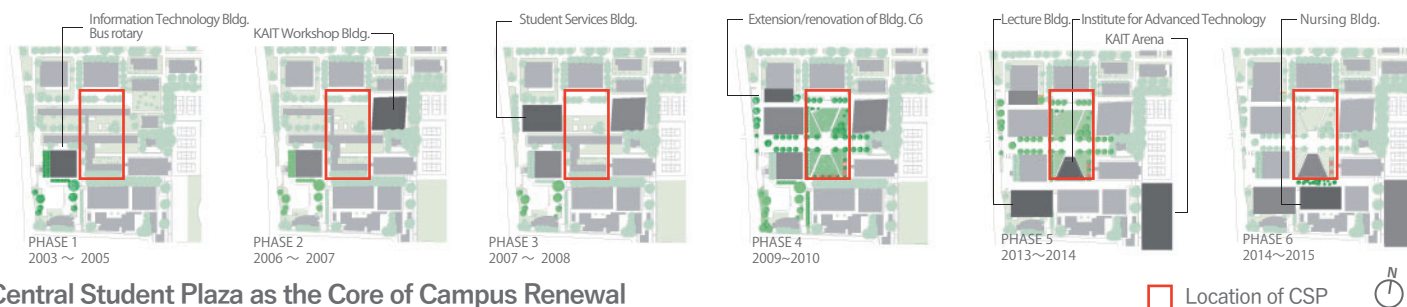




Whole View

Central Student Plaza (CSP) was the first to be laid out in the Master Plan at the heart of the campus.



Central Student Plaza as the Core of Campus Renewal

KEYWORDS OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN

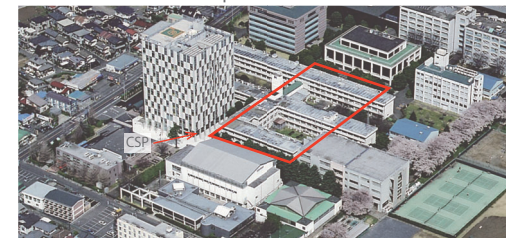


Campus Renovation based on Master Plan for the Future

The campus renewal project was initiated in 2003 with an aim to “enhance campus life for students.” To solve the initial lack of open space due to concentration of low- to mid-rise buildings, a master plan was devised for creating a lawn plaza approx. measuring 65 x 130 meters at the center of the campus by reconstructing in phases the existing buildings that had been there since the beginning of the institute and integrating them into high-rise buildings to provide a vast outdoor space, where students can relax and socialize.

We designed the landscape to gently unify and interface with the old and new buildings, each of which is bustling in its own way and can be appreciated from the plaza that serves as a new symbol of the university.

CSP site over an aerial photo of KAIT before renewal



Kanagawa Institute of Technology Campus Renewal

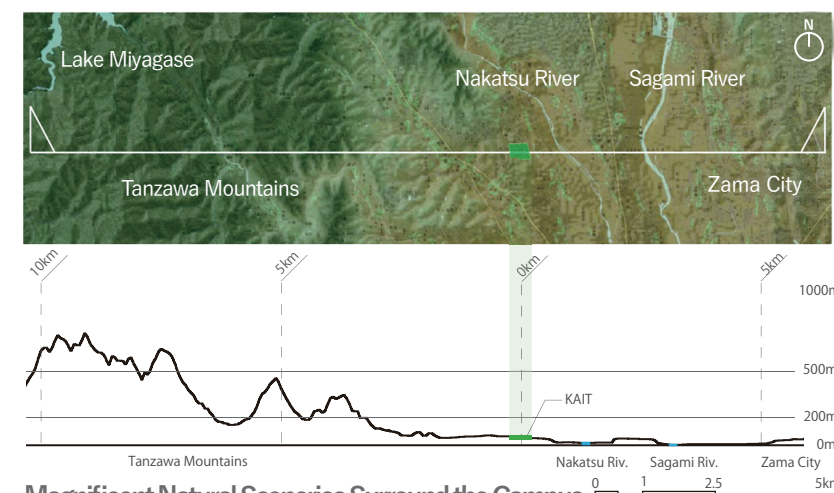
Address 1030 Shimoogino, Atsugi, Kanagawa
Main use University campus
Client Ikutoku Gakuen (school corporation)
Landscaping Landscape Design Inc.
Architectural design KAJIMA DESIGN
Junya Ishigami + Associates (KAIT Workshop, KAIT Plaza)
Mitsubishi Jisho Sekkei Inc. (KAIT Arena)
Construction Kajima Corp. Yokohama Office; Kojimagumi Co., Ltd.

