

## Gusberti, Kim

---

**From:** Tony Radford [aradford@arch.adelaide.edu.au]  
**Sent:** 21 December 1999 17:27  
**To:** architects@pc.gov.au  
**Cc:** ltravar@arch.adelaide.edu.au  
**Subject:** Submission to Productivity Commission Architects Inquiry



Productivity  
Commission UniAdn.



ATT12068.txt

eSafe Protect Gateway (tm) has scanned this mail for viruses, vandals and suspicious attachments and has found it to be CLEAN.

File: Productivity Commiss (34,816 bytes)  
Encoding: Base64  
Result: Clean.

---

Productivity Commission  
Architects Inquiry

I attach a submission to the Inquiry as a Microsoft Word document. Please inform me if you have any difficulty in reading this file, or if you would like me to mail a hardcopy.

Regards,  
Antony Radford



**THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE**  
School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Design

21 December 1999

**SUBMISSION TO THE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION  
ARCHITECTS INQUIRY**

Prepared by

Antony Radford  
Dean, and  
Lyn Travar  
Lecturer in Architectural Practice and Management



This submission is confined to two issues that are particularly important for the maintenance of an effective and innovative system of architectural education in Australia, including the attraction of overseas students.

**(1) International recognition of the standing of Australian architects.**

The architectural marketplace has largely been driven by demand rather than supply and the future marketplace is very much more global than domestic.

Australian architects and architectural offices have exported their services very successfully overseas, despite extreme difficulties in many countries in satisfying local requirements. It is therefore paramount that acknowledgment is given in the inquiry to the international portability of the professional status of Australian Architects, as well as ensuring that reciprocal arrangements are negotiated with our major trading partners, and that these arrangements have an equity of standards between participating countries.

Schools of architecture in Australia have similarly been very successful in attracting fee-paying overseas students to their courses. This is despite intense overseas competition, particularly from the UK and US and a growing domestic range of courses in countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore from which overseas students have been traditionally attracted. In recent years students have come from a broader geographic range, notably India and Africa but including Europe and North and South America. The viability of this architectural education "industry" depends on international recognition of the standing of Australian architects and authoritative accreditation of Australian architecture schools.

---

Dean: Professor Antony Radford

Australia 5005

Telephone: +61 8 8303 5475 Facsimile +61 8 8303 4377

Email aradford@arch.adelaide.edu.au Web: <http://www.arch.adelaide.edu.au>

**(2) A national system of recognition of the standing of architects practicing in Australia.**

Architects by the nature of their training develop distinctive skills as problem solvers in synthesising complex requirements into three-dimensional forms. It is the only profession that considers all aspects of the relationship between culture, society and the built environment, and leads in the innovation and the promotion to the community of nationally significant issues such as energy efficiency and ecological sustainability. There is a definite benefit to the community in continuing to formally recognise and communicate this distinction through a system of recognition of the standing of architects practicing in Australia. This is additional to the protection provided by current legislation in ensuring architectural services are of a particular standard and delivered by appropriately qualified individuals.

However, the current differences between State legislation create unnecessary restrictions on the practice of architecture across state boundaries or at a national level. These restrictions impose consequent additional time and costs in administration for both regulating bodies and architects. This time and cost is non-productive and provides no additional benefit to the community. Therefore a national system of recognition is strongly supported. There is adequate national overview and consensus both in the architectural education sector and professional associations such as the RAIA, to confidently adopt a national system of recognition of the standing of architects.