

James McCune Smith Learning Hub University of Glasgow



Higher Education Design Quality Forum

The University of Glasgow is undertaking an ambitious expansion programme that will further enhance its global standing and provide a positive impact on the community. The design of the learning and teaching hub has been inspired and driven by user consultation, emphasising the student experience to provide an environment that is open and accessible for all.

The new hub creates a signature gateway building that sits at the heart of a conservation area and provides state-of-the-art facilities for over 2,500 students in a highly sustainably BREEAM Excellent facility.

Its mixture of lecture theatres, small group rooms, breakout and study

areas reflects a growing trend in making faculty areas more bespoke and focussing general teaching in a shared learning hub that embraces new teaching pedagogies and optimises space utilisation.

New learning pedagogies were trialled in a series of pilot rooms which enabled HLM to work with academics to test new approaches such as flipped classrooms and TEAL spaces and define the FF&E and IT needed to support this. The resultant scheme improves cohesiveness and connectivity across the campus in a building that showcases formal and informal learning and teaching through a welcoming, open environment encouraging students to linger – a sticky campus.

Location: Glasgow, Scotland

Scope: New build

Brief: Signature gateway building sitting at the heart of a conservation area providing state of the art learning and teaching facilities

Floor area (GIA): 14,250m² over 7 levels

Sustainability: BREEAM Excellent

Completion date: April 2021

Project Team:

Client: University of Glasgow

Architect: HLM Architects

M&E & Structural Engineer: WSP

QS: Currie & Brown

PM: Faithful + Gould

Contractor: Multiplex

