

1. SMU BRAS BASAH CITY CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PHASE 1A

a) Project Outline

The Singapore Management University (SMU)'s new city campus at the Bras Basah area will be developed over a site of 6 parcels clustered in and around the civic and cultural district.

b) Project Schedule

Under Phase 1A of the SMU City Campus development, the following would be developed:

- Li Ka Shing Library
- School of Accountancy
- School of Business
- School of Economics and Social Sciences
- School of Information Systems / Campus Centre
- Administration Building

c) Building Facilities in Project Phase 1A

The facilities in the university buildings are developed in accordance to SMU's Spatial Program Phase 1A as follows:

Teaching Facilities (Classrooms)

- Seminar Tiered Classrooms
- Seminar Flat-floor Classrooms
- Group Study / Break-out Rooms
- Research Centres
- Art, Drama and Music Studios

Laboratory Facilities

- Business Communication Laboratories
- Science Laboratories
- Student Technopreneur Laboratories
- Language Laboratories
- Communication Studies Centre

Support Facilities

- Library
- Reading Rooms
- Campus Centre
- Administrative and Faculty Offices
- Executive Education Centre
- Lecture Theatres / Auditorium
- Campus Support Facilities
- Students' Clubs
- Multi-Purpose Hall, Fitness Centre
- Premises for Cafes, Deli, Food Court, Bookshop, Convenience Store, Computer Shop, Medical Clinic

d) Design Development of Phase 1A

2 teams of architects have been appointed by SMU and they are:

- Edward Cullinan Architects and KNTA Architects - for the development of the Li Ka Shing Library, School of Information Systems/Campus Centre, School of Accountancy, School of Business, and School of Economics and Social Sciences.
- Cox Architects and Planners and DEG Architects - for the development of the Administration Building.

2. DESIGN REPORT FOR THE SMU CITY CAMPUS BY KNTA ARCHITECTS / EDWARD CULLINAN ARCHITECTS

a) Master Planning Principles

The design team for the City Campus has been applying the master planning principles adopted to the design of the individual new buildings. These original principles can be briefly summarized as:

- The important historical buildings and landmarks that engage with the site set up axial connections to a necklace of campus buildings.
- Each of the buildings has an open courtyard extending from below street level to roof level.
- These open courtyards at the heart of each building are linked through the concourse level, reinforcing the axial connections.
- There are three tiers of landscape: at concourse, street and roof levels.
- Designed sheltered courts, porous buildings criss-crossed by breezeways, overhanging facades and strengthened shading to improve microclimate conditions.
- The design of the individual buildings is in response to their particular context, while collectively they are woven together to create a lively connected campus in the unique setting of Fort Canning and the Bras Basah Green.

b) Implementing the Master Plan

These notes set down the key developments in the design which adhere to the principles established in the competition submission:

- (1) A route has been established at concourse level across campus with a planned connection to the new Museum MRT Station and possible future connections to the City Hall and Dhoby Ghaut MRT Stations. This basement air-conditioned linkway protects the users from the elements, allowing users to move under cover from one end of the campus to the other. This route enjoys views into the open courtyards that connect the concourse up to street, park and campus facilities.
- (2) The three main materials of the buildings are stone, glass and metal, to give the qualities of texture and transparency to the activities of SMU.
- (3) At the heart of the campus, the Li Ka Shing Library and the School of Information Systems / Campus Centre form a special relationship with the Art Museum and History

Museum, each fronting one side of the green. As the historic institutions are full of character, their new neighbours are also designed as vigorous, individual buildings.

- (4) The campus is designed to be in harmony with its existing landscape setting. Existing trees are preserved where practical and new trees added along street frontages to shade the main pedestrian routes. Buildings are therefore always seen against a foreground of trees with the park landscape beyond.
- (5) The central green space has been organized to form simple calm routes and shaded places using open grass areas, paved pathways and water in different expressions, with new and existing trees providing shade.
- (6) A combination of stepped street facades with canopies offer shade and shelter.
- (7) The buildings that overlook the Bras Basah green have glazed facades that are shaded by a veil of plants growing from each storey level in response to the west orientation. These 'green walls' have softer curving forms appropriate to their natural setting.
- (8) Roofs are finished in natural clay tiles to harmonize with the roofscape of surrounding historic buildings.

In summary, the design team has responded to the diversity of historical, cultural and physical landmarks in the Bras Basah district to make modern contextual buildings.