Creating St Andrew’s Future

The Council has continued to develop the Master Plan for the necessary infrastructure that supports the College’s vision to create a collegial community in which our students can develop the talents and skills that will enable them to be leaders in whichever field they choose.

We are committed to giving able young people, from diverse backgrounds including rural, regional and government schools, the opportunity to enhance their university experience. We have, over the past several years, been in the fortunate position of having four to five times more quality applicants than places at College. This has put us in the difficult position of having to turn away many young people who would benefit greatly from, and contribute to, the collegial experience we offer.

Working with Tanner Kibble Denton Architects, we have been developing an architectural plan that will increase the undergraduate community from 249 students to approximately 300 and develop a cohort of approximately 80 postgraduate students, plus 30 resident academics, bringing the College’s community to approximately 400 residents. Experience in Australia and overseas shows us that a community of this size will remain collegiate whilst also allowing us to give more students the benefit of a high quality university learning and living experience.

The plans for the Stage 1 Development Application (DA) have now been submitted to the City of Sydney Council. The plans have been through an extensive development process within the Council’s Major Works Committee and we received positive feedback from the City of Sydney Design Advisory Panel in July.

The buildings that are under consideration as part of the Development Application include:

Northern Buildings

This will consist of a complex of two buildings including accommodation and health or higher education research facilities. The first building, within the College grounds, will provide accommodation for graduate students and academic staff. This larger cohort of graduates will allow the College to develop a diverse and vibrant Middle Common Room.

The second building is, due to its position on Missenden Road, unsuitable for accommodation. The College will develop a partnership with either the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital or the University of Sydney to provide health or higher education research facilities. This will not only provide the College with revenue that will help secure our financial future, it will also deliver health-related services to the wider community and support education and medical research. This will be done by some form of lease arrangement as the College Council has declared that it will not be selling any land.
Eastern Building
There is strong demand for low cost student accommodation in Newtown. The College will assist the University of Sydney to meet this ongoing need by providing a building, facing Western Avenue, for up to 200 students. This residence will be for those who prefer self-catered accommodation, rather than the full collegial experience. The building will be situated on the site of the Dougan Lodge, which will be demolished, requiring a new Principal’s residence to be built adjacent to the Harper Building.

Thyne and Reid Buildings
The Thyne and Reid Buildings will be joined by a link along the Carillon Avenue boundary that will provide additional undergraduate bedrooms, tutorial rooms, a gym and other common spaces. In addition, three stories will be added to the Reid building to provide en-suite rooms for senior students.

Learning and Performing Arts Building
From tutorials that assist with university studies through to gaining insight into other cultures and points of view through practicing art and engaging with new ideas, college-life gives students the chance to experience many forms of learning. This building, which will complete the South West corner quadrangle, will provide dedicated learning and arts facilities to the College and wider community.

A key strength of the Master Plan is that it complements the existing collegial community and campus structures. In particular the strong lines of Main Building have been taken into consideration to guide the placement of the new buildings. Great care has been taken to ensure that the historical features and facades are retained as well as sightlines from the College Oval up to the Main building.

What comes next?
While the DA is considered by the City of Sydney, Council will determine the order in which this plan will be implemented. In such an ambitious building program it is important to balance the financial considerations with the impact construction will have on residents.

We look forward to sharing the Master Plan with you as it develops and gaining your feedback. This is a significant change to the College and we want your input.

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