



ARCHITECTURE
STUDENT
CONTEST

TEACHER'S DAYS
RECOMMENDATION BOOK

ARCHITECTURE STUDENT CONTEST 2022

Warsaw, Poland



INTRODUCTION

As part of the Architecture Student Contest 2022, Saint-Gobain organized on May 19th and May 20th 2021, the Teacher's Days event. Because of the pandemic, all participants were gathered for the first time on a virtual format.

During this two-day event, professors discovered the city of the contest through a presentation from the City Hall of Warsaw (Architecture and Urban planning department experts). They also got a better understanding of the Contest Task with drone views, 360 immersive videos and live description. It was also a good opportunity for teachers to take part of the discussions and to contribute to the creation of the Contest Task.



During this Teacher's Days, 99 professors from 27 countries and 57 universities had actively participated. Through this document, they share their experience and advices.

ACNOWLEDGMENTS

Saint-Gobain would like to thank all the participating professors and the city of Warsaw during the development of the contest task for the Architecture Student Contest 2022.

SPONSORSHIPS



KLIMENT IVANOV
New Bulgarian University
BULGARIA

The existing buildings that have to be preserved will be a challenge to be redraw and model because of their complex form and additional decoration. I suggest that extra information should be given to the participants in the form of 3D models or point-cloud surveys, or at least as elevation drawings.

CARLOS HERNANDEZ CORREA
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Bogota
COLOMBIA

Warsaw is a very interesting city, with a history, a culture, a past and a future projection that deserves to be studied and analyzed by our students. The place in general terms is very well selected.

The construction requires students to have a good opportunity to learn, innovate and apply new, more sustainable construction techniques. Social, cultural, and historical aspects of Warsaw are what will allow students to expand their knowledge and develop a comprehensive project.

The challenge of sustainability and its relationship with buildings, people, and the planet is a fundamental part of this contest.

The key challenges of the Contest Task to participating students are generating an innovative proposal based on in-depth knowledge of the place and the challenges posed by the uncertainty of our time for architecture.

MARTIN STARK
Czech Technical University in Prague
CZECH REPUBLIC

Regarding Sustainability, the key step is to design not only the building but the whole urban area as a functioning whole in terms of blue-grey-green infrastructure and energy demand reduction.

The key challenge of the Contest Task to participating students is designing the area in a way that allows, encourages, and allows building a community.

Based on experience, 12 square meters should be considered as the very minimal area for a student single room. Airtightness of 1,5 1/h is quite benevolent, from experience about a third of the given value should be considered as optimal.



PETRI AARNIO
University of Oulu
FINLAND

The city is a large, moderately unknown European capital, lively and interesting.

The competition area is quite small. I would always like to see a slightly (just a little) wider area that would allow different kinds of solutions from an urban design perspective.

The themes of sustainable development must be embedded in the training programs. It is no longer enough for us to look at this solely from the point of view of energy efficiency, but the whole life cycle of a building must be taken into account. The mindsets of societies need to change globally and that is the real challenge.

Calculations are always a problem. Programs may not work and may not always be available for download to all computers in use. I would prefer the programs to be downloadable from the competition website and their use in the competition to be design-guiding in nature, i.e. pedagogical rather than judgmental. I find the carbon calculations, in particular, dubious because the matter is very complex and national legislation is still in its infancy. Because of this, the issue is not yet in the curriculums.

HENNING BAURMANN
Hochschule Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences
GERMANY

The site is very interesting with many possibilities.

The key challenges of the Contest Task to participating students are Creating more than a building and creating a vibrant quarter.

Please allow a lot of varieties: building not only one scheme (courtyard with buildings around), but more ideas for future housing.

ANTOINE YOUNAN
Holy Spirit University Kaslik
LEBANON

Working with students in a city like Warsaw is a big challenge. this part of the world full of history especially after World War 2 is presenting a big opportunity to react in face of historical buildings, the park, the railway station, and the city fabric.

The site is a good choice especially that is limited to a parcel with constraints and this will give us a small margin to design with materials, sustainability, and regulations more than just esthetics and big scale designs. I would prefer to give more possibility to build also inside the plot but conserving the same percentages.

GERADO VELAZQUEZ
Universidad Iberoamericana
MEXICO

Warsaw is a vibrant city with balanced architecture from the past and amazing contemporary buildings, enhancing the lives of joyful happy citizens that enjoy dancing in the streets as much as history and traditions. The new buildings are emerging with all the technologies but an increasing search for sustainable architecture.

The Contest Task site is quite interesting since it is very well connected through a train station next to it in a nice neighborhood, very suitable for students. The site's historical building brings an interesting resource to make this connection between historic and contemporary architecture.

Life cycle analysis (LCA) is the clue to construction materials and a way to approach the project task.

Something important to take into consideration, that should be a part of the contest tasks should be to have at least the same greenery area, like that of the original plot of the site. This can be achieved in green roofs, wall-facades, terraces, etc. Use nature to help your projects to achieve comfort. The approach should be ecology-centric more than techno-centric. Nature should be the main guest and inhabitant of this project, and in all projects from now on.

Design with bioclimatic methodology from the beginning, have a clear understanding of the weather, sun path, and comfort conditions before tracing the first lines. Always think about nature cohabiting with people.

The Contest task is a challenging one, with hard objectives to achieve, especially for undergraduate students, but very important to state the importance of the analysis of all systems and gears of the architecture machinery of life in the search for sustainability.

The contest schedule should be reviewed with different countries to allow more teams to enter, not all universities start in September, which is unfair for the ones that start in January leaving a very short time for developing the contest.

