



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA | DESIGN GUIDELINES

Gathering Typologies

- 4 INTENT
- 9 LAYOUTS



PREPARED BY
THINK

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**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
AT MĀNOA**

**GATHERING TYPOLOGIES
DESIGN GUIDELINES**

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Prepared By
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1 Intent

1-1 Intent

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa offers a diverse range of indoor and outdoor gathering and collaboration spaces across campus. These important spaces constitute the connective tissue of campus life. They enable students, faculty, staff, and visitors to enjoy comfortable meetings and interactions, both structured and spontaneous, in small groups or large—formal, informal, personal, and professional—supporting collaboration and exchange in multiple settings: benches, booths, conference rooms, flexible classrooms, courtyards, lounges, auditoriums, theaters, even stadiums.

Diverse meeting types call for diverse space types, sizes, architectural treatments, and furnishings. This volume of the UH Mānoa Campus Framework Design Guidelines describes gathering spaces based on a spatial and programmatic gradient encompassing four conditions: open, closed, public, and private. The location of a space, room, or area on this gradient helps determine the basic considerations and requirements enabling planners and designers to optimize gathering experience for all scales, users, and contexts.

Hybrid gathering spaces

Hybrid gathering space is ideal for programming student, faculty, and administrative resources designed for long-term flexibility. Interior spaces featuring this attribute avoid permanent assignments or “ownership”; typically these spaces welcome spontaneity, access, multiple uses, and diverse users. Furniture and equipment and their location and movability can accommodate a wide variety of activities, including open plan office and meeting environments that can be reserved by any and all groups on both a short- and long-term basis. Patterns and rhythms of use; the flexibility of furnishings and equipment; the distribution of formal and informal spaces and zones—e.g., individual, small, and large group study and collaboration areas: all these factors influence traffic, efficiency, and quality of campus life.



IMAGE 1-1: Campus outdoor courtyard—open and public.

1-2 Gathering Typologies

The Campus Framework defines gathering typologies as spaces where two or more people can comfortably congregate. These spaces may be enclosed or open, characterized by broad availability across the entire campus community—faculty, staff, and students.

Enclosed

Enclosed spaces include any space with a full or partial physical enclosure, entry point, or controlled access.

Open

Open spaces occupy settings within easy view of others—anybody can enter the space from anywhere. Open gathering spaces typically offer first-come, first-served access to all.

Public

Public spaces are typically more informal and have a greater variety of flexible furniture solutions.

Restricted

Restricted spaces feature private access. Within enclosed space types, restricted spaces offer the highest level of privacy.

Private

Private spaces direct sight-lines inward toward a central focal point. These spaces suggest “social circles,” supporting more formal or confidential programming activities with less .

The following quadrant diagram provides examples of space types according to levels of privacy and size.

OPEN			
PRIVATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor theatre, e.g. Andrew's Amphitheater• University building courtyards• Open seating with some level of privacy• Open seating within an open area• Furniture arrangements within a classroom, e.g. for a breakout session or landing space• Café-like layouts offering varied levels of privacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quads• Campus Center courtyards• Open seating around or under a tree• Outdoor furniture arrangements• Outdoor open performance spaces• Students gathering along the steps of a building• Football and practice fields• Open pop-up events on campus• Campus landscapes with architectural features	PUBLIC
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carrels• Private booths• Meeting rooms• Sitting nooks• Conference rooms• Private offices• Enclosed athletic complexes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stadiums• Enclosed large lecture rooms• Indoor theaters• Dismountable outdoor tensile structures		
ENCLOSED			



IMAGE 1-2: Richardson Law School courtyard—semi-enclosed and semi-private.

2 Layouts

2-1 Gathering Typologies

The following gathering space diagrams provide examples of concepts for different gathering types, based on scale and privacy.

Gathering spaces offer versatile amenities that encourage a wide range of activities and design attributes that encourage meeting, interaction, and communication. These primary and secondary spaces accommodate different types of social and professional or academic exchange, among other formal and informal activities.

Specially equipped campus spaces provide students with the ability to participate in an online class individually, or in groups, or have breakout or landing space sessions.

Whenever possible, design small and medium gathering spaces to accommodate flexible furniture layouts; provide ample power, data, WiFi, whiteboards (in meeting rooms), café-like open seating, and long, open tables.

