

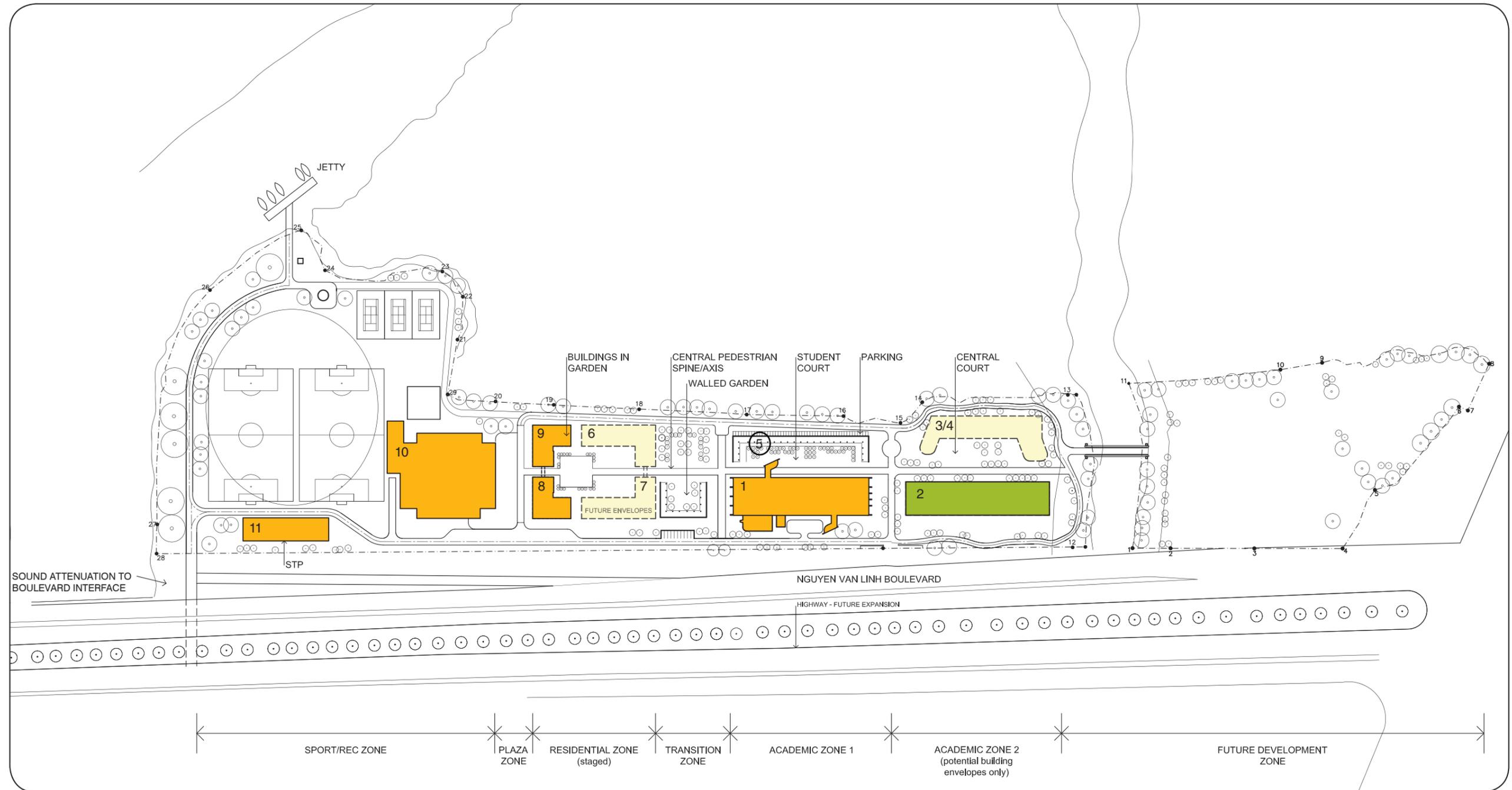
8.0 Vietnam Campus



RMIT Vietnam 2015 Saigon South Campus

LEGEND

- Existing
- Under development
- Future development



8.0 Vietnam Campus Plan

8.1 Overview of Saigon South Campus Planning

RMIT is the only fully foreign owned university in South East Asia. In 2000, RMIT Vietnam was granted a 50 year license, the first in Vietnam, from the Ministry of Planning and Investment, to deliver undergraduate and postgraduate education, training and research in Vietnam. It has a charter to set a benchmark for high quality program delivery as well as sustainable and affordable facility development and maintenance in Vietnam. The University commenced operations in 2001 in Ho Chi Minh City and opened a campus in Hanoi in 2004. RMIT now delivers programs in Vietnam that range across all three academic Colleges.

The Saigon South Campus is approximately 7 km, or thirty minutes from the City Centre. Nguyen Van Linh Boulevard is on the campus southern boundary and its western boundary faces the Ong Lon River. The total land area of 12.4 hectares consists of filled wetlands. The landscaping has been designed to be sensitive to the environment. The campus at Saigon South provides a purpose-built, contemporary educational facility of a high international standard.

In July 2005, Stage 1 of RMIT Vietnam's Saigon South campus was opened. This included a four level 12,000 sqm building to provide core academic, administrative and student services. The building was designed to cater for up to 5,000 staff and students. Stage 1 also included sports fields for soccer, cricket, a basketball court and badminton court. A fifth floor has now been added to the original building to cater for student growth.