CHISEL CRUZ
UNAM
MEXICO

The city's wide architectural variety reflects its long and turbulent history, from Gothic churches and neoclassical palaces to Soviet-period building blocks and modern skyscrapers. which can be very interesting to students.

By raising in the contest 3 aspects such as history, habitability, and sustainability, it is a very complete master plan for the students. I would like to take into account the rules to safeguard historical monuments.

The social, cultural, and historical aspects of Warsaw are an essential aspect in the teaching of the Holocaust is the emphasis on life and not death, showing students how Jews, despite being in an abnormal environment and chaos, tried to follow a normal life as much as possible and survive.

Sustainability is truly a challenge since the students in Mexico are not used to managing all sustainable aspects, they began to be aware of the thermal load.

The key challenges are the urban analysis of the city, then how to safeguard a historical monument and finally the use of passive systems in architecture.

VICTOR ALBERTO ARVIZU PINA
Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de Mexico
MEXICO

The city presents an interesting historical, cultural, and technological context for the project.

The project mixes different land uses, combined with existing historical buildings, which add an interesting challenge to the students.

The main challenge for the students will be to carry out the thermal, energetic, and environmental checks with the different tools that are provided. In Mexico, this type of analysis is generally not carried out in architecture schools.

ANDRZEJ DUDA
Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice
POLAND

The city of Warsaw is a great "renovation of architecture" that has been underway in Poland since 1989. This is especially true of large cities. The city is a dynamically developing city, next to Katowice, Wrocław, and Kraków, it is the place of the most important locations of modern architecture in Poland. In addition to skyscrapers built by large international companies, many architecturally interesting buildings are being built for local investors, designed by local architects. The strong Warsaw tradition of modernist architecture from the 1920s and 1930s is continued and developed.

The task of this year's competition is particularly interesting. The plot is very prestigious. This place is crucial for this part of the city, it is a kind of gate to the Kamionek district for people leaving the Warszawa Wschodnia railway station. From here, is easy to walk to such attractive areas as the National Stadium, Skaryszewski Park, or the "iconic district" of Saska Kempa. Kamionek is a modernized, original district with buildings of industrial architecture transformed into cultural facilities, a

gallery, and startups. Easy access from this place of competition, to the center of Warsaw, also makes it an attractive area for housing construction. Flats prices in this district are constantly rising.

As far as the construction is concerned, I suggest that participants should look for the most useful solutions to fit the chosen architectural concepts and solutions. This is always a feature of good architecture. Nevertheless, it would be nice in some cases to see the materials that are characteristic of Warsaw construction used following the principle of the so-called critical regionalism.

Almost two million inhabitants of Warsaw like their city. To the question asked: "When you think about the city you live in daily, do you have negative or positive feelings?" 93% responded positively, 1% negatively and 6% did not answer. Warsaw attracts young people from all over Poland. Statistics show that, they come here: for work (job) 30%, for family reasons 25%, that the capital 12%, studies 11%, low prices 11%, potential 8%, beautiful places 7%, I don't know 6%, cultural events 4%, safety 4%, good memories 3%, others 6.8%.

Many people from other countries also live here. They constitute about 2% of the city's population. These are officially registered but unofficially there are many more. They come mainly from Ukraine (8000 officially registered), Vietnam (3200), Belarus (1900), Russia (1400), France (950), India (800), China (800), Germany (650), (Great Britain (620) and Italy (600).

Sustainable development is a huge challenge for our habits, our economy, for our science, business, and politics. Sustainable development is one, that satisfies the existence of the present society so as not to close the path of development and prosperity for future generations.

The most important aspects of sustainable development are the concepts of needs and limitations. The balance between them is the key to solving economic, social problems as well as those related to ecology and climate change on earth. Architecture and technologies associated with it are an important segment of the struggle for the clean development of our planet. Saint-Gobain is also involved in this process with its products. The participants of the 2022 student competition should use this wisely and understand it in their projects.

The key challenges are general idea, urban context, quality of architecture, technologies, ecological challenges.

The broadly understood context of the task requires:

1. Presentation of the adequate idea and philosophy of the project task in several aspects of Warsaw.
2. Understanding the urban context of the surroundings and the district.
3. Adaptation of the given functional program of buildings, finding their "spatial mechanism" and their architectural form.

4. The use of modern construction technologies and materials in the context of environmental challenges and sustainable development.

TOMAS VALENTE
CESUGA University College
SPAIN

Three aspects could be remarkable on the city: Its relevant historical background, the relevance of greenery and nature, to be a center of attraction as a result of its vitality.

Finally, the presentation suggests an interest in communications technologies

Two aspects could be remarkable on the site: its industrial background; buildings on the plot are evidence of this. The residential block typology in an open-air context with the prominence of roads and infrastructures; the train station is evidence of this.

One aspect could be remarkable about the construction: the fabric of old factories in the area.

Collective memory and culture: The devastating impact of the 2nd world war in the city that we could see in pictures is a particular aspect in relation not only with history but mainly with a collective memory that one could not forget.

Context provides an interest in a new attractive culture based on its background, nature, and new technologies.

Two aspects of sustainability could be remarkable: the first one is the valorization of existing natural conditions in the context. The second one could be to assume in a critical way the agenda proposed in the contest.

The key challenges of the Contest Task to participating students are: To create appropriate and stimulating conditions for inhabiting. To contribute to improving the area. To contribute to recover and increase culture. And finally to do these things in the challenge of sustainability.

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