Flexibility is a key factor in the design of campus spaces, therefore design room configurations for maximum adaptability. Refer to the furniture design guidelines for recommended furnishing, and recommended finish selections in the color design guidelines.

Built environment

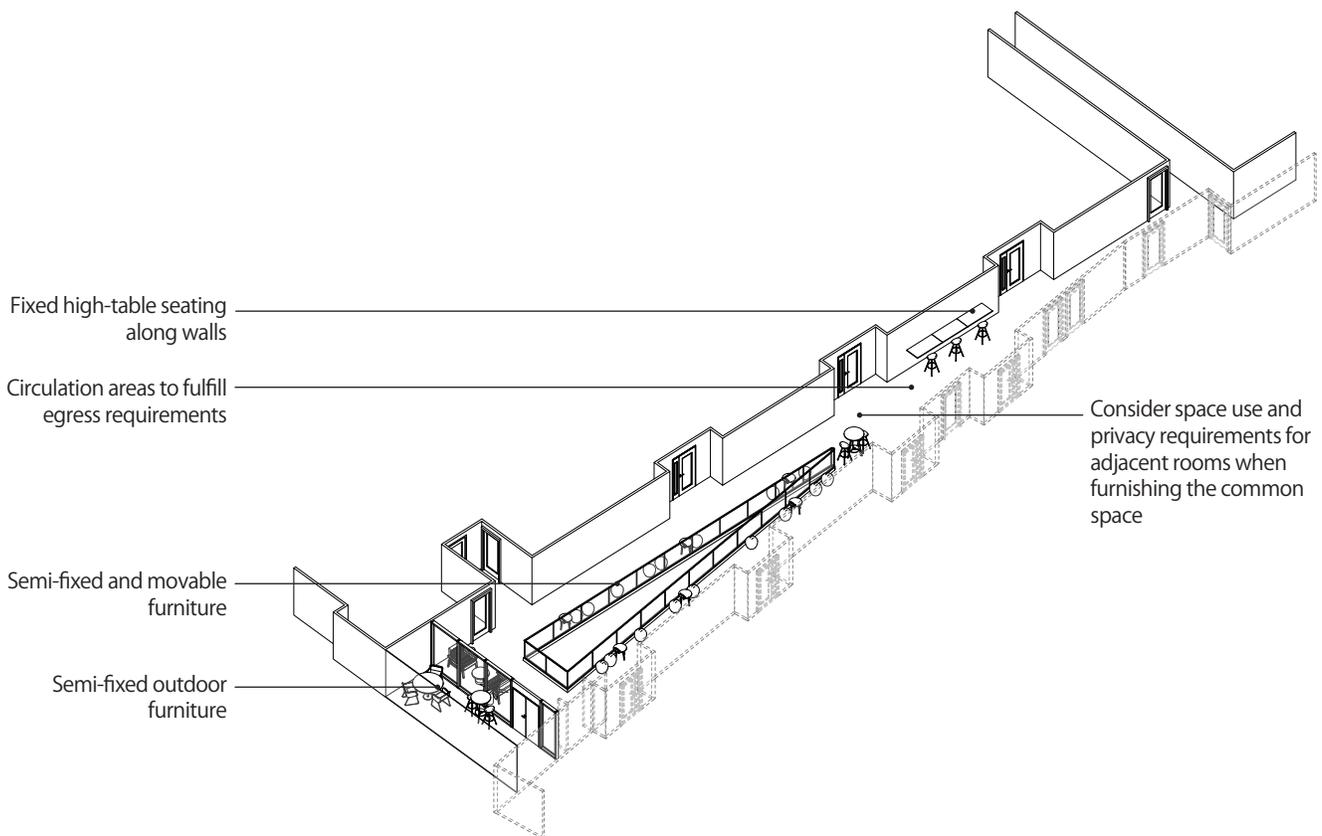
- Provide a minimum ceiling height of 14'-0" for indoor spaces

Hybrid spaces

Gathering typologies commonly include hybrid spaces. Often, such spaces adjoin and embellish circulation routes.

