

702 Project Proposal: Barcelona Program

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Provisional Title: Barcelona Program

Client: Jury, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
Urban Housing Plus - Integrated Urban Development Solutions
International Student Design Competition

"The competition program is primarily designed for multi-disciplinary team solutions." - ACSA

Area(s): human interventions in the built environment, sustainable design, urban design

Project: Urban development schemes integrating mid-rise housing (five stories and taller) within an existing urban infrastructure, emphasizing mixed-use potential and the socio-economic and physical needs of the resident population in the region. Design solutions must address master planning as well as the development of specific plan elements.

The competition calls for the integration of new mid-rise housing and ancillary facilities for approximately 1,000 residents into an historic or redeveloping urban setting of the contestant's choosing, adapting and/or augmenting the existing service infrastructure. Depending on the site selected by each participant (in this case, the older part of Barcelona), the design could comprise a combination of open space, reconstruction/rehabilitation of existing buildings, and new construction.

In developing the design, students must specifically address the following issues:

- responsiveness to the socio-economic and physical needs of a high-density resident population;

- integration, augmentation, and/or reinforcement of the existing urban infrastructure to provide a sense of community, including provision for mixed-use structures, direct connection with public transport, parking for private automobiles, and incorporation of open space for local recreation; -
- attention to site-specific issues, such as climate, urban context (including the proposal of an urban typology appropriate to the particular evolutionary stage of the selected city), and cultural responsiveness in the selection of materials and construction techniques;
- creation of comfortable, modern dwelling space with a human scale, compositional unity, and contextual connection to the surrounding environment;
- sustainability, both in appropriate building practices and selection of building materials;
- application of universal design principles, considering people of all ages and physical abilities.

Issues: Housing design that takes into account the competing interests of any urban setting: integrated land use, optimum density, compatibility with existing infrastructure, environmental impact, affordability, contextual appropriateness, preservation, and above all, social need. The underlying theme of the competition calls for a solution that actively engages the social and economic context of its urban setting;

Relationship to 702 Requirements: Conforms directly to terms of reference

Participants: Teams to be formed from

Architecture: Bill Briskie, Chad Castellano, Jeff Dejong, Neil Freeman, Vance Harris, Catherine Kim, Joanne Lindsay, Justin Pockar, Kerri Ravndahl, Angel Seguin, Ulrik Seward, Keir Stuhlmiller, Chris Woodroffe, Kate Young

Environmental Design: Robyn MacLean

Industrial Design: Mark Griffiths, Keith Marpole, Rachel Meziere

Planning: Chris Elkey, John Lewis, Erin Silsbe