

REFELCTION 4

## Reflection

1. Summary: How can The Hague's new campus be a dynamic, cross-disciplinary forum between the public, industry and politics that promotes practical learning and real-world application?

Horizontally, the design integrates adjacent governmental buildings, international organizations, schools, and industry groups by limiting or rerouting traffic, creating connecting elements between buildings, establishing new parks, and proposing strategically placed pavilions to activate street-level spaces.

Vertically, the design blends with this horizontal plane through a seamless indoor-outdoor transition, and a network of interior "streets" across all towers. The design features a modular, adaptable design suited for dynamic use and future changes. A dynamic grid system responds to programmatic spatial needs. It employs an architectural system that integrates various programs leading to multiple spatial configurations from large halls for workshops or event spaces to smaller, densely packed study and research areas. Each area can be compared to a city's layout, with different plot sizes and specialized buildings depending on the users' needs, offering unique qualities which are designed based on relevant learning methods reflecting the diverse users and ways of learning.

These more specialized spaces connect to plaza-like areas within the building where the arrangement of programs is broken up. They serve as communal hubs for sharing knowledge and encouraging social connections. These are the heart project and called the marketplaces of the campus, where knowledge and programs intersect – encouraging interdisciplinary work.

In summary, the project proposes a seamlessly combined horizontal, city-integrated campus with a vertical university building. In both dimensions, the campus functions as a network where the public, politics, and industry intersect. The proposal directly translates an agenda based on the potential and shortcomings of university teaching and the unique qualities and limitations of the location into the built environment.

2. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

The approach to university teaching is translated into architecture with a strong emphasis on sustainability, resiliency, multiplicity, and hybridity. This aligns with the Public Building Graduation Studio's exploration of new vertical campus types, its core values, and contributes to the broader discourse on embedding educational environments in contemporary cities.

Sustainability: The design utilizes sustainable construction featuring wooden structures, circular design principles, rainwater collection, green roofs, decentralized ventilation, and pedestrian-friendly spaces. It also involves industry partners to nurture emerging talents and repurposes nearby underutilized spaces. A sustainable

approach is demonstrated from start to finish in this project, responding to the climate urgency and shift in European legislature.

Resilience: The campus incorporates reversible connections, adaptable layouts, exposed construction elements, and intelligent detailing for future modifications. This flexible, holistic system ensures the building can adapt to changing needs without extensive overhauls. A university building should be able to quickly adapt to changing needs, especially when it serves as a public center.

Multiplicity: The design features diverse spaces developed with varied learning methods, making each unique and effective. The development of the surrounding area and the utilization of neighboring buildings and institutions further enhance this multifaceted approach.

Hybridity: The project merges educational, public, political, and industrial functions, creating a dynamic hub for interdisciplinary activities and community interaction. It connects seamlessly with The Hague's central governmental and international zone, offering a hybrid program for people of all ages.

3. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.

Social Relevance: The thesis demonstrates how a university can become the cornerstone of public life in a society increasingly shifting toward the digital realm.

The university campus design transforms urban space by integrating a previously divided area, promoting inclusivity and diversity. By replacing car-dominated areas with parks, open spaces, and public venues at street level, the design creates a pedestrian-friendly environment that encourages community interaction. This approach combats social isolation and enhances urban vitality, reflecting successful developments in major European cities where a people centered design is more and more adopted.

Professional Relevance: The design positions the campus as a catalyst for urban and societal transformation, highlighting the significant impact of architectural innovation on city development instead of isolated, self-centered design approaches often seen in contemporary architecture. Incorporating educational, political and professional functions, the campus is a dynamic, public space for political debate and professional discourse. This strategy effectively addresses misinformation and counters populism through direct communication and the exchange of ideas. This demonstrates the role and ability of the profession in aiding and shaping public discourse and policy development.

Scientific Relevance: The design encourages and integrates a new urban development approach. It is informed by current scientific research in sustainable architecture, environmental psychology and user interaction research. These are integrated into the spatial arrangement to ensure effective spaces for learning and social interaction.

## Conclusion

This graduation project reimagines the physical layout of a university campus and proposes the development of a vibrant urban heart and interdisciplinary educational hub. The design incorporates spatial strategies and sustainable practices making it relevant within the social, professional, and scientific frameworks.

