

Part II (Narrative Report)

Syracuse University
 School of Architecture
 Randall Korman, Interim Dean
 Last Accreditation Visit: 12-14 April 2010

1.4. Conditions/Criteria Not Met

2. Program Self-Assessment: *The team found instances of anecdotal evaluation but the programs do not have a formalized plan or procedure for self-assessment. Significantly the APR mentions numerous activities that were not sufficient to provide insight into the program's focus and pedagogy. Confusion about the differences between individual, course, and program assessment is evident in the APR and was similarly evident during the visit*

Response: In July 2012 the School hired a new associate dean, who is reviewing procedures for individual, course and program assessment. The associate dean will be working with the SU Office of Institutional Review and Assessment with a view to improving our procedures. This will be an ongoing initiative.

Formal assessment of the dean by the University occurs every five years. The process is conducted by a committee composed of faculty and staff appointed both by the faculty of the School of Architecture and the Provost. Formal assessment of tenured faculty occurs through a process of annual review by the dean. Formal assessment of tenure-track faculty occurs through a process of annual review by the associate dean. A report of this assessment is sent to the faculty member, the dean and the Office of Academic Affairs. Furthermore, each tenure-track faculty member is reviewed by the Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee twice during the tenure process.

All faculty instructors must distribute course evaluations each semester. These are tabulated and returned to the instructors and the dean's and the associate dean's office for review. Where issues are apparent, the instructor meets with the associate dean or dean to discuss resolution.

Regular program assessment occurs in three separate venues. First is the Curriculum Committee. This committee is charged with the responsibility of making ongoing assessments of the curriculum and proposing ways in which it can be improved. Program assessment also occurs through the Executive Academic Committee composed of the dean, the associate dean and the chairs. This committee meets on a regular basis to evaluate and discuss strategic planning issues related to the development of the existing programs and plans for the creation of new programs. The third principal venue is the annual faculty retreat in which a major agenda item is program assessment and discussion of issues.

13.9 Non Western Traditions: *The team found evidence in ARC 133 and 134 for the B. Arch. students. The team did not find evidence in required coursework for the M. Arch. students.*

Response: We continue to review the content of the graduate introduction to history course to find opportunities where material related to non-western traditions can be provided.

13.13 Human Diversity: *The team found evidence in ARC 134 for the B. Arch. students. There was no evidence found in required coursework for the M. Arch. students.*

Response: We continue to review the content of the graduate required history sequence to find ways to include a greater focus on human diversity issues.

13.26 Technical Documentation: While the team found evidence in ARC 308 & 607 of technically precise drawings, it found no evidence of the ability to write outline specifications.

Response: This required content will be addressed in revisions to the Advanced Building Systems Course.

1.5. Causes of Concern

Please note that the NAAB response to the 2011 annual report advised that we no longer need to report on the two causes of concern identified in the last visiting team report.

Changes in Program since last NAAB visit

In 2010 the Faculty voted to alter the sequence of the School's curriculum beginning with the Class of 2016 (matriculating Fall 2011). ARC409 Comprehensive Studio was moved from the 6th to the 8th semester allowing it to be preceded by ARC423 Advanced Building Systems. As a corollary effect, the study abroad programs were shifted from the 7th and 8th semesters to the 6th and 7th semesters.

Dean Mark Robbins resigned his appointment at the School effective July 1 2012. The University is currently conducting an international search for a new Dean. Professor Randall Korman, who served as Associate Dean until May 2012, is serving as Interim Dean.

Other Comments/Issues relating to the Statistical Report:

Section C, question 2: we have reported on financial aid for the Undergraduate Program. There is no mechanism for reporting on a second program as required, i.e. the accredited M. Arch. program. We inquired about this and didn't receive a response. We are submitting the graduate information as follows:

Graduate Student Aid	Architecture compared to all Schools and Colleges	
	% of Stds Receiving Aid	Average Amount
a. Institution		
Student Loans	33%	\$23,521
b. Architecture Program		
Student Loans	60%	\$30,871

Section C, question 3: the amount of stipends and tuition vary depending on the type of assistantship, and there is not a way to enter a range. That information is as follows:

Stipend: ranges from \$2863 to \$13,182. The average is \$5044, and the median is \$2863.

Tuition: Tuition awarded ranges from \$9048 to \$11,758. The average tuition aid granted to assistantship recipients is \$11,457.

Section D, question 1: This year's report/questionnaire does not ask for information on applicants or admitted students. If that data is required, we can submit it. Please advise.