New Academic Street

www.rmit.edu.au/nas
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New Academic Street – Our Vision

New Academic Street (NAS) is an exciting construction program that will reinvent the centre of the City Campus and improve support services for students and staff.

Central to NAS are four ageing and inefficient buildings (8, 10, 12 and 14) that will be refurbished to create an exciting new academic environment.

The investment is part of an overall plan to make RMIT a fantastic place to study, collaborate and work.
Introducing the NAS design features

Designed by Lyons (designed SAB) in collaboration with other RMIT-aligned architectural firms:

- Minifie van Schaik
- NMBW
- Harrison and White
- Maddison Architects

Design brief to integrate RMIT with the city, move people through the campus, improve delivery of student services and update the Swanston Library
NAS will open levels 2,3,4 and sections of levels 5 and 6 of buildings 8,10,12 and 14 creating interconnected spaces, outdoor terraces, light wells, laneways and efficient walkways between floors
New Bowen Street Frontage

The New Academic Street Project is a bold step into an exciting and innovative future for RMIT
NAS Program - mid-2015 to 2017

Multiple projects to be completed over the 2.5 year period

- Library refurbishment (delivered in three phases)
- Student Hall (including study and meeting spaces)
- New Retail (19 outlets and licensed bar)
- Garden Building
- Building 12 in-fill building with roof top terraces
- Media precinct
- Studio Corner (cnr Swanston and Franklin Streets)
The Library

Completely refurbished over levels 5/6 of buildings 8, 10, 12

40% more study space

Mix of silent and group study

Capacity for increased student numbers

Roving staff to assist users

Wireless and fixed connectivity

Access to outdoor terrace areas

Swanston Library to be refurbished over levels 5 and 6 - construction to commence mid-2015 – complete late 2017
**Student Hall**

Three new entrances will lead students into the Hall / level 4 buildings 10 and 12

The Hub/student services

- Self-help kiosks
- Casual seating
- Consultation tables

The Student Hall across level 4 of buildings 8, 10, 12 an 14 – construction commence mid-2015 – complete mid-2017
The Market

New retail area on level 4 of building 12 and 14

19 retail outlets across precinct

Licensed bar on campus

Open into Bowen Street

Light wells to connect space with levels above

Updated entrance via Franklin Street

Retail precinct on level 4 of building 14
construction to commence mid-2015 – 1st phase
complete end 2015 2nd phase (buildings 10 & 12)
late 2016
Garden Building

Outside building 8 and 10

4 level open sided structure

Vertical open garden space

Designed for year-round use

Cutting edge environmental design

Library access

Student spaces

Café on ground level

Garden building – construction to commence mid-2015 – complete mid-2016
Media Precinct

Levels 2 and 3 of buildings 10, 12, 14

TV studios

New recording studios

New audio booths

State-of-the-art technology

Multiple uses and users
Vertical Transport

Lift upgrades across buildings 8, 10, 12, 14

Escalator upgrade in building 8

New stairs and escalators across buildings 8, 10, 12, 14

Escalators to be installed from levels 4 – 7

Stairs to be installed from levels 7 - 13

Improve movement of people through all buildings

People movement through the NAS precinct will be improved – construction start early-2016 – complete early-2017
Library Overlooking Bowen Street
Student Hall Social Study Space
Rooftop Terrace Next to Library
Student Hall Retail Spaces
Change Communication Roadmap

The NAS project will roll out in four phases

Each phase will see a different set of impacts on staff, students and external stakeholders

This roadmap will help the NAS Project Office team to plan and deliver communications to all of our people
Introducing the ‘Getting Going’ phase

During the ‘Getting Going’ phase some moves and construction work will be needed to get the campus ready for the ‘Under Construction’ phase.

These works are expected to start late 2014.

