

**University of Virginia**

**Interim Progress Report for 2017**

**Instructions and Template**

30 November 2017

## **Contents**

1. Instructions and Template Guidelines
2. Executive Summary of the Most Recent Visit
3. Template
  - a. Progress in Addressing Not-Met Conditions and Student Performance Criteria
  - b. Plans/Progress in Addressing Causes of Concern
  - c. Changes or Planned Changes in the Program
  - d. Summary of Responses to Changes in the NAAB Conditions (NOTE: Only required if Conditions have changed since the previous visit)
  - e. Appendix (include revised curricula, syllabi, and one-page CVs or bios of new administrators and faculty members; syllabi should reference which NAAB SPC a course addresses)

# 1. INSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPLATE GUIDELINES

## Purpose

Continuing accreditation is subject to the submission of interim progress reports at defined intervals after an eight-year or four-year term of continuing accreditation is approved.

This narrative report, supported by documentation, covers three areas:

1. The program's progress in addressing not-met Conditions, Student Performance Criteria, or Causes of Concern from the most recent Visiting Team Report.
2. Significant changes to the program or the institution since the last visit.
3. Responses to changes in the NAAB Conditions since your last visit (Note: Only required if Conditions have changed since your last visit)

## Supporting Documentation

1. The narrative should describe in detail all changes in the program made in response to not-met Conditions, Student Performance Criteria, and Causes of Concern.
2. Provide information regarding changes in leadership or faculty membership. Identify the anticipated contribution to the program for new hires and include either a narrative biography or one-page CV.
3. Provide detailed descriptions of changes to the curriculum that have been made in response to not-met Student Performance Criteria. Identify any specific outcomes expected to student performance. Attach new or revised syllabi of required courses that address unmet SPC.
4. Provide additional information that may be of interest to the NAAB team at the next accreditation visit.

## Outcomes

IPRs are reviewed by a panel of three: one current NAAB director, one former NAAB director, and one experienced team chair.<sup>1</sup> The panel may make one of three recommendations to the Board regarding the interim report:

1. Accept the interim report as having demonstrated satisfactory progress toward addressing deficiencies identified in the most recent VTR.
2. Accept the interim report as having demonstrated progress toward addressing deficiencies but require the program to provide additional information (e.g., examples of actions taken to address deficiencies).
3. Reject the interim report as having not demonstrated sufficient progress toward addressing deficiencies and advance the next accreditation sequence by at least one calendar year but not more than three years, thereby shortening the term of accreditation. In such cases, the chief academic officer of the institution will be notified and a copy sent to the program administrator. A schedule will be determined so that the program has at least six months to prepare an Architecture Program Report. The annual statistical report (see Section 9 of the 2015 Conditions) is still required.

## Deadline and Contacts

IPRs are due on November 30. They are submitted through the NAAB's Annual Report System (ARS). Contact Kesha Abdul Mateen ([kabdul@naab.org](mailto:kabdul@naab.org)) with questions.

## Instructions

1. Type all responses in the designated text areas.
2. Reports must be submitted as a single PDF following the template format. Pages should be numbered.
3. Reports are limited to 25 pages/10 MBs.
4. Supporting documentation should be included in the body of the report.
5. Student work is not to be submitted as documentation for a two-year IPR.

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<sup>1</sup> The team chair will not have participated in a team during the year in which the original decision on a term of accreditation was made.

## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF 2015 NAAB VISIT

### CONDITIONS NOT MET

|                 |
|-----------------|
| <b>2015 VTR</b> |
| None            |

### STUDENT PERFORMANCE CRITERIA NOT MET

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>2015 VTR</b>              |
| A.4 Technical Documentation  |
| B.5 Life Safety              |
| B.6 Comprehensive Design     |
| B.7 Financial Considerations |
| C.4 Project Management       |
| C.5 Practice Management      |
| C.7 Legal Responsibilities   |

### CAUSES OF CONCERN

|   |
|---|
| <b>2015 VTR</b>   |
| Historical Traditions & Global Culture (SPC A.9)  |
| Professional Practice (SPCs C.3, C.4, C.5, C.7,& C.8)                                     |
| Accessibility, Life Safety & Building Service Systems Integration (SPCs B.2, B.5, & B.11) |

