



Piet Zwart Institute
Institute for postgraduate studies and research
Willem de Kooning Academy Rotterdam University

Development Dialogue Meeting

24 March 2022

Master Interior Architecture: Research + Design [MIARD]

MIARD Accreditation 2021

(Meeting is required as part of the NVAO Accreditation Process)

Participants:

Course Director

Staff Members

Alumna

Panel Members, AeQui

Senior Policy Advisor, Quality Assurance

Meeting Format:

Roundtable conversation on the accreditation visitation, the final report and the recommendations by the panel members.

Final Report Recommendations by AeQui:

- to enhance the impact of the Advisory Board by also involving experts who question the MIARD approach or represent a diverse range of fields, including more traditional practices in interior design
- to engage in more internal and external collaborations that go beyond mere collegial exchange and relate to the field of actual design practice;
- consider a more systematic use of reflective (self)assessment in the curriculum
- to train students on 'making public' their work to a non-expert audience
- to strengthen the cooperation with alumni and keep track of their professional activities, possibly through a more data-driven approach

Key Points:

MIARD offers a critical environment in which the discipline is looked at and redefined. Communicate this program identity more clearly to the public. A tweaking of the language used to make the critical position of MIARD even more explicit.

Further prepare students with the vocabulary to change the practice from within more conventional architectural, interior and design studios, which would allow them to push the envelope and challenge things from inside these established professional contexts.

A clear identity is crucial to any MA program, but that can create the loss of the tension of multiple perspectives. A suggestion to invite students and externals that are critical and challenge the MIARD perspective.

Broaden professional collaborations and connections and form more structural overlaps between education and practice. With a focus beyond collegial exchange and related to the field of actual design practice.

Streamline the transition from student to alumni. Often education and practice are very separate. It's important to continue the relationship with alumni, and support the diverse professional trajectories.

Make explicit the diverse professional trajectory of a MIARD student after graduation. What are the Alumni doing? Keep track of their professional activities, possibly through a more data-driven approach

Expand the impact of the practice-led research being conducted within the program by students and staff to reach a boarder audience beyond the art and design fields.

There was a lot of appreciation from the external board on the program. It is suggested to keep those programs qualities and build on having an impact beyond MIARD, building the alumni and professional communities.

The Roundtable conversation finalized with updates since the visitation by MIARD on Current Program Developments and plans, included:

Alumni project, A multifaceted project in development to include:

Thematic text-based publication with invited guest contributions. A suggestion is to find an institution or/and a public moment to share the publication. A debate, a talk, or collaboration with external entity, and a possible integration of this publication within the curriculum.

Online active resource database for students and alumni as career prospectus (Professional Collaborations / 3rd cycle PhD program/ Funding / Grants / Jobs / Internships / Open Calls / Scholarships / Residencies)

Alumni support – annual MIARD Alumni Awards, WdKA Master Research Award, MA (and BA) Teaching Assistant Positions, Alumni hires and commissioned Projects, Track Professional Activities of Alumni, data-driven approach

MIARD Archive, Version 2.0 - The new version which is development was discussed, the designers are planning community-based meetings to get feedback on the platform from diverse communities. A suggestion in the meeting was how to better position and make clear the intention of the Archive to an external audience.