We have spelt out how the impacts by College:
- Design and Social Context
- Science, Engineering and Health
  - Academic portfolio

Business College is not impacted at this stage!
“Before we renovate, we need to move out”

Affected staff and student services located on:

- Levels 3, 4 and 5 of building 8, and
- Level 2, 3, 4 and some parts of level 5 and 6 of buildings 10, 12 and 14

Will progressively move to another part of RMIT (temporary or permanent), so NAS construction can start mid-2015
• New ‘media precinct’ to be created as part of NAS on level 2 of buildings 12 and 14

• Therefore new and temporary facilities to be constructed and completed by early 2015:
  o TV studios on level 3 of building 5
  o Sound studios on level 1 of building 6

• School of Art studios are moving from building 5 to level 2, building 2 and level 2, building 4

• School of Education staff will be consolidated from 3 buildings to level 2, building 51
• 3 Labs and the Food Pilot Plant on levels 2, 3 of buildings 10 and 12 proposed to move to new facilities at the Bundoora campus

• New Labs ready for classes early 2015

• Affected students will be advised by the College or ARG (as per normal process)

• Transport and timetabling arrangements will be finalised late 2014
• With NAS construction impacting some existing lecture theatres current vacant spaces in buildings 10, 12 and 14 (and others on campus) will be refitted over coming months

• These replacement teaching spaces will be used during construction

• So various internal building works will start late in 2014

• If there are impacts to lifts or access issues – staff and students will be informed via localised signage and Property Services communications
Getting Going – Library

- Construction over three phases – 24 months
- Floor space will be reduced by up to 50% during construction
- Changes in the way the Library operates
- Staff will be roving – ‘concierge’ customer service model
- Carlton Library hours extended/computer numbers increased
- Most of the fixed collection to be moved (during construction) and Library customers will order books online and collect (24 hrs)
- No change in 2014 - **new Library model starts Semester 2, 2015**
Getting Going — Library

• Two units with less focus on face-to-face proposed to move to Bundoora

• Work underway to transition staff to new way of working during the NAS construction period – and the new ‘concierge’ model

• Library management working with staff to ensure the transition period is as smooth as possible

• Staff and student needs critical during the NAS construction period
Getting Going – Student Services

• Café tenants will start moving out during December 2014

• A new café area to be created in the Alumni Courtyard - ‘pop-up’ food vans and temporary shelter open for business March 2015

• Construction of temporary Student Hall to start mid-2015

• Temporary Student Hall / The Hub will stay on level 4, building 8 (move into café space) during NAS construction period
Getting Going – Student Services

- 24-hour student computer Lab move to building 28 in March 2015
- Student Services across level 4 of buildings 8, 10, 12 move to building 28 mid-2015
- RUSU move to building 56 early 2015
- Syn Media move to level 1, building 6
- Building 28 refit/construction start in September 2014
- The gym will remain open on level 3 of building 8 throughout
- Work on the building 8 Swanston Street entrance, including the stairs leading to the Kaleide Theatre will start late 2014
Understanding the Impacts - Summary

Localised staff impacts at the ‘Getting Going’ phase

For some it may be a permanent move
(some Labs, two Library teams proposed)

For others it is temporary while NAS construction is underway

Students not impacted at this stage

Café will close early 2015 - replaced by a ‘pop-up’ food area in the Alumni Courtyard
Getting Going – Student Impacts

- Small-scale construction in buildings 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 late 2014
- Some existing facilities used by SEH students (Labs) and DSC students (TV and audio studios) will be affected by the NAS project when it starts – so new facilities are being built late in 2014
- There could be some noise in the surrounding areas where these new facilities are being built
- This type of building activity will start late 2014 and will be complete by early 2015
Getting Going – Student Impacts

• Property Services will advise of noise impacts to staff and students

• Access to key facilities like the 24-hour computer Lab, the Library, the café and The Hub will be business as usual for 2014

• If there are impacts to lifts or access issues, during this time – staff and students will be informed via localised signage and Property Services’ based communications

• If students want to know more about NAS they should go to the website www.rmit.edu.au/nas
What To Expect Next - Summary

• **Business as usual** on campus in 2014
• Expect some small-scale disruption as facilities move out of the construction zone – **starting late 2014**
• Café will scale back in **December 2014**
• A **new ‘pop-up’ food area** will open in the Alumni Courtyard in early 2015
• Library will **close during Semester break (next year)** – re-open at 50% model **July 2015**
• Hoardings will start to go up **mid-2015 timeframe**
• **NAS construction** to start on campus **after July 2015**
How We Will Communicate

• We want to bring staff and students on the NAS journey
• Plan to empower our staff with information – via briefings, via website and via managers (this is the 1st step)
• NAS Project Office team co-ordinating communications to:
  • Staff
  • Students
  • Community stakeholders
• The team leading the work commit to share information to help **EVERYONE** manage through the construction period
Questions?

Contact NAS Project Office at NAS@rmit.edu.au if you have any queries