### 3. TEMPLATE

**Interim Progress Report**  
**University of Virginia**  
**Department of Architecture**  
**M. Arch. [Preprofessional degree + 67 credits]**  
**M. Arch. [undergraduate degree in architecture + 102 graduate credits]**  
*Last APR submission: January 20, 2015*  
*Year of the previous visit: 2015*

*Please update contact information as necessary since the last APR was submitted.*

**Chief administrator for the academic unit in which the program is located:** Professor Ila Berman,  
Dean

**Provost:** Thomas Katsouleas, Executive VP and Provost

**President of the institution:** Dr. Teresa A. Sullivan

**Individual submitting the Interim Progress Report:** Professor William Sherman, Chair

**Name of individual(s) to whom questions should be directed:** Professor William Sherman

**Current term of accreditation:** 8-year term

Text from the most recent VTR or APR is in the gray text boxes. Type your response in the designated text boxes.

#### a. Progress in Addressing Not-Met Conditions and Student Performance Criteria

##### A.4 Technical Documentation

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* Evidence of outline specifications was not found in student work in either the team room or in supplemental material provided during the visit. Technically clear drawings were found in ARCH 7230 – Design Development. Models illustrating and identifying the assembly of materials, systems, and components was found in ARCH 7010 – Research Studio 1, ALAR 8020 – Design Development Studio 1, and ARCH 8010 – Research Studio 2.

This criterion calls for **ability** to make technically clear drawings, write outline specifications, and prepare models illustrating and identifying the assembly of materials, systems, and components appropriate for a building design.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The requirement for the development of outline specifications for the project is being incorporated into the syllabi for Arch 7230, Design Development. This course was redesigned in Spring 2017 to a format more closely resembling a studio, with three faculty members working with smaller numbers of students to develop the design, detailing and material specifications of a small-scale project. It will have a new syllabus in Spring 2018.

##### B.5 Life-Safety

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* Evidence was not found in students' work to demonstrate their ability to apply the basic principles of life-safety systems.

This criterion calls for **ability** to apply the basic principles of life-safety systems with an emphasis on egress.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The identification of egress pathways and application of basic principles of life safety systems has been more fully integrated into the Arch 7020, Arch 8020 and 8230 curricula in Spring 2017, and will continue to be developed in these studios in Spring 2018

##### B.6 Comprehensive Design

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* There was evidence of this criterion in select high-pass student work, but evidence was not found consistently in all student work.

This criterion calls for **ability** to produce a comprehensive architectural project that demonstrates each student's capacity to make design decisions across scales while integrating the SPC.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The curriculum of the 8020 studio and coupled 8230 Building Synthesis class were redesigned in Spring 2017 to ensure a baseline of expectations across all levels of work within the studio. The studio received the AIA and Architect Magazine's Studio Prize last summer in recognition of its high quality. See [http://www.architectmagazine.com/awards/studio-prize-mining-appalachia\\_o](http://www.architectmagazine.com/awards/studio-prize-mining-appalachia_o). These curricula are undergoing further refinement in Spring 2018, with four faculty members experienced in practice working with the cohort of 40 students.

#### B.7 Financial Considerations

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* Evidence of an understanding of life-cycle cost, project financing, and financial feasibility was not found in student work. Evidence of an understanding of building cost, operational cost, and cost estimating was found.

This criterion calls for **understanding** of the fundamentals of building costs, such as acquisition costs, project financing and funding, financial feasibility, operational costs, and construction estimating with an emphasis on life-cycle cost accounting.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The Professional Practice course is being thoroughly redesigned in Spring 2018 for implementation in the following year. Meanwhile, the school's capacity to address these financial considerations is being enhanced by the introduction of new faculty and coursework related to a nascent Real Estate Certificate program. These faculty members will engage with the spring iteration of Arch 8480, Professional Ethics and Communications to introduce these financial principles into the course in a more systematic way to meet the criteria.

#### C.4 Project Management

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* Evidence was not found in the student work provided.

This criterion demands **understanding** of the methods for competing for commissions, selecting consultants and assembling teams, and recommending project delivery methods.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The Professional Practice course is being thoroughly redesigned in Spring 2018 for implementation in the following year. We are currently exploring the implementation of a format that will address these issues directly. Meanwhile, an assignment that demonstrates understanding will be included in this year's offering.

#### C.5 Practice Management

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* Evidence was not found in the student work provided.

