2008 Report on Accreditation in Architecture Education

The National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.

NAAB

May 2009

NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL ACCREDITING BOARD, INC.

Mission
The mission of the NAAB is leadership in, and the establishment of, educational quality assurance standards to enhance the value, relevance, and effectiveness of the architectural profession.

The NAAB is the only agency recognized by registration boards in the United States to accredit professional degree programs in architecture. Because most registration boards require an applicant for licensure to hold an NAAB-accredited degree, obtaining such a degree is an essential part of gaining access to the licensed practice of architecture.

Historical Background
The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) was founded in 1940, to "produce and maintain current a list of accredited schools of architecture in the United States and its possessions, with the general objective that a well integrated and coordinated program of architectural education be developed that is national in scope and afford opportunity for architectural schools with varying resources and operating conditions to find places appropriate to their objectives and do high class work therein."

Since 1975, the NAAB has accredited professional degree programs rather than schools or universities and only accredits the first professional degree program offered by any institution.

Among the NAAB's primary responsibilities are (a) to maintain a list of accredited degree programs in architecture and (b) to maintain statistical information on accredited programs.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Board and staff of the National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc., it is my pleasure to transmit the *2008 Report on Accreditation in Architecture Education*. This report, to be produced annually, is intended to share the accreditation decisions made by the NAAB in the previous year, as well as to provide a review of the aggregated statistics provided by each accredited program.

This document represents a new step for the NAAB: proactively presenting information on accreditation actions and accredited programs on an annual basis. The decisions represented in this report were all made on the basis of visits and *Visiting Team Reports* submitted in 2008; these decisions were all effective January 1, 2008. There were 29 accreditation visits and eight focused evaluations in 2008 involving over 135 volunteer team members. The level of commitment from these volunteers is remarkable. The NAAB wishes to express its gratitude to each of them for sharing their time and talent in the critically important work of reviewing accredited professional degree programs, and candidate programs in architecture.

The data summaries are based on information submitted in the fall of 2008 through the NAAB's Annual Report Submission (ARS) system. For the first time, 100% of accredited programs submitted statistical data to the NAAB. While there are a few "bugs in the system," which will be worked out in time for the 2009 annual reports, the ARS represents a significant step forward in the NAAB's ability to collect and present data that is consistent, rigorous, verifiable, and comparable. We owe a great deal of thanks to the staff for their efforts to bring this significant project to completion.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the significant contribution of **Bruce E. Blackmer, FAIA**, the 2008 NAAB president, for his tireless efforts last year in leading the Accreditation Review Conference (ARC). The ARC process, for indeed it has been envisioned and followed as a process of input, evaluation, and development, led to the drafting of the *2009 NAAB Conditions for Accreditation*. This document sets the minimum standards and expectations all accredited programs must meet beginning with visits scheduled for 2011. I think I speak for all when I note that the process has been open, transparent, deliberative, and responsible. We are deeply grateful to Bruce for his thoughtful and careful stewardship of this multi-year effort. After receiving final comments from the collateral organizations and the public, the final edition of the *2009 Conditions* will be approved on July 11, 2009.

In conclusion, I hope you agree the report is both a positive step for communication and is useful to the schools of architecture and the profession. Please feel free to share suggestions for improvements or changes by contacting the NAAB at **forum@naab.org**.

Sincerely,

Douglas L Steidl, FAIA
President

2008 ACCREDITATION DECISIONS

In 2008, the NAAB Board of Directors reviewed the *Visiting Team Reports* and recommendations for 29 programs. This includes four programs seeking initial candidacy and four seeking initial accreditation.

The NAAB accredits the following professional degree programs: the Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch.), the Master of Architecture (M. Arch.), and the Doctor of Architecture (D. Arch.).

Six-year term of accreditation:
- California State University, Pomona, B. Arch. and M. Arch.
- Georgia Institute of Technology, M. Arch.
- Lawrence Technological University (MI), M. Arch.
- Montana State University, M. Arch.
- New Jersey Institute of Technology, B. Arch. and M. Arch.
- Pennsylvania State University, B. Arch.
- Rhode Island School of Design, B. Arch, and M. Arch.
- Southern Polytechnic State University (GA), B. Arch.
- Texas A&M University, M. Arch.
- Tulane University (LA), M. Arch.
- Universidad de Puerto Rico, M. Arch.
- University of Arkansas, B. Arch.
- University of Detroit Mercy (MI), M. Arch.
- University of Houston (TX), B. Arch. and M. Arch.
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette, M. Arch.
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville, B. Arch. and M. Arch.
- University of Washington, M. Arch.
- Washington State University, M. Arch.
- Woodbury University (CA), B. Arch.

Three-year term of accreditation:
- Clemson University (SC), M. Arch.
- Florida International University, M. Arch.

Initial, three-year term of accreditation (newly accredited):
- California College of the Arts, M. Arch.
- City College of the City of New York, M. Arch.
- Tuskegee University (AL), B. Arch.
- University of Hartford (CT), M. Arch.

Initial Candidacy:
- American University at Sharjah, B. Arch.
- Portland State University (OR), M. Arch.
- Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, M. Arch.
- University of Memphis (TN), M. Arch.