Gathering space configurations and size determine furniture types and support varied activities. For example, the tables, chairs, and lounge furniture in Campus Center's large covered atrium offer a great variety of spaces for individuals and small groups, and yet the entire volume promotes diverse types of gathering. Likewise, the common spaces found both within and outside the Life Sciences building—also inside the Student Success Center—demonstrate how circulation requirements can coexist with furniture layouts and dynamic gathering.

Hybrid spaces accommodate a wide range of group sizes supported by flexible programming and furniture arrangement.



Design intent

This example shows how furniture can combine circulation and gathering spaces. Students share common spaces within defined boundaries. A combination of movable, flexible furniture, along with semi-fixed seating and tables for mixed-use, encourages visitors to adapt space according to their needs. The design prioritizes circulation requirements, expressed by placing smaller seating and side tables along the core, ensuring that furniture does not obstruct egress.



Image courtesy of AM Partners

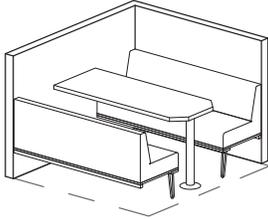
IMAGE 2-1: Student success center—hybrid, open, enclosed, public/private.



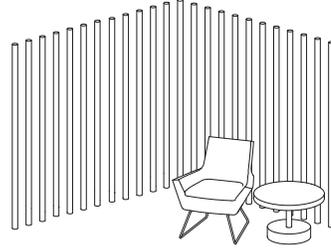
Image courtesy of AM Partners

IMAGE 2-2: Student success center—hybrid, open, enclosed, public/private.

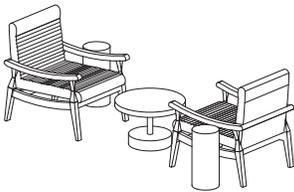
Gathering Type: Extra Small



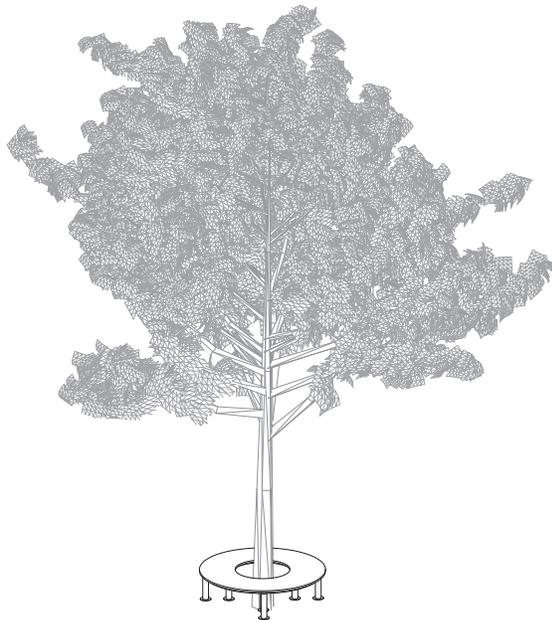
Enclosed / Private: A single or two-person space within a booth, which offers a level of privacy and only one point of access.



Open / Private: A single seat with some level of privacy.



Open / Private: A single or two-person space within an open area.



Open / Public: Open seating around the base of a tree.

Design intent

Extra-small gathering types offer ideal space for two-person or small-group meeting and interaction. Assume a target capacity of 2 occupants; use mobile double-seat desks and other flexible furniture arrangements to accommodate diverse activities. Include outdoor furniture as a gathering type.



IMAGE 2-3: Open and public.

Image courtesy of Streelife



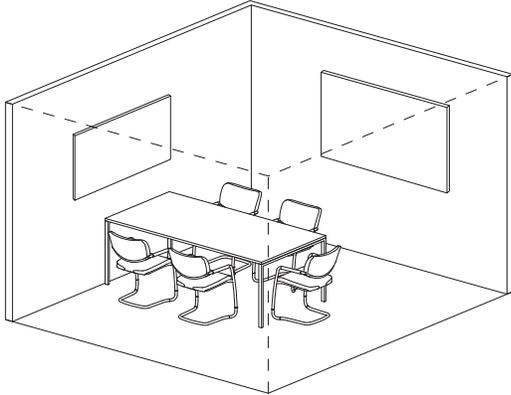
Image courtesy of Daniel Friedman, PhD, AIA.

