

# ACAE COUNTRY REPORT 2011 (CHINA)

## **The Architectural Society of China (ASC)**

Founded in October 1953, the Architectural Society of China (ASC) is an academic society and an independent corporate body registered by the Ministry of Civil Affairs of China. The objectives and aims of the ASC are: by uniting and organizing the professionals of architectural science and technology, facing the modernization, facing the world, facing the future, to promote the blossom and development of the science and technology, to promote the popularization and generalization of the science and technology, to promote the growth and progress of the scientific and technological talents, making its active contribution to accelerate the pace in realizing the modernization of China.

ASC joined in the International Union of Architects as a national member in 1955 and joined in the Architects Regional Council of Asia as a national member in 1989.

## **National Board of Architectural Accrediting (NBAA)**

Architectural accreditation is the first professional accrediting system of China's higher education. In 1988, the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development approved the Proposals for Architect Qualification and Architectural Accreditation; and in 1992, on the 11th meeting of China's Academic Degree Committee of the State Council, the Proposal for Establishing Professional Degrees of Architecture was approved and the 1st National Board of Architectural Accrediting (NBAA in short) was formed. In 2008, the NBAA's delegate who was from Tsinghua SA signed the Canberra Accord on Architectural Education.

### **1. Architectural School Program**

#### **Existing Architecture Programs in China**

Four-year undergraduate program: It does not fit NBAA's accrediting standards, thus is not qualified for NBAA's accreditation. Only Bachelor degrees of Engineering are granted.

Five-year undergraduate program: It fits NBAA's accrediting standards, thus qualified for NBAA's accreditation. Bachelor degrees of Architecture are granted for the universities passing NBAA's accreditation, and Bachelor degrees of Engineering for the universities not passing NBAA's accreditation.

Two- or three-year graduate program: It fits NBAA's accrediting standards, thus qualified for NBAA's accreditation. Master degrees of Architecture are granted for the universities passing NBAA's accreditation, and Master degrees of Engineering for the universities not passing NBAA's accreditation.

Six-year undergraduate plus graduate program: It fits NBAA's accrediting standards, thus qualified for NBAA's accreditation. Bachelor and Master degrees of Architecture are granted at the same for the universities passing NBAA's accreditation.

Three- or five-year PhD program: There is no accreditation, PhD degrees in Architecture are granted.

**2. Key Issues in Architectural Education => Refer to 9. Future plans.**

### **3. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program**

There are two major continuing professional development (CPM) programs for architects. One is Master of Science, another is training programs. With regard to Master of Science Degree, it adopts Graduate Candidate Test (GCT) which began in 2003, then was known as Master of Science degree graduate admission examination (GCT-ME). It's the admission examination for the candidates who will get the Master of Science degree. On the training programs, it won't offer the degree, which is only a way to improve professional ability through various training, such as parameter design, urban plans and so on.

### **4. Registration and License Requirement**

According to statistics, by the end of 2010 in China, 24,453 architects had got the qualification as Registered Architect, among whom 22,853 had officially registered. About 65% of the registered architects graduated from the universities passing NBAA's accreditation.

The qualification system of registered architect is a whole procedure composed of education accreditation, professional practice, qualification examination, certification management, continuing education, and credit management. Professionals of architecture who intend to get the Certificate of Registered Architect are obliged to meet the standards for education accreditation, professional practice, and qualification examination.

According to the *Ordinance on Architect Registration* issued by the State Council of China in 1995, the graduates of architecture of the universities passing NBAA's accreditation may participate to the National Examination of Architect Registration after a certain period of professional practice, in details, three-year practices for students of B. Arch and two-year practices for those of M. Arch. Another two-year practices will be obliged for the graduates of architecture of the universities that don't pass NBAA's accreditation yet.

## **5. Potential for Student Exchange Program**

In the past few years, Chinese Architectural Universities have established the strategic long-term partnership with many schools of architecture and other institutions from Asia, Europe, North America, and so on. These strategic partnerships offer many opportunities for cross-cultural exchange and inter-institutional cooperation. Over the years, these partnerships have borne much fruit, including the creation of Double Master Degree Programs, postgraduate international joint studios, undergraduate international joint studios and student exchanges.

## **6. Accreditation body and its status, Name and e-mail address of all accredited schools**

In the past decades, there were about 15 universities each year which initiate its architecture programs. By the end of 2010, there were in total in China 259 universities which offer architectural education; among them, 244 offer a B. Arch program and 70 offer an M. Arch program. According to the statistics of 2010, they recruited 15844 students of architecture that year and celebrated the graduation of 10840 students, leaving the number of registered students at 67417.