2008 FOCUSED EVALUATIONS

Eight focused evaluations were completed in 2008. Seven of the eight resulted in no change to the term of accreditation:

- Florida Atlantic University (B. Arch., [2011])
- Florida A&M University (B. Arch. and M. Arch., [2012])
- Kansas State University, M. Arch. [2011]
- Morgan State University (MD), (M. Arch. [2011])
- University of Nevada-Las Vegas (M. Arch. [2011])
- University of South Florida (M. Arch. [2011])
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, (M. Arch., [2011])

The eighth resulted in a reduced term of accreditation and postponement of the visit for initial accreditation for Cornell University (B. Arch. term reduced to three-years [2010]; M. Arch., initial accreditation postponed to 2010)

By request, the NAAB conducted a special, focused evaluation of the program at the Southern California Institute of Architecture. This evaluation resulted in an extension of a three-year term to a six-year term.

ANNUAL REPORT SUBMISSION (ARS)

Overview
Begun in 2007, the NAAB launched its online Annual Report Submission (ARS) system in fall 2008. This new reporting system changes everything about how accredited and candidate architecture programs provide annual reports to the NAAB.

The NAAB-ARS web-based questionnaire has two parts – Part I Annual Statistical Report and Part II Narrative. Aggregate results of Part I are included in this report.

Part I (Annual Statistical Report) captures statistical information on both the institution in which an architecture program is located and the program itself; there are seven sections within Part I: a) Institutional Characteristics, b) NAAB-Accredited Architecture Programs, c) Tuition, Fees, and Financial Support for Students, d) Student Characteristics, e) Degrees Awarded, f) Resources for Students and Learning, and g) Human Resources.

For Part I, the definitions are taken from the glossary of terms used by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). IPEDS is the "core postsecondary data collection program" for the National Center for Education Statistics. Data are collected from all primary providers of post-secondary education in the [U.S.] in areas including enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty, staff, finances, institutional prices, and student financial aid." Much of the institutional information requested in Part I correspond to reports submitted by institutions to IPEDS each October.

The development and implementation of the new system is a big step forward for the NAAB and for architecture education. Bringing the system online in 2008 represents a powerful opportunity to make deep, systemic, and significant change in the way information is collected, analyzed, and used. Eventually, it is hoped, that the information from the ARS can be compared to information captured by the other collaterals. Together, these data sets will provide the profession and the academy with a complete picture of the growth and development of the profession.
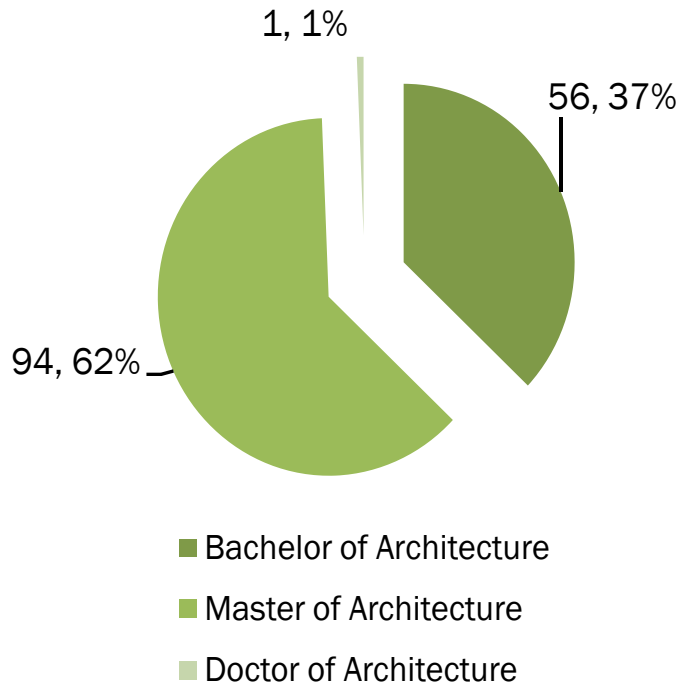
The data included in this report represents only the first of the NAAB's efforts to establish a new standard for reporting and a new baseline for information. As such, we are not ready to draw conclusions or to suggest areas for deeper research. Nevertheless, the Board and staff see this process of regularized data collection, combined with a narrative report on the program's progress since the last visit, as a powerful tool for strengthening architecture education.

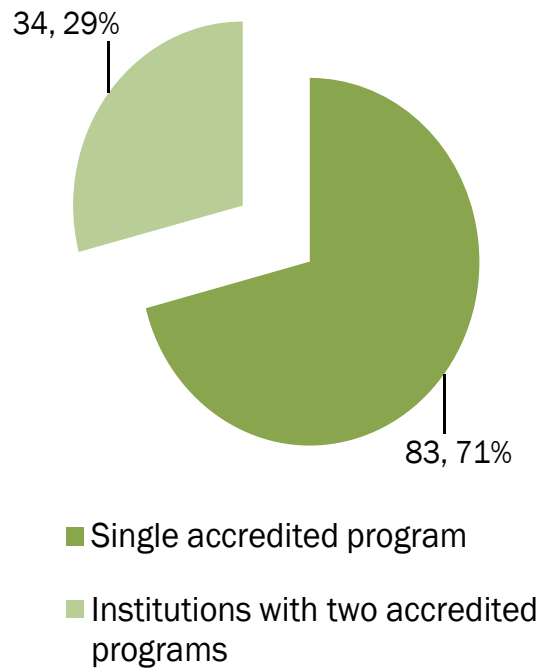# ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

Accredited Programs

As of the end of 2008, there are 151 accredited programs at U.S. institutions. Of the 151 programs, 56 (37%) offer the Bachelor of Architecture, 94 (62%) offer the Master of Architecture and one (1%) offers the Doctor of Architecture. It is noted that five of the Bachelor of Architecture programs are in the process of being phased out.

