The Faculty of Architecture... is looking for house
Work in progress to the search of a new university installation for the Faculties
of Architecture of the Polytechnic in Turin
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The demand to guarantee suitable spaces for the carrying out of the didactic
activities, of research and administration inside the seats of the Faculties of
Architecture of the Polytechnic in Turin it is the axiom of departure for the editing of
the elaborate present. To answer to the emergent demands in terms of space usable,
has been useful to effect a panning general on the quality of life of the student and on
the requirement in terms of surface of the actual seats of the two Faculties.
The didactics develops in the three seats of the Polytechnic: the Valentine's Castle,
part of the ex-OGR of street Boggio, the prefabricated temporary in the business
area of the Alenia in avenue Francia.
Currently their location results to be uncertain because of the new projects inside the
area of the polytechnic citadel.
From our experience of full time students idea was born to think about an only
structure that contains all the structures of the athenaeum: it is necessary to
quantitatively appraise and qualitatively the spaces that are necessary to the carrying
out of the university activities.
The actual students of the Faculty of Architecture (I and II) arrange in the three seats
the following gross surfaces of floor:
Valentino: 22.252 meters square
Boggio: 7.748 meters square
Alenia: 7.090 meters square
Such surfaces are added and a total is gotten of 37.080 meters square, in such way
the actual requirement can be defined.
Currently the gross standard, reported to the number of affiliates of the academic
year 2006-2007 (5969), it is equal to 6,2 meters square for student, a low value if
compared with the European indexes of 20 meters square for student.
The objective of the present work consists of reaching a real gross standard of 15
meters square for student, value that can guarantee a good quality of the necessary
spaces to the carrying out of the didactic activities.
After having defined the requirement by to reach the necessary surface you can be get for the project: 15 meters square x 5.969 = 89.535 meters square, to build ex novo.

We suppose the worst situation about the number of students, that is the greater number of them, we presuppose that in the 2020 will be 6.335 architecture’s members. So we have to consider this great number because we use that to get the useful surface: 15 x 6.335 = 95.025 square metres. We also consider four classes in which we divide all useful surface we need: didactic, research, service and passage areas.

The actual distribution of the spaces of university activity results in the complex of the three centers so divided:

![Synthesis of the spaces to the actual state in the centers of the Faculty of Architecture](image)

The analysis and the quantification of different areas individualized in Turin is the starting point for the location of the future university center of Architecture in the city. We compare the square metres calculated for the Faculty with the square metres available in every space with the consequent analysis of the points of strength and weakness for every considered zone.
Then we proceed with the critical analysis of numerous examples of university buildings realized in Italy and in Europe from Stirling, Aalto, Gregotti Associati, Siza, Foster, de Moura to Rebecchini. We have been extrapolated the salient characters from their works to focus the objectives of their buildings.
In accordance with the peculiarities individualized for every project, the international competition we wish for Polytechnic will give to the university a new face; in that way, through the building architecture, we could understand a lot of meanings and values. Departing from the individualization of the objectives and the results to reach the contest could give a new face the Faculty of Architecture; transmitting a series of meanings and exemplary values where the architecture reveals itself as a pedagogic architecture.

The structure would be addressed to the society and above all to those people who live inside: for the students, the new building could become a cultural and serious demonstration towards the development and the human comfort, to transform our life in a true masterpiece.

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