MEMORANDUM

TO: David Cronrath
   Dean, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

FROM: Elizabeth Beise
       Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Establish a Bachelor of Arts Award for the Architecture Undergraduate Program (PCC log no. 14064)

At its meeting on May 1, 2015, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula and Courses approved the proposal to modify the bachelor’s program in Architecture by establishing a Bachelor of Arts award track for the program. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

This change is effective Fall 2015. Please ensure that this change is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, including the undergraduate program’s four-year plan (contact Lisa Kiely at likely@umd.edu for more information).

MDC/
Enclosure

cc: Gregory Miller, Chair, Senate PCC Committee
    Barbara Gill, Office of Student Financial Aid
    Reka Montfort, University Senate
    Erin Taylor, Division of Information Technology
    Pam Phillips, Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment
    Anne Turkos, University Archives
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
    Cynthia Stevens, Office of Undergraduate Studies
    Donald Linebaugh, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
    Brian Kelly, Architecture Program
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School: School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01202600
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Htm_Reports/units.htm
School of Architecture Planning and Preservation

Department/Program: Architecture Program
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: 1260105

Type of Action (choose one):
X Curriculum change (including informal specializations) □ New academic degree/award program
□ Curriculum change for an LEP Program □ New Professional Studies award iteration
□ Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration □ New Minor
□ Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration □ Request to create an online version of an existing program
□ Suspend/delete program

Summary of Proposed Action:
This proposal represents the first major curricular overhaul of the architecture program in nearly twenty years. The proposal seeks to respond to the needs of our undergraduate constituency while responding to the significant changes that have taken place in architectural practice in the intervening years. The proposal features two main components: first, modifications to the existing Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track, and second, the creation of a parallel undergraduate degree track in architecture leading to the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture.

We envisage the proposed modifications to the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track to be consistent with the intent of pre-professional education, which ultimately leads toward an accredited professional degree at the Masters level. The proposed Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree is envisaged as providing an alternative path for students who currently study architecture but elect to follow career paths other than those leading toward professional registration. At the present time, the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree does not permit students with nontraditional interests in architecture and the built environment an opportunity to explore alternative academic and career paths. The Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track will also provide a timely path toward graduation for those students who do not qualify for design studio placement in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture, or for those students who underperform in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture curriculum.

Departmental/Unit Contact Person for Proposal: Brian Kelly bkelly@umd.edu & Michael Ambrose ambrose@umd.edu

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair Michael A. Ambrose 20 April 2015
2. Department Chair Brian Kelly 20 April 2015
3. College/School PCC Chair Michael A. Ambrose 20 April 2015
4. Dean David Cronn 20 April 2015
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) 20 April 2015
6. Chair, Senate PCC Gregory Miller 20 April 2015
7. University Senate Chair (if required) Elizbeth J. Beine 01/30/2015
8. Senior Vice President and Provost
Major in Architecture

Bachelor of Science in Architecture
and
Bachelor of Arts in Architecture

University of Maryland, College Park

Contacts:
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The Undergraduate Degree in the Context of Specialized Accreditation:
This document contains changes to the Bachelor of Science in Architecture program, which is a pre-professional degree. In the United States, most registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit professional degree programs in architecture offered by institutions with U.S. regional accreditation, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture.

The accredited degree offered at the University of Maryland is the Master of Architecture degree. Students who successfully complete the Bachelor of Science Architecture at the University of Maryland may compete for admission and ultimately receive advanced standing in the University of Maryland's Master of Architecture program. The Bachelor of Science in Architecture, when combined with the Master of Architecture degree, forms a component of the educational process required in the path toward licensure of architects. Although the NAAB does not accredit pre-professional programs, accrediting teams typically assess required coursework included in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture program, particularly those courses that deliver NAAB Student Performance Criteria (SPC) as part of a professional degree program's pre-requisites.

Many students (approximately two-thirds of those who matriculate in the program) complete the undergraduate degree track and continue on in Maryland's graduate program, in a similar graduate program at another institution, or enter the workforce for a limited period of time prior to applying for admission to graduate school. Because the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree is transportable, the Architecture Program Curriculum Committee has taken pains to ensure that content in this degree track is consistent with the expectations of our peer institutions nationwide. Likewise we have examined NAAB SPC to ensure that the undergraduate program as proposed will deliver the necessary coursework to qualify students for advanced standing both in our graduate program and in other programs nationwide.