This criterion calls for **understanding** of the basic principles of architectural practice management such as financial management and business planning, time management, risk management, mediation and arbitration, and recognizing trends that affect practice.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The Professional Practice course is being thoroughly redesigned in Spring 2018 for implementation in the following year. We are currently exploring the implementation of a format that will address these issues directly. Meanwhile, an assignment that demonstrates understanding will be included in this year's offering.

#### C.7 Legal Responsibilities

*2015 Visiting Team Assessment:* Evidence was not found in the student work provided.

This criterion calls for **understanding** of the architect's responsibility to the public and the client as determined by registration law, building codes and regulations, professional service contracts, zoning and subdivision ordinances, environmental regulation, and historic preservation and accessibility laws.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The Professional Practice course is being thoroughly redesigned in Spring 2018 for implementation in the following year. We are currently exploring the implementation of a format that will address these issues directly. Meanwhile, an assignment that demonstrates understanding will be included in this year's offering.

#### **b. Plans for/Progress in Addressing Causes of Concern**

- **Historical Traditions & Global Culture**

*2015 Visiting Team Comments:* Supplemental information provided by the program during this visit states that the only History and Theory electives to be taught starting in spring 2016 will be ARCH 7122 – Contemporary Spatial Practices and ARCH 7403 – World Contemporary Architecture. These classes will replace the classes currently addressing SPC A.9. Historical Traditions and Global Culture; therefore, it is important that both of the new classes include parallel and divergent canons as well as traditions of architecture—including indigenous, vernacular, local, regional, and national settings from the Eastern, Western, Northern, and Southern hemispheres—in terms of climatic, ecological, technological, socio-economic, public health, and cultural factors.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** These courses both address, and are being further developed in their content now to address the parallel and divergent canons and traditions of architecture. In addition the content related to climatic, technological, social-economic, health and cultural factors are being or will be explicitly integrated into other course work, including environmental systems, several of the technology classes and ARCH 7120, Twentieth Century History of Ideas. There is an increasingly global focus to the entire curriculum, reflective of changes in the research focus of an increasingly global faculty, enhanced study abroad opportunities in China, India, Africa, South America, the Arctic, and Europe, and a majority international graduate student body. This global focus is also true of the research interests and curricular structures of the departments of Architectural history and Urban and Environmental Planning. The curriculum review in Spring 2018 will focus on the enhancement of the required history sequence.

- **Professional Practice**

*2015 Visiting Team Comments:* The visiting team is concerned about the limited amount of evidence for curated student work regarding these interconnected SPCs. The evidence provided suggests, at best, a level of topical awareness by students. The capacity to classify, compare, summarize, and explain and/or interpret information was absent from the work presented.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** The new department and school leadership agrees with this concern and is actively working to remedy this situation through the implementation of a new course in professional practice next year, a tightened integration and attention to these issues in the building integration, design development, and building synthesis courses along with their related studios.

- **Accessibility, Life Safety, and Building Service Systems Integration**



*2015 Visiting Team Comments:* The visiting team found inconsistencies in the ability to implement these critical systems throughout the coursework. The evidence that these criteria had been met in student work was limited and often absent in later coursework.

**UVA, 2017 Response:** There are two dimensions to this concern – one in the gaps that we are actively trying to close as noted above, and the other in the capturing of the evidence

### **c. Changes or Planned Changes in the Program**

*Please report such changes as the following: faculty retirement/succession planning; administration changes (dean, department chair, provost); changes in enrollment (increases, decreases, new external pressures); new opportunities for collaboration; changes in financial resources (increases, decreases, external pressures); significant changes in educational approach or philosophy; changes in physical resources (e.g., deferred maintenance, new building planned, cancellation of plans for new building).*

**UVA, 2017 Response:** There has been a change in the Chair, Dean and Provost positions. The current Provost's term began in Fall 2015 and the current Dean in Fall 2016. In Fall 2016, Ed Ford began a three-year appointment as Architecture department chair, and chose to step down in May 2017. William Sherman, who served previously as Chair in 2003-2007, was appointed then to a one-year term, while the school conducts an international search, that is currently underway to identify a new Chair to begin in Fall 2018. Jeana Ripple was appointed program director for the M.Arch program in May 2017. In addition, the President has announced that she will step down in summer 2017, to be succeeded by James Ryan, currently Dean of the School of Education at Harvard University.

