



## Ground breaking study into architectural education and the profession in Australia and New Zealand

The Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACAA) is leading a major study of *Architectural Education and the Profession in Australia and New Zealand* with the support of all architectural stakeholder organisations. The AACAA is the major funder of the Study with additional funding provided by the Association of Architecture Schools of Australasia, the Australian Institute of Architects, the Australian Deans of Built Environment and Design and New Zealand architectural stakeholder organisations.

This study is the first time all stakeholders have joined forces in such a significant piece of research.

The *Architectural Education and the Profession in Australia and New Zealand* Study will explore four key themes:

- **Research Theme 1: Resourcing**  
How have changes in higher education regulation, practice and funding models over the past decade affected architectural education? What resources are available to schools and can they be considered sufficient? What is the profile of architecture teaching staff including contract and sessional staff? To what extent is staff welfare measured and supported?
- **Research Theme 2: Teaching and Learning Practice**  
What are the key contemporary issues in architectural teaching, e.g. the evolving understanding of “Design Studio”, the need to balance multiple curriculum elements? Is there much diversity in the teaching of architectural programs in Australian universities? Does the increasing proportion of international students bring with it different expectations? What has been the impact of new educational technologies? To what extent is there a nexus between architectural education and research?
- **Research Theme 3: Pathways**  
What is the background of current MArch students? How flexible are current pathways into and out of architectural education? Where do architecture graduates seek/gain employment? Do they work in architecture-related contexts when studying? How ready are they for practice and the path to architectural registration? Are there opportunities to increase the diversity in the architectural student body and professional/academic workforce?
- **Research Theme 4: Futures**  
What are the future drivers for curriculum development and teaching practice in architecture? How will architectural education be impacted by the changing nature of architectural business (such as internationalisation, specialisation and cross-disciplinary work)? What will be the impact of the new Accreditation Framework / National Standard of Competency for Architects and other changes in the regulatory sphere?

The Study includes a literature review, collection of data from a range of sources, surveys of architecture academics and the architecture profession, interviews with key stakeholders and focus groups with architecture academics, students, graduates and practitioners/employers. The main report of the Study is scheduled to be completed in mid-2019.

[More info.](#)