



SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL
for the
ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

**REPORT OF AN INTERIM SACAP VISITING BOARD
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE
NELSON MANDELA METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY**

7-8 June 2012

Date of report: 12 June 2012

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ALS	Architecture Learning Site
BAS	Bachelor of Architectural Studies
CAA	Commonwealth Association of Architects
CHE	Council for Higher Education
DVC	Deputy Vice Chancellor
HEQF	Higher Education Qualifications Framework
M Arch (Prof)	Master's of Architecture (Professional)
NMMU	Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
SACAP	South African Council for the Architectural Profession

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Visiting board wishes to thank the leadership of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, and individuals and staff from the Department of Architecture for their preparations, time and hospitality, in particular:

- Prof. Piet Naudé..... DVC Academic
- Prof. Velile Notshulwana Dean, Faculty of Arts
- Prof. Gavin McLachlan Director of the School
- Mr Stephen Lear Head of Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the interim visit was to review compliance with recommendations proposed and conditions set out by the Visiting Board that conducted the validation visit in 2010. No new issues have been introduced.

The Visiting Board was satisfied that the programmes under review met the minimum standards required for recognition by SACAP. Therefore continued unconditional validation is recommended for the following qualifications:

- Bachelor of Architectural Studies
- Master's of Architecture (Professional)

The Board wishes to record its admiration for the procedures adopted by the Department of Architecture in response to the comments raised during the 2010 validation. It was particularly impressed that the Department assembled a panel of experienced external experts to an Advisory Board in order to assist in formulating a strategic response. It was obvious that the Department has reacted quickly and constructively to the possible shortcomings identified.

The result is that the School of Architecture and Architectural Technology now has the strategy, resources and culture to position itself as one of the foremost architectural learning sites in South Africa.

The Visiting Board consisted of Prof. Gerald Steyn (Chairperson), Mr Rod Philip and Mr Rakau Lekota, all registered architects.