In addition, there are seven programs in candidacy; six are Master of Architecture candidates while the last is a Bachelor of Architecture candidate. All but one of the candidate programs are within institutions that do not already have an accredited architecture program.

Institutions

There are 117 institutions that offer accredited architecture programs. Of those 117, 83 (71%) offer a single accredited program while 34 (29%) offer two accredited programs.
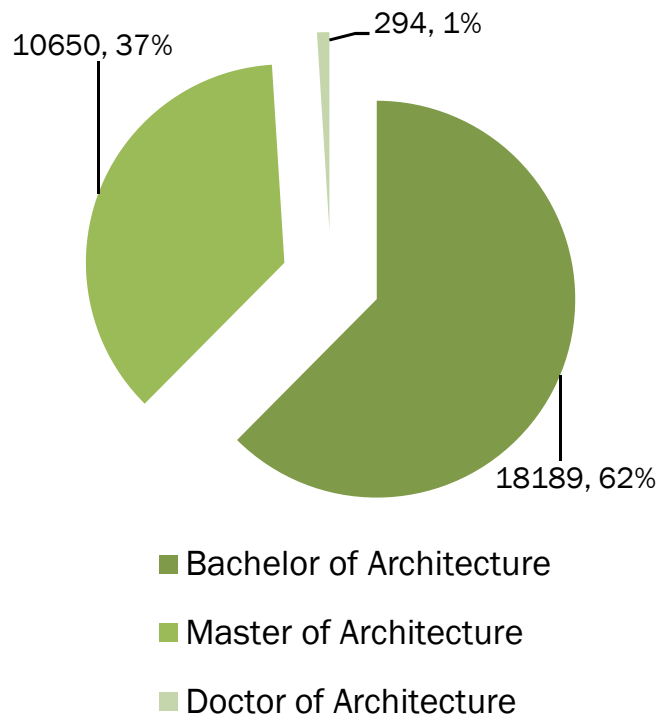
1, 1%
56, 37%
94, 62%

- Bachelor of Architecture
- Master of Architecture
- Doctor of Architecture

34, 29%
83, 71%

- Single accredited program
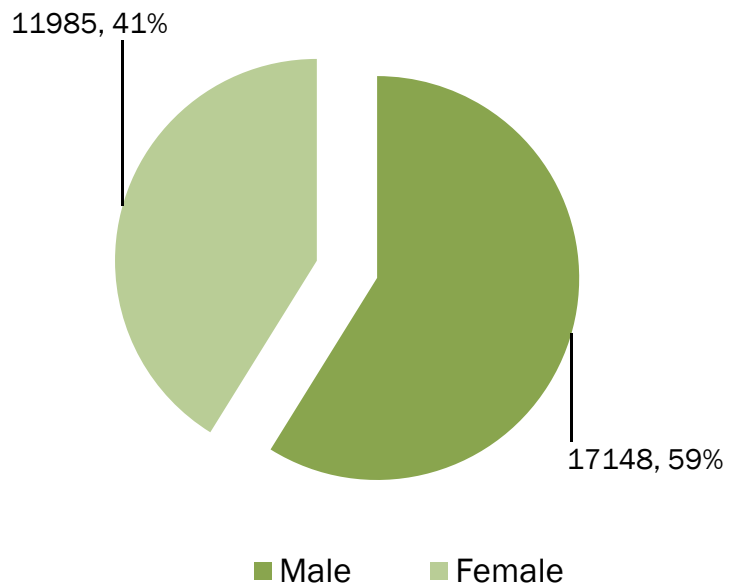- Institutions with two accredited programs

ENROLLMENT

Degree
There are 29,133 students enrolled in NAAB-accredited programs; of this total, 18,189 (62%) are enrolled in Bachelor of Architecture, 10,650 (37%) are enrolled in Master of Architecture and 294 (1%) are enrolled in Doctor of Architecture degree programs. Of this 29,133, 26,492 (90%) are enrolled full-time while 2,922 (10%) are enrolled part-time.

There are 15,101 (52%) architecture students enrolled in institutions with public support while 14,032 (48%) are enrolled in institutions with private support.

