




COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE,
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

MEMORANDUM

From: Magdalena Garmaz, Chair 
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Design Program

To: College of Architecture, Design and Construction (CADC)
Curriculum Committee 

Subject: Discontinuation of the Accelerated Bachelor's Master's Program
(ABM) in Environmental Design/Community Planning

Date: October 30, 2015

The ABM in Environmental Design/Community Planning was developed in response to the ENVD Program's mission to develop clearly defined and accelerated pathways for undergraduate students in the CADC into CADC graduate programs. This ABM was considered useful and important for CADC students because, at the time that it was developed, both the ENVD program and Community Planning program shared discipline-based common interests and skill sets directly related to their location in the CADC and the design-based nature of the disciplines.

The Master of Community Planning (MCP) program was relocated to the Department of Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts on October 1, 2015.

In a meeting on October 29, 2015, the Chair of Environmental Design program and its Curriculum Committee discussed the programmatic implications of the relocation of the MCP program to a different college on the ABM, and the consensus reached was that relocation of MCP program to the Department of Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts renders the original mission-critical nature of the ABM in Environmental Design /Community Planning invalid. A vote was taken on the following programmatic issue:

Should the Accelerated Bachelor's Master's program in Environmental Design /Community Planning continue as an option of study for students in the Environmental Design program?

The vote was 3 out of 3 to discontinue the ABM in Environmental Design/Community Planning.

It was also determined at this meeting that:

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- the effective date for the discontinuing of this program will be start of Fall semester 2016
- students currently enrolled in this program will not be affected by the decision to discontinue the program, but as of January 2016, no more students will be accepted into the program

- this decision is not expected to have a negative impact on enrollment in the ENVD program (in the last two years there were only 2 ABM ENVD students, as compared to 6 ENVD students in the Master of Construction Management, or 12 in Master of Landscape Architecture at AU; there are 3 students doing regional planning at the Clemson University, and 1 at University of Georgia)
- ENVD students can still, should they desire, pursue MCP program option, but it will happen upon their successful graduation from ENVD program (and since they can graduate in 3 and ½ years, they will still be in an “accelerated” mode)

Therefore, the purpose of this memorandum is to request that the CADC Curriculum Committee review and approve the following:

The Chair and the Curriculum Committee of the Environmental Design Program in the CADC request the approval from the CADC Curriculum Committee to discontinue the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program in Environmental Design/Community Planning, effective Fall 2016.