

## **NLSIU Library**

The NLSIU library built in 2005, is located roughly in the geographical centre of the site. As with most campus developments, the library is an integral part of a student's daily life. The NLSIU library and its adjunct open green space, away from the present academic block, form a hub of social life on campus beyond the academic hours.

In keeping with the expansion plans of the campus and increase in the student intake, the library needs to be re-imagined in terms of its pedagogical and functional requirements. Change in function of a library over the years and digitisation warrants a change in the way a library is perceived as a functional entity as well as in the context of the master plan and campus at large. Traditionally a quiet zone, the library will need to be restructured as a collaborative work space along with the common areas for the entire campus. The interior spaces will need to be re-aligned along with newer requirements.

Opening up the library at the ground floor level to include the surrounding landscape as a part of the library design, will be critical to how the library functions for years to come.

VA has been appointed as architects for the Library renovation. As a part of the renovation proposal, the landscape areas adjoining the library built spaces are to be detailed as extensions to the library functions as well as, independent entities that function beyond the library hours and are integrated with the others open spaces on campus.

## **Landscape Extension 01 and Extension 02**

The two primary landscape zones adjoining the library are identified as Extension 01 and Extension 02. The total area of intervention including both the extensions is 3550 sqm (0.87 Acres).

### **Extension 01**

Extension 01 refers to the area to the west of the Library, which is presently the Navalgund park. At present, it is a lawn that houses outdoor seating spaces for students. The area is approximately 1445 sqm.

The ground floor of the library is designed to open up directly to this area.

It is proposed that the area be re-designed :

1. Add approx. 100 - 125 seating / working spaces for students, enabled by WIFI and adequate power points.
2. Planting along the library edge and road edge to create a landscape buffer.
3. Add a cafe in the demarcated location.
4. Provide universal access and movement corridors to connect to the library, Extension 02, campus movement corridors and pathways.
5. Provide adequate irrigation for the planters.

### **Extension 02**

Extension 02 refers to the area north of Extension 01. At present, this area is a depression that forms a landscape buffer between the library and the Girl's Hostel to the north. The area is approximately 2105 sqm.

This area is proposed to be redesigned as an Amphitheater.

1. With reference to the natural contours of the site, there is a four meter rise from the library to the road level along the west edge of the site.

2. The Amphitheater is planned to take advantage of this contour difference and seating aligned to the contour interval.
3. Each amphitheater step to be at least 1 M – 1.2 M wide, with only 0.45 M to be finished for seating. The balance to be considered as soft-scape.
3. Existing trees to be maintained.
4. Stage to be planned along the library edge. Lighting for the stage maybe considered by a truss arrangement along the library.
5. Provide adequate irrigation for the planters.

### **Reading court 01 and 02**

Reading court 01 and 02 refers to the two courts on the North-West of the Library. The court would offer a space for students to read outdoors.

The ground floor of the library is designed to open up directly to this area.

It is proposed that the area be re designed to :

1. Add approx. 50-60 seats / working spaces for students, enabled by WIFI and adequate power points.
2. Planting along the court edge to create a landscape buffer.
3. Provide adequate irrigation for the planters.

### **Movement, Services and Furniture**

In addition to the above, the following need to be considered as a part of the landscape scope.

1. Movement corridor all along the periphery of the precinct around Extension 01 and 02 - fire tender movement road between the New Academic Block and the Library to the south - parking, road and pathway to the west and pathway between the New Academic Block / Service area and the Library to the east connecting all the way to the Girls Hostel.
2. Universal Access to be considered along all movement pathways – along the periphery as well as within Extension 01 and Extension 02.
3. Landscape lighting within Extension 01 and 02 to aid movement as well as a study / working environment.
4. Landscape lighting within Reading court 01 and 02 to aid study / working environment.
4. Adequate lighting along the peripheral pathways.
5. Stage lighting for the amphitheater.
6. Rainwater drainage and harvesting scheme.
7. Outdoor furniture.