

Plans unveiled for 21st Century University Campus at Craighall

Queen Margaret University College is to exhibit the masterplan for the 35 acre site at Craighall which will become home to Scotland's first university campus of the 21st Century. The plans, along with artist's impressions of the state of the art development, will be on public view at the Brunton Halls for a week from Friday 31st October.

QMUC has outgrown its existing premises at Corstorphine and Leith where the buildings are near the end of their useful life and require substantial expensive remodelling. The decision to relocate to Musselburgh was announced in November 2002 after QMUC had considered many possible sites around Edinburgh and the Lothians and as far afield as Fife.

"Craighall is an excellent location for a University campus and our relocation from our existing sites in Corstorphine and Leith will mark a new phase in the development of a dynamic institution," said QMUC Principal, Professor Anthony Cohen. "We look forward to a future at Craighall where we are fully integrated into local community life. The historic character and contemporary mission of Queen Margaret is to address pressing social needs, policy and well-being. Links with local businesses and healthcare providers will be vital for us. We want the public to regard themselves as our stakeholders."

Under QMUC's proposals for the masterplan, 21st century academic buildings and residential units will provide a secure and sustainable working and learning environment within a newly created parkland setting. In addition there will be cafes, shops,

sports and leisure facilities and an hotel. Members of the local community will be encouraged to use the facilities on offer at the new campus, including the high tech learning resource centre which will form the entrance to the site.

Commenting on the proposals QMUC Vice Principal Rosalyn Marshall said: "We are taking great care to ensure our plans incorporate the very latest thinking in sustainable development. As well as providing the infrastructure we require, including excellent transport links and amenities offered in Musselburgh, Craighall provides a real opportunity to work with a number of partners in education, creative industries, commerce, tourism and healthcare. In return the town will enjoy the inevitable growth and economic benefits a University will bring. New jobs will be created and local residents will benefit from improved access to education in a high tech learning environment and other site facilities."

The masterplan will be submitted for planning consent on 30th October and interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the proposals during the formal consultation process. An architectural competition is currently underway to identify the best firm to carry out the detailed design work for the first phase of the project. If the application is successful then the University will relocate from its current sites at Corstorphine and Leith to Craighall in 2007.

RE:LOCATE EXHIBITION

31st October until 7 November

You are welcome to view the plans for the new Queen Margaret University Campus which will be on show in the main foyer at the Brunton Halls



View of the approach to the new campus from Musselburgh Station via the new 'University Walk'. The Learning Resource Centre is shown to the left, overlooking the lake, the Grand Hall entrance dead on axis, and the Academic wing to the right.



Queen Margaret University College

Queen Margaret University College was founded in 1875, as the Edinburgh School of Cookery. The College was granted permission to adopt the name Queen Margaret College in 1971, under the patronage of HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester. Since then, the Edinburgh Schools of Drama, Speech Therapy, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry and Radiography have been incorporated in the College. It currently has around 4,000 students and hopes to attain full

university title in 2005.

Currently most of the University College's activities are housed in late 1960s buildings at Corstorphine, while a second campus at Leith houses most of its health care courses. The Gateway Theatre in Leith Walk, previously a television studio, has been home to the Drama Department since 1996. The Gateway Theatre complex will be the only element of the existing estate to be retained.

Key Facts about QMUC

- QMUC currently has a student population of approximately 3650 full time equivalents and employs 509 staff
- QMUC is internationally recognised for its various centres of excellence including the UK Centre for the History of Nursing, a collaborative project with the Royal College of Nursing, the Royal Bank of Scotland Centre for the Older Persons Agenda, Centre for Complimentary Medicine, Scottish Centre for Research into Speech disability, Scottish Centre into Chronic Pain.
- Our Drama Department is one of the leading examples in the world that combines the conservatoires and university tradition. It is also a leading drama research department in the UK.
- QMUC is the only Scottish institution specialising in international healthcare by providing education and consultancy through our Centre for International Health Studies.
- QMUC's English Language Unit provides the most flexible degree courses in the UK by combining English with a range of high demand courses including marketing, information management and tourism studies.
- QMUC and the University of Oxford are jointly leading a Psychosocial Working Group with Harvard and Columbia Universities, Medicines Sans Frontieres (MSF) Save the Children, International Rescue Committee and Christian Children's Fund.
- To support our increasing research activity, QMUC's library now contains an excellent collection of periodicals in both print and electronic form. The new CAIRNS system enables people to access specialist information and librarians can find out where specialist information is held out with the University College. QMUC also holds the Scottish Arts Council library collection, a unique research resource.
- In the 21st century, QMUC will become known as a university for the people with a distinctive approach and renowned for its partnership, innovative research and the high quality and standards of its teaching.

"Queen Margaret University College's mission is to enhance the quality of life and serve communities, through excellence and leadership in vocationally and professionally relevant education, research and consultancy, as a university which is outward looking and committed to innovation, participation and lifelong learning"

Contact

We are interested in your views. Please write to:

Rosalyn Marshall, Vice Principal, Queen Margaret University College, Clerwood Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 8TS
email. newcampus@qmuc.ac.uk web. www.qmuc.ac.uk



Professor Anthony Cohen
Principal and Vice Patron



Rosalyn Marshall, Vice Principal
Project Controller