

MINUTES

Meeting of Board of Studies for Balwant Sheth School of Architecture (BSSA)

08th August, 2023

05.30 pm



SVKM'S Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS)

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SVKM's NMIMS University

Balwant Sheth School of Architecture

Minutes of the Board of Studies meeting held on:

Tuesday 8th August 2023 – 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm

Attendees:

Dr. Kaiwan Mehta, Dean-BSSA and Chairperson BoS
Ms. Nondita Correa Mehrotra – Expert Member, BoS
Mr. Surya Kakani – Expert Member, BoS
Mr. Bijoy Ramachandran – Expert Member, BoS
Ms. Tapan Mittal Deshpande – Faculty Representative, BSSA
Ms. Shriya Bhatia – Faculty Representative, BSSA

Administrative attendees:

Ms. Lyaxmy Foss – Secretary, Dean's Office, BSSA
Ms. Nilam Patkar – Course Coordinator, BSSA

The meeting began with a welcome to all members.

1.

The Dean welcomed and introduced all BoS members to each other and briefed them about the school and all its programmes and activities. The Dean also briefed the members of the NMIMS University, its working structure and the role of the BoS.

The Dean also briefed the members on the composition of the BoS, and members on the previous BoS.

A briefing in writing had already been sent by the Dean to all members on the above matters (document attached).

2.

The Dean briefed the members on the school's history briefly, its areas of strength and development over the past few years, and how the time was now due for a review and recalibrating the vision of the school.

The proposed new vision for the school was discussed, and the complete document as proposed by the Dean to the University senior management and Vice-Chancellor's Office is attached here, for the perusal of all BoS members.

3.

It was informed to the members that a broader review of the five-year B. Arch. is withheld for the moment, since it is expected that in the wake of the newly constituted New Education Policy (NEP) by the Central Government, there will be changes in the Proposed Guidelines of the CoA for Education towards the B. Arch. Degree.

However, important reviews and recalibrations in courses for Design Studios is being carried out internally – reviewing content, structure, and pedagogy in these studios, keeping the Learning Outcomes in mind.

4.

Pedagogic content and delivery are now being streamlined through Course Structure writing in defined templates, monthly reviews, and special review of non-performing students. Internal Continuous Assessment (ICA) is a crucial aspect of Design pedagogy as well as the University lays strong emphasis on continuous assessment to make sure of the student's Learning Assurance – this has been discussed and detailed out at the school for various stages of the term.

5.

The school took a decision along with the VC Offices as well our Mentor (until May 2023) Mr. Amit Sheth that the existing three-year BA(Hons) – Interior Environment Design programme had many problems, including the nomenclature, duration of programme non-compliant with UGC requirements, no training period with credits, etc. – to close the programme and launch a new programme as per UGC norms and a completely new course structure. BSSA has now launched a four-year Bachelor of Interior Design programme compliant with UGC definitions, and a new and separate BoS has been constituted for the Interior Design programme now.

6.

The school wishes to start a review of the M. Arch. Programme and it is suggested that we invite an academic-professional architect, to review along with one of our BoS members the current M. Arch. Programme. Suggestions are awaited from the Board of Studies members.

7.

A reorganized Elective Programme was proposed and introduced to the BoS members; the reorganization was based on:

1. The BoS members for the B.ID. programme suggested that for the first few semesters – the architecture and interior design students can have the same set of electives as a way of co-learning between the two streams and departments as well.
2. The existing **Elective programme** does not have a clarity on the stage-wise Learning Outcomes expected from a five-year B. Arch. Programme
3. The new listing of Elective course is based on three categories – Skill/Medium-based course in first 3 semesters, learning from/with Allied Fields in fourth to sixth semesters, and courses for Professional Expansion in the senior semesters

The members on the BoS approved the new Elective programme and listing, suggesting certain pedagogic notes, such as – coordination between design studios, seminars, and elective courses, and how one feeds into the other. However, it was also discussed that Elective course also at times diverge and allow for diversification from the studios and seminars already being conducted.

8.

It was suggested that the First-Year design studios – Basic Design and Foundation Workshop be combined into an Integrated Design Studio and Seminar model – where a continuous studio with brief modules building one-upon-the-other is developed to expose students to various elements and processes of Design, is developed. The Studio is supplemented by a theory Seminar which helps students widen the content-themes of the design studio through readings and allied media such as visual arts, cinema, philosophy, etc. It was suggested that the B. Arch. and B.ID. programmes could have a common First Semester Integrated Design Studio and Seminar.

The members approved the above.

9.

It was informed to the BoS that the school is in the process of cleaning up the Credit figures by removing decimal points and balancing credits in a way that all courses have a minimum credit value of 2.

This was approved.

10.

BoS was informed that as prescribed by CoA under the Annexure - A of the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulation, 2020, the school will work on a structure to introduce credits for Study Tours or systematically connect Study Tours with existing courses.

This was approved; and the details will be presented to the members.

11.

