

Monash University's Caulfield Campus



Photo by Andrew Lloyd-Getsu Kasumi

Type of action: Playgrounds / long term action

Type of solutions: Sport based solution

Location of the Good Practice: Caulfield, Melbourne, Australia

Designer/s: Lisa Howard, Scott Adams, Alexa Ongoco in collaboration with Agatha Gothe-Snape.

Investor/s: Monash University

Extension of the area: 1 HA

Rational and overall scope of the intervention

The design is based on the distinctively intimate feeling of the campus to encourage a 'fertile soil' for the exchange of ideas, socialization, imagination, reflection and reverence; an environment for the cultivation of mind and body.

From the formal and structural point of view of the entire area,

What was once a confusing street and parking is now a generous walk and water that provides a real sense of arrival at campus. The central water column serves as a rainwater treatment and collection system, tells the story of Monash University's pioneering research on water-sensitive cities, and refers to the original wetlands that occupied the area.

Target groups addressed and related needs

Students, researchers, school staff and citizens.

Community engagement process / Participatory process

architecture students at Monash Art Design and Architecture (MADA) and the University of Kassel, Germany

Description of the designing/co-designing process

Creative collaboration is rife on the recently completed one-hectare Monash University Caulfield Campus Green in Melbourne. Most noticeably, the Taylor Cullity Lethlean (TCL) landscape masterplan incorporates Agatha Gothe-Snape's large utilitarian artwork, The Scheme was a Blueprint for Future Development Programs (2015); the Sound Shell performance space by Mesne Design Studio with whole-of-project involvement by architecture students at Monash Art Design and Architecture (MADA) and the University of Kassel, Germany;

Description of technologies and material used for works

The main elements are made of stone and wood, the large lawn was made in a very short time through the application of grass in rolls.

Also interesting is the use of rainwater recycling tanks enriched with sought-after native essences.

Jacaranda trees within the decking provide dappled shade and a distinct identity for the campus.

Jacaranda is a plant native to Argentina and Bolivia, it is able to provide a lot of shade due to the shape of its canopy and that of the leaves, which are very large, (20-30 cm) and multipennate. The flowering is also suggestive: its flowers are tubulari-campanuliform (in the shape of an elongated and curved bell), of color from light blue to lilac, collected in very decorative groups at the end of the branches. The flowering is early, at the beginning of the hot season, and affects much of the foliage, in the absence or almost the leaves.

Impact on the place aesthetics

The new event lawn and associated terrace is now the centrepiece to the campus. The slightly sunken lawn is a platform for organised events, throughout the year as well as green respite from the busy road network beyond the campus doors.

The elegant deck terrace with a northerly aspect offers opportunities for passive outdoor activity, cafe tables, chairs and spill out activity from adjacent buildings. Jacaranda trees within the decking provide dappled shade and a distinct identity for the campus.

Impact on the community wellbeing

The retrained place offers more stimuli to dedicate yourself to physical activity, and guarantees a safe and beautiful space in which you can relax, meet and socialize.

Impact on the community inclusion

Also designed and built for this purpose, the place provides several clean and safe spaces in which there are no barriers of any kind.

Coherence with sustainable development goals

What was once a confusing road and car park is now a generous promenade and water feature providing a real sense of arrival to the campus. The central spine acts as a storm water treatment and harvesting system A water sensitive urban design feature by environmental consultant DesignFlow. The Green also displays the continued successful partnership of TCL and Paul Thompson in creating landscapes featuring ecotypic mass plantings of Australian

natives.



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Potential of improving people's health: High.

Level of creativity: High.

Attention to gender equality and inclusion: High..

Aesthetic impact on the urban environment: Very high

Level of sustainability: Very high.

Links to sources

<https://landscapeaustralia.com/articles/a-graphic-approach-monash-caulfield/>

<https://tcl.net.au/projects/monash-university-caulfield-campus-green>

https://www.monash.edu/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1574491/2019-0305_ProjectSheets_Caulfield-Campus-Green.pdf