





## 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF 2014 NAAB VISIT

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### CONDITIONS NOT MET

<b>2014 VTR</b>
None

### STUDENT PERFORMANCE CRITERIA NOT MET

<b>2014 VTR</b>
A.4 Technical Documentation
B.6 Comprehensive Design

3. TEMPLATE

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**Interim Progress Report**  
**Kennesaw State University**  
**School of Architecture and Construction Management**  
**B Arch          credits**  
*Last APR submission: September 7, 2013*  
*Year of the previous visit: 2014*

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

### A.4 Technical Documentation

*2014 Visiting Team Assessment:* While evidence of “ability” was found for technical drawings and physical models in Arch. 4224, 4014, 3012; there was a lack of evidence in meeting the “ability” to write outline specifications. The SPC is, therefore, not met.

#### **Kennesaw State, 2016 Response:**

The majority of requirements to fulfill SPC A.4 Technical Documentation were placed on ARCH 4224 Technical Documentation and Codes. A recent copy of the syllabus for this course is available in the appendix. The 2014 NAAB Visiting Team’s assessment was that while students were asked to review specs, evidence of a more comprehensive application of spec writing was not provided consistently. To address this in the short term ARCH 4224 Technical Documentation and Codes has revised to include a spec writing exercise (a copy of the exercise and sample work is included in the Appendix). The goals of the exercise are listed as follows:

#### *Exercise Goals:*

- *Students will look up and discuss materials within fire-rated assemblies.*
- *Students will look up products that contribute to these assemblies.*
- *The selection of the material or product will then be cross-checked with the Construction Specifiers Institute / Masterformat.*
- *The class will discuss a specifications booklet that will be on view.*
- *Students will integrate the partition type on their CD cover sheet.*

This is integrated into the Revit file documents that have been introduced into the curriculum (see *Changes to Curriculum* under **Changes or Planned Changes in the Program** below)

## B.6 Comprehensive Design

*2014 Visiting Team Assessment:* The evidence of comprehensive design demonstrating the integration of the SPCs listed did not consistently rise to the level of “ability.” Further, projects presented in the team room reflected varied comprehension from section to section. Therefore, this SPC is not met.

**Kennesaw State, 2016 Response:** 23456!7&)&!8\$!&98&!8&: 8;

To address the deficiency in B.6 and the subsequent changes from the 2014 NAAB Conditions the program has reassessed a significant portion of the upper division core courses including the third year studios ARCH 3011 and ARCH 3012 and the fourth year studio ARCH 4013 Comprehensive Studio plus three other courses ARCH 4224, ARCH 4225 and ARCH 4226. These changes are further outlined in **Summary of Activities in Response to the 2014 NAAB Conditions** below and will not be covered here although they are related to our response to this assessment.

The primary concern with the projects in ARCH 4013 Comprehensive studio was with vertical integration of the systems, specifically section understanding of chases and their integration with horizontal distribution of systems. This was a key issue with meeting the level of ‘ability’. Students







department chair and the faculty on matters related to registration and academic advising within the department,

The role of the Faculty Registration Advisor is to address major concerns relative to transfer

to academic advising, coordinates and conducts advising assessment efforts, advisor training and professional development.

Students at KSU have access to an advisor pool that can assist them in academic and registration matters. The Department of Architecture has held work sessions with many of these advisors to brief them on curriculum specific issues and potential problems that students may face so that they are better prepared to address the concerns of architecture students.



- **Growth and Resulting Faculty Workload**

*2014 Visiting Team Comments:* A concern is observed that the merger and anticipated enrollment growth will increase the faculty's already heavy workload, making their jobs more difficult and outside work impossible.

**Kennesaw State, 2016 Response:** 23456!7&)&!8\$!&98&)!8&: 8;

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At the time of the 2014 NAAB Accreditation review the Department of Architecture at SPSU like many other programs across the country was suffering from low enrollment. Studio enrollments, typically at 14-18 students per section, were down to a 10-13 range. Our lecture courses have an enrollment cap of 35 per section and our labs were capped at 25 per section, Design Communication courses, which utilize the computer labs were capped at 18 owing to the number of computer terminals per classroom. These ranges were and are within standard ranges for other architecture programs.