IMAGE 2-4: Lè'ahi Millennium Peace Garden—centrifugal and centripetal in one configuration, beneath a tree.

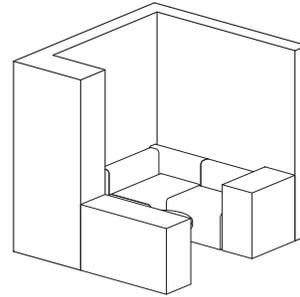


IMAGE 2-5: Thai Pavilion at East-West Center—open-public, enclosed-private.

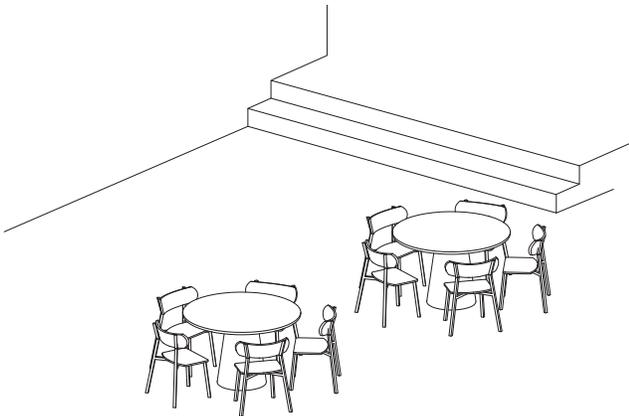
Small Gathering Spaces



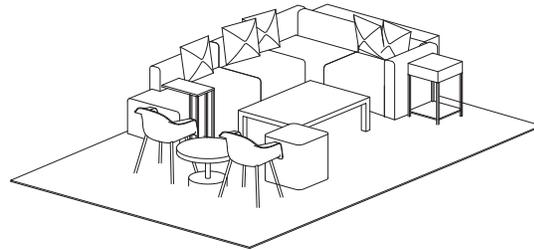
Enclosed / Private: A meeting room or landing space that can be furnished with whiteboards, screens, or technology.



Enclosed / Private: A shared sitting nook.



Open / Private: An open table with chairs within a larger space for 4-6 people.



Open / Private: Open lounge seating within a larger open space.

Design intent

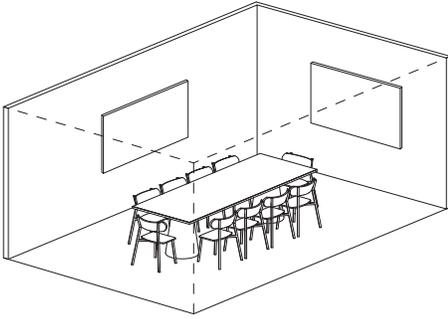
Small gathering spaces support small group meetings, informal landing spaces for students and faculty, breakout groups, and discussions. These spaces can be enclosed within partitions or walls, or open to larger outdoor or indoor spaces.



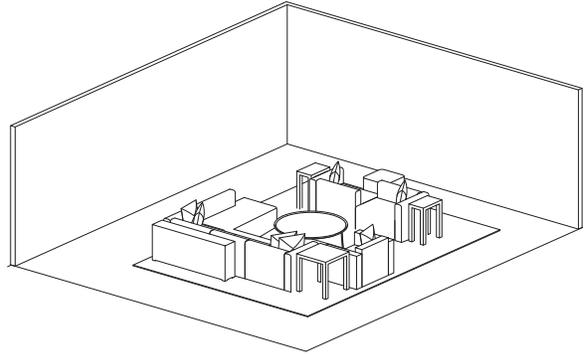
Image courtesy of Hawaii News Now

IMAGE 2-6 Campus Center outdoor courtyard—open and public.

