Purpose of the Master Plan

The Master Plan provides a design framework for the orderly and coherent development of the University campus over a period of approximately twenty years. This is a “living” plan that will be modified from time to time as the University’s needs and situation develops in the future.

The University desires a strong unified campus, bound together by beautiful defined spaces which are formed by buildings of permanence and clear order. The University architecture should reflect the religious traditions of the Church, the quality of local place in western Ukraine and Lviv, and the picturesque natural setting of Stryiskyi Park. Each building, exterior space and physical element should be mindful of the overall campus vision.

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- Precedents and Inspiration

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The University Mission

The Ukrainian Catholic University is an open academic community living the Eastern Christian tradition and forming leaders to serve with professional excellence in Ukraine and internationally – for the glory of God, the common good, and the dignity of the human person.

The University envisions:

A great center of the humanities and social sciences, communication, legal and business studies, giving access to knowledge which is both contemporary and timeless

A commitment to preparing a new generation for practical challenges and active personal and social responsibility

A campus where residential community life is part of the educational and formational process

The visible presence of the Church in the social, cultural, and intellectual life of the city and country.

History of The Ukrainian Catholic University

The foundation of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Ukraine crowns the hundred-year efforts of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and the endeavors of Ukrainian scholars to establish a higher educational institution that would be based on Christian spirituality, culture and outlook, and become an educational and academic center of general importance, as well as a place for ecumenical dialogue and understanding in Ukraine.

The UCU is the academic successor of the Greek Catholic Theological Academy, established in 1928-1929 in Lviv by Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and headed by then-Fr. Josyf Slipyj, who was the first rector. After the academy was closed down in 1944, the Ukrainian Catholic University of Pope St. Clement I in Rome, founded in 1963 and headed by Metropolitan Josyf Slipyj, began its mission and functions. In 1994, the activity of the above-mentioned academy was renewed by the Lviv Theological Academy (LTA), which in 1998 received international accreditation.

Excerpted from the University Inaugural Address delivered by Rector Fr. Borys Gudziak on June 26, 2002
Vision for the Stryisky Park Campus

The campus is designed as a procession of cloisters and courtyards. The Church is the focus of the central cloister, “The Sacred Cloister”, and of the campus as a whole.

The spatial idea of the cloister is derived from the ancient monasteries of the Christian world, although its precedents reach back to the Classical architecture of the Greek Agora and Roman Forum. Near Lviv, the Monasteries at Univ and Krekhiv provide historical precedents. Although these historic buildings were influenced by the need for protection, the spatial order of the cloister serves a modern purpose by defining a religious community within the surrounding city of Lviv.

The University campus simultaneously focuses inward and outward. The cloistered plan creates a serene and contemplative environment protected from the distractions of the city. At the same time, its spaces and buildings engage the city, communicating the presence and importance of the University mission to the outside world.

The campus plan has a formal and unified order, although not a rigid symmetry.
The Physical Context

The campus site has 3.95 hectares (approximately 9.76 acres) of land. The site has a number of features that make it ideal for the main campus of the university:

Natural Beauty: It is adjacent to Stryiskyi Park, one of Europe’s finest urban landscape parks. Built in 1887 by the Austro-Hungarian Empire as an exhibition fairground, the park features over 200 species of trees and plants, formal gardens, a swan pond, and kilometers of walking trails. The territory of the park covers 58 hectares, which means the university can develop its property quite intensely while still having access to extensive green space.

Central Location: The property is on a main city artery (Stryiska St.) and adjacent to the Tax Inspection building, the tallest building in Lviv and a major landmark. Located between the university’s Svientsitskyi St. campus (a 20-minute walk) and the Theological Center (35-minute walk), the main campus will be the physical, as well as programmatic center of the university. The site is 1.5 kilometers from the central square of Lviv and is served by multiple means of public transportation. The city’s airport, train station, and main inter-city bus terminal are all located within a 15 minute drive. In the future, construction of a new administrative complex for the city and the Lviv Oblast governments is planned within a few hundred meters of the property.