294, 1%

10650, 37%

18189, 62%

■ Bachelor of Architecture

■ Master of Architecture

■ Doctor of Architecture

Gender
The gender breakdown of students enrolled is approximately 60/40 with 17,148 (59%) male students and 11,985 (41%) female. The percentages for male/female are statistically the same for the three degrees, Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Architecture, and Doctor of Architecture.
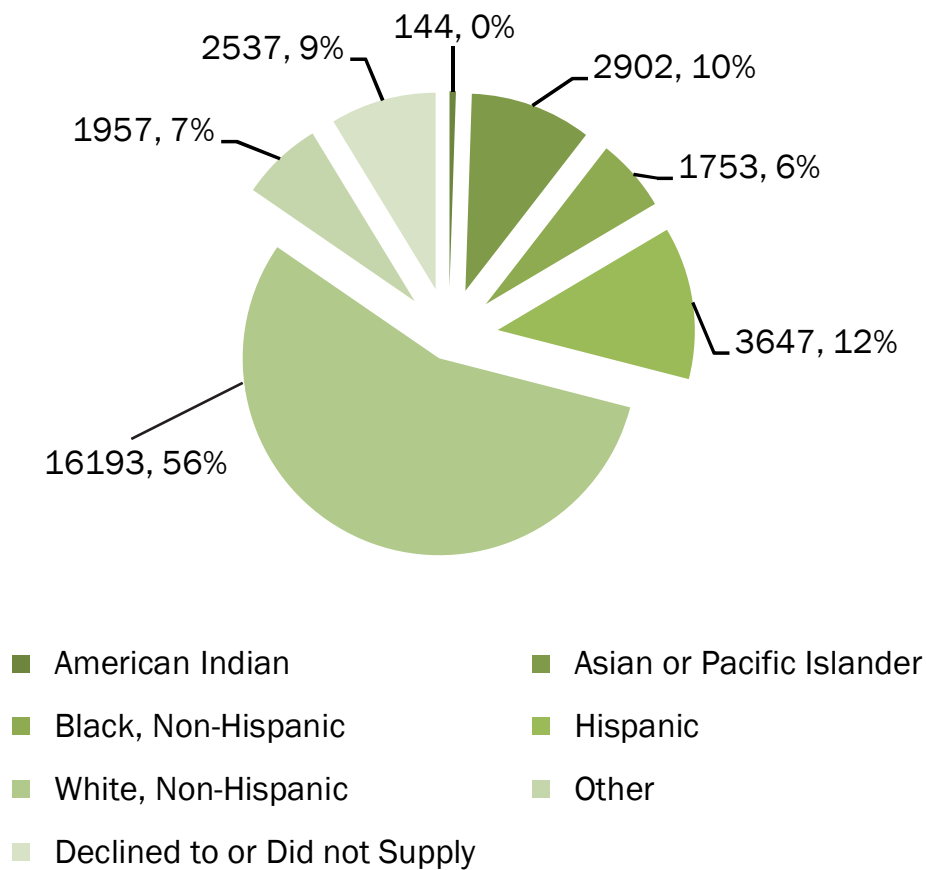
11985, 41%

17148, 59%

■ Male   ■ Female

ENROLLMENT

Ethnicity

There are 16,193 (56%) architecture students that indicated White, Non-Hispanic with respect to ethnicity. The remaining were as follows: 144 (0%) American Indian; 2,902 (10%) Asian or Pacific Islander; 1,753 (6%) Black, Non-Hispanic; 3,647 (12%) Hispanic. 1,957 (7%) indicated Other while 2,537 (9%) Declined or Did not Supply.

The percentages of overall enrollment by ethnicity by degree are different. For the Bachelor of Architecture, 33 percent of students were minorities (American Indian, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black, Non-Hispanic, and Hispanic) compared to 29% for the overall enrollment. For the Master of Architecture, 21% of students were minorities compared to 29% for the overall enrollment.
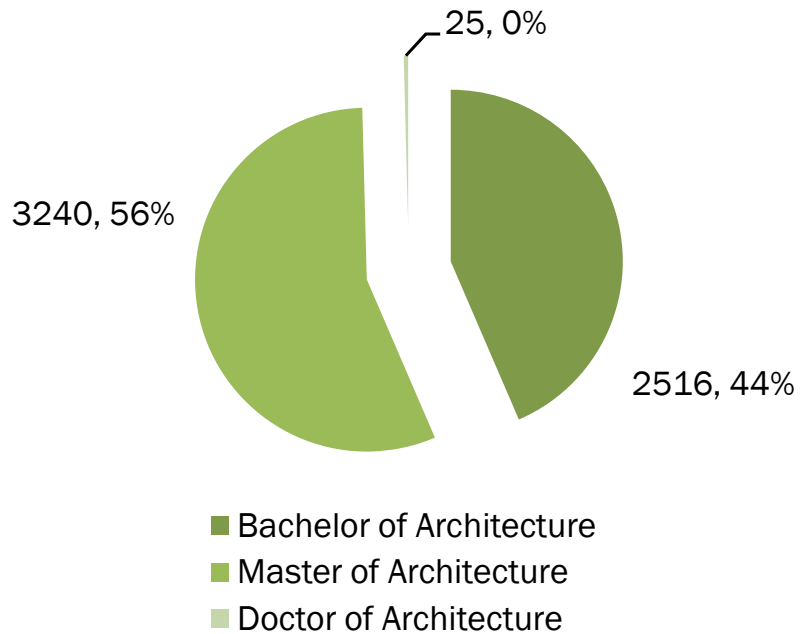

