

Cosmopolitan

Connecting the worlds of academia and city

Prologue

As the word 'campus' literally translates to 'field', its traditional spatial model follows the construction of a series of standalone buildings surrounding an open rectangular field. Such campuses often are enclaves outside of the city, characterized by isolation and a lack of interplay between the city and the academic world. This project rethinks the interplay between these two worlds, prioritising a two-sided connection where both parties contribute to and benefit from each other.

Mass evolution



Context

The project takes place in The Hague. The city envisions an extreme increase in density in the city center, with the Central Station area as its focal point due to the availability of a multimodal mobility network, fostering the development of hybrid buildings. So far, this increase in density has reflected in a cluster of high-rise buildings surrounding the Central Station, enriching the variety of structures that define the area. These high-rises, mostly housing government offices, are bordered on one side by low-rise buildings that are primarily residential, and on the other by the old city center. In contradiction to this plan of densification, The Hague values and preserves its green area of Koekamp, Malieveld, and Haagse Bos in front of the Central Station.

Even though this area holds so many prominent features, their potential is mostly left unused as the area has a very disconnected urban fabric, caused by a large boundary that is Bezuidenhoutseweg. **1** Buildings of different scale

Different scales in buildings promote movement in the public realm, and allow for vertical and horizontal connections between campus and city

2 Shaped footprints

Curved footprints along the main walking paths in the urban fabric allow for the building to integrate in the area

3 Connective center, in-between spaces

The circular shape intended to create multiple sightlines for the users to be more aware of their surroundings, and foster connectivity and collaboration

Urban context





Design goal

The design goal is to create a public vertical campus that integrates seamlessly into The Hague's urban fabric, fostering social, cultural and economic vitality. The design will enrich the city through three key pillars:

Connectivity:

Refers to the physical and social links between campus and the surrounding urban fabric. It is achieved by creating attractive public spaces that invite participation from the public, and encourage interaction between different user groups.

Collaboration:

Refers to the cooperation and engagement between various user groups, bridging the gap between academic community and broader city population. It is achieved by providing shared spaces, where people can engage in joint activities and exchange knowledge.

Performance:

Refers to result-driven achievements, presenting campus as a contributor to innovation and economic growth. It is achieved by creating dedicated working spaces, where people can focus on specific and professional initiatives.