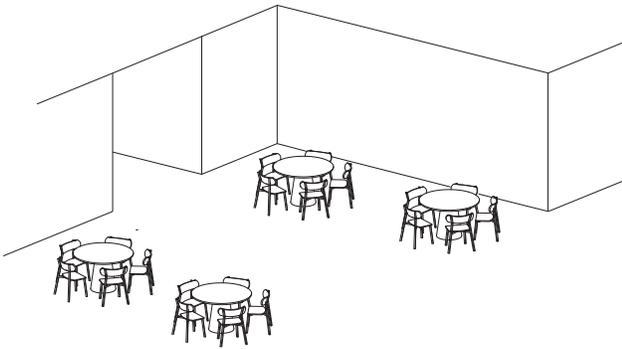
Medium Gathering Spaces



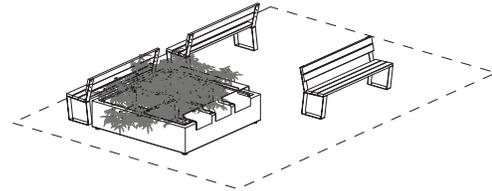
Private / Enclosed: An enclosed conference room or landing space, which may be furnished with storage, whiteboards, screens, or technology.



Public / Semi-enclosed: A shared lounge layout within a room or space, with or without enclosure.



Private / Open: An arrangement of tables within a larger space.



Public: Open outdoor furniture.

Design intent

Medium-size spaces support conference or other mixed-use programs. They provide a flexible environment easily reconfigured to accommodate conferences, discussions, and breakout groups.



IMAGE 2-7: Old Grad Lounge at the University of Notre Dame—open, semi-private.

Image Courtesy of University of Notre Dame.



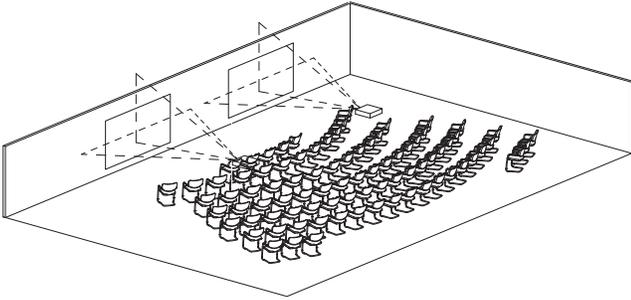
IMAGE 2-8: Eden Hall at Chatham University—hybrid, open, enclosed, public/private.

Image courtesy of Mithun.

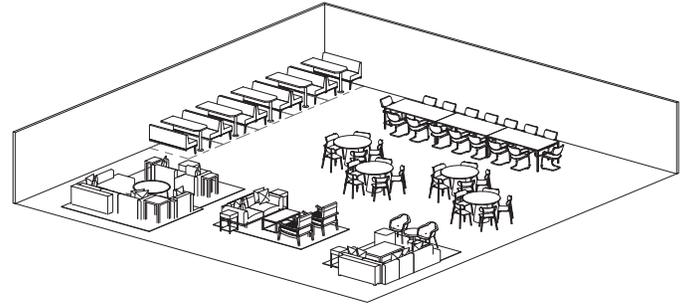


IMAGE 2-9: Open outdoor seating at Warrior Recreation Center—open, public.

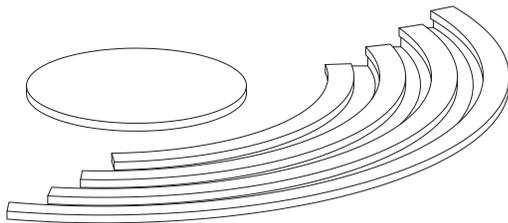
Large Gathering Spaces



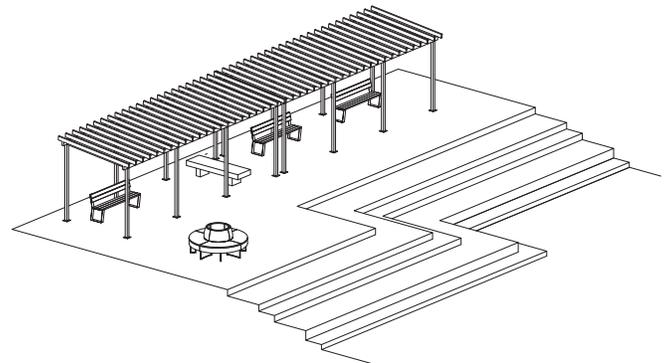
Enclosed / Public: An enclosed lecture room or theatre with fixed furniture arranged based on converging sight-lines.



Open / Semi-private: A cafe-like layout where different levels of privacy coexist within an open space, simultaneously supports individuals, diverse seating, and large-group meetings.



Open / Public: An outdoor open performance space.



Hybrid mix of semi-enclosed and public: shaded open outdoor space, seating along steps, and urban furniture.