Analysis of the Existing Bachelor of Science in Architecture Degree Track:
The existing Bachelor of Science in Architecture (Figure 1) degree, which has remained virtually intact since the mid-1990s, is itself an outgrowth of a Bachelor of Architecture degree that was offered until 1987 when the degree was retired and the Master of Architecture became the accredited degree offered at the University of Maryland. As such, the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree was initially conceived of as a truncated version of a professional degree with the idea that all who matriculated into this degree track would eventually enroll in a professional degree program at the graduate level. Figure 1 illustrates the current Bachelor of Science in Architecture curriculum. The Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track was designed as a limited admission program (LEP) and was treated as such until September 2014 when the LEP status was relinquished (in response to the recommendations of the Provost's committee on LEP's).

The first two years of the existing Bachelor of Science in Architecture program consist of broad exposure to liberal educational objectives in the guise of core (now General Education) and pre-architecture requirements. Following a benchmark review after the third semester, qualifying students matriculate in the upper level of the program beginning in the fall semester of the Junior year. The upper level of the program features a studio-based education supplemented with intensive technology, history-theory, and drawing-digital skill courses. The current structure of the curriculum leaves little room in the Junior and Senior years for electives, particularly those electives that might be assembled to create a minor.
Analysis conducted by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions alerted us to the fact that many talented high school seniors who were admitted to the University of Maryland selected other institutions (namely, Penn State, Virginia Tech, and Syracuse University), which all feature five-year Bachelor of Architecture degrees that immerse students into an intensive architectural education from the very beginning of their collegiate experience. When queried, these individuals expressed concern that the initial years of study at the University of Maryland did not adequately engage architecture with similar intensity to the institutions cited above. Upon reflection the architecture program faculty recognized that a retreat to the old-style five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree would not be a viable proposition at the University of Maryland. However, it is possible to reconfigure the Bachelor of Science in Architecture to offer increased exposure to architectural topics in both the Freshman and the Sophomore years. The Architecture Program Curriculum Committee sought to devise a new Bachelor of Science in Architecture curriculum that would permit students greater access to design and design thinking courses in their initial years, thereby addressing the dearth of architectural content in a student’s initial years of collegiate education.

Another consideration that the Architecture Program Curriculum Committee addressed focused on the four 4-credit hour architectural technology courses (ARCH 410, 411, 412, and 413). Maryland’s peer institutions typically offer five 3-credit hour courses that are typically titled: Building Methods and Materials, Structures I, Structures II, Environmental Control Systems, and Sustainable Systems. The four-course sequence currently offered in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree presents some confusion when students who graduate from the University of Maryland are accepted to an architecture program at a peer institution and attempt to seek advanced standing for coursework completed at the undergraduate level. Anecdotally, we have heard from our peers that the sequence of courses titled simply: Technology I, II, III, and IV, make it even more difficult to ascertain whether a course meets the SPC required by an NAAB. The array of technology courses offered at the undergraduate level became an additional point of investigation by the Architecture Program Curriculum Committee.

For most of its history the architecture program has benefited from the presence of several architectural historians on our faculty. Consequently, when devising a survey of architectural history course sequence it was natural to develop three world history courses that reflected the interest and expertise of the three historians on the faculty. With retirements and shifting allocations of resources a distinct possibility exists that future staffing of the architecture program maybe limited to a single historian. Thus, the idea of a three course survey based on three individuals with specific expertise is not likely to be a sustainable model for
future content delivery. As the Architecture Program Curriculum Committee examines contents in the area of architectural history it became obvious that our peer institutions structured architecture history survey courses as a two-semester sequence.

Finally, the existing Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track was designed when architects principally used manual drawing and modeling techniques to explore design alternatives and communicate their intentions to others. In the intervening years, computer applications and digital media have radically expanded the modes of investigation used by architects in professional practice. The existing curriculum provides a singular Basic Architectural Drawing course (ARCH 242) to students as part of their undergraduate experience. This is the lone manual drawing course that is required of undergraduates as part of the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track. Although a digital media course (ARCH 470) is currently offered as an elective, digital media coursework is not a required component of the undergraduate degree. Once again, after examining the curricula of peer institutions the Architecture Program Curriculum Committee reached the conclusion that contemporary undergraduate architectural curriculum must directly engage and integrate computer applications and digital media into the curriculum.

**Features of the Proposed Bachelor of Science in Architecture Degree Track**
The proposed Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track endeavors to respond the critique that the existing degree track principally delivers architectural contents in the Junior and Senior years at the expense of engagement of the discipline earlier in a student’s experience.

