

MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS

University of Pretoria: Engineering III & Aula Complex

The redesign of this sub-campus included a new entrance, parking, auditoria seating 1,800 students, high tech research laboratories and the upgrade of the main campus theatre, Aula. This component consisted of the revitalisation and extension to the existing main cultural auditorium, the Aula, and re-integration into the cultural precinct to gain contextual significance and elevate the grande dame to her former standing in the community. As the main northern façade is seen to be sacrosanct, the new foyer had to be extended to the east, which necessitated that the main structural wall that carries the auditorium raked floor had to be cut out to allow patrons to flow easily to the new foyer. The structural innovation to accomplish this feat included the prior subliminal strengthening of the wall prior to the removal of the structure to create such openings.

As the foyer intervention needed to be a light and transparent structure, a central treelike structure was introduced to accommodate all the services and support the flat concrete structure.

Developer: University of Pretoria

Architects & Project Managers:

ARC Architectural Consultants

Quantity Surveyors: Pentad; AECOM

Consulting Engineers:

Structural & Civil: Aurecon

Electrical: CAI

Mechanical:

Spoormaker & Partners

Electronic: Delpont Du Preez

Fire: Chimera Fire

Main Contractor: Stefanutti Stocks

