

Texas A&M University

Department of Architecture

FACULTY SELECTION CRITERIA FOR OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAMS

11 December 2008

The following are the criteria for selection of faculty for off-campus programs within the Department of Architecture. These criteria are designed to serve as an outline for an application to a study abroad program. They will also form the basis for evaluating applications by faculty.

CRITERIA

1. Study abroad faculty positions are dependent upon minimum student enrollment numbers. If there are not enough student numbers, then the class will be cancelled. Minimum class numbers are set at twelve students per design section. Elective classes are set at a minimum of ten students. In certain circumstances student enrollment numbers may fall below the minimum requirements, subject to approval by the Department Head.
2. Faculty must be able to teach at the third year level of the BED program and must be able to teach studio, emphasizing form, function, structure, site design, precedents and design methods (as described in the Undergraduate Catalog). Faculty with a proven record in teaching at this level, or above, will be preferred over those without prior experience at that level.
3. Faculty-led study abroad programs require teaching at least nine credit hours (6+3) of coursework. A selected faculty must be able to teach an upper-division design studio and elective course, in addition to the administrative work associated with the study abroad program.
4. Faculty selection for a study abroad position will be dependent upon the impact of that faculty member's teaching and service responsibilities in College Station. The Department Head, in consultation with the Off-Campus Programs Committee, shall determine this.
5. A faculty "queue" will be formulated for approved faculty interested in a study abroad position. These faculty members will be notified in writing, by the Department Head, that their application has been approved. If a faculty member drops out of the queue, then the next faculty in line has the option of taking that place. Faculty members that prefer a particular semester may retain their position in the queue. In that case, the next faculty in line willing to take the vacant position may be assigned to it.
6. Each participating faculty should be in a position to commit to an entire semester abroad. However, in certain circumstances, switching may be considered. Semester-long appointments are preferable, although half-semester appointments will be considered.
7. Faculty interested in a study abroad position are to indicate, in writing, the program they would like to teach in (Santa Chiara, Barcelona, Bonn), the particular semester (fall or spring), and year. If they are probationary faculty, they must include a statement of how this experience will enhance their teaching and research. Included in this letter of interest should be an indication of previous design studios taught at the third year, or higher, or other evidence of their ability to teach at this level. Faculty must also indicate the elective course they intend to teach. This letter must be addressed to the Department Head at least one year prior to the proposed semester away.
8. Selected study abroad faculty must agree to produce evidence of teaching/learning outcomes of the semester's work, which is to be presented publically in College Station the following semester. In addition, faculty abroad are required to produce durable visual and/or written material which will contribute to the Department's archive, and which in part, will also be used for academic and professional accreditation purposes.
9. Tenured architecture faculty will be preferred over probationary faculty since participation in a study abroad program may disrupt probationary faculty research, teaching and service. If a probationary faculty can build

a case that the teaching abroad will significantly contribute to their tenure and probation process, then they will be considered. In general, faculty ranked at the level of Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor will receive priority over Lecturers and Senior Lecturers.

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12. The participating study abroad faculty should have some familiarity with the country, foreign culture and architecture within which the program is housed. This should be described and included in the letter of interest to the Department Head.

13. Our long-standing programs in Italy and Spain shall receive priority when evaluating potential or proposed new sites for programs. The programs in Santa Chiara and Barcelona have official University approval, through the Board of Regents, and require significant advance commitment for space reservations. New programs will be evaluated on the basis of sufficient student demand, amongst other criteria.