- ■ American Indian
- ■ Asian or Pacific Islander
- ■ Black, Non-Hispanic
- ■ Hispanic
- ■ White, Non-Hispanic
- ■ Other
- ■ Declined to or Did not Supply

DEGREES AWARDED

Degree

A total of 5,781 NAAB-accredited degrees were awarded during the 2007-2008 academic year.
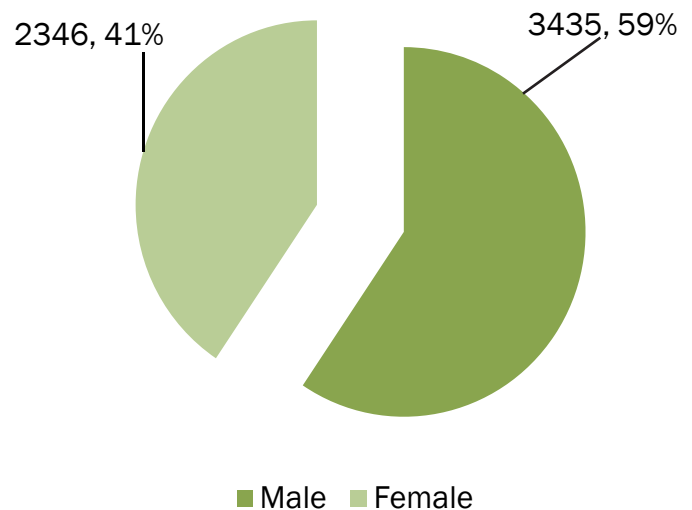
The number of Bachelor of Architecture degrees awarded was 2,516 (44%) while the number of Master of Architecture degrees awarded was 3,240 (56%) and the number of Doctor of Architecture degrees awarded was 25 (0%).

25, 0%

3240, 56%

2516, 44%

- Bachelor of Architecture
- Master of Architecture
- Doctor of Architecture

Gender

The gender breakdown for degrees awarded was identical to that of the gender breakdown for the overall enrollment – 3,435 (59%) male and 2,346 (41%) female.

With the exception of the Doctor of Architecture, the percentages of degrees awarded for male/female are statistically the same for the Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degrees.
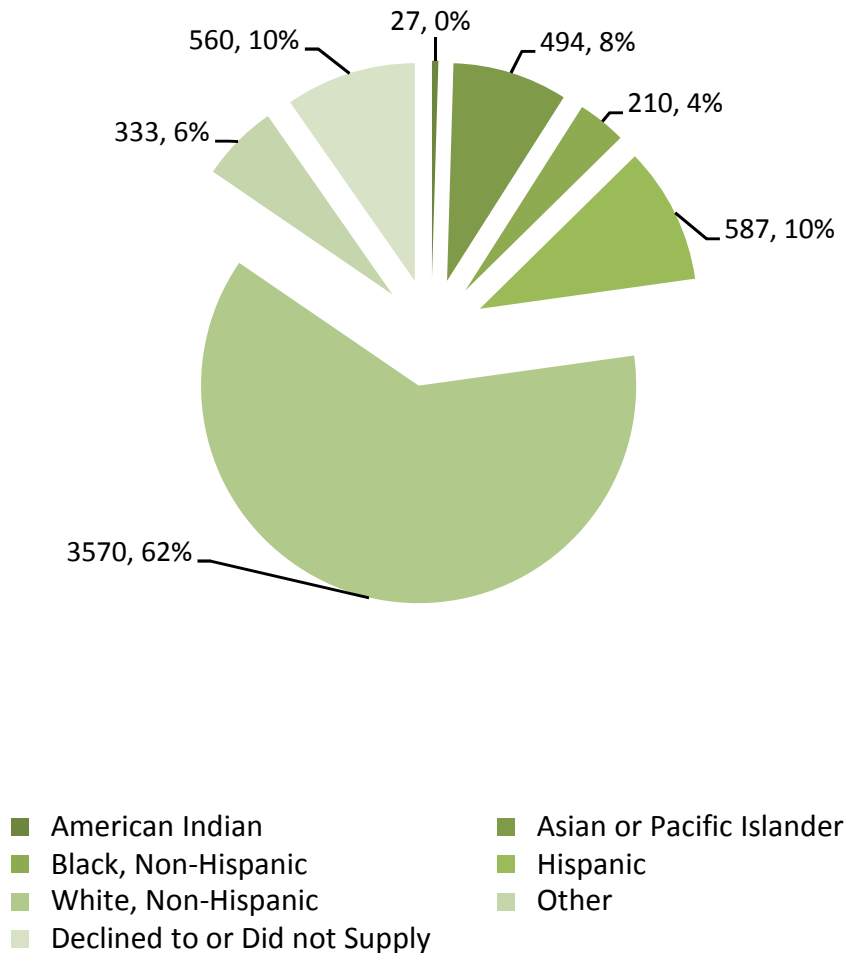
2346, 41%

