

# WHAT'S NEXT???

## STRATEGIES FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION

College of Architecture and the Built Environment

### GUIDE TO ACCELERATED UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE DUAL DEGREES Internal Applicants

#### WHAT IS AN ACCELERATED DUAL DEGREE?

- The Accelerated Dual Degree Programs allow students to customize their education, break outmoded disciplinary silos and expand professional opportunities. Layering an additional area of expertise onto their primary discipline provides the credentials and competencies to tackle a broad range of design and industry-related projects and to address pressing environmental and community-based issues.
- The Accelerated Dual Degree Programs offer a seamless and cost-effective transition from undergraduate to graduate study. By sub-matriculating as a graduate student while completing their baccalaureate degree, students enjoy a significant discount in graduate tuition, as well as reduction in time needed to fulfill graduate requirements. In most cases, the graduate degree can be completed in just two to four semesters of coursework beyond the bachelor's degree, depending upon graduate program requirements.

#### HOW DOES AN ACCELERATED DUAL DEGREE WORK?

- Undergraduate students who have earned a minimum of 75 credits and whose cumulative grade point average is 3.00 or higher may enroll in graduate courses as part of their undergraduate program of study, not to exceed a total of 12 graduate credits.
- Accelerated Dual Degree programs allow students to matriculate in undergraduate and graduate programs simultaneously. The graduate courses can be used to fulfill foundational course requirements in the designated graduate program, as determined by the graduate program director. The graduate courses must be used to fulfill undergraduate free elective requirements in order for the student to remain aid-eligible.

#### HOW CAN A STUDENT APPLY?

- Internal applicants must first consult with their Academic Advisor who determines if the student meets the eligibility requirements and is a viable candidate. Based upon review of GPA (3.00 or higher), minimum credits (75 required), transcript, recommendations, etc., the Academic Advisor may recommend the student for admission. (If the minimum GPA standard has not been met, the recommendation of a faculty is required. Exceptions to the 75-credit minimum may be granted with the approval of the Graduate Program Director.)  
**Actions Required: Student and Academic Advisor sign the "Accelerated UG/GR Dual Degree" form. Advisor sends form, updated checksheet, and supporting materials to Graduate Program Director for review.**

- Admission to the Accelerated Dual Degree Program must be approved by the Graduate Program Director. An interview is scheduled with the student by the Graduate Program Director who reviews the applicant's GPA, transcript, recommendations, and portfolio, if required by the graduate program.  
**Actions Required: Graduate Director signs the “Accelerated UG/GR Dual Degree” form upon acceptance of student into the Accelerated Dual Degree program and sends form to CABE Associate Dean, Graduate Studies.**
- Graduate Program Director develops a curriculum map that charts the recommended sequence and semester that students should register for the 12 credits of foundational graduate courses. The curriculum map is sent to the Advisor and to the student as a guide to curricular choices. Consultations with the Program Director are necessary to approve changes or make adjustments to the original curriculum map.  
**Action Required: Curriculum map sent to student and Academic Advisor.**
- **Actions Required: Associate Dean of Graduate Studies signs the “Accelerated UG/GR Dual Degree” form and sends the form to the Office of the Registrar with copies sent to student, Academic Advisor, and Graduate Program Director for their records.**
- Enrollment may occur at any time up to the end of the add period of the student's penultimate semester. To remain in the program, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher.

#### **WHAT STEPS ARE REQUIRED UPON COMPLETION OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE?**

- Admission to the designated graduate program is conditional and subject to the student's completing undergraduate coursework with satisfactory academic progress, i.e. maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher and having achieved a minimum grade of B in all foundational graduate courses completed.
- To transition to graduate status, the Graduate Program Director reviews the student's undergraduate records for final acceptance.  
**Action Required: Student and Director must sign the “Declaration of Admittance” form.**
- To participate in the benefits of the accelerated programs, a student must enroll in coursework by the fall or spring semester immediately following graduation from the baccalaureate program. The graduate Program Director may grant deferred enrollment in unusual circumstances.
- Students who enter the graduate program within one year of completing the undergraduate degree are eligible for a Dean's Scholarship in the amount of \$5000 per year, if enrolled in a minimum of nine (9) credits per semester.