

Fact sheet three

## Architecture to inspire young minds



ACU's proposed development is more than bricks and mortar. We want to create inspiring spaces that facilitate learning inside and outside of the classroom, and make a substantial contribution to the architectural character of Fitzroy. To that end, we engaged renowned architects Lyons to guide our campus improvements.

Lyons has more than 20 years of experience in significant buildings in the public sector working on institutional projects for universities, hospitals and local councils. Their projects are uniquely bespoke and award-winning.

### **Our brief:**

We wanted an architectural solution with the student as the priority, with flexible teaching, learning and collaborative spaces.

We wanted architecture to respond to the needs of students, teachers and researchers, while also contributing positively to the immediate neighbourhood and surrounding built form.



*Proposed works as viewed from Victoria Parade*



*A new triangular building and public-use green space on Young Street*

*More overleaf →*

We asked for a welcoming, inviting campus, open to people of all faiths and no faiths, incorporating gardens, greenery and art. Our aim is to create a lively and energetic space that portrays the aspirations of the University and all those who learn, work or visit the campus.

**The response:**

Lyons has developed a proposal that seeks to transform the eastern edge of the campus on the corner of Victoria Parade and Napier Street from a flat carpark into a dynamic new academic building that will fill this corner with ACU's tremendous energy of teaching and learning.

The new building will be functionally integrated with the Mary Glowrey Building and together these buildings will create a vibrant vertical campus, where all levels of the building are engaging for students providing both formal and informal settings for learning and collaboration.

This vertical campus will provide many opportunities for students and staff to access external terrace gardens with places for group seating and student gathering.

From the ground plane right through to the upper levels of the building it will be a porous design, easy to access and move through, providing access from Victoria Parade and Napier Street through the new heart of campus in Young street. All these transition spaces will have an emphasis on the quality of the student experience and a focus on public openness.

The new building will respect and enhance the interface with Napier Street, creating an exciting series of spaces that will visually activate this urban corner.

On Napier Street the building form will step back to remove the mass from the streetscape.

At Young Street, the design completely transforms the current multi-deck carpark site for a large landscape space surrounding a three-storey lecture theatre and an underground student hub space.

This will open up a new gardened campus area that hasn't previously been available for passive use.

Good architecture should vigorously respond to the aspirations and needs of its users and to create spaces that energise and add value to the urban environment and neighboring context.

We hope this this project will create a foundation on the campus that will facilitate the inspiration of future generations of students, teachers and researchers at ACU.

---

**More information**

For more information and for updates as the planning process continues, please visit [www.acu.edu.au](http://www.acu.edu.au)