In 1992, the 1st National Board of Architectural Accrediting (NBAA in short) was formed. By the same year, an accreditation was carried out by NBAA, as an experiment, on the B. Arch Program of Tsinghua University, Tongji University, South-East University and Tianjin University; and later in 1994, an accreditation on M. Arch Program was also initiated.

The NBAA is composed of well-known professors and experts from the field of architecture, which ensures it with authority and honesty. Since the establishment of the accreditation system, it has carried out a series of accreditations in line with the principles of "fair, equitable, strict, and high-quality", trying to make Chinese accreditation compatible with international standards. The accreditations have played an important role in promoting the quality of architectural education of the universities, thus are highly appreciated by the society

and professionals. The accreditation results become an important reference for not only educational institutes and enterprises, but also the graduate students of high school who want to study architecture.

By the end of May 2011, 47 universities in total have passed NBAA's accreditation (Fig. 1), with 46 for B. Arch Program and 25 for M. Arch Program, accounting for 18% of those that offer architectural education.

Figure 1. Universities passing NBAA's accreditation (by the end of May 2011)

No.	Name of university	Validity for B. Arch Program	Validity for M. Arch Program	Time of first accreditation	Email Address or Website
1	Tsinghua University	2011.5-2018.5	2011.5-2018.5	1992.5	jzxy@tsinghua.edu.cn
2	Tongji University	2011.5-2018.5	2011.5-2018.5	1992.5	office@tongji-caup.org
3	South-East University	2011.5-2018.5	2011.5-2018.5	1992.5	( <a href="http://arch.seu.edu.cn/">http://arch.seu.edu.cn/</a> )
4	Tianjing University	2011.5-2018.5	2011.5-2018.5	1992.5	( <a href="http://hgn09081.chinaw3.com/">http://hgn09081.chinaw3.com/</a> )
5	Chongqing University	2006.6-2013.5	2006.6-2013.5	1994.5	( <a href="http://waww.chongjian.com/">http://waww.chongjian.com/</a> )
6	Harbin Institute of Technology	2006.6-2013.5	2006.6-2013.5	1994.5	arch_yuanzhang@126.com
7	Xi'an University of Architecture & Technology	2006.6-2013.5	2006.6-2013.5	1994.5	( <a href="http://jigou.xauat.edu.cn/jdeg/academics.html">http://jigou.xauat.edu.cn/jdeg/academics.html</a> )
8	South China University of Technology	2006.6-2013.5	2006.6-2013.5	1994.5	x2jz@scut.edu.cn
9	Zhejiang University	2011.5-2018.5	2011.5-2018.5	1996.5	( <a href="http://www.ccea.zju.edu.cn/english/">http://www.ccea.zju.edu.cn/english/</a> )
10	Hunan University	2008.5-2015.5	2008.5-2015.5	1996.5	xiaoban@hnu.edu.cn
11	Hefei University of Technology	2008.5-2015.5	2008.5-2015.5	1996.5	jzxy2010@sina.cn
12	Beijing University of Civil Engineering & Architecture	2008.5-2012.5	2008.5-2012.5	1996.5	jianzhuxueyuan@bucea.edu.cn
13	Shenzhen University	2008.5-2012.5	—	1996.5	( <a href="http://caup.szu.edu.cn/english/index.asp">http://caup.szu.edu.cn/english/index.asp</a> )
14	Huaqiao University	2008.5-2012.5	2008.5-2012.5	1996.5	( <a href="http://jzxy.hqu.edu.cn/">http://jzxy.hqu.edu.cn/</a> )