Design intent

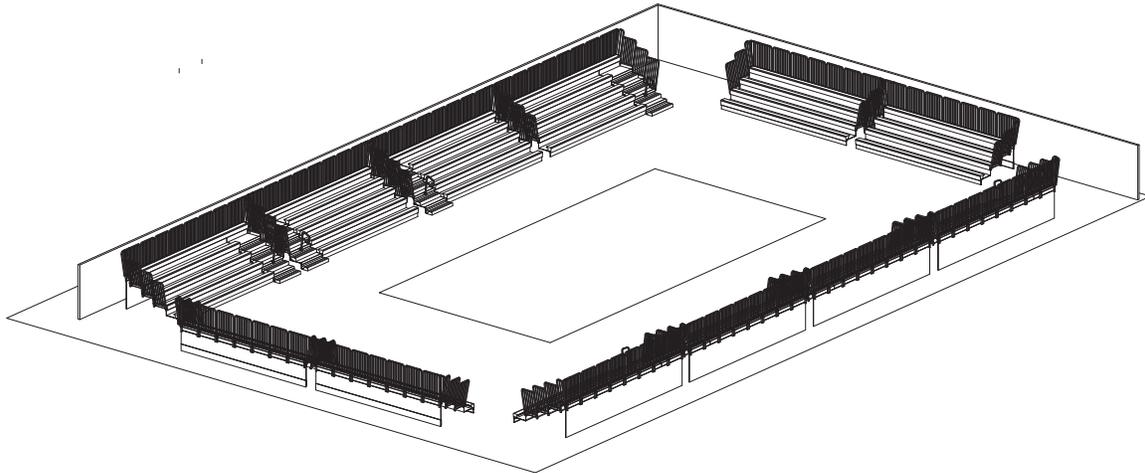
Large gathering spaces typically accommodate up to 72 occupants and support traditional lectures, presentations, events, and programs.

Large gathering spaces offer a variety of layouts that maximize efficiency and accommodate diverse programs. Alternative layouts include movable furniture, tiered fixed seating, and U-shaped layouts suitable for indoors or outdoors.

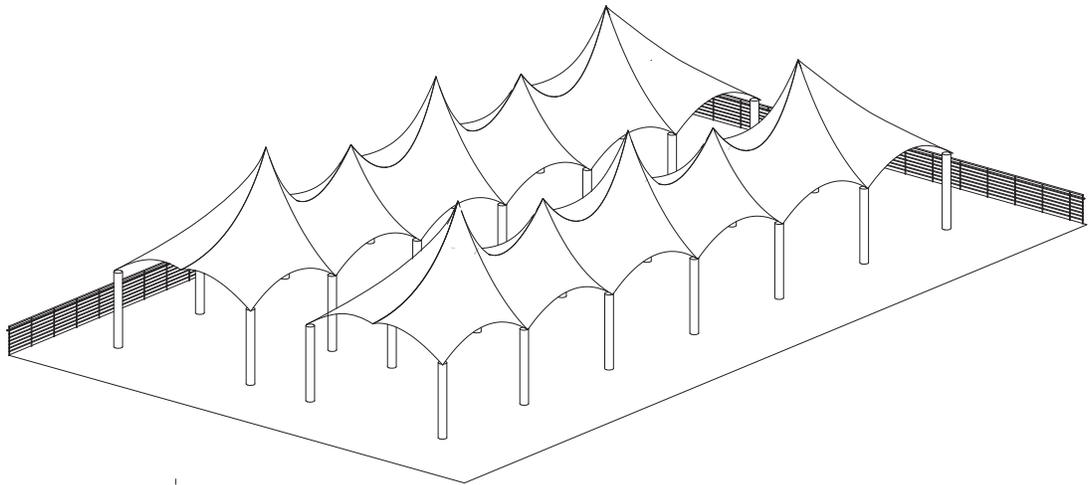


IMAGE 2-10: Andrew's Amphitheater—semi-enclosed, semi-private.

Extra-Large Gathering Space



Enclosed/ Private: An enclosed athletics complex with bleachers.



Open / Semi-private: A tensile structure that can host events on campus.

Design intent

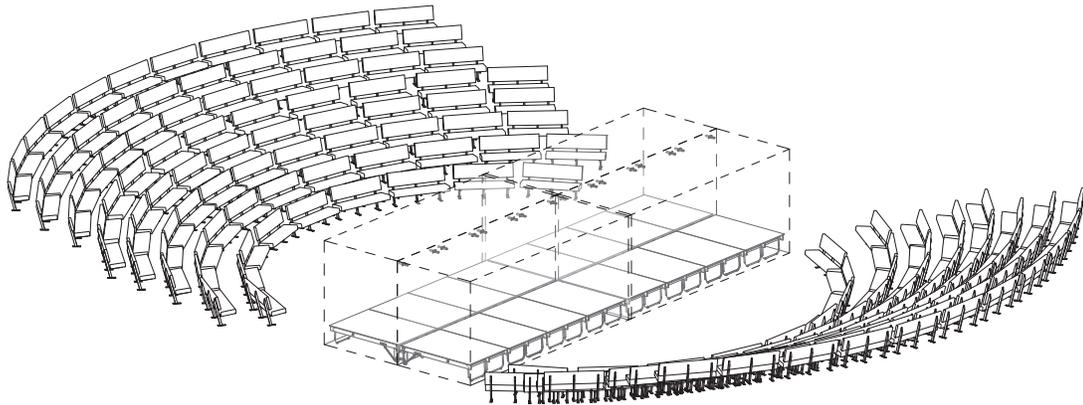
Extra-large gathering spaces support flexible programs, large presentations, and group events. Flexible furniture facilitates easy reconfiguration; movable risers can be designed to support diverse programming.



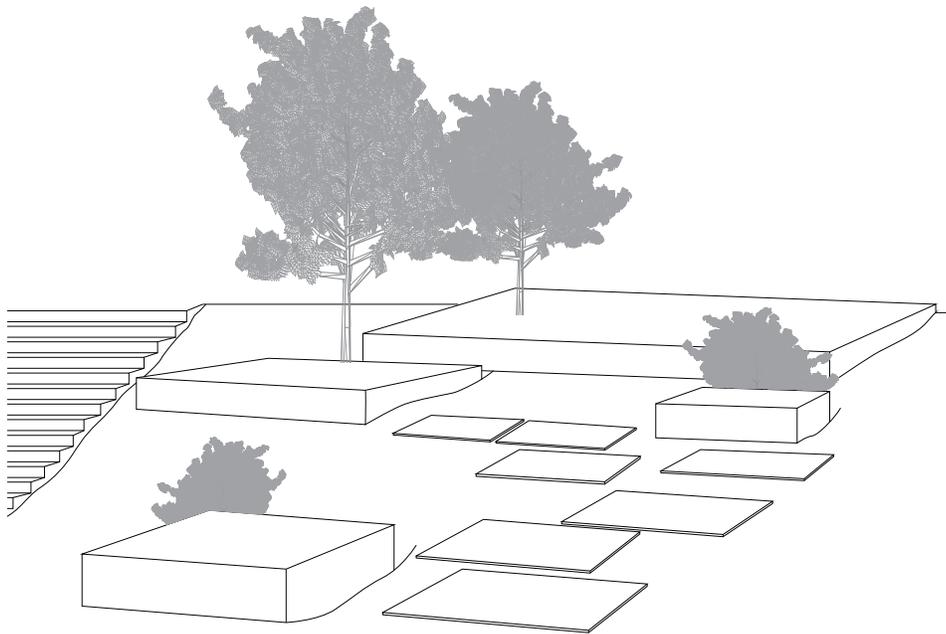
IMAGE 2-11: Clarence TC Ching field—open, public.



IMAGE 2-12: Hawaiian hula and chant ensemble performance—open, public.



Open / Public: An outdoor open performance space with a temporary stage for concerts or performances.



Open / Public: Campus landscape with architectural features that support diverse activities for individuals and groups.



IMAGE 2-13: Microsoft Campus—mixed use space types built throughout the campus enable users to accommodate their needs individually or in groups.

Image courtesy of Aaron Locke.



IMAGE 2-14: Students gathering along the steps of Hawaii Hall.



IMAGE 2-15: Groups of students gathering on campus—small, flexible seating borders broad, open, public gathering and circulation spaces.