

# Yale SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

7 December 2022

Via Email [NAABboard@naab.org](mailto:NAABboard@naab.org)  
David Hoffman  
National Architectural Accrediting Board  
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Dear Mr. Hoffman,

Thank you for your letter of 28 November 2022 to Provost Strobel with the NAAB Board's decision regarding our recent reaccreditation application. We greatly appreciate the care and effort invested by the Visiting Committee to understand and evaluate our program, and are happy that NAAB has found our accredited Master of Architecture program complies so closely with the new 2020 Conditions.

Your letter cited issues in Conditions 4.2 and 5.2. For Condition 4.2, we assume the concern expressed by the Board is with the name of our non-accredited, post-professional Master of Architecture II degree, a program for which no review is required. As we indicated to the Visiting Team, this degree has a long-standing reputation and carefully built brand in the design education community, and we clearly indicate on our public-facing materials, Bulletin, Student Handbook, and transcripts that this degree is not NAAB-accredited, nor does it qualify as an education credential for licensure. Therefore, we do not wish to make the change we believe you are requesting, and would welcome a further conversation on this matter.

Regarding 5.2, we will revise our Strategic Plan to include the appropriate references to NAAB accreditation criteria. As the VTR reflected, our program entirely meets, with the exceptions noted above, those requirements.

Finally, may we respectfully observe that we were surprised to learn there were conditions unmet nine months after the report of the Visiting Team. We would have been happy to immediately review these concerns in March had we been made aware of them.

I look forward to a further exchange about Condition 4.2, and would be happy to arrange a call to discuss this situation further with you and the Board.

Sincerely,



Deborah Berke, FAIA, LEED AP  
Dean and J.M. Hoppin Professor of Architecture

Cc: Scott Strobel – Yale University Provost  
Phillip Bernstein – Associate Dean, Yale School of Architecture  
David Cronrath, Chair of NAAB Visiting Team