3435, 59%

- Male - Female

DEGREES AWARDED

Ethnicity

Of the degrees awarded, 3,570 (62%) were awarded to White, Non-Hispanic candidates with respect to ethnicity. The remaining were awarded to the following candidates as follows: 27 (0%) American Indian; 494 (8%) Asian or Pacific Islander; 210 (4%) Black, Non-Hispanic; 587 (10%) Hispanic; 333 (6%) indicated Other while 560 (10%) Declined or Did not Supply.
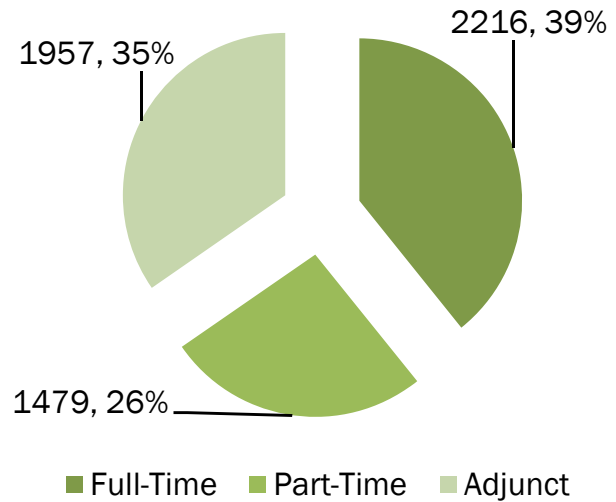
In the case of ethnicity, the percentage for degrees awarded was less than the overall enrollment with the exception of White, Non-Hispanic. With the exception of the Doctor of Architecture, the percentages for degrees awarded by ethnicity are statistically the same for the Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degrees.

- ■ American Indian
- ■ Black, Non-Hispanic
- ■ White, Non-Hispanic
- ■ Declined to or Did not Supply
- ■ Asian or Pacific Islander
- ■ Hispanic
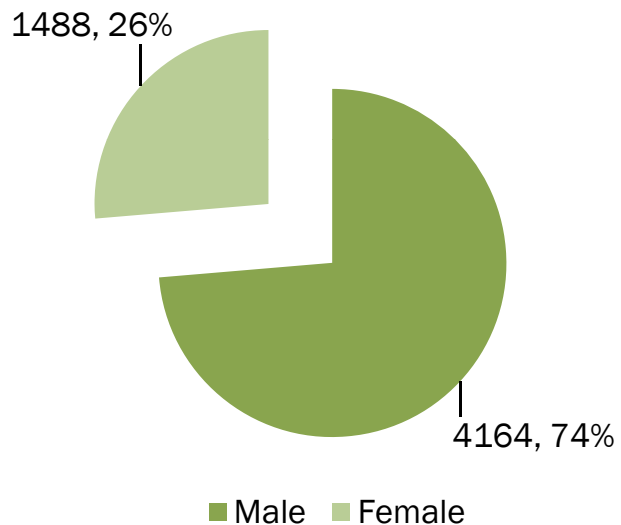- ■ Other

FACULTY

Status

There are 5,652 faculty teaching within NAAB-accredited programs; of this total, 2,216 (39%) are full-time, 1,479 (26%) are part-time, and 1,957 (35%) are adjunct.

1957, 35%   2216, 39%

1479, 26%

■ Full-Time   ■ Part-Time   ■ Adjunct

Gender

The gender breakdown of faculty enrolled is approximately 75/25 with 4,164 (74%) male faculty and 1,488 (26%) female.

The percentages for male/female are statistically the same for the three – Full-time, Part-time, and Adjunct. When viewing the percentages by rank, they were nearly the same except for that of Professor (81% male/19% female) and Assistant Professor (71% male/29% female).
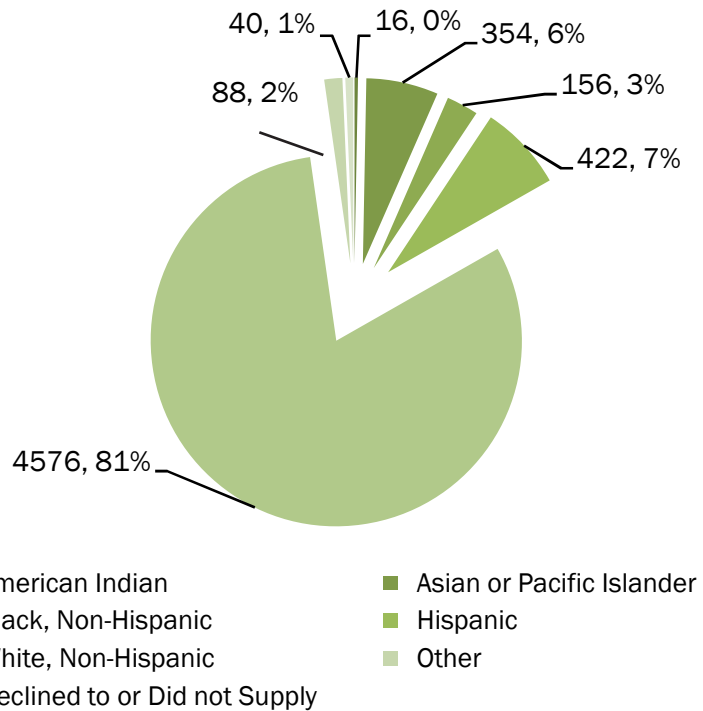