![Diagram of proposed Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track](image)

**Figure 2: Proposed Bachelor of Science in Architecture Degree Track**

Structurally, the proposed Bachelor of Science in Architecture curriculum (Figure 2) blends architectural content across the full spectrum of the four-year degree. Likewise, general education, electives, and importantly the opportunity to construct minors, is enabled by the fact that the proposed curriculum frees up credit hours in the Junior and Senior years that were previously occupied exclusively by architecture courses. The proposed curriculum initiates architectural study in the fall of the freshman year and ramps up architectural content over the course of the initial three semesters. It is hoped that this structure will address the concerns expressed by high school seniors who have perceived University of Maryland’s curriculum to be unnecessarily disengaged in the Freshman and Sophomore years. One feature of the proposed Bachelor of Science in Architecture curriculum is ARCH 171 titled, “Design Thinking and Making in Architecture,” a new
course intended as a hands-on experiential learning venue immersing beginning students into architectural design problems at the earliest point in their collegiate education.

The proposed curriculum also addresses the concerns expressed by peer institutions that the existing technology sequence presents difficulties when trying to determine advanced standing at the Masters level. In place of the four-course, 4-credit, technology sequence, the proposed curriculum features five 3-credit courses (ARCH 462 Methods and Materials, ARCH 463 Sustainable Systems, ARCH 464, Structures I, ARCH 465 Structures II, and ARCH 466 Environmental Systems). This course sequence enables the delivery of technical content earlier in a students experience then was previously possible in the existing Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track. For example, ARCH 462 and ARCH 463 are offered in the fall and spring of the Sophomore year respectively. This permits students to gain exposure to architectural technologies earlier in their collegiate educational than is possible in the existing degree track. Student performance in the array of technical courses often becomes a factor in helping individuals to determine whether or not they will continue in a career path toward the architecture profession. Early exposure to this content will empower both students and their advisors to predict whether or not a pre-professional degree track is appropriate.

The proposed curriculum also includes a two-semester history of world architecture sequence bringing University of Maryland’s survey course offerings in line with that of its peer institutions. Likewise, ARCH 200 and ARCH 300 are two new courses titled Design Media and Representation I and II, which will introduce students to both analog (hand drawing and model making) and digital representation techniques. The introduction of this two-course sequence will serve to ensure that Maryland students are well prepared to venture into the contemporary workplace and are competitive with students from peer institutions as they apply for graduate education.

The proposed curriculum also features a 1-credit course, ARCH 201, titled Elements and Principles of Architecture, in the fall of year-two. This course is intended to integrate the lessons of concurrent courses in architectural history, design media, and building methods and materials. Integration of content beyond that of an individual course is intended to be an innovative approach to architectural education and consistent with NAAB objectives to foster learning centered around the synthesis of knowledge. Likewise, the 1-credit hour ARCH 474, titled Integrated Education in Architecture NAAB/IDP, will be offered in the fall of the Senior year is intended to assist students in developing a dossier that will document their pre-professional coursework in advance of their application to either graduate school or the workplace.

Due to the fact that the proposed curriculum blends architectural content with liberal education objectives more effectively than the existing curriculum, students will find it much easier to meet the requirements of minors during their final semesters at the University. Currently students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track find it very difficult to complete the requirements of a minor without significantly delaying their graduation. Additionally, with minors in areas such as sustainability, construction management, and eventually real estate development, students attending the University of Maryland well have a competitive edge over those attending institutions with degree tracks that focus more exclusively on architecture.

Perhaps the most significant feature of the proposed curriculum involves moving the initial architectural design studio experience from the Junior year into the spring semester of the Sophomore year. This will enable students to complete four six-credit hour studios prior to application to graduate school, thus making Maryland graduates more competitive with their peers from other institutions nationwide. Another benefit of the earlier position of the studio sequence is the possibility for students admitted to the graduate program at University of Maryland to take an advanced studio during the fall semester of their senior year. This proposition would enable students to engage a fast-track toward the Master of Architecture program thus making a graduate degree from the University of Maryland more desirable to its undergraduates.
Rationale for a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture Degree Track

Analysis of students after graduation shows that nearly a third of the students who complete the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track will not continue on to graduate school to study architecture. This cohort of students will likely leave the architecture profession and seek careers elsewhere. The current Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track does not adequately reflect this trend nor does it significantly prepare students for alternative career paths. This proposal expands the existing baccalaureate definition for students with a major in architecture to include a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track that would serve this constituency and provide a clear path to graduation.