No.	Name of university	Validity for B. Arch Program	Validity for M. Arch Program	Time of first accreditation	Email Address or Website
15	Beijing University of Technology	2010.5-2014.5	2010.5-2014.5	1998.5 for B. Arch 2010.5 for M. Arch	( <a href="http://www.bjut.edu.cn/">http://www.bjut.edu.cn/</a> )
16	South-West Jiaotong University	2010.5-2014.5	2010.5-2014.5	1998.5 for B. Arch 2004.5 for M. Arch	( <a href="http://jzxy.swjtu.edu.cn/">http://jzxy.swjtu.edu.cn/</a> )
17	Huazhong University of Science & Technology	2007.5-2014.5	2007.5-2014.5	1999.5	gillian_zhang513@163.com
18	Shenyang Jianzhu University	2011.5-2018.5	2011.5-2018.5	1999.5	Tianzuo@public.hr.hl.cn
19	Zhengzhou University	2011.5-2015.5	2011.5-2015.5	1999.5 for B. Arch 2011.5 for M. Arch	( <a href="http://www4.zzu.edu.cn/arch/">http://www4.zzu.edu.cn/arch/</a> )
20	Dalian University of Technology	2008.5-2015.5	2008.5-2015.5	2000.5	aaschool@163.com
21	Shandong Jianzhu University	2008.5-2012.5	—	2000.5	( <a href="http://sites.sdjzu.edu.cn/jianzhu_chenggui/4/">http://sites.sdjzu.edu.cn/jianzhu_chenggui/4/</a> )
22	Kunming University of Science & Technology	2009.5-2013.5	2009.5-2013.5	2001.5 for B. Arch 2009.5 for M. Arch	( <a href="http://www.kmustjg.com.cn/">http://www.kmustjg.com.cn/</a> )
23	Nanjing University of Technology	2010.5-2014.5 (Under certain conditions)	—	2002.5	arch@njut.edu.cn
24	Jilin Institute of Architecture & Civil Engineering	2010.5-2014.5	—	2002.5	
25	Wuhan University of Technology	2011.5-2015.5	2011.5-2015.5	2003.5 for B. Arch 2011.5 for M. Arch	arch@njut.edu.cn
26	Xiamen University	2011.5-2015.5	2011.5-2015.5	2003.5 for B. Arch 2007.5 for M. Arch	archt@xmu.edu.cn

No.	Name of university	Validity for B. Arch Program	Validity for M. Arch Program	Time of first accreditation	Email Address or Website
27	Guangzhou University	2008.5-2012.5	—	2004.5	( <a href="http://portal.gzhu.edu.cn/web/jcxy/index">http://portal.gzhu.edu.cn/web/jcxy/index</a> )
28	Hebei Engineering University	2008.5-2012.5	—	2004.5	( <a href="http://jianzhu.hebeu.edu.cn/">http://jianzhu.hebeu.edu.cn/</a> )
29	Shanghai Jiaotong University	2010.5-2014.5	—	2006.6	( <a href="http://naoce.sjtu.edu.cn/">http://naoce.sjtu.edu.cn/</a> )
30	Qingdao Technological	2010.5-2014.5	—	2006.6	( <a href="http://jianzhu.qtech.edu.cn/">http://jianzhu.qtech.edu.cn/</a> )
31	Anhui University of Architecture	2011.5-2015.5	—	2007.5	
32	Xi'an Jiaotong University	2011.5-2015.5	2011.5-2015.5	2007.5 for B. Arch 2011.5 for M. Arch	( <a href="http://hsce.xjtu.edu.cn/english/index.html">http://hsce.xjtu.edu.cn/english/index.html</a> )
33	Nanjing University	—	2011.5-2018.5	2007.5	<a href="http://arch.nju.edu.cn/index.htm">http://arch.nju.edu.cn/index.htm</a>
34	Central South University	2008.5-2012.5	—	2008.5	<a href="http://www.csuart.com/">http://www.csuart.com/</a>
35	Wuhan University	2008.5-2012.5	2008.5-2012.5	2008.5	
36	North China University of	2008.5-2012.5	—	2008.5	arch@ncut.edu.cn
37	China University of Mine & Technology	2008.5-2012.5	—	2008.5	( <a href="http://ljxy.cumtb.edu.cn/news/news.htm">http://ljxy.cumtb.edu.cn/news/news.htm</a> )
38	Suzhou University of Science & Technology	2008.5-2012.5	—	2008.5	( <a href="http://aup.usts.edu.cn/">http://aup.usts.edu.cn/</a> )
39	Inner Mongolia University of Technology	2009.5-2013.5	—	2009.5	( <a href="http://arch.imut.edu.cn/">http://arch.imut.edu.cn/</a> )
40	Hebei University of Technology	2009.5-2013.5	—	2009.5	( <a href="http://jzys.hebut.edu.cn/">http://jzys.hebut.edu.cn/</a> )
41	China Academy of Fine Arts	2009.5-2013.5	—	2009.5	( <a href="http://arch.cafa.edu.cn/2007/index.html">http://arch.cafa.edu.cn/2007/index.html</a> )
42	Fuzhou University	2010.5-2014.5	—	2010.5	( <a href="http://jzxy.fzu.edu.cn/">http://jzxy.fzu.edu.cn/</a> )
43	Beijing Jiaotong University	2010.5-2014.5	—	2010.5	( <a href="http://civil.bjtu.edu.cn/en/index.asp">http://civil.bjtu.edu.cn/en/index.asp</a> )
44	Taiyuan University of Technology	2010.5-2014.5	—	2010.5	( <a href="http://www.tyut.edu.cn/jgxy/index.asp">http://www.tyut.edu.cn/jgxy/index.asp</a> )

