

# How do students see the faculty A?

Theses and key points developed in the open-space workshop on 20th June 2013

## 1. "Brand Bauhaus"

### QUESTIONS:

- How do man study at the Bauhaus-University today in comparison to the Bauhaus of the past?
- Is the name "Bauhaus" only a label; what is really behind it? What is it supposed to mean in our opinion?

### POSSIBLE ANSWERS:

- The State Bauhaus was an institution with answers to the questions of that time:
  - high relevance
  - Methods and results were / are regarded as revolutionary
  - different and "out of the box"
  - an interdisciplinary workshop

### Approaches to the resurgence of the "Bauhaus thought"

- Institute for Experimental Construction (IFEB) answers this approach (this corresponds principles within the Faculty of A)
  - Experiment with other residential and urban forms, building materials and possibilities of architectural design.
- Interdisciplinary use of the workshops
  - workshops should be open to all students of the Bauhaus-University
- Highest possible practical experience (e.g. participation in "real" competition procedures → professional experience, tighter view of reality, solutions of the nowadays problems!)
- Creation of freely selectable interdisciplinary courses:
  - Bachelor: recognition of interdisciplinary courses
  - Master: cross-faculty offers in the sense of Archineering and MediaArchitecture; degree of specialization on Arch + Design; Where is Urbanistic?
  - Greater possibility of interdepartmental elective modules in different areas (e.g. interior design, set design, specializations in baukonstruktiven and static fields, etc.)

## 2. Teaching

### QUESTIONS:

- Why did we apply to Weimar and start our study?
  - University has a good reputation (Which role does the name "Bauhaus" play?)
  - Courses are small, i.e. Candidates hoping for a better support
- How do students perceive the curricula?
  - Students mention broad area of education
  - at the Bauhaus University internationality is strongly emphasized

### PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS:

- Cooperation of the Faculties of Architecture and Urbanism: too little programs-overlapping offers (also due to the timetables and the credits recognition)
- Names of professorships: It is difficult to determine what is specialty of each professorships; students want clearer information / profiles
- Internationality is not as good as Bauhaus University displays:
  - Integration of international students in the courses is not enough; Do many German-language courses cause the language barriers?
  - for example, the international applicants are often "sorted" by nations, "Internationals" often forced to stay in the groups they belong to.
- Selection of core modules and elective modules: Students want more practical and realistic core module topics related to up-to-date priorities (see the desire to participate in actual competitions)
- Research and training opportunities for academic staff: for various reasons, it is rarely possible for scientific staff to perceive such offers; students lack the promotion to the scientific staff ("trickle-down" effect is missing)
- lack of interdisciplinarity and its support (Note, simplify the credits recognition)

### 3. Research

#### QUESTIONS:

- What challenges students in the field of research?
  - Activities in the research field shall be published (transparency)
  - Students have regrettably little knowledge of research opportunities at the Bauhaus University: Research is currently isolated, the "what / how / who" is not disclosed

#### PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS:

- There are no semester conference in the faculty of architecture, where teachers could present their research
  - Presentation of the research themes by professors at the conference at the beginning of semester of the academic year
  - lecture series during the academic year
  - Research projects of the teachers to be presented at "summaery" at the end of the academic year
- integrate research into teaching (or vice versa): overlapping and possible cooperation
  - collaboration of the teachers with the students
  - "Self research" from the beginning of the study (currently only in development at the Bachelor thesis) to teach the students: to keep the level of the demand.
- Interdisciplinarity
  - within all the research institutes of all at the Bauhaus-University

### 4. Thuringian Higher Education Policy

#### QUESTIONS:

- How should the student accept the political requirements (in terms of strengthening profile)?
- Do the strengthened profile is only "marketing campaign" of the universities?
- What is the background of all budget cuts and reallocations?

- How can students resist against the reduction in the budget?

#### APPROACHES:

- Students could go protest: Students are unhappy with budget cuts
  - Network of Thuringia students: knowledge how do other colleges form profiles? Do they built it together? Perhaps more actions?
  - Students go to protest: Ideas regarding signature lists, lecture hall blockades, demonstrations, etc.
  - Set call that positive self-presentation in starched profiles is also observed / carried out (eg evaluation in 2-3 years, as promises were implemented?)
  - Students are concerned about a utopia Faculty A or BUW: Future Workshop (also together with lecturers)