The following required changes as prescribed under Section 3 of Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulation, 2020, were approved:

- a) Design Dissertation credits changed between semesters 9th and 10th
- b) Professional Practice to be now held in 9th Semester (currently in 10th Semester) and duration on internship (PP) programme to be instituted as 120 days (5-6 months approx.) from the current 90 days (3 months approx.) (provision described as per Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulation, 2020)
- c) Credits to be reworked thus (in wake of items 6a and 6b above):

Semester 09

Professional Practice: 120 working days: 24 credits

Design Dissertation (Topic Studies): 2 credits

[Audition Stage: Topic identification, define preliminary scope of project, and identify key stages of research, topic/subject studies, site studies, etc.]

Semester 10

Design Dissertation (Project): 20 Credits

[Research, Analysis, and Design of an identified subject/topic/context/typology through a detailed process of thematic studies, case studies, site studies, identification and preparing project brief, project programme description, identification of design approaches, design and detailing of project with design development, and detailed architectural resolution, presented through architectural drawings and other professional as well as creative modes of communication and representation]

Allied Seminar: 4 credits

[Independent or Specialized studies conducted by students under tutors and mentors on topics of special interest as proposed by academics/professionals/researchers mentoring small groups of students; formats – International Studies Programme (travel based) or Directed Study Programme (mentor-based, local- or domestic travel-based)

Electives: 2 credits

(Note: Those participating in the Directed Study Programme for Allied Seminar will/can select the Directed Study Programme as an elective as well. The same is included and offered under the proposed Elective list and incorporated in the Teaching Scheme.)

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Signed:

1.

Received email approval, attached.

Ms. Nondita Correa Mehrotra – Expert Member, BoS

2.

Received email approval, attached.

Mr. Surya Kakani – Expert Member, BoS

3.

Received email approval; attached.

Mr. Bijoy Ramachandran – Expert Member, BoS

4.

Received [Signature]

Ms. Tapan Mittal Deshpande – Faculty Representative, BSSA

5.

[Signature]

Ms. Shriya Bhatia – Faculty Representative, BSSA

6.

[Signature]

Dr. Kaiwan Mehta, Dean-BSSA and Chairperson BoS-BID

Dated:

Place: Mumbai (Meeting was conducted Online)

Balwant Sheth School of Architecture

Proposed electives for B. Arch w.e.f academic year - 2024 - 2025

All electives will be of 2 credit each.

Year 1	
Sem I	Sem II
Wood Workshop - 01	Wood Workshop - 02
Pottery - 01	Pottery - 02
Photography - 01	Photography - 02
Illustration - 01	Illustration - 02
Print-making - 01	Print-making - 02
Moving Images - 01	Moving Images - 02
Visual Arts - 01	Visual Arts - 02

Year 2	
Sem III	Sem IV
Exhibition Design - 01	Exhibition Design - 02
Book Design - 01	Book Design - 02
Cinema Studies - 01	Cinema Studies - 02
Set Design - 01	Set Design - 02
Film Production - 01	Film Production - 02
Art and Design - 01	Art and Design - 02
Literary Landscapes- 01	Literary Landscapes- 02
India and Design - Historical Studies - 01	India and Design - Historical Studies - 02
Fashion Design - 01	Fashion Design - 02
Writing for Design - 01	Writing for Design - 02

Year 3	
Sem V	Sem VI
Gaming Design - 01	Gaming Design - 02
Advanced Fabrication - 01	Advanced Fabrication - 02
UI/UX Design - 01	UI/UX Design - 02
Computational Design - 01	Computational Design - 02
Experimental Animation - 01	Experimental Animation - 02
Craft Studies - 01	Craft Studies - 02
Design Studies- 01	Design Studies- 02
Urban Social Studies - 01	Urban Social Studies - 02

Year 4	
Sem VII	Sem VIII
Writing in Architecture - 01	Writing in Architecture - 02
Urban Sociology - 01	Urban Sociology - 02
Urban Economics - 01	Urban Economics - 02
Geographical Information System - 01	Geographical Information System - 02
Indian Aesthetics - 01	Indian Aesthetics - 02
Sustainable Architecture - 01	Sustainable Architecture - 02
Energy Modeling- 01	Energy Modeling- 02
Urban Mobility- 01	Urban Mobility- 02
Architecture Conservation - 01	Architecture Conservation - 02
Architecture Theory- 01	Architecture Theory- 02
Performative Building Skins - 01	Performative Building Skins - 02

Year 5	
Sem IX	Sem X
No Electives	Real Estate & Finance - 01
	Architecture Conservation - 03
	Urban Sociology - 03
	Advanced Computation - 01
	Project Management - 01
	Entrepreneurship & Organization - 01
	Net Zero Buildings - 01
	Architecture Criticism- 01
	Building Information System- 01
	Sustainable Urbanism - 01
	Sustainability Theories - 01
	Directed Study Programme - 01


 Dr. Kaiwan Mehta
 Dean, BSSA