Since the merger and the recovery of the economy architecture programs and the program at KSU have seen

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assessment of student and faculty workloads identified above in **Growth and Resulting Faculty Workload.**

At the time of the 2014 NAAB visit much of the fulfillment of the SPC's related to sustainability were located in the Environmental Tech sequence as part of hands on projects in the lab component of those courses. This information was intended to then inform the work in the studios that accompanied them mainly ARCH 3011, ARCH 3012 and ARCH 4013. With the removal of several labs from this sequence these exercise has been migrated to the studios as part of the design projects. This is also part of an attempt to realign these three studios with the 2014 Conditions specifically with the idea of Integrative Systems. Below is a section of the syllabus for



- Liz Dolezal, HR Specialist, Human Resources, who works with faculty after they are hired.
- Danielle Harrington, Registrar's Office, who works with the department's Administrative Assistant on registration and banner listings.

Department of Architecture

In fall of 2016 the Department of Architecture

Since the 2014 Team Visit the DeComm sequence has focused solely on basic digital skills with ARCH 1241 Design Communication I covering the Adobe Suite including Photoshop, Illustrator and In-Design as basic foundational skills sets for design communication. ARCH 2242 Design Communication II introduces Rhino as a basic design software, and introduces rendering software and some analytical software.

The program selected Rhino for several reasons, first it is a design software as opposed to technical documentation software and therefore provides more flexibility as a design tool, second its widespread adoption makes it a vital professional tools, third it has the broadest array of analytical plug-ins available. The latter means that analytical software can be introduced in later





The Media Resource Center has twelve large format plotters, one large format roll feed scanner, seven 12"x17" flat bed scanners attached to seven computers, and a small digital photography studio.

First year and second year architecture students use two plotters attached to computers. Third

ARCH 3011: Architecture Studio V

**0 Class Hours 12 Laboratory Hours 4 Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite:** ARCH 2004 and acceptance into the upper division upon portfolio review.

*This course builds on the previous studio course's emphasis on space making and introduces the integration of building technology into the design process. Assignments focus on the expressive use of wood and steel within rural and light urban site contexts.*

ARCH 3012: Architecture Studio VI

**0 Class Hours 12 Laboratory Hours 4 Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite:** ARCH 3011 and ARCH 3211 and ARCH 3313

*This course is a continuation of ARCH 3011 and the integration of technology. Students design a small-scale project usually in a dense urban setting. Emphasis is placed on site context and systems and materials research in support of design intent. The first half of the semester is devoted to project design and the latter half is spent examining the construct of the design through large-scale models.*

ARCH 4013: Architecture Studio VII: Integrative Design

**0 Class Hours 12 Laboratory Hours 4 Credit Hours**

**Prerequisite:** ARCH 3012, ARCH 3314 and ARCH 3212

*This course focuses on building structural systems and systems integration in relation to an architectural concept. Students will work on a program allowing them to study the impact of site and programmatic forces in relation to integrative principles as described by NAAB. The course builds upon and emphasizes synthesizing knowledge and skills acquired in concurrent and prior coursework.*

A specific example of this can be found in the syllabus for ARCH 3011 where it reads in part as follows:

**OVERALL GOALS OF FALL SEMSTER STUDIO:**

*3. Introduce the notion of interconnected technologies and material research in the design of a mid-size pavilion (Module 2\_Slow Food Pavilion).*

### **3. INTERCONNECTED SYSTEMS**

*Environmental clues should inform initial design concepts and material selections in the FALL studio projects. Students are encouraged to apply concepts from ARCH 3313: Environmental Technology II: Human Comfort & HVAC . The SPRING semester will build upon FALL semester work and develop systems thinking as an understanding of responsive design (Sustainable systems) and the effect of site and climate on design form, volumes, and material selections as well as the combination of various materials to create structure and enclosure. Students are expected to integrate within their design projects: active solar (PV + solar hot water), wind turbines, green roofs, water/waste management, active and passive heating/cooling strategies. The integration of building technologies and material innovation will be demonstrated in the development of an enlarged section and the construction of a large-scale sectional model.*

New Professional Practice Core Sequence-

Visit recommendations. We feel this will also support SPC C.2 as costing and materials selection are part of an integrated approach to evaluation and decision-making. ARCH 4226 will cover the new SPC D.1, D.2, D.3, D.4 and D.5. The program views SPC D.1 as also part of the studio curriculum as well given that site analysis and program development, which must take into consideration the entirety of shareholders interests are part of all decision making process. Likewise D.5 is viewed as a shared SPC as it is the role of any architectural program to reinforce professional conduct at all times.

**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)

**Kennesaw State, 2016 update:**

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