Stage 2 was completed in 2010 to provide a new Recreation and Events Complex (REC) and Student Accommodation. Sport and Recreation staff, Student Counselling staff and Health Services are now located in the REC building together with a restaurant service. Students have taken up all available rooms for rental accommodation and are now settling into their apartments, rooms and a campus lifestyle. The feedback from students and parents is very positive about the product and the service provided. Stage 3 commenced construction in September 2010 to provide a new academic building to accommodate double the size of the student population to approximately 10,000 after completion in 2012. A mixture of general teaching spaces, staff accommodation and specialist facilities are catered for in the new facility. It is intended that AB2 will primarily provide a series of teaching and learning spaces for all disciplines currently catered for in Vietnam together with opportunity space for new programs.

In June 2007, a Strategic RMIT Vietnam Master Plan Workshop was held in Melbourne to review the planning carried out to date for the Saigon South Campus and provide a master plan to cater for the future growth on the site. An updated master plan was produced that established a series of distinct zones – academic, residential, and recreational. Further complimentary work on Landscape Design Principles was conducted in 2010 to ensure coherent and consistent quality landscaping. The importance of planning to deal with the future impact of noise from the expanded major road on the southern boundary was highlighted and an Acoustic Report was commissioned to assess the impacts and guide future planning decisions.



Planning Principles

The Saigon South campus will be developed to:

- Cluster academic development around the centre of the campus site with student accommodation and recreational facilities in areas zoned to the west of this site.
- Continue a campus design based around a student centred philosophy. At Saigon South the formal teaching and learning areas have been located on the perimeter of each floor and include student access labs, dedicated multimedia access labs and studios, project rooms and meeting rooms. The internal areas are available for informal student learning in the wireless enabled student work areas and labs. The north and south circulation areas and the breezeways are also designed to be informal learning areas.
- Maintain a significant central pedestrian axis in an east-west direction for circulation throughout the site with vehicle traffic limited to the perimeter of the site.
- Continue to mitigate the impact of the traffic noise when designing buildings and for external spaces establish well designed barriers to improve conditions where possible.
- Maximise environmental sustainability by incorporating sustainable design principles, including gaining most benefit from breezes and reducing noise, in all facilities. Stage 1 at the South Saigon campus has been constructed on an East-West axis to minimize the impact of the sun and thereby reduce energy. Stage 3 new academic building is following these same design principles.
- Ensure that it contributes to RMIT's international reputation through excellent design consistent with its charter to present as an example to Vietnamese universities.

Proposed Projects

- Installation of Swimming Pools for Sport and Recreation.
- Landscape Works that follow progressively the completion of major site installations including a series of meeting spaces for social and educational use.
- Academic Building 2 commenced construction in September 2010 and is due for completion in 2012.
- Determine a suitable utilisation for the Pham Ngoc Thach site in District 3, HCMC.
- Renewal and expansion of the Library at SGS Campus in Building 1 to meet the foreseeable expansion needs and reinvent the SGS Library to a best practice learning environment of international standing.



Community Engagement Opportunities

- The continuation of the strong association RMIT has developed with Vietnam through education, business and research links in engineering, information technology, communication, finance and telecommunications.
- Partnerships have been established with a number of the Non Government Organisations (NGO) and International Non Government Organisations (INGO) in regard to use of facilities, support for their programs, providing volunteers for events, offering scholarships and support in the English Department for medical staff from local Vietnamese hospitals, in order for them to travel to Australia and study with Australian hospitals.
- Student/staff groups support and enhance the wider community: RMIT C.A.N. (Community Action Network), RMIT SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise), RMIT HIV/Aids Prevention Working Group, and many of the student clubs raise funds to support local charities and organisations.
- Staff and students volunteer to deliver scholarships, teach English in shelter and in high need areas, assist in swimming programs with the blind, assist in clean ups and refurbishments of orphanages and shelters in out lying provinces, volunteer at community events, provide their skills in a variety of areas to assist groups. ie computing skills to help update websites for charities, multimedia skills for developing DVD's, information/promotional materials for charities and NGO's.
- RMIT supports a variety of charities and organisations in the free use and /or reduced costs for the use of the grounds and also donation of goods and old equipment such as computers.
- Community groups often use RMIT Vietnam facilities.



8.2 Overview of Hanoi Campus Planning

The University commenced operations in Hanoi in 2004.

During 2010 the Hanoi Campus relocated its operations from the Van Phuc Diplomatic compound on Kim Ma Road in Ba Dinh district and secondary leased premises approximately 1 km away. Both buildings were at full capacity, restricting expansion of the University and through physical appearance did not adequately represent the image of RMIT. RMIT has now consolidated Hanoi operations to one site.

The new leased site is located at RESCO Handi Tower at 521 Kim Ma Street –Ba Dinh District, Hanoi. The area is approximately 6,184 square metres across 9 levels in a new high quality building. RMIT uses include new learning facilities, student support spaces, and academic and administrative staff offices. In consolidating teaching facilities the University has not replicated existing facilities but has delivered a leading edge learning and teaching centre in Hanoi.

Over time the program offerings by the university will see a growth in Post Graduate and Masters Programs and a decline in English Programs. Adaptability and flexibility is the desired hallmark features of these replacement facilities.

Proposed Projects

While the current campus will provide for immediate needs to 2014, the university is continuing to seek out opportunities for future development of a campus site that will provide for expanded facilities and amenities aligned with facilities provided at other campuses.