While some progress has been made in addressing the NAAB conditions and concerns identified above during this period of turnover at all levels, William Sherman and Jeana Ripple will be leading curricular discussions with the department faculty this spring (2018) that will be explicitly aimed at rectifying the shortfalls in the program in addition to making other revisions in alignment with the priorities of the school under the leadership of the new dean. These priorities include the development of the "Next Cities Initiative" in conjunction with a new program in urban design and a real estate certificate, an enhancement of digital fabrication curriculum and facilities, the development of the school's long-standing leadership in sustainability, ecological responsibility and social equity, and enhanced global engagement. These priorities, which build on rather than overturn the school's underlying philosophies and educational approach, will form the foundation of a major capital campaign that is beginning now to mark the university's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and will include new funding targets for both programs and the building facilities. The studios were completely renovated over the past two years, and an addition and renovation is planned to dramatically increase the space available for fabrication, research labs, studio space and faculty office and work space. In the longer run, this project includes the potential annexation of the university's current museum as it moves to a new location within the next five years.

Changes in the program include a near doubling of the size of the graduate program since 2014, which is coupled with an increase in funding in relation to the university's new financial model. The university has dramatically increased its support for pan-university research collaboration with the funding of several cluster hires, which have brought three new faculty members to the architecture department in partnership with the schools of Engineering, Education and Nursing. In addition, the university has launched four new research institutes, with the architecture school participating in Data Sciences, Infectious Diseases and Environmental Resilience. There has been a dramatic upturn in the level of research funding that the faculty have been successful in receiving over the past two years, along with enhanced university support for research and faculty development.

### **d. Summary of Activities in Response to Changes in the NAAB Conditions**

[2015 NAAB Conditions](#)

**UVA, 2017 Response:** Invalid link and no apparent link to NAAB Conditions on the NAAB website

**e. Appendix** (include revised curricula, syllabi, and one-page CVs or bios of new administrators and faculty members; syllabi should reference which NAAB SPC a course addresses)

**UVA, 2017 Response:** See attachments. New course syllabi that reflect the implementation of curriculum refinements and changes are under development this spring, and will be included in the next interim report. This is a high priority of the new leadership of the school and department.

## APPENDIX

### Professor Ila Berman, Dean

#### ILA BERMAN

DEAN, EDWARD E. ELSON PROFESSOR



**EDUCATION** DDes, Harvard University Graduate School of Design; MDes, Harvard University Graduate School of Design; BAS, Carleton University

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#### PERSONAL STATEMENT

Ila Berman, DDes, Dean of the School of Architecture, and Edward E. Elson Professor at the University of Virginia is an architect, theorist, and curator of architecture and urbanism whose research investigates the relationship between culture and the evolution of contemporary material, technological and spatial practices. She is a featured alumna of Harvard University's Grounded Visionaries series and the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships including the Lieutenant Governor's Medal for Design, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Fellowships, a Special Achievement Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching from Tulane University, where she was a Favrot Professor, founding director of the URBANbuild program, and the Associate Dean of the School of Architecture until 2007. She has also held academic administrative appointments as the O'Donovan Director of the University of Waterloo School of Architecture, and the Director of the School of Architecture at CCA in San Francisco.

Dr. Berman's work and publications include *Expanded Field: Architectural Installation Beyond Art*; *FLUX: Architecture in a Parametric Landscape*; *URBANbuild local\_global* winner of an AIGA award for the top 50 books of 2009 and a Communications Design Award of Excellence; and *New Constellations New Ecologies*, among many others. Her design work and installations have been exhibited in many public and private galleries and museums including the International Architectural Biennale in Venice, Italy and most recently her installation *Urban Syncopation* for Nuit Blanche at the Gardiner Museum in Toronto. She regularly serves on national and international design juries including those for the AIA, the Pan American Architecture Biennial (BAQ) and the Mies Crown Hall America's Prize (MCHAP), and has served on many architectural boards including the California Architectural Foundation (CAF), the AIA, the Canadian Council of University Schools of Architecture (CCUSA), and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), in addition to her appointment on the Urban Design Committee of the Mayor's BNOB Commission in New Orleans, where she worked to support the development of design directives and strategies for the rebuilding of the city post-Katrina.

Thomas Katsouleas, Executive VP and Provost



## EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & PROVOST

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EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

### Thomas C. Katsouleas

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Office of Executive Vice President and Provost  
Madison Hall

As executive vice president and provost of the University of Virginia, Thomas C. Katsouleas oversees the University's teaching and research activities. He directs the academic administration of the eleven schools, the library, art museums, public service activities, numerous University centers, and foreign study programs.

