# **RA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE**

# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION OF ARMENIA





# YEREVAN 2015

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# **RECTOR'S SPEECH**



Gagik Shahabek Galstyan Rector of National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia, Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor

Dear friend, I welcome your decision of choosing National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia for getting higher education. In the current conditions of various educational services and high competition your decision of choosing the university once again confirms the good reputation of our

university training highly qualified specialists.

Today, the National University of Architecture and Construction of

Armenia, continuing its good traditions of university education, set a high development target trying to comply with the European education standards. The University implements a policy of effective international cooperation, organizes education in Armenian, Russian, English and French languages, and the diplomas awarded to graduates are recognized in foreign countries and the architect's diploma is officially recognized as equivalent to French diploma. An agreement was signed with National Higher Architectural School of Lyon on joint management of theses, organization of protection and mutual recognition of the awarded scientific degree.

The University passed an assessment process by French AERES Evaluation Agency for Research and Higher Education and received a positive assessment.

Our actions aimed at increasing the quality of educational services with various and different directions are continuous and include from qualified education to the creation of comfortable and improved environment. The repair and improvement works are still in process at our University, and we already have a nice-looking university yard, computer and technically equipped

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classrooms the number of which is growing day by day, Internet connection throughout the University and various centers, corners of organizations resulting from different interactions.

Dear friend, I would like to assure that together we will achieve new successes and in this regard I strongly highlight the cooperation. Our activities are aimed at the benefits of our students therefore I look forward to mutual understanding and joint efforts. Be sure that all your positive initiatives will receive the support of University leadership.

# **BRIEF HISTORICAL REVIEW**

**October 1921** - Engineering Faculty was established in People's University of Yerevan with two specialties: engineering-architectural and hydraulic engineering.

*July 1930* – Construction Institute was founded with three departments: architectural and construction, hydro-engineering and chemical.

*March 1933* – Yerevan Polytechnic Institute was formed with the faculties of Construction and Chemical Engineering.

*July 1989* – On the basis of architectural-construction and construction engineering faculties Yerevan Architectural and Construction Institute was formed.

*July 2000* – Yerevan Architectural and Construction Institute was renamed as Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction.

*January 2014 -* Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction was renamed as "National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia" Foundation.

# GENERAL INFORMATION ON NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION (NUACA)

National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia (hereinafter referred to as the University) is a complex educational institution which implements education, research, design expertise and other services in the following fields:

- architecture,
- construction,
- municipal services and ecology,
- design and tourism,
- management and technology.

Since 2008/2009 academic year the University implements an education system of three degrees which offers bachelor's, master's and researcher programs with duration of four, two and three years respectively. *Currently, 3564 students are studying at the University, including 319 foreigners.* 

Highly qualified specialists are teaching at the University:

- RA NAS Academicians: 3
- Professors: 52,
- Associate Professors: 132.

# THERE ARE THE FOLLOWING FACULTIES AND SPECIALTIES AT THE UNIVERSITY

# 1. FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE Architecture and Design



# 2. FACULTY OF CONSTRUCTION



- **Construction, Production of Construction Products and Structures**
- Construction and Operation of Water Systems
- Construction, Management and Operation of Transport Routes and Vehicles
- Building Design
- Cadastre and Applied Geodesy

#### 3. FACULTY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND ECOLOGY

- Municipal Services and Heat and Gas Supply
- Real Estate Expertise and Management
- Safety in Emergency Situations
- Transportation and Traffic
  Management
- \* Environmental Expertise
- Environmental Protection and Efficient Use of Natural Resources
- Translation Studies (technical translation) English and Armenian
- Translation Studies (technical translation) Russian and Armenian



- 4. FACULTY OF DESIGN AND TOURISM
- \* Design
- \* Fine Art
- \* Service
- Computer Art Design



# 5. FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY



- **\* Informatics and Computer Science**
- \* Management Information Systems
- Economics and Management of Enterprises (in Construction Industry)
- Economics and Management of Enterprises (in Municipal Services, Housing and Utility Services)
- \* Economics and Management of Enterprises (in Transport Industry)
- **\*** Economics of Nature Management
- Accounting (in Construction Industry)

# **RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS**

The student rights and responsibilities of the University are defined in Internal Disciplinary Rules of learners of "National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia" Foundation.

Below is a brief description of the most important provisions.