Academic and historical neighborhood: There are numerous civic and cultural organizations headquartered in Stryiskyi Park. Within a 5-20-minute walk are also located the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, the National Military Academy, the Academy of Art, the Commercial Academy, residences for 10,000 students of the Polytechnic University, and the museums of Ivan Franko and Mykhailo Hrushevskyi.
Site Features

The campus site has the character of an open and level meadow defined by trees on its north, west and east edges. The four edges of the site are distinctly different.

North Edge. The most beautiful edge lies to the north, where the campus opens to historic Stryiskyi Park, providing a passage of open space that leads toward the Lviv city center. The campus plan acknowledges the historic, symbolic and visual importance of the park by aligning a major pedestrian entrance toward the park axis and locating the formal motor court at the park edge. Most of the north edge is defined by a grove of existing mature trees.

West Edge. The west edge of the campus fronts Stryiska Street, one of Lviv’s most important and heavily-traveled streets. The location provides the University with one of the most highly-visible locations in Lviv. The street edge is defined by existing trees which strengthen the natural setting and create a park-like campus edge.

East Edge. The east edge of the campus borders an existing residential neighborhood of older houses with yards and trees. Like the north and south edges, mature existing trees define the campus, contributing to the overall park character.

South Edge. The south edge of the campus is the most problematic to address. The Tax building and other Soviet-era structures are massive in scale and oppressive in character. Surface parking lots and poor site design create an overall disunity and unplanned character. The Master Plan locates service and parking areas along this edge, and seeks to improve its quality by tree planting that will eventually form a strong landscape frame and buffer.
The Sequence of Cloisters & Courtyards

The “Sacred Cloister”

This is the central space of the campus and is surrounded by colonnades on all sides, defined by the Chapel at its head on the east end, the Library / Information Resources Center on the north, and academic buildings on the west and south sides.

The “Sacred Cloister” is symmetrically focused on the Chapel. From the west, one enters the cloister slightly north of its center, enabling the Chapel to be seen at a moderate angle and depth of perspective.

The ground plane of the cloister will be paved with native Ukrainian stone with a pattern of religious symbolism at the center.

The Church is sited in a slightly elevated position in relationship to the west end of the cloister. As one moves eastward under the colonnade, the walkway ascends gently upward toward the church. The interior of the Church is oriented to the east.
The “Park Cloister”

The second major space of the campus sequence is the “Park Cloister”, which has a direct visual relationship to Stryisky Park. The main tree-lined walkway of Stryisky Park is extended southward into the campus. The allee of trees and walkway create an important pedestrian entrance to the campus from the Park.

The “Park Cloister” is primarily a “soft” space of green lawn and trees. At its head (south end) is an academic building that houses classrooms, the Magna Aula and a refectory. The building has an east-facing colonnade and outdoor terrace facing the cloister and Stryisky Park.

The “Residential Cloister”

The final cloister in the sequence is the “Residential Cloister”, the focus of the student residences near the east end of the campus. This is a soft space with a lawn for informal activities and outdoor terraces adjacent to the buildings.
Pope John Paul II Memorial Plaza

A memorial plaza and garden commemorates the visit of Pope John Paul II to the University campus in 2001. The Plaza marks the western entrance of the University on Stryiska St., reaching out to the community and beyond.

Arrival Courtyard

At the north end of the campus is the Arrival Courtyard, a motor court that serves as the formal auto and bus entrance to the University from Stryiska St. Persons arriving by bus, car or taxi arrive at the campus at this point. The courtyard is surrounded by a colonnade and paved in cobblestone or other similar material. Its north side opens to Stryiskyi Park and the Park's formal garden.

Courtyards and Winter Gardens

Small courtyards are located throughout the campus. These are intimate outdoor spaces which allow persons to enjoy the outdoors in good weather. They provide space for trees and other plantings, and give a human scale to the campus.

An enclosed version of the outdoor courtyard, the Winter Garden, is an indoor space similar to a conservatory. The Winter Gardens bring sunlight and warmth into buildings and offer opportunities for passive heat gain during the winter months.
Colonnades

The Colonnades provide an architecturally unifying element for the campus, protection from inclement weather, and social space for informal meeting. The colonnades may be projected outward from buildings or incorporated into the building form (tucked into the building).

Colonnades should be 4 to 5 meters deep, and 4 to 5 meters in height, depending upon the building conditions and height. In general, there should be a 1:1 ratio of depth to height, although this may vary with building conditions. Care should be given to achieve light-filled colonnades, avoiding overly-deep spaces or spaces with insufficient height. Colonnade designs reflect the design character of each building, and need not be of a uniform design throughout the campus.

