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O’DONNELL + TUOMEY

London School of Economics New Students’ Centre
London, U.K.
The LSE aims to have the “best student building in the UK.” It is aiming at sustainable and environmentally friendly students’ centre at the heart of its central London campus. The intention is to create a unique and beautiful contemporary building that is inspired by its context.

In order to attract and retain the very best students, the LSE brief is to create exemplary facilities for them. The School aims to create a central meeting hub for student facilities and activities. The building will promote a sense of ownership and identity that provides an efficient and enjoyable service for students. The New Student Union incorporates a number of complimentary student services including the Students’ Union, cafe and pub, events space, prayer and advice facilities, media centre, gym and accommodation and careers offices.

The building sits comfortably within its context but is also a point of reference within the campus. It is to be innovative and inspirational as well as being an engaging public space and a civic piece of architecture at the heart of the “Contemporary Westminster”.

The architectural intention for the design of the building is to create an active Student Union, the appearance and contemporary character of which should be inviting, welcoming and ever prevailing to its users. One aspiration is for a democratic, everyday, universal architecture of useful beauty.

LSU (London School of Economics Student Union) is a “place where students are at the heart of student activity.” The building provides an active and dynamic environment for students, with a strong sense of community and a focus on student engagement and well-being. The design is inspired by the idea of a student-run organization and is intended to be a space that students can call their own.

The building features a range of facilities, including a student union, café, bar, event space, prayer room, advice and careers services, media centre, gym, and accommodation. The design aims to create a welcoming and engaging public space that is both aesthetically pleasing and functional.

The building is designed to be sustainable and environmentally friendly, with features such as solar panels, rainwater harvesting, and energy-efficient lighting. The building is also designed to be energy-efficient, with features such as high-quality insulation and low-energy lighting.

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