# 1. The student of the University has the right:

- In accordance with educational courses and profession to take part in formation of his/her education content maintaining the requirements of state educational standards of his/her education unit program and higher professional education,
- at his/her discretion and according to addictions, hobbies and needs to choose the specialty and specialization, education type, the stream available at the University, to get paid education services, to conduct scientific researches, to interrupt or continue learning at any education level according to the defined procedure,
- in addition to the compulsory educational courses of his/her chosen profession on paid basis and on the initiative of the University also on free basis to master any other educational course which is taught in the educational units of the University, to attend any lecture read at the University,
- According to the procedure established in the University to be transferred to education course of his/her preferred specialty, to move, to be transferred to another educational institution, including foreign higher educational institutions,
- To participate in the management process of the University, student, scientific and research activities, symposiums, workshops, competitions, Olympiads and any other events inside and out of the University,
- To submit proposals during preparation of exam and test schedule of the examination period,

- To freely express his/her own opinion and convictions, to appeal against the decisions of governing committees of the University, orders and instructions of leadership in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia,
- According to the established procedure to be involved in the governing committees of the University and units,
- To participate in the processes ensuring the education quality and to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching staff,
- To be united in student NGOs (student councils, student scientific societies and other organizations), to participate in their activities,
- In accordance with the established procedure and extent to get scholarship, grant, as well as student loan designated by state, nominal, legal or physical persons,
- To implement other rights prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia and the charter of the University.

# 2. The student of the University is obliged:

- To participate in classes. To perform educational tasks, the requirements of educational programs, functions and all other tasks prescribed by curriculum, training program and schedule of educational process and the associated assignments within the defined deadlines,
- to acquire and master the knowledge, skills and abilities in accordance with state educational standards and required for the future highly qualified specialist.

# 3. The learner of the University is obliged to respect the following rules of behavior:

- To contribute to enhancing the reputation of the University with his/her behavior and high progress,
- Not to break the course of classes. Not to make noise during lessons and breaks while being in the corridors of University buildings, to

keep free the staircases and entrances of the buildings, not to hinder the movement, exit and entrance of people,

To fulfill the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Armenia, charter of the University and this Regulation on the students, the decisions and instructions of Board of Trustees, Scientific Council and the Rector of the University in good faith.

# 4. Encouragement of students:

- > The University encourages a disciplined student displaying high academic performance and active participation in social activities,
- The following types of encouragement are defined for displaying high academic performance by the student, active participation in lessons, scientific-research and social activities, respecting the rules of coexistence, high conduct, initiatives and creative activities:
  - Expression of gratitude,
  - Lump sum monetary reward,
  - Awarding an honorary diploma,
  - Awarding a souvenir,
- By submission of dean and student council the Rector of University determines the type of student encouragement on which an order is issued,
- An order on student encouragement is published on the website of the University.

# 5. The lessons at the University are conducted with the prescribed procedure in accordance with the approved curricula, training programs and schedules of educational process.

6. The timetable of classes is drawn up for a semester and is posted no later than 5 working days prior to start of the next semester.

- 7. Each course is divided into academic groups and sub-groups for conducting practical classes in the auditoriums and laboratories.
- 8. In each academic group the classmates choose their monitor among the most disciplined and advanced students. The group monitor reports to the faculty dean and represents the group all his orders and instructions.

The obligations of the group monitor are:

- Individual recording of student attendances by the lecturer's instruction,
- Daily reporting to the faculty dean on students being absent or late indicating the reasons for being late,
- > Informing the students about the schedule changes,
- Informing the faculty dean on lectures conducted with poor quality and in violation of program provided by the curriculum.
- 9. A special register is filled in for each academic group which is kept in the faculty dean office and every day before classes it is handed to the lecturer and under the lecturer's control the monitor makes some notes on student attendances in the classes and the lecturer records the activity of students in practical classes with the relevant marks and signs in the register.
- 10. Loud conversation, noise, use of electronic devices and mobile phones at lessons is prohibited in the buildings of the University. It is strongly prohibited to smoke and use alcohol.
- 11. Material liability of the student:

If the Student damages the University property he/she may bear material liability. For juvenile Students the material liability is borne by his/her legal representative. The types of material liability are:

- Compensation for damage;
- > Providing the property of the same type and quality;
- Repair of the damaged property;
- > Cash indemnity.

# **NOTE ON BOLOGNA PROCESS**

In order to create a single European area of higher education the Bologna Declaration was adopted by 29 European countries on 19 June 1999 which laid the foundation for the Bologna process.

The directions of the Bologna process are:

- recognition of educational degrees (adoption of system of readable and comparable degrees);
- adoption of three degrees of higher education (bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees);
- stablishment of credit system;
- providing the mobility of students, scientific and pedagogical and administrative staff;
- adoption of European standards in the field of quality assurance for training specialists;
- > promoting the European dimension of higher education;
- importance of lifelong learning;
- involvement of universities and students;
- > promoting the attractiveness of European higher education;
- > merging the European Higher Education Area and European Research Area (ERA).

By joining the Bologna process Armenia implemented specific steps to be integrated into a single European area of higher education.

The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) was introduced in three degrees of NUACA education, the curricula of all specialties were prepared based on credit system (the courses are presented in educational modules to which respective credit values are fixed).

#### **DESCRIPTION AND MAIN CONCEPTS OF CREDIT SYSTEM**

The credit system is a system for organization of learning process and registration, accumulation and transfer of education results through academic credits in which the relevant qualification is awarded after accumulation of the necessary content and number of credits prescribed by education program.

