



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

Kristopher Pritchard
Accreditation and Education
Programs Manager

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Yazmin M. Crespo Claudio, MDes, MArch
Director of the Architecture Department
International School of Design and Architecture
Universidad del Turabo, SUAGM
Gurabo, Puerto Rico 00778

Dear Professor Crespo Claudio:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 13-14, 2018 meeting granted candidacy status to the course of study leading to the first professional BSLA degree at Universidad del Turabo. This status is subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Candidacy is an accreditation classification granted to any program which is in the planning or early stages of development or an intermediate stage of program implementation. This accreditation classification provides evidence to the educational institution, licensing bodies, and the public that at the time of evaluation, the developing education program appears to have the potential for meeting the standards set forth in the requirements for an accredited educational program in landscape architecture.

After achieving candidacy status, a program must apply for initial accreditation within one year of its first graduating class. The program is required to communicate with LAAB when the known date of the first graduating class will occur. If initial accreditation is not granted, the program can retain its candidacy status for one additional year.

In making its decision, LAAB considered the program's self-evaluation report, the candidacy review report, and the program's response to that report.

On behalf of the program evaluator, I would like to thank you for the hospitality extended to him by the faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth Brooks".

Kenneth Brooks, FASLA, FCELA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Rosa Musi Rodriguez, Associate Dean

Universidad del Turabo
BSLA Program
LAAB Meeting
July 13-14, 2018

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. The program should hire additional faculty to bring the FTE Instructional faculty into compliance with minimum LAAB Standards (Standard 2).
2. The program needs to redevelop its webpage within the framework of the college's to ensure that program information and public disclosure is easily available and in accordance with LAAB requirements. Accreditation requirement #7 states that "the program must provide a comprehensive public information disclosure about the program's status and performance within a single-click link from the program's website." (Standard 1).

Considerations For Improvement

1. The program should continue its efforts to work with the University's webmaster and find funding to update and upgrade the Landscape Architecture Program webpage that will facilitate and encourage new student recruitment (Standard 1).
2. The program should diligently continue its efforts to recruit new students into the program (Standard 2).
3. Even though funding is available and adequate at this time, the program should continue to explore creative ways to enhance funding to provide scholarships for new students needing financial assistance (Standard 2).
4. The program should consider forming a Professional Advisory Council made up of local professionals, clients of those professionals, and other friends of the Program (Standard 6).