so. We wish to review our Timeline with the NAAB in the very near future.*

Page 8, 2019 Visiting Team Assessment, A Line 6:

“At the time of the last visit, the SoAD had no students enrolled in the M.Arch. program and have since grown a cohort of ~~(14)~~ current students.”

- We presently have (13). One student is now leave to care for his newborn.

Page 8, 2019 Visiting Team Assessment, A line 8:

“The initial cohort in Track I is slated to graduate in spring ~~(2020).~~”

- *The initial Track II cohort is slated to graduate in spring 2020. The initial Track I cohort is slated to graduate in spring 2021.*

Page 14, SPC B.1, B.4, B.6 + B.7 . . . Criteria Not Yet Met:

“2019 Team Assessment: Evidence of student achievement at the prescribed level was found in student work for . . .”

- *We are curious as to why the VTR lists these criteria as “Not Yet Met”, when evidence of achievement has been found. Though our Matrix indicates that these SPC are to be covered again in 800 level courses currently in progress or slated for spring 2020, the VTR indicates that we have already achieved them.*

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Page 16, Realm C. General Team Commentary: . . .

*“The student work portfolios required (as noted in the syllabi) for both ARCH 705 and 722”
were not presented.”*

- *The M.ARCH Team room was complete, including binders from both ARCH 705 and 722. Each binder contained student portfolios or coursework. ARCH 705 contained traditional studio portfolios. ARCH 722 is a building systems course and as such, contained student papers and exams. During their visit, the team did not request “missing” portfolio materials for these two courses.*

The remainder of the report appears to be accurate and true.

Many thanks for helping to guide us through this process. With regard to NYIT’s VTR response, please feel free to contact me if I have been unclear, or if I may provide any additional information regarding the above.

Dean Perbellini and I look forward to hearing from you, and to receiving the final, official Report.

Best wishes,



Cc: Maria R. Perbellini, Dean, SoAD
Staci Kirschner, Manager of Administrative Operations
Kesia Persaud, Administrative Specialist, SoAD Graduate Programs

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