Because the pre-professional Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track is transportable, it is desirable to create a separate non-professional degree track for individuals who will not be seeking an accredited professional degree at the Masters level. Likewise, the elimination of LEP status for the architecture program necessitated the creation of an additional degree track to assist those who do not meet the benchmarks for admission to the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track. When the architecture program agreed in September 2014 to relinquish the LEP status, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs and others serving on the Provost’s committee on LEP programs agreed to support the creation of the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track as an alternate path to graduation for Architecture majors.

The Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track will not add additional students nor will it require additional resources. Applicants to the architecture program will be evaluated for placement in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture program based upon performance benchmarks developed in lieu of the LEP program. The Bachelor of Science program will still run with a maximum capacity of 54 students per cohort annually. Students will matriculate in the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track if they do not qualify for design studio placement in the Bachelor of Science in architecture degree track based on the benchmark review, or if they underperform academically in the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track or they self-select to complete the major under the Bachelor of Arts curriculum for personal or academic reasons and/or elect to follow career paths other then those leading toward professional practice and registration as an architect.

![Figure 3: Proposed Bachelor of Arts in Architecture Degree Track](image-url)

The initial four semesters of the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Architecture (Figure 3) degree track would be identical to the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track. Following one semester of architectural design studio and two semesters of technology coursework as well as preparatory work in architectural history, design thinking, and design media students would be evaluated for continuation in the Bachelor of...
Science degree track or placement in the Bachelor of Arts degree track. The most significant distinction between the Bachelor of Science and the Bachelor of Arts degree tracks involves the amount of design studio and technology courses that would be required as a component of the degree. The Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track offers more extensive exposure to both studio-based learning and technology courses, while the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track would focus more upon history, theory, digital media, and topical offerings in architecture. The proposed curriculum also offers the option of an ARCH 408 Topical Design Studio that would be free from the necessity of integrating NAAB SPC as part of the learning outcomes for this coursework.

Students who matriculate in the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture program would be encouraged to develop minors in areas relevant to their future career paths. For example, a student who might be considering a master in real estate development at the graduate level could minor in real estate development at the undergraduate level (that is, once the undergraduate minor in real estate development is in place), or a student with the career interest in construction management could pursue the minor as a qualification for gaining employment in that field. The intention of the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture program is to permit students the opportunity to succeed in identifying a viable path toward a meaningful career while still engaged in a study of architecture. The studio and technical demands of the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree track currently precludes this type of flexibility for individuals who seek career paths other than those that lead toward professional registration as an architect. It is envisaged that the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track will form both a safety net and a successful, timely path to graduation for students as they apply to and matriculate in the University of Maryland as architecture majors while ensuring a rigorous and productive preparation for the career of their choice.

**Resources:**
This proposal does not impact resources. The changes to the Bachelor of Science in Architecture Program will not require additional resources. The proposed Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree track will utilize courses already in existence and part of the regular rotation of course offerings. No additional students will be admitted to the architecture program. There is no direct admissions process for entry into the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree program. No additional impacts are foreseen on the University Libraries or Information Technology Resources.

**Architecture Elective Courses:**

- Bachelor of Science in Architecture Electives
  - arch242 Basic Architectural Drawing
  - arch343 Intermediate Architectural Drawing
arch386 Experiential Learning
arch408 Special Topics Architecture Design Studio
(may be taken in Summer Terms and exchanged for arch400, arch401, arch402, arch403 or stand alone and repeated twice if content differs)
arch418 Selected Topics in Architectural Technology
arch419 Independent Studies in Architectural Technology
arch420 History of American Architecture
arch422 History of Greek Architecture
arch423 History of Roman Architecture
arch427 Theories of Architecture
arch428 Selected Topics in Architectural History
arch429 Independent Studies in Architectural History
arch430 Measuring Sustainability in Architecture
arch433 History of Renaissance Architecture
arch434 History of Modern Architecture
arch435 History of Contemporary Architecture
arch442 Studies in the Vertical Surface
arch443 Visual Communications in Architecture
arch444 Advanced Architectural Drawing
arch445 Visual Analysis of Architecture
arch448 Selected Topics in Visual Studies in Architecture
arch456 Great Cities
arch458 Selected topics in Urban Design
arch459 Independent Studies in Urban Design
arch470 Computer Applications in Architecture
arch471 Digital Fabrication in Architecture
arch478 Selected Topics in Architecture
arch479 Independent Studies in Architecture
arch486 Sustainability in Architecture
arch488 Field Archaeology
arch489 Independent Studies in Architecture
arch601 Topical Design Studio VI
(may be taken with ARCH Program Permission for either UG or Grad credit)
arch670 Advanced Computer Applications in Architecture
(may be taken with ARCH Program Permission for either UG or Grad credit)