1488, 26%

4164, 74%

■ Male   ■ Female
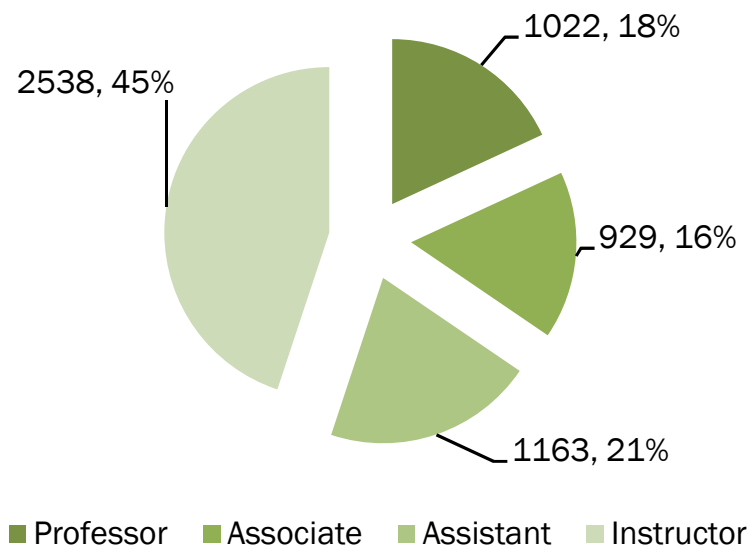
FACULTY

Ethnicity

There are 4,576 (81%) faculty that indicated White, Non-Hispanic with respect to ethnicity. The remaining were as follows: 16 (0%) American Indian; 354 (6%) Asian or Pacific Islander; 156 (3%) Black, Non-Hispanic; 422 (7%) Hispanic. 88 (2%) indicated Other while 40 (1%) Declined or Did not Supply.

When considering the status of the faculty (full-time, part-time, and adjunct), the percentages are much the same for the overall faculty. While not statistically significant, there are more minority faculty in the Associate and Assistant Professor ranks than Professor.

- 40, 1%
- 16, 0%
- 354, 6%
- 156, 3%
- 422, 7%
- 88, 2%
- 4576, 81%

■ American Indian ■ Asian or Pacific Islander
■ Black, Non-Hispanic ■ Hispanic
■ White, Non-Hispanic ■ Other
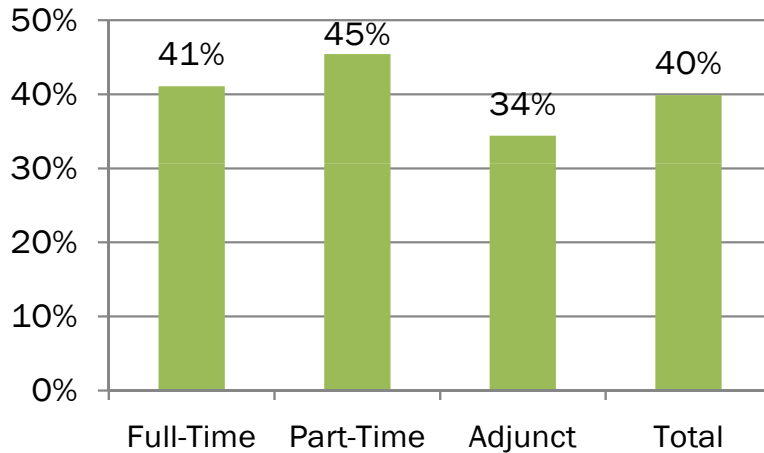■ Declined to or Did not Supply

Rank

Of the total faculty, 1,022 (18%) were Professors, 929 (16%) are Associate Professors, 1,163 (21%) were Assistant Professors, and 2,538 (45%) were Instructors.

- 2538, 45%
- 1022, 18%
- 929, 16%
- 1163, 21%

■ Professor ■ Associate ■ Assistant ■ Instructor

FACULTY

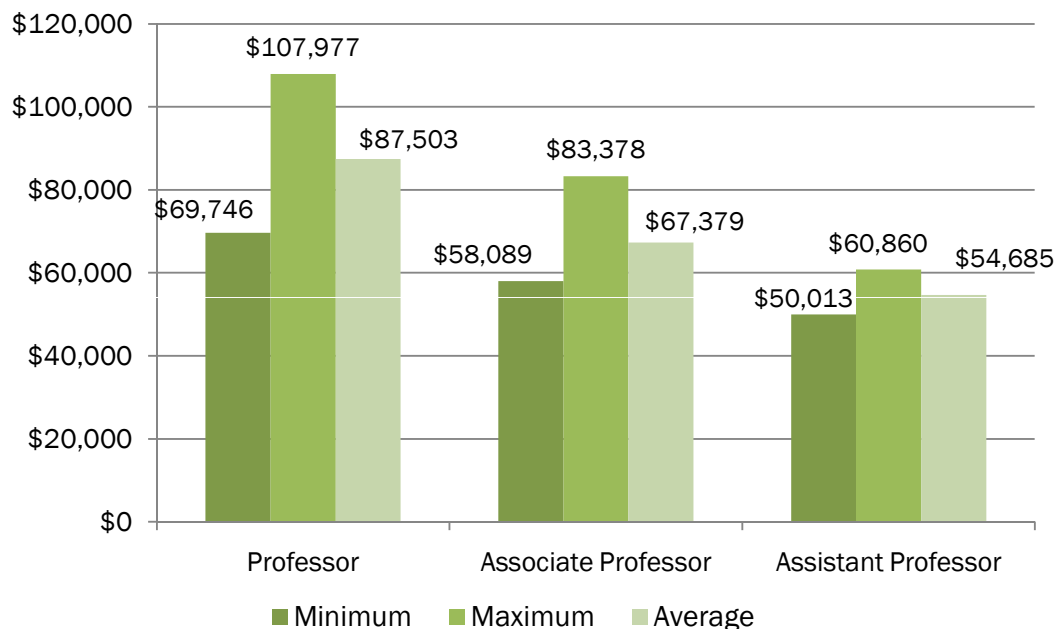**Faculty Registered in U.S. Jurisdiction**
Based on data supplied by the architecture programs, 40% of faculty are registered as architects in a U.S. jurisdiction. The percentages very slightly depending on their status: Full-time (41%), Part-time (45%), and Adjunct (34%).

