



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

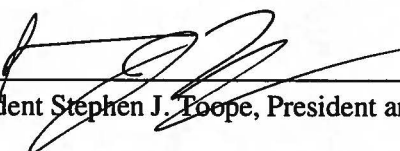
Report to the Board of Governors

SUBJECT TUITION FEES FOR NEW MASTER OF URBAN DESIGN (MUD)
DEGREE PROGRAM

MEETING DATE April 3, 2013

Forwarded to the Board of Governors on the
Recommendation of the President

**APPROVED FOR
SUBMISSION**



President Stephen J. Toope, President and Vice-Chancellor

DECISION REQUESTED **IT IS HEREBY REQUESTED** that *the UBC Board of Governors approve* the fees of \$17,000 for Canadian students and \$29,500 for international students in the Master of Urban Design degree program.

Presented By David Farrar, Provost & Vice-President Academic

Report Date February 28, 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 2008, the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA) has been engaged in an initiative to first frame, and then elaborate, the potential for urban design education at The University of British Columbia (UBC). This discussion has highlighted multiple research interests and numerous teaching synergies within SALA and between SALA and other allied programs. This robust exchange has resulted in this proposal for a new post-professional Master of Urban Design (MUD) program to be located academically within the Faculty of Graduate Studies and administered by SALA.

Demand for urban design graduates is growing internationally. In the United States, graduate level urban design education is strong and offered by a number of leading universities. Although graduate level urban design education exists in Eastern Canada, it has not been fully developed in the Western provinces. Currently, in Canada there are no degree programs offered west of Ontario.

Place and Promise COMMITMENT Central to the UBC mission is the advancement of a civil and sustainable society. With its emphasis on social, economic and environmental issues, this principle lies at the core of the MUD program's mandate. The MUD will support the university's aim to foster global citizenship by attracting the best and brightest post-professional students. It will offer students the opportunity to work with renowned teachers, practitioners and researchers addressing diverse and emergent forms of urbanism and sustainability.

Place and Promise ACTION To maintain a robust commitment to the program learning objectives, elective courses will be carefully selected to enhance student learning about urban design and related topics.

Description & Rationale The new Master of Urban Design aims to be the urban design program recognized internationally for excellence in urban design innovation and sustainability. The MUD will target individuals with professional practice experience as an architect, landscape architect or planner, who wish to develop critical skills in urban design.

UBC's commitment to sustainability and a focus on regenerative, ecological and sustainable urbanism distinguishes the MUD program from other design programs. Students will be attracted to the program's ability to harness the Vancouver's region as a living and working laboratory and its distinctive conceptualization of delivery. Faculty will provide consistency through the core curriculum and be complimented by the expertise of prestigious local and international urban design professionals and affiliated faculty. MUD will be delivered as an intensive one-year program. It is anticipated that this format will be favourable to post-professional students already in the work place.

COSTS The MUD degree will be revenue neutral or revenue generating in steady state, with all Capital & Lifecycle Operating resources required for the program to be paid from program tuition.

The program cohort will begin with 12 new students in 2014-2015, increasing to 18 in 2015-2016 and reaching a steady state of 24 new students per year in 2016-2017.

The Applied Science Dean's Office will contribute up to \$300,000 to cover the initial projected program deficit.

Tuition

The starting tuition level requested for this one-year MUD program is \$17,000 CAD for Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents and \$29,500 CAD for international students requiring a Study Permit. Tuition is paid in three equal installments in September, January and May. The student is required to pay a minimum of three installments of tuition in order to graduate, but if the program is extended beyond one year by permission of the program Chair, the student would pay tuition installments until the program requirements are met. However, the Continuing Fee will be assessed for Domestic students after installment six and will be \$662.33 per installment. After five years, the Extension Fee per installment will be Domestic \$930.25 and International \$9,833.33. The tuition and installment in each year will be subject to tuition increases as established by the University (currently at 2%).

Financial aid

Students in the Program will be eligible for financial assistance available to other Master's students at UBC. SALA will seek from industry donations that will enable the School to award entrance scholarships to outstanding students in the amount of \$10,000 each.

Tuition Fees for Comparable Programs (per year 2012-2013)

1. Canada

- a. University of Toronto: Master of Urban Design (MUD). A two-year, post-professional program. Domestic \$9,477; International \$29,121
- b. University of Toronto: Master of Urban Design Studies (MUDES). A one-year, graduate-level program. Domestic \$8,462; International \$22,513
- c. McGill University: i. Master of Architecture (Urban Design and Housing). A one-year, post-professional, graduate-level program; ii. Master of Urban Planning (Urban Design). A two-year program, post-professional program.
Domestic (Quebec residents) \$2,167; Domestic (non-Quebec residents) \$6,155;
International \$14,891

2. United States of America – SEEN AS THE MAIN COMPETITORS FOR STUDENTS

- a. University of California, Berkeley: Master of Urban Design (MUD). A one-year, post-professional, graduate-level program. \$18,220 (CA residents); \$24,342 (non-residents)
- b. Columbia University: Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design (MSAUD). A one year, post-professional, graduate-level program. \$66,600 (all students)
- c. Harvard University: Master of Architecture in Urban Design (MAUD). A two-year, post-professional, graduate-level program. \$40,440 (all students)

Tuition Comparison Rationale

- a. Vancouver is an acknowledged mecca for urban design and a world-class city to study, work and live in;
- b. A one-year program fits into the lifestyle framework for most potential students;
- c. The UBC MUD draws from an international pool of students and is far less expensive than the US institutions.

RISKS A financial deficit during the initial startup of the program is anticipated. This will be offset by a commitment from the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science to cover this deficit. Future risks relates to possible program under-enrollment which is not anticipated.

Financial,
Operational &
Reputational

BENEFITS The MUD program will contribute to UBC as a living laboratory in environmental sustainability by combining its sustainability leadership in teaching, research and operations; increase the quality and impact of UBC's research and scholarship; contribute to public understanding of societal issues and stimulate action for positive change; be a leader in fostering student, faculty, staff, and alumni engagement within the wider community; increase awareness and experience of the benefits of intercultural learning; and be the place of choice for outstanding students, faculty and staff.

Learning, Research,
Financial,
Sustainability &
Reputational

CONSULTATION In designing the program, the Faculty consulted with the following UBC Departments/
Relevant Units, programs:
Internal & External
Constituencies

- Civil Engineering
- Geography
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Population and Public Health
- Sauder
- Sociology
- UBC Library
- UBC Sustainability

UBCPT Date of Review: [Click here to enter text.](#) Signed Off by: [Click here to enter text.](#)

COMMENTS Not applicable.
Complete for all
reports that include a
property component
