GATTON LIBRARY EXTENSION & REFURBISHMENT

Consideration:

This is an important project for the University for improving the student experience at Gatton. The move of the School of Veterinary Science to the Gatton campus has seen a dramatic change in the number of students at Gatton and in their study patterns. The introduction of the Bachelor of Science has placed further demand on study areas. Another significant factor is the increase in the number of students living on Campus (over 436), as well as the proposed future student accommodation quarters, which will further add to the load. There is a greater need for access to quiet areas and group study facilities on a 24/7 basis.

Due to budget limitations, the project is restricted to an extension onto the existing library combined with a refurbishment of the original library building. The new extension will house the book stacks and library staff while the existing library will operate 24hrs as study space for students.

Currently there are 39 individual study desks with none available after Library closure. This project increases facilities to approximately 200 study desks, all available on a 24 hour basis. The proposal includes disability access to all levels which is not available in the existing library.
Description

The new library extension reflects the low density height of the existing library building. It appears as single storey from the central campus spine walkway but will be two storeys at the rear due to slope of land. A new lift is included in the design.

The extension will use materials that are in context with the existing building palette of glass, brick and concrete.
EXISTING/ DEMOLITION PLAN – LEVEL 2
AXONOMETRIC
ELEVATIONS

EAST ELEVATION

SOUTH ELEVATION
LANDSCAPING

**Landscape Intent**

The proposed landscaped concept is to encourage outdoor study/meeting areas, respond to a 24hr study access and promote a stronger link to the main pedestrian spine and surrounding lecture theatres/labs.

Where possible, existing trees are integrated within the design aesthetically and functionally.

**Entry Forecourt & Library Entry**

The entry forecourt purposely intrudes into the main pedestrian spine to:
- Provide gathering nodes and integrates with surrounding seating areas
- Formalise the entry precinct entry
- Act as a wayfinding point along the main pedestrian spine.

**Lawn Seating Area**

To activate the Library Precinct frontage, a lawn seating area is proposed alongside the main pedestrian spine. It is intended that the existing trees will provide shaded seating/study opportunities, while a gentle lawn batter will encourage informal seating and spillout.

**Visual Courtyard**

Clear, trunk canopy trees with low understory planting on podium is proposed to provide:
- Shade to the building link
- Visual link and separation for building users
- Visual link to the lawn seating area and main pedestrian spine.

**Sheltered Courtyard**

The rear entry to the Library Precinct is to be formalised with low planting for clear sightlines and to encourage safe student access to accommodation at the rear. Furthermore, incidental seating opportunities is to be provided to activate the space after hours.

The courtyard area in general is to allow for flexible integration of the undercroft area in the future by the University.
EXISTING LIBRARY BUILDING
EXISTING LIBRARY INTERIOR