Utility tunnels for heating and services may be located under the colonnade paths, providing a complete network of building services throughout the campus.
1. Chapel & Pastoral Center

The University Chapel and Pastoral Center will be established in Phase 1 and expanded as the University grows. The building serves as the spiritual heart of the University, a venue for celebrations, and includes both gathering spaces and offices for pastoral activities. The Chapel is the visual centerpiece of the campus and focus of the Sacred Cloisters.

2. The University Library & IT Center

The University Library and Information Resources Center will define the north edge of the “Sacred Cloister”, facing the Cloister while overlooking Stryiskyi Park on its north side. The Library’s east end will face the “Park Cloister”, and initially its main entrance (in Phase I) will face this cloister. The Library will be built in stages, beginning with Phase I on its east end. Initial thoughts about the building are that it may be organized along an east-west main circulation hall that would unite the different phases that are built over time.

3, 5, 11. Academic Buildings

Multipurpose academic buildings, to include classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, and research facilities, will form the main cloisters and courtyards of the campus. Space needs of these buildings will be developed over time as the campus develops. Outdoor courtyards and indoor Winter Gardens, within and adjacent to these buildings, provide opportunities for quiet repose, conversation, and enjoyment of nature.

6. Martyrs Museum

A museum dedicated to the Martyrs and aspects of Lviv’s historic and contemporary culture is located adjacent to the Concert Hall and western entrance.

7. Performance Hall and Auditorium

The main Concert Hall and Auditorium are located immediately adjacent to the west entrance of the University on Stryiska St. At this location, the Concert Hall provides a more massive building form that responds to the larger scale of Stryiska St.

8. Conference and Continuing Education Center

A building for conferences and continuing education fronts Stryiska St., adjacent to the Concert Hall and Auditorium.

9. Residential Tower: Conference Housing & Hotel

At the time of this Plan the University is considering a joint venture with a hotel operator to develop a conference hotel at the southwest corner of the campus, facing Stryiska St. This building may take the form of a high rise building. It is important that the building mass be adequately set back from Stryiska St. with generous landscape and trees, and that the existing line of street trees be retained. A strong effort should be made to develop the main auto entrance on the south edge of the property, so that the University’s Stryiska St. frontage is dominated by trees and landscape, rather than by cars and an auto drop-off.

If the hotel structure is a high rise, it should be carefully-sculpted to decrease the visual impact of the building mass, so that it does not visually compete with the Chapel as the centerpiece of the campus.
10. Parking Structure

Adequate space for surface parking will be available for the early phases of the University. Given the planned density of the campus, structured parking will be needed in a future phase of development. A parking structure is envisioned in the future, located at the south edge of the campus, adjacent to the conference hotel. A driveway along the south edge of the campus property provides access to Stryiska St.

12. Student Residences

Student housing, including faculty apartments, forms the “Residential Cloister” in the east central part of the campus. This cloister is envisioned as somewhat more open than the Sacred and Park Cloisters, and may be defined by colonnades on some of its sides. The first residential building, which is part of the Phase 1 campus construction, faces the “Park Cloister”.

13. Athletic Center

The Athletic Center defines the east end of the campus, immediately east of the “Residential Cloister”.

Part of this building would be located within an existing street easement, with the intent that the easement will be eliminated in the future. Although there will be ample space for playing fields in the initial phases of the campus construction, at full build-out of the campus there will not be adequate space for a football field and other major outdoor athletics. It is intended that the facilities at Stryiskyi Park will be used to meet these needs.

Phase One

Phase I of the campus will form the “Park Cloister” in the east central section of the site. By grouping the first buildings around the cloister space, the first phase of the University will feel “whole”, forming a complete spatial unit. It is envisioned the Phase I buildings will be 4 to 5 stories.

Four buildings are envisioned:

1. The University Chapel and Pastoral Center. The Chapel will serve as the spiritual heart of the University, providing a place for full participation in liturgy and worship as well as a venue for other celebrations.

2. Multipurpose Academic Building. To accommodate classrooms, faculty offices, the Aula Magna and a refectory, which will be used as both a dining facility and theater.

