

Buchanan Courtyards – Draft Principles
2009-06-02

Proposed Principles	Strategies
<p>Support the activities and features desired by the user community</p> <p>Express the identity of the Arts by showcasing the culture, collections, research and learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the concept design against the user voting results from Workshop 1 (user directions and activities) • West courtyard: provide for activities relevant to the Arts Faculty; provide places for socializing • East Courtyard: provide for solitary/quiet activities
<p>Foster memory of the past and awareness of our campus landscape history by conserving important heritage values.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a conservation plan as part of the design process. • Buildings and landscape should read as a single entity (eg. similar geometries, proportions and imagibility). <p>West Courtyard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for the following adaptive re-uses to conserve the civic nature of the space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A “Centre for Art” ○ Exhibition and performances ○ Celebrations ○ Café activity ○ Amenities – eg. water feature • Reference the historic connection of the courtyard with the landscape to the north. Provide a social connection with the Chan centre • Preserve the sense of enclosure – provide connections (physical, visual and perceptual) north and south (under building); resolve the connection at the northeast corner; consider appropriate uses of west rooms of Block C • Incorporate the memory of water and its reflection of civic nature (i.e. reinstatement or re-invention of the reflection pool using simple geometric lines and low lying shoulder) • Qualities of the café should portray a serious, civic space for the university. Designs to support this should be considered in seating, lighting (to support small groups), acoustics, materials, shelter, degree of flexibility). <p>East Courtyard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memorial trees should support the quiet introverted nature of the space. Their exact location is not critical. • Design interventions are open to reinvention

<p>Respect existing uses and ensure activities do not have an undue impact on indoor activities (e.g. noise management)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit the west courtyard noise to day-to-day café noise • Formalize event approval process (staff and AUS) • Schedule amplified performances for “off hours” • Manage noise through technology (eg. diffusers, speaker locations) • Provide audio for movies etc. in west courtyard through radio/ wi-fi headphones • Locate performance noise away from Block B and C (e.g. north of the west courtyard) • Make a multi-use platform instead of a formal stage and seating • Limit vehicular access to courtyards • Reduce cart noise through smooth paving surfaces • Note: building upgrades will enhance acoustic performance through double glazed office windows and fan white noise for classrooms
<p>Balance the technical requirements with user needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize durable and high quality materials to minimize maintenance costs and vandalism • Provide low maintenance plantings, furniture and materials • Incorporate life cycle costs into choice of materials and design • Approach stormwater management and solutions to drainage issues in ways that conserve resources and support learning
<p>Foster on-going support for Arts focused programming of the courtyards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a “University Circle”/” Buchanan Circle” to manage and direct programming
<p>*Apply the design principles from the Public Realm Plan not covered by the above</p>	