Presentation Notes
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Order of Presentation:
1. Hamilton Anderson Associates and University of Detroit Mercy
2. DSA and Lawrence Technical University
3. Progressive AE and University of Michigan
4. Allegretti Architects and Andrews University

Team: Hamilton Anderson Associates and University of Detroit Mercy

PRESENTATION:

1) Strengthen “gateway” on the east – strongest visual campus entrance, limited views from west end

2) West entrance: enhance and ‘pedestrianize’

3) Make W. Michigan corridor more “green”
   a) Place to “see or be seen”, site for large events, Bronco Bash
   b) Existing slope/grade changes produce natural amphitheatre possibilities

4) Create identify for Arts Plaza
   a) Less congested, ‘open plan’ with multiple options for sculpture display, temp. and permanent
   b) Create water feature with n-s axis, focal point from Chemistry building, aide to wayfinding
   c) Café with seating
   d) Terrace between Miller and Brown Hall
   e) Enhance seating on southern exposures, espec. Dalton
   f) Construct plaza on 2x2 pavers with drainage collection underneath; pavers can be arranged for special displays, events
   g) Include space between Dalton and Kehrmann as Arts Plaza, less active, more “green”
   h) Space between Miller and ramp is “foyer” to plaza
   i) Plaza has ‘urban density’
   j) Plaza location for ‘arts store’ for all fine arts disciplines
   k) Café and art store create ‘feedback’ into plaza open space

5) Improve parking access to center of campus
   a) underground parking, accessed from east ‘gateway’
   b) could link to other underground tunnels or building
Team: DSA and Lawrence Technical University

PRESENTATION:

1) Plaza: Key words:
   a) Action
   b) Visceral Experience
   c) Memory
   d) Sustainable
   e) Learning Garden

2) Blur boundaries between classroom and landscape

3) Place for Action:
   a) nodes where natural pedestrian circulation paths come together or touch
   b) Allow student/pedestrian to engage with landscape
   c) Allow students /pedestrians to engage with each other

4) Landscape
   a) design the hardscape
   b) Multi-use – plaza as classroom, eg slate walls are tablets
   c) large and small scale interaction sites
   d) Use path to insert information, grab attention
      i) sounds
      ii) kiosks, digital information displays, upload/download sites for email
      iii) buildings as billboards

5) Water
   a) weave through paths
   b) wash down walls

Also: Model by team and two sketches by Alan Lugo, WMU student

Team: Progressive AE and University of Michigan

PRESENTATION:

1) Create “microclimates” in Plaza
   a) Movement: Pedestrian engagement even when ‘just passing through’
   b) Display and performance: extension of planned sculpture displays, opportunity to engage Miller crowds
   c) “Hang” spaces: passive, relaxation

2) 12 month use of space, all features viable for 12 months – all-season
   a) Water feature active only in warm months, similar to Univ of Cincinnati plaza features
   b) Cold months use water swale for snow collection
3) “Filters”: Diagonal and North-South features/paths filter perception, create changing vista 
points
   a) N-S line of trees create screen between plaza and Brown Hall, smaller, quieter space
   b) sloping planes connect terrain, grade changes between buildings: low points are main 
paths
   c) Use slopes to create amphitheatre in front of Miller patio

4) Café
   a) Incorporate as part of or along path; slightly lower than main path
   b) Seating at SE exposure – “light seeking”

5) Use ‘vegetal scrim’ to soften view, intersect with hardscapes.

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**Team: Allegretti Architects and Andrews University**

**PRESENTATION:**

1) Initial discussion of possibilities for visual and physical connection to Oakland Drive 
Campus
   a) Bridge over Stadium Drive makes statement - “here is Western”
   b) Miller’s E-W spine is directly opposite the Water Tower

2) Flag (Tent) Plaza: valuable location for information kiosk, tower or icon visible from west 
   entrance;
   a) use for wayfinding
   b) mirrors Water Tower
   c) multi-level, small group space

3) Miller plaza
   a) background turf, raised hardscape with diagonal pathways
   b) add covered scrim to south Dalton – eg Times Square – to use for infor displays and 
   projections, also small stage
   c) refer to Buster Simpson environmental art – “landscape as canvas”
   d) Center features waterscape and sprays
   e) performance stage on patio side- of Miller
   f) ‘solar benches’
      i) similar to bus stops
      ii) seasonal benefits as wind sheild, solar gain in cold months

4) West entrance
   a) Create ‘drop-off” to Haenicke Hall to function same as Bernhard Center drop-off
   b) improve pedestrian connection to west end; create stronger pedestrian corridor between 
west and east entrances