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Viewing Central Student Plaza

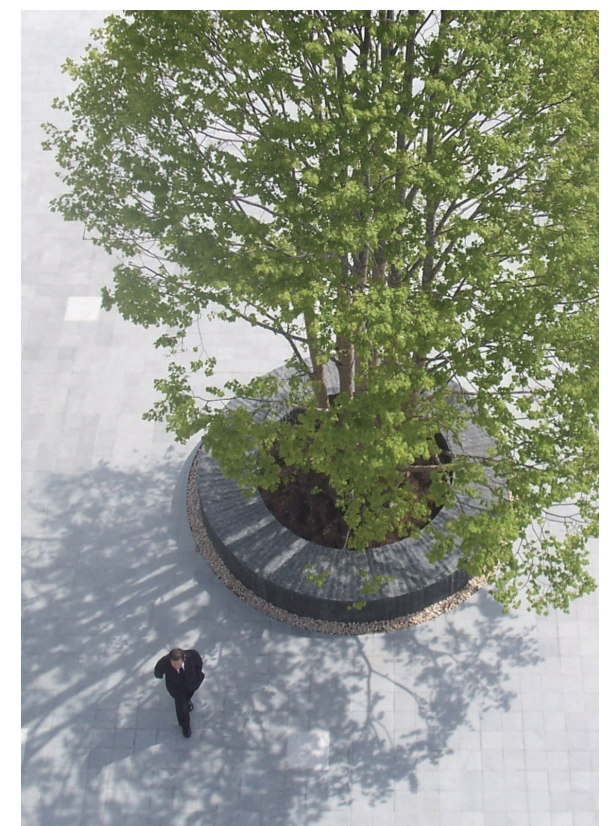
Tanzawa Mountains far to the west form a scenic backdrop to the campus.



Magnificent Natural Sceneries Surround the Campus

Landscape that Provides a Framework for Campus

The KAIT campus with an approximate area of 130,000m² is situated in northern part of Atsugi City on the Sagami-hara Plateau surrounded by the bounty of nature that represents Kanagawa Prefecture. We developed a clear-cut master plan for landscaping centered on a vast courtyard called “Central Student Plaza,” which was designed along a lateral axis of nature, involving the Sagami River water system to the east and Tanzawa Mountains to the west, and a longitudinal axis of history, with the university’s symbolic library facing the plaza from the north side. The landscape was intended to provide a framework for the entire campus design that encourages the flow of people and enhance the function of each spot.



Circular bench with a symbolic tree

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Plaza in front of the Library

