

SUBMISSIONS | SMALL OPEN SPACES

Project Title

Huron-Willcocks Student Commons

Site

University of Toronto, St. George
Campus

Project Team

CS&P Architects Inc. Paul Cravit, Susan Lewin,
Matthew Comeau, Jamie Ferrara

Client/Owner

University of Toronto/City of Toronto



2009

TORONTO Urban Design Awards

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Our design imagines the intersection as a 'civic room' for the University and City – one which accommodates a wide spectrum of activities; provides opportunities for year-round social activities; relates well to the surrounding buildings; and promotes the University's priorities of pedestrian activity and sustainable urban design initiatives. The intersection is extended through design and material changes to St. George Street and the surrounding buildings. The new public space stitches together key academic, domestic, and social facilities to create a *Student Commons* – a dynamic space of convergence where distinct landscape and pedestrian routes are reconnected.



Key design measures introduced include:

- extending the distinct landscapes of each corner building to the intersection
- greening of both streets with LED lighting
- wider sidewalks and more tree planting
- replacing car parking with bicycle lanes/bike racks
- converting the Lash Miller lawn to a stormwater pond and winter skating rink
- enlarging and integrating the café patio level with the street level
- sloping the Sidney Smith lawn to connect with a new greened roof terrace and pergola
- improving pedestrian accessibility with new ramps and bench seating
- providing seating opportunities for everyday use or special events with amphitheatre steps connecting to the terrace.

2009