



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

Department of Architecture
School of Architecture and Planning

May 28, 2015

NAAB Board of Directors
1101 Connecticut Ave, NW
Suite 410
Washington, DC 20036

Dear NAAB Board of Directors,

I would like to sincerely thank the NAAB visiting team, Cornelius "Kin" DuBois, Mitra Kanaani, Michael Kemner and Thomas Ahleman, for a very productive and engaging visit to our school. Their professionalism and openness was most appreciated. The report that they have produced is thorough, comprehensive and correctly assesses our program. There are two items that I would simply like to provide clarifications on which as written do not properly represent our program. They do not contradict the VT's assessment only better explain the facts:

I.1.4 Long-Range Planning: The assessment as written confuses the School of Architecture and Planning's planning goals with those of Department of Architecture. The School is composed of two distinct Departments; Architecture and Urban and Regional Planning, each with a chair and faculty that guide the Department's long range planning. Departmental goals build on the school's goals but with a focus on program improvement and faculty productivity.

The School of Architecture and Planning's strategic goals are:

1. Grow ladder faculty
2. Double current level of research funding
3. Strategically adjust our enrollment
4. Initiate and conduct major development campaign
5. Complete comprehensive restorations to facilities.
6. Develop a comprehensive diversity plan

The Department of Architecture's strategic goals build are:

1. Achieving distinction in a comprehensive design education that combines learning through making and research-based design inquiry;
2. Nurturing scholarship, research, and creative activity among faculty and students;
3. Supporting the work of faculty and students through the Graduate Research Groups;
4. Working with industry and professional practice to expand research and employment opportunities; and
5. Developing strategic connections with international institutions and attracting students from around the world.

II.2.3 Curriculum Review and Development: The assessment as written does not get the role of the curriculum committee precisely correct. The second of eth assessment should read:

The committee makes recommendations to the voting faculty, upon whose approval the Chair works with level coordinators and individual faculty to implement and execute the changes to the program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Omar Khan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Omar Khan
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Architecture