3. Library and Information Resources Center. A world class library and learning center to serve as a model of academic excellence in Ukraine.

4. Residential Community Building. To house students, faculty apartments and an apartment for disabled persons.

Phase 1 Diagram
**Architectural Character**

The University history is rich in symbolism. The material and architectural expression of its symbolism is a challenge of balancing contrasting elements of solid mass and transparency.

An architecture of thick walls and heavy stone symbolizes permanence in the wake of constant change in the new Ukraine. Transparency and lightness brings to mind the quest for enlightenment and knowledge – the fundamental goal of the University. Local materials and details firmly root the campus and its buildings into the context of Lviv after a long hiatus in Rome. Contemporary expression relates the campus to the global Greek Catholic community and the world at large. The architectural character of the campus seeks to strike a balance between these contrasting ideas to create the identity of the campus.

The architectural character of the individual campus buildings will vary with each building’s purpose, its time of construction, and the creativity of the architects and builders. It is not desirable to define strict architectural guidelines, as this could lead to an undesired uniformity and tie the hands of creative people. The campus should display a strong coherence and “wholeness”, a unity without uniformity.

**Building form and height:** Most campus buildings will be three to five stories in height. Typically, floor-to-floor heights are 5 meters at the ground floor, and 4 meters on upper floors.

**Roof forms:** Most roofs are sloped with a low pitch (generally between 2:12 and 4:12). Roof forms and materials should be similar throughout the campus in order to emphasize compatibility as different buildings are added over time. The core phase buildings will set a strong precedent for the future.

Preferred roofing materials are weathering metals such as copper, lead or zinc, which are commonly used in the historic buildings of the Lviv city center.

**Building enclosure and materials:** Building enclosures contrast mass (solidity) and transparency. The solid walls express permanence, with deep recessed openings, strong shade and shadow patterns, and materials with strong texture. Building walls, both solid and transparent, should be carefully articulated into smaller elements to add human scale and proportion, avoiding long and large uninterrupted planes.

Ukrainian stone is preferred for cladding the solid portions of exterior walls. Solid walls may be contrasted with transparent curtain walls which admit natural light and open views to the exterior, forming strong visual relationships with Stryiskyi Park, the outdoor cloisters and courtyards.

**Solar orientation:** Buildings should carefully consider solar orientation, the potential for passive heat gain in winter, and interior daylighting needs of each space. Operable windows for natural ventilation should be emphasized. Shading devices to diffuse and reflect natural light may be used to improve daylighting performance, reduce glare and lower heat gain in warm months.

**Sustainability:** The University has a strong commitment to sustainable design principles. Energy efficiency, carbon reduction, the use of locally-produced materials and non toxic materials should be emphasized in all construction.
The Campus Landscape

The campus landscape is influenced by the character of neighboring Stryiskyi Park. The spatial character of the park is to be experienced in the cloisters and courtyards of the campus, and in the tree canopies that form the campus edges. The full buildout of the campus will be at a relatively high density of ground coverage and building height. Trees will soften the buildings, moderate their heights and bring nature into the site, strengthening the visual relationship to Stryiskyi Park.

Tree Edges of the Campus

The north, east and west edges of the campus are well-defined by existing mature trees. The center of the campus, where future buildings will be located, is relatively free of trees. A special effort should be made to locate buildings and site facilities to save as many existing trees as possible.

Plant Trees Now

Although the full campus buildout will take several years, the University can begin to establish mature tree stands now by staking out the approximate locations of future buildings and open spaces, planting trees where they are desired in the future. A planting and fundraising effort is often an effective way to enlist community participation.

The South Edge of the Campus: Services and Parking

Parking, services and emergency access are concentrated along the south edge of the campus. To adequately service the buildings, a continuous service drive (not a through drive) is located near the south property line, with space for a row of trees to define the property edge.

An approximate 8-meter building setback from the property line is maintained along the south edge. This space comprises the 4-meter service drive and a 4-meter landscape planting area that includes a row of trees.
PRECEDEANTS AND INSPIRATION

Monasteries at Krekhiv and Univ, Ukraine

Monastery, Novy Dvur, Czech Republic, John Pawson Architect

Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK

Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

Oxford University, Oxford, UK

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia