

November 18, 2024

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Dietmar Froehlich, Ph.D., Reg. Arch. Associate Dean and Professor University of Houston 4200 Elgin Street Houston, TX 77204

Sent via email to dfroehlich@uh.edu

Dear Dr. Froehlich:

At its October 18-19, 2024, meeting, the Board of Directors of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) reviewed the Plan to Correct submitted by the Bachelor of Architecture degree (160 undergraduate semester credit hours) at University of Houston and voted to continue the Plan to Correct for the areas remaining out of compliance with the Conditions for Accreditation. In accordance with the NAAB Procedures, the program is placed on notice, and the Chief Academic Officer is informed.

The Board noted that the program submitted sufficient evidence to demonstrate compliance with the following Conditions for Accreditation previously noted as "not met":

- PC.7 Learning and Teaching Culture
- SC.6 Building Integration
- 5.6 Physical Resources

The Board noted that the program did not submit sufficient evidence to demonstrate compliance with the following Conditions:

PC.8 Social Equity and Inclusion

The Board's review is included below:

PC.7 Learning and Teaching Culture—How the program fosters and ensures a positive and respectful environment that encourages optimism, respect, sharing, engagement, and innovation among its faculty, students, administration, and staff.

Met. The program provided sufficient information to meet the requirements of this criterion. The program provided evidence of its approach to and assessment of how its curriculum, structure, and other experiences foster and ensure a

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positive and respectful environment that encourages optimism, respect, sharing, engagement, and innovation among its faculty, students, administration, and staff.

PC.8 Social Equity and Inclusion—How the program furthers and deepens students' understanding of diverse cultural and social contexts and helps them translate that understanding into built environments that equitably support and include people of different backgrounds, resources, and abilities.

Not Met. The program did not provide sufficient information to meet the requirements of this Condition. The program needs to provide evidence of how Social Equity and Inclusion are integrated into the program's curriculum.

SC.6 Building Integration—How the program ensures that students develop the ability to make design decisions within architectural projects while demonstrating integration of building envelope systems and assemblies, structural systems, environmental control systems, life safety systems, and the measurable outcomes of building performance.

Met. The program provided sufficient information to meet the requirements of this criterion. The program provided evidence of how the program achieves and assesses student ability to make design decisions within architectural projects while demonstrating integration of building envelope systems and assemblies, structural systems, environmental control systems, life safety systems, and the measurable outcomes of building performance. Student work provided evidence that the program ensures through an effective assessment process that students develop this ability.

5.6 Physical Resources

The program must describe its physical resources and demonstrate how they safely and equitably support the program's pedagogical approach and student and faculty achievement. Physical resources include but are not limited to the following:

- 5.6.1 Space to support and encourage studio-based learning.
- 5.6.2 Space to support and encourage didactic and interactive learning, including lecture halls, seminar spaces, small group study rooms, labs, shops, and equipment.
- 5.6.3 Space to support and encourage the full range of faculty roles and responsibilities, including preparation for teaching, research, mentoring, and student advising.
- 5.6.4 Resources to support all learning formats and pedagogies in use by the program.

If the program's pedagogy does not require some or all of the above physical resources, the program must describe the effect (if any) that online, off-site, or hybrid formats have on digital and physical resources.

Met. The program provided sufficient information to meet the requirements of this Condition. The program provided evidence that demonstrates how the program's physical resources safely and equitably support the program's pedagogical approach and student and faculty achievement.

The program is required to submit a Plan to Correct by **June 30, 2025,** demonstrating compliance with the Conditions noted as "not met."

In the event a program's Plan to Correct does not demonstrate compliance with the Conditions for Accreditation, the program will be placed on probation for a period not to exceed one (1) year with a focused visit on remaining areas of noncompliance, and the institution's Chief Academic Officer will be informed, in accordance with the <u>Procedures for Accreditation</u>. All accreditation decisions to place a program on probation will be made public on the NAAB website.



Please feel free to contact us with any questions at accreditation@naab.org.

Sincerely, Atthem DeWeiber

Stephen Schreiber, FAIA, NCARB, DPACSA

President

Cc: Diane Z. Chase, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost