

## **Thesis Abstract**

**Name:** Mohammed Nasser Juaim  
**Title:** A Framework for the Identification and Communication of Client and User Requirements to Design Teams  
**Major Field:** Architectural Engineering  
**Date of Degree:** December, 2010

Recent international research indicated that there is lack of a systematic and comprehensive framework for architectural programming. The study also revealed that current practices of architectural programming in Saudi Arabia are not really effective in providing a clear definition and understanding of the clients and projects requirements. The study confirms that there is a need to develop a standard methodology (framework model) that projects' programmers can adapt to professional architectural programming practice. The objectives of this thesis were to identify the factors which influence the process of developing and implementing the architectural program for buildings projects, and to develop architectural programming framework model that aim at capturing the process of properly identifying and communicating client and user requirements to design teams, and to assess the identified factors which influence the process of developing and implementing the architectural program for building projects in Saudi Arabia. Twenty-eight factors which influence the process of developing and implementing the architectural program were identified. Framework model for architectural programming was developed based on knowledge from international literature, observed professional practice and mainly the identified factors. The assessment of the identified 28 factors is critical to investigate the applicability of the developed framework in Saudi Arabia. The identified 28 factors were assessed through distributing the questionnaire survey to A/E offices from the Eastern Province, Riyadh and Jeddah as well as owners' representatives that located in Saudi Arabia. The assessment results confirm the importance of the identified factors where all factors were assessed either extremely important or very important or important. The developed framework can be applied locally in Saudi Arabia and can be adapted for any project type and by the two types of project programmers (external consultants and in-house staff).

**Master of Science Degree  
King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals  
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia  
December, 2010**

