**Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen) Phase II**

**Schematic Design and Architectural Design Development Proposal by rggA**

It should be said that rgg Architects supports the first masterplan decisions as a holistic approach but at the same time we thought that it was not connected well with the existing green area. Through the analyses rgg Architects has made for the second phase of the masterplan, we observed that all the proposed buildings can be described as “introverted structures”, not extroverted buildings and they don’t give a direct connection to the forest. More specifically, most of the buildings have internal courtyards that can’t penetrate with the green environment as flowing as possible. In this manner, rgg Architects’ design scheme for the Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen) Phase II Schematic Design and Architectural Design Development is based on strengthen the whole green infrastructure that is seen as inadequate in the first phase of the masterplan designed as an educational campus.

In this regard, rgg Architects’ proposed scheme aims for the masterplan to design buildings that may be able to act as “urban catalysts” to connect these phase I and phase II in a much more connected way. Further, the proposed buildings in the second phase will catalyst the overall masterplan and will enable them to be perceived in the city scale as much as effective way.

Therefore, rgg Architects presents the idea of **“​​habitat bridges”** as integrated structures to combine them with the other structures of the existing campus. Throughout the plan, these habitat bridges are also used both to combine with the existing alleys and connect the them to the forest. They also enable to enrich **alternative recreation scenarios** by cutting the proposed main planning axis perpendicular to the upper level. That means, the ground floor circulation is somehow elevated and provides an access to the natural forest.

Moreover, rgg Architects aim to propose the buildings in a much more controlled scale in the second phase of the masterplan, reflecting the atmosphere of teaching and education itself in which embody the sense of time and enable a diverse and rich campus life in international standards.

While doing that, the architects’ design proposal continues the existing social life that occurs through the alleys and the buildings and it also connects this natural life to the Habitat Bridges to create a continuous loop between these two lives. Besides that, rgg Architects aim to deal with the natural topography and the local climate conditions of the context, while adapting it to the interior design and the new structures since the habitat bridges are aimed to be designed with a new structural language to stimulate the whole campus as a new way of access.

**Habitat Bridges will be “propagating spaces” of the campus**

The proposed habitat bridges will accommodate a new life and public space to students and visitors for whom want to perceive the campus in a new way. Designed as a vivid and dynamic space for not only students but also for visitors, the bridges will also house a plenty of lush vegetation, various kinds of local plants, urban fixtures, bicycle and walking pathways. The main aim of these bridges is to activate the whole campus with new type of structure that provides a minimum footprint and lift up for the circulation to the upper level within the campus. Thanks to these bridges, students and new visitors will be able to perceive the campus in a new dimension and liveable way, as well as its tranformative force with an unfamiliar aesthetic rather than a static physical implementations to the campus. The Habitat Bridges will be **living organisms** of the campus.

Project facts

Project name: Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen) Phase II Schematic Design and Architectural Design Development Proposal

Architect: rgg Architects

Location: Shenzhen, China

Client: Engineering Design Management Center of Bureau of Public Works of Shenzhen Municipality, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen)

Design date: 2019

Images: rggA

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Project team

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