

**POSITION STATEMENT EXECUTIVE BOARD TU DELFT REGARDING ASSESSMENT  
ARCHITECTURE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Executive Board of Delft University of Technology has commissioned an assessment of the research carried out by the research units at the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment. The assessment was carried out in 2016 by an international peer review committee, using the Standard Evaluation Protocol 2015-2021 ([www.vsnu.nl/sep](http://www.vsnu.nl/sep)). Chair of the peer review committee was prof. dr. Katja Grillner (KTH, Stockholm, Sweden). The full report of the peer review committee is available on the TU Delft website.

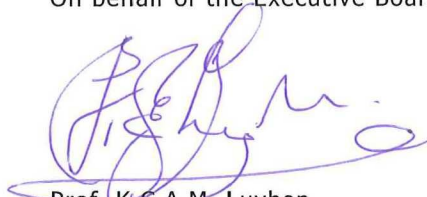
The Executive Board wishes to express its gratitude to the peer review committee for their work and final report. Together with the fruitful discussions with the faculty during the site visit, the committee has provided comprehensive and useful recommendations that the university and faculty can use to their advantage.

The Executive Board is pleased that the research performed by the faculty was assessed by the committee as 'very high' regarding research quality and as 'world leading/excellent' regarding societal relevance. The committee also observed that the faculty shows good evidence of interdisciplinary cooperation and has a good linkage to strong educational programmes as well as to industry and public authorities outside the university. A high degree of staff members maintains double affiliations and there are ample opportunities to examine current societal challenges. Last but not least, the committee observed a strong sense of coherence, unity and strategic management to be present at the faculty.

In its report the committee also touched upon a number of subjects that require attention. The faculty should work on clarifying the relationship between the formal management structure and the research programme structure. In addition, the faculty should also remain vigilant on the success rate of their PhD students while having a critical look on the PhD course programme. Last but not least, the faculty will have to take action to realize more gender balanced and diverse environments, teams and committees. The Executive Board will discuss these points with the management of the faculty.

Together with the faculty, the board will explore the options to address the expressed needs for increased facilities as well as the need for appropriate indicators to assess the quality of research programmes. In line with the observations of the committee, the board applauds and recognizes the steady signs of quality improvement made by the faculty since the previous review.

On behalf of the Executive Board of Delft University of Technology,



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