Provost Katsouleas served as dean of the Pratt School of Engineering and professor of electrical and computer engineering at Duke University from 2008–2015. He earned a B.S. in 1979 and a Ph.D. in physics in 1984, both from UCLA. He joined the University of Southern California faculty as an associate professor of electrical engineering in 1991, becoming full professor in 1997. There he also served as an associate dean of engineering and vice provost of information technology services.

Provost Katsouleas is a fellow of both the American Physical Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Mr. Katsouleas co-created the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) Grand Challenge Scholars Program in 2009, and organized and co-chaired the first NAE Grand Challenges national summit. He currently serves as co-chair of the Advisory Committee on The Grand Challenges, and highlighted several of the successes produced by the Challenges in his [keynote address](#) at the NAE annual meeting in 2015 (slides available [here](#)).

Provost Katsouleas is a recognized inventor and a leading scholar of plasma science, originating a number of concepts in plasma-based particle accelerators and light sources. His work has been highlighted on the covers of Physical Review Letters, the CERN Courier and Nature. He has authored or co-authored more than 200 publications and given more than 50 major invited talks. His CV can be found [here](#).

## Professor William Sherman, Chair

CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE; ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH IN DESIGN, ARTS AND HUMANITIES; FOUNDING DIRECTOR, OPENGROUNDS; LAURENCE LEWIS JR. PROFESSOR OF ARCHITECTURE



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|-------------------|---|
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William Sherman is the Chair of the Department of Architecture, the Lawrence Lewis Jr. Professor of Architecture, Associate Vice President for Research in Design, Arts and Humanities, and the Founding Director of the OpenGrounds initiative at the University of Virginia. As an architect and educator, his teaching and design research examine dynamic cultural and environmental processes in architectural design, ranging in scale from human physiology to global energy flows. His work explores the intersection of these processes with the cultural frameworks that inform the design of buildings and cities, with a particular focus on emerging spaces for creative engagement and institutional transformation.

His design work, ranging in scale from furniture to communities, has been published internationally and has received numerous awards, including six from the American Institute of Architects, five for Design Excellence at the national, state and local levels and one for Excellence in Education. In 2010, he was awarded the Z Society Distinguished Faculty Award at the University of Virginia and the Creative Achievement Award of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

In 2012, Sherman founded OpenGrounds, a network of places and programs that inspire creative research at the confluence of technology, science, the arts and humanities. He designed both the spaces and programs of OpenGrounds to serve as catalysts for cross-disciplinary research collaborations and new institutional partnerships that inspire the conception, development and implementation of transformational ideas. He has lectured widely on the concept of OpenGrounds and serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for the Arts at Research Universities.

## Assistant Professor Jeana Ripple, Graduate Program Director

### JEANA RIPPLE

GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE . ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



|            |  |
|------------|--|
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### PERSONAL STATEMENT

Jeana Ripple is an architect, founding principal of [Ripple Architecture Studio](http://ripplearchitecture.com), Graduate Director of the Master of Architecture Program and Assistant Professor at the University of Virginia. Her research investigates materials as performance systems, both at the scale of building system manufacturing and by examining city-wide impacts of material codes. The Virginia AIA named her the 2015 AIA VA Emerging Professional and her teaching was recognized by two recent national awards—the 2015 ACSA | AIAS New Faculty Teaching Award and the 2015 BTES (Building Technology Educator’s Society) Emerging Educator award. Her prior experience includes work as a project manager at Studio Gang Architects in Chicago and professional “white hat” hacking during her days as a practicing computer science engineer.

Ripple Architecture Studio has received numerous awards including two first place awards in Bloomberg Philanthropies International Competitions, the DC AIA Unbuilt award for excellence in materials and innovation, the DC AIA Unbuilt design award, and finalist entry in the international TEX-FAB SKIN competition. R.A.S. work has been internationally exhibited and published. Ripple is a founding editor of the ACSA journal, [TAD, Technology | Architecture + Design](#), a current board member of the Building Technology Educator’s Society, member of the AIA, and a licensed architect and LEED accredited professional. Ripple teaches graduate design studios and a structures course (Parametric Structural Design) focused on the integration of performance analysis and design.