Bachelor of Arts in Architecture Electives
arch150 Discovering Architecture
arch170 Design Thinking and Architecture
arch223 History of Non-Western Architecture
arch224 Ancient Roman City: Pompeii and Beyond
arch242 Basic Architectural Drawing
arch270 Design in Practice
arch271 People, Planet, and Profit: Building Sustainable Places
arch288 Selected Topics in Architectural Sustainability
arch289 Independent Studies in Architectural Sustainability
arch289i Sustainability at College Park
arch343 Intermediate Architectural Drawing
arch386 Experiential Learning
arch408 Special Topics Architecture Design Studio
arch418 Selected Topics in Architectural Technology
arch419 Independent Studies in Architectural Technology
arch420 History of American Architecture
arch422 History of Greek Architecture
arch423 History of Roman Architecture
arch427 Theories of Architecture
arch428 Selected Topics in Architectural History
arch429 Independent Studies in Architectural History
arch430 Measuring Sustainability in Architecture
arch433 History of Renaissance Architecture
arch434 History of Modern Architecture
arch435 History of Contemporary Architecture
arch442 Studies in the Vertical Surface
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arch444 Advanced Architectural Drawing
arch445 Visual Analysis of Architecture
arch448 Selected Topics in Visual Studies in Architecture
arch456 Great Cities
arch458 Selected topics in Urban Design
arch459 Independent Studies in Urban Design
arch470 Computer Applications in Architecture
arch471 Digital Fabrication in Architecture
arch478 Selected Topics in Architecture
arch479 Independent Studies in Architecture
arch488 Field Archaeology
arch489 Independent Studies in Architecture
arch488 Selected Topics in Architectural Preservation
arch489 Independent Studies in Architecture
arch488 Independent Studies in Architectural Preservation
arch489 Independent Studies in Architectural Preservation

(600 level courses may be taken with ARCH Program Permission if space is available)
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* Optional ARCH 601 Studio for Students entering Graduate Program or 2 - 3-credit hour ARCH 4xx electives
* Optional ARCH 408 Studio or 2 - 3-credit ARCH4xx electives
16 April 2015

Betsy Beise, PhD
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs
1124 Main Administration Building
   University of Maryland
   College Park, MD 20742-5031

RE: Architecture Undergraduate Curriculum Change

Dear Dr. Beise:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of support for the changes to the undergraduate architecture curriculum as proposed by Brian Kelly, Director of the Architecture Program, and his faculty. This redesign of the curriculum is in response to the removal of the Limited Enrollment Program status from the undergraduate architecture curriculum and is consistent with the recommendations made by the Provost Committee on LEP.

I fully support the proposal that creates two degree paths for architecture majors – one leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and the other to a Bachelor of Science in Architecture. The addition of the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture will permit the architecture program to effectively respond to its new status and make us more consistent with our peers. It will also make a clear distinction for those majors who wish to actively pursue an accredited degree and keep the program accredited by the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB).

I have carefully reviewed the proposed changes and discussed the resource implications with both Brian Kelly and Michael Ambrose, Chair of the School PCC, and I am confident that the new curriculum will better utilize our current resources.

Therefore, I am pleased to fully support these proposed changes and endorse the actions taken to approve the curricular changes by the Architecture Program PCC, the Architecture Program faculty, and the School PCC.

I also want to thank you and your office for the support and guidance during this process.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

David Cronrath
Professor and Dean
Memorandum

To: PCC Submissions
From: Cindy Frank, Architecture Librarian
CC: Brian Kelly, proposal contact
Date: April 17, 2015
Subject: Architecture Program Curriculum Change

The proposed changes to the Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree and the addition of the Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree are timely responses to the education of our undergraduates in the 21st century. As the liaison librarian for the architecture program and manager of the architecture branch library, I am excited to hear about these changes. The architecture library has always served the students enrolled in any and all of the architecture courses, and I anticipate that this will continue, as usual, for the foreseeable future.