

Additional Questions and Answers

The brief only schedules studio spaces for 400 graduate students out of a projected number of 640, and no studio spaces at all for undergraduates. Are these remaining students expected to work from home or to find a space at associated faculties? Or will it be possible to temporarily designate e.g. informal teaching spaces to become additional studio spaces, as needed?

The brief currently allows for 12-15 spaces each of 75m² able to accommodate groups of 16-25 students. These spaces would be booked for multiple classes throughout the week, enabling them to be used for both undergraduate and graduate teaching. Graduate students are likely to have the option of using a dedicated desk, with approximately 1 in 5 (130) anticipated to do so, which would be located in a space separate to the studio teaching spaces. Precise allocations for dedicated and multi-use spaces will be determined during the briefing phase.

The brief emphasizes the opportunities of cross-teaching within the framework of a multi-faculty program. Are specialized studios/tutorial rooms to be provided for the use by students of associated faculties? Or would this be covered by the "research studios" defined in the program? To what extent are multi-faculty activities to be integrated or separated from the general teaching spaces of the School of Design?

Spaces for 'cross-faculty' teaching are currently available in the form of centrally-booked spaces (unlike studio spaces, which are controlled by the faculty). Similar spaces would be incorporated into the new building, and are distinct from the research studio-type spaces. These could be located either separate to or connected with teaching spaces for the School of Design within the new building.

Are all of the studio/teaching spaces defined as “invited” areas as given in the brief or could some of them be allowed to be temporarily accessible to visitors or the public view, e.g. as a public crit space?

A high level of flexibility for studio spaces is desired, including the possibility that they be accessible to visitors for exhibitions of student work and/or ‘public’ crit space.

According to the brief, both RHDS-Studios and Research Studios seem to give similar demands to a secluded position within the program, a reflective atmosphere and the qualification of the users. Are these spaces interchangeable or usable by both groups, i.e. researchers and higher degree students?

A strict separation between academic spaces, research spaces, and RHD spaces is not required for the purposes of the competition. A secluded or reflective space could be accessed by all members of the faculty engaged in research.

Can the activities in the RHDS/Research areas be made (visually) accessible to other design students?

Strong visual connection between all parts of the building, including the RHD/Research areas, is desired.

As spaces for RHDS, Research and Faculty Staff are designated to specialized user groups, are the access-points to these areas to be separated from general circulation or could/should they be tangent to public circulation?

The issue of security for Staff and RHD students will be determined in more detail during the briefing phase, however access points to these areas should readily identifiable from general circulation areas.

Is it possible to obtain an elevation dwg of the old commerce building?

An elevation drawing of the Heritage Façade is not currently available. Entrants are asked to generate their own sketch drawing or virtual model of this element for the purposes of the competition. The accuracy of such sketches will not form part of the Jury assessment; it will be understood that such sketches are indicative only and that a measured drawing can be undertaken following selection of the preferred architectural consultant.

As we found the given site model inconsistent with the real site- could we submit our own 3D site model?

Entrants may use their own site model in preference to one provided.