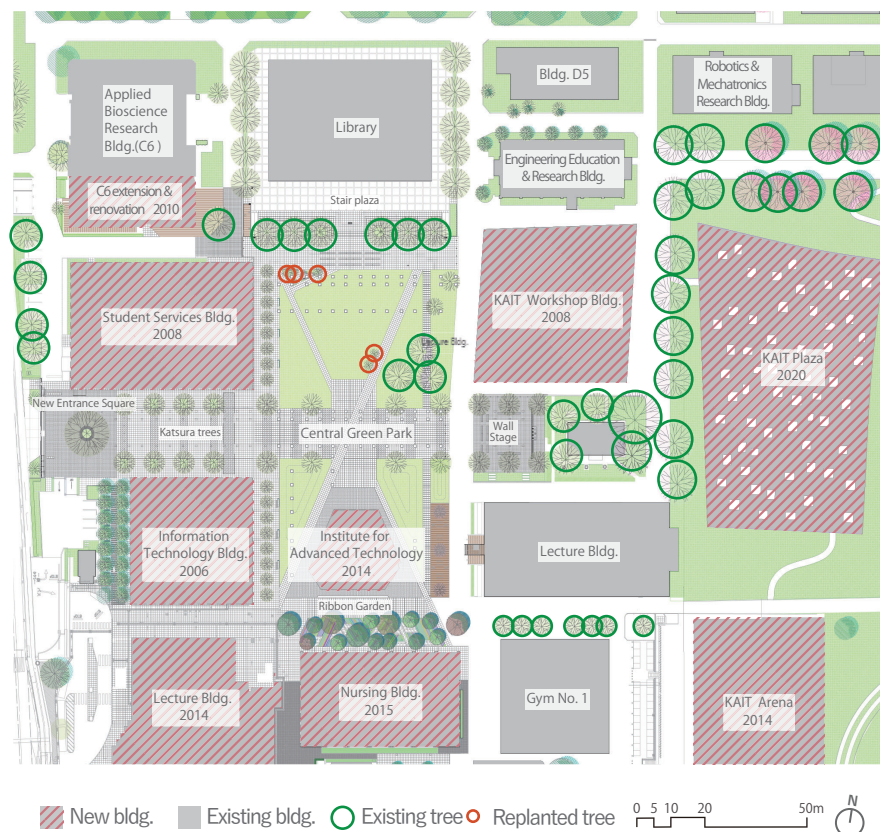
A place for students to sit and mingle with other students by the old trees that have been there since the beginning of the university's history.



Courtyard engraved with traces of pillars of old

Place of Respect for History & Interactions

In renewing the campus, we tried to preserve or replant as many large trees as possible in respect of the university's long history. The traces of pillars of old buildings engraved on the lawn, bronze statue, and other historical elements are incorporated in the design of Central Student Plaza, which can be accessed freely from any direction and serve as a center of interactions, with small gathering spots of varying designs to support the diverse needs of students.



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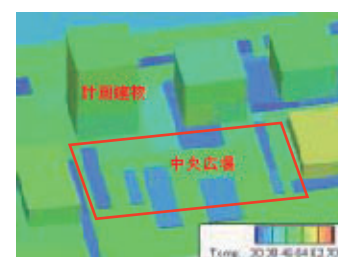
CSP as the center of interactions

All visitors to the campus walk through the Central Student Plaza to get to their respective destinations.

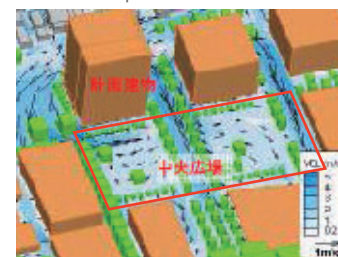
Evidence-Based Design & Verification of Performance

"Evidence-based Design (EBD)" is a newly emerging landscape architecture approach that uses scientific evidence without being influenced by personal preferences or bias. To create comfortable spaces for people and ensure optimum design performance, we conducted various trials and analyses, including simulations of thermal environment and winds, analysis of prevailing winds, and predictions of human flow and congestion during gathering events to determine the size of each open space and the width of each pathway. After completion, we kept monitoring the project to gather data, which are used to further enhance our Evidence-based Design. The data confirmed that this large-scale renovation project significantly improved the campus environment.

Improved Thermal Environment



Surface temperature



Wind velocity distribution

Creation of Central Student Plaza improved the thermal environment and air movement within the campus. It also improved thermal comfort in terms of sensory temperature as verified by data.

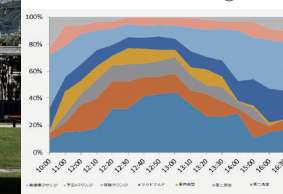
Human Flow within the Campus



Students passing through Central Student Plaza



Human flow tracking



Locations of students tend to stay within the day.

After the renewal, we monitored and measured how students moved around the campus. As based on our prediction of the human flow, we were able to verify the locations they tend to stay at different times within the day and the appropriateness of the width of each pathway and the size of gathering locations. We believe that these analyses provided credible evidence of the validity of our landscape design in this campus renewal project.

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