The credit is a conventional measurement unit for academic workload required by the student to achieve the education results determined by the course or other education module. The credit measures only the academic workload and does not include the mastering quality of any component of educational program, its level or degree of complexity, the content, etc. The student earns the number of relevant credits after successfully passing the educational module.

The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) is a pan-European unified credit system which reflects the student's full academic workload for one academic year with 60 academic credits. It is aimed to facilitate the appreciation, official recognition of education results and the transfer from one university to another one in European Higher Education Area.

When organizing the learning process with credit system the minimum number of credits required for awarding the qualification, the content of courses forming these credits and other components in the form of the list of compulsory and optional courses of the program, the credits allocated for the courses, the minimum and maximum periods for training cycle, etc. are clearly defined.

According to the procedure prescribed by the University and conditions of education program the students themselves decide when, in what time frame and what content to collect the compulsory minimum number of credits required for qualification after which they can request for the relevant qualification.

#### **ORGANIZATION OF PRACTICAL TRAININGS**

The content and duration of practical training is determined by the relevant state educational standards and university curricula. Organization of practical training is aimed at mastering the students' professional activities and continuously and consequently enhancing the qualification. There are the following types of practical trainings at the University:

- ➤ work experience,
- ➢ field experience;
- ➤ pre-graduation.

# **Organization of practical training is implemented as follows:**

- The scope and content of all stages of practical training is determined by the program of practical training which is developed in the corresponding chair and approved by the Rector of the University.
- Work experience can be conducted in organizations, as well as in the units of the University.
- The practical training in the organization is implemented under the relevant agreement signed between two parties according to which the organization is committed to organize the practical training of students in place.
- The students contracted with prospective employers conduct their field experience and pre-graduation practical training in these organizations.
- Work experience and field experience can be implemented both with a continuous cycle and following the theoretical course by days and weeks if the connection between the content of practical training and theoretical course is ensured.
- The organization creates the necessary conditions and supports the University students to fully organize the process of work experience, field experience and pre-graduation practical training. The students

and lecturers are allowed to use the laboratory equipment, library, technical documents of the organization for complete performance of individual tasks and program of practical training.

- > The periods of practical training are determined by the University according to curricula.
- The program of practical training is prepared taking into account the theoretical preparedness of students and the capabilities of educational and production bases.
- As a result of practical training, at the end of the specified period, the student shall submit a report to a supervisor appointed by the University.
- The mark of practical training is equal to the mark of theoretical learning and is taken into consideration when summing up the overall results of student progress.
- In case of failure to fulfil the program of practical training for valid reasons the student completes it on the hours free from studies after the relevant decision of the rector's office. The students who failed to fulfil the program of practical training without reasonable excuse are considered as having an academic duty and are removed from the University according to the existing procedure.
- Experienced lecturers well aware of production are appointed as supervisors of practical training by the University and skilled specialists are appointed by the organization.
- > The lecturers of the relevant issuing chairs are appointed as supervisors of field experience and pre-graduation practical training.
- The costs of excursions included in the program of practical training are carried out at the expense of the University funds which are envisaged in the University budget as the organization costs for the practical training.

# **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The Student Council of the University is a self-governing body dealing with the student problems the activities of which are prescribed by RA Laws and the University Charter. The objectives of the Student Council are:

- Protection of the students' interests and rights;
- Military and patriotic education;
- Activities in educational and scientific areas;
- > Organization of student leisure time,
- Organization of sport events;
- > Provision of information to students.

The activities of the Student Council are financed from the means of NUACA budget approved in the given year and other sources.

# **STUDENT NEWS**

The media sources for the students at the University are the University website (<u>www.nuaca.am</u>), the Facebook page of Student Council and "The Engineer" official newspaper.

# STUDENT SCIENTIFIC COMPANY

The University has a Student Scientific Company the goals and objectives of which are the following:

- To assist in implementation and introduction process of research works of students, young research fellows and researchers;
- To bring together the research activities of young research fellows, lecturers, researchers, doctoral candidates, postgraduate students, applicants and students for complete realization of creative potential;
- To create an enabling environment for young research fellows and specialists;
- To propagate scientific values among young people and to organize scientific research experience exchange events;
- To provide cooperation and membership with international scientific organizations and youth organizations.

# CAREER CENTER

The University has a Career Center which is an independent structural unit. The main objective of the Center is to contribute to solution of quality improvement issues faced by the University, development of competitiveness of NUACA students and graduates in labor market, strengthening of ongoing communication and development of cooperation between the graduates and University.

#### The functions of the Center are:

- To create a platform for cooperation between the University and labor market and to make contacts in different formats;
- > To create a data bank of alumni;
- > To assist the applicants with professional orientation;
- > To make analysis of labor market needs;
- To assist in the process of improving the specialties offered by the university based on regional priorities;
- To creatively contribute to the implementation of joint events and programs of the university and labor market.