Faculty Salaries
As to be expected, the salary range for professor exceeded that of associate professor which, in turn, exceeded that of assistant professor. The salary range of averages for professor is $69,746 to $107,977 with an average salary of $87,503. The salary range of averages for associate professor is $58,089 to $83,378 with an average salary of $67,379. The salary range of averages for assistant professor is $50,013 to $60,860 with an average salary of $54,685.

With regards to overall averages, the salary reports for each of the six ACSA regions (Northeast, Southeast, West, Southwest, West Central, and East Central) showed that professor exceeded that of associate professor which, in turn, exceeded that of assistant professor. In three of the regions (Northeast, Southwest, and East Central), the average salaries for all three faculty ranks exceeded the national average.

ACCREDITATION REVIEW CONFERENCE

Over the last seventeen months, there has been a significant level of effort by volunteers and staff in the Accreditation Review Conference (ARC) process. Led by 2008 NAAB President, **Bruce E. Blackmer, FAIA**, this work has been noted for its deliberative nature and transparency.

On October 22-23, 2008 50 individuals representing The American Institute of Architects, the American Institute of Architecture Students, the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, the Canadian Architectural Certification Board/Conseil canadien de certification en architecture, the National Organization of Minority Architects, the public, and the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) assembled in Tucson, Arizona for the ARC.

The ARC is held every five years to review the *NAAB Conditions for Accreditation*. The new or revised Conditions resulting from this review will be used by the NAAB to accredit professional degree programs in architecture from 2011 through 2016.

The objectives of the 2008 conference were to continue the transparent, inter-collateral process of reviewing both the Conditions and the Student Performance Criteria (SPCs), as well as to identify revisions to the *NAAB Procedures for Accreditation* that may be required once new conditions are approved, and to determine expectations for both internal and external self-assessment of the NAAB's processes and outcomes.

The recommendations developed by participants, along with reports and papers developed by the collateral organizations and NAAB-sponsored inter-collateral working groups, were used by the NAAB Directors to inform their deliberations and decision-making at the Board meeting in November. At that meeting, a writing team was assigned to draft the *2009 NAAB Conditions for Accreditation*. The first reading was approved by the NAAB Directors in February 2009 and was made available for public comment until June 1, 2009.

The Board and staff are also developing a comprehensive plan for internal and external assessment of the NAAB's procedures and operations in order to ensure continuous improvement in the accreditation process and to establish a review process that will lead to the development of the *2014 Conditions for Accreditation* in a thoughtful, disciplined manner.

The ARC has been noted for its open, collaborative, yet disciplined approach. The NAAB, in partnership with the collateral organizations, looks forward to continuing to build on this process into the future.

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Douglas Steidl, FAIA (representing AIA)
Peninsula, OH

President-Elect
Wendy Ornelas, FAIA (representing ACSA)
Manhattan, KS

Treasurer
Frank M. Guillot, FAIA (representing NCARB)
Burlington, VT

Secretary
John Senhauser, FAIA (representing AIA)
Cincinnati, OH

Craig Barton, AIA (representing ACSA)
Charlottesville, VA

Michael Broshar, FAIA (representing AIA)
Waterloo, IA

Andrew Caruso, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP
(representing AIAS)
Washington, DC

Cornelius "Kin" DuBois, FAIA (representing NCARB)
Denver, CO

Thomas Fowler, IV (representing ACSA)
San Luis Obispo, CA

H. Carleton Godsey, FAIA (representing NCARB)
Louisville, KY

Ryan T. McEnroe (representing AIAS)
Charlottesville, VA

Dr. Barbara White (Public Member)
Austin, TX

Joan Wickersham (Public Member)
Cambridge, MA

NAAB STAFF

Andrea S. Rutledge, CAE
Executive Director

Lee W. Waldrep, Ph.D.
Associate Executive Director

Pei Liu, Ph.D.
EESA Manager

Cassandra Pair
Accreditation Manager

Ziti Sherman
Financial Manager

Kara Cohen
Administrative Coordinator

Dorothy Preston
EESA Coordinator

Kesha Abdul-Mateen
EESA Coordinator