No.	Name of university	Validity for B. Arch Program	Validity for M. Arch Program	Time of first accreditation	Email Address or Website
45	Zhejiang University of Technology	2010.5-2014.5	—	2010.5	( <a href="http://www.jgxy.zjut.edu.cn/jgxy/">http://www.jgxy.zjut.edu.cn/jgxy/</a> )
46	Tianjin Institute of Urban Construction	2011.5-2015.5	—	2011.5	ghyjzx@tjuci.edu.cn
47	Yantai University	2011.5-2015.5	—	2011.5	( <a href="http://aa.ytu.edu.cn/">http://aa.ytu.edu.cn/</a> )

## **7. Student Internship Program Condition**

**According to NBAA Accrediting Standard of B.Arch**, having ample and well-arranged practices and where objectives are well defined, instructions are clear for students. Practice for B. Arch in design institute should not be less than three months, and painting practice should not be less than one month.

## **8. University and Contact List => refer to Handbook of Asian Architectural School**

## **9. Future Plans**

### **I. Encouraging more universities to participate in the accreditation**

Currently, many of the 259 universities of China which offer architectural education are mainly concentrated on undergraduate education. Most of them have a short history and are faced with unfavorable teaching conditions, such as the shortage of faculty members, facilities, spaces and so on. It appears difficult for them to make necessary changes to fit NBAA accrediting standards in the near future.

Taking that into consideration, NBAA should further strengthen its supports to these universities, helping them understand more deeply the rules of architectural education and apply for accreditation with more initiative. This is a challenge that NBAA has to face.

### **II. Encouraging diversified development of architectural education through accreditation**

Most of the 47 universities passing NBAA's accreditation are concentrated on undergraduate education of architecture with the main goal of cultivating professionals of architecture, few offer graduate education of architecture with the goal of cultivating architects, as well as

faculties and researchers of architecture, and 14 offer doctorate education of architecture with the main goal of cultivating professors and researchers of architecture.

NBAA should encourage the universities passing its accreditation to, on the basis of NBAA's accrediting standards and within the framework of the Canberra Accord, further the internationalization of architectural education and develop the diversification of architectural education.

### **III. Encouraging collaborative education between universities with enterprise**

According to *the Outline of Long- and Medium-Term National Plan for Development and Reforms of Education (2010-2020)*, China's Ministry of Education initiated the Education Program for *Excellent Engineers* in 2010 which aims at cultivating a number of high-quality engineering talents with entrepreneur viewpoints who can meet the actual demands of socio-economic development of the world and future with thanks to their strong capacity of innovation.

The Education Program for Excellent Engineers concerns both undergraduate and graduate educations. In order to guide the implementation of this program in the field of architecture through collaborations between universities and enterprises, NBAA, together with the departments and institutes concerned, formulated a set of policies in line with the principles of "following professional guidelines, promoting collaborations between universities and enterprises, highlighting sorted implementation, and encouraging various innovations". Till now, as experiment, seven universities, i.e. Tsinghua University, South-East University, Tongji University, Harbin Institute of Technology, Xi'an University of Architecture & Technology, South-West Jiaotong University, and Beijing University of Technology, have implemented the Education Program for Excellent Engineers.

The current accrediting standards of NBAA include the knowledge of practice in architectural education, which can be regarded as a good example of China's professional education to some extent. Yet, efforts should be further made to make the collaborative education between universities and enterprises more institutional and systematic.

### **IV. Strengthening the Interlink between NBAA's Accreditation and the Qualification of Registered Architects.**

To some extent, the current qualification system of registered architect highlights the subject

of education rather than the standards of education accreditation, highlights the period of practice rather than the standards of professional practice, which is not good for not only the development of architectural education, but also the assurance of the professional capability of registered architects. Therefore in future, NBAA, together with the departments concerned, will manage to change this situation by paying equal attention to education accreditation, professional practice and qualification examination and creating a reasonable connection among them, so as to fully play the role of accreditation in assuring the quality of education. Efforts will be made to guide more universities to apply for accreditation, so as to promote the quality of architectural education.

**V. Promoting the international activities organized by Canberra Accord energetically.**

In 2008, the NBAA signed the Canberra Accord on Architectural Education. As a member of Canberra Accord, NBAA will continue to promote all the work actively.