

Renew [verb]

Resume [an activity] after an interruption.

Give fresh life or strength to.

The social and environmental changes that Australia has faced over the last few months has created interruptions to all aspects of our lives. As students of the built environment it can be difficult to comprehend positivity for our future post disruptive interruptions that have a direct impact to the communities of which we live, work and learn in. Climate change, natural disasters and a global pandemic are examples of such interruptions. We believe that a state of renewal is a way of thinking that can allow us to see positivity during and after these interruptions.

Upscale will allow students to work together to find ways to renew; to resume after an interruption or give fresh life to their communities that have been disrupted during these times. The interruption that Upscale will respond to is specifically the COVID-19 pandemic.

OVERARCHING BRIEF

1. The 'Client' Collective

The 'client' is a collective of two community groups. One community group must be students of the built environment. The second community group is not fixed and is open to be determined by the SONA representatives in each state. The two communities must have differences (i.e. domestic students and international students, 1st years and 5th years, different disciplines etc.) Examples outside of students of the built environment could be; teachers, local cafe staff, library staff, local councils, residents etc.

2. Reverse Local Brief

A preliminary brief building workshop will take place before the official Upscale Weekend. Each state will organise for a design collective to collaborate on defining a local brief. The SONA representatives should invite the following to the reverse local brief workshop:

- Member/s of the two communities chosen to be the Client Collective
- Forum member or other professional mentor to assist in facilitating the session (i.e architect, academic, construction professional etc.) Reach out to SONA exec for assistance if needed.
- Local Chapter event organiser
- All SONA representatives within the state

The outcome of this workshop will allow the representatives and chapter to adapt the national overarching brief to suit their local community.

The workshop should be organised via a virtual video call to take place as soon as possible/ at least ~ 2 weeks before the upscale weekend. This session should be planned to suit the following structure:

The interruption is COVID-19

1. Understand the normal state [pre-interruption]

- List sites that both the communities interacted with during this phase. The communities may have also interacted with each other within these sites. For example, a specific building, room or area within the university campus, or a particular cafe, street or public area.
- Describe the relationship between the communities pre-interruption.
- Describe the relationship between the communities and the sites pre-interruption.

2. Understand the state of interruption [during the interruption]

- Describe the relationship between the communities during the interruption and how this has changed from the pre-interruption stage.
- Describe the relationship between the communities and the sites during the interruption and how this has changed from the pre-interruption stage.
- Understand both the positives and negatives of this change and consider what has remained unchanged

3. Vision the renewal state [post the interruption]

- What aspects of the changes described in the stages above do we want to champion in the post interruption stage i.e what aspects of the relationships should we give fresh life or strength to post the interruption. Perhaps there is something we want to ensure returns, or conversely perhaps there is something we do not want to exist anymore. Perhaps there are also some things that we want to change so that they are different in the renewed state.
- In this step, it is important to list out all the opportunities as per the above dot point. Come up with a long list then narrow down the list to a specific design intent.
- Lastly, utilise the list of ideas within point 3 to decide on a design intent for a built form.

3. Site and Scale

The built form should be a small intervention that aims to interject within an existing space of importance to the design collective. The built form must fit through a standard size door.

The students proposals should consider whether the design will be built on site or off site. Hence the students may also need to consider transportation of the materials or access to the desired site.

The site/s to which the built proposal will inhabit should be specified by the students and should be realistic. The students may choose to pitch their design towards inhabiting one specific site within a university (such as one university's architecture design studio space). Alternatively, the students may suggest that their built design could inhabit multiple sites. The amount of agency that the students have at defining their site should be decided upon by the local SONA representatives and Chapter and be further defined within the local brief.

4. Material

The final proposals will need to be constructed using TIMBER as a primary material. The SONA Reps will work with their chapters to find a suitable source for the material, once the winning proposal has been decided.

Sourcing Framework for the build phase [post competition]

It is highly encouraged that representatives and chapters utilise their networks to search for any potential material wastage that can be repurposed (for example, off-cuts from a wood factory/supply warehouse or an institute sponsor).

Locality

We would like you to prioritise Australian suppliers, manufacturers and harvesters. The more locally sourced, the better. We encourage you to investigate the origins of the raw material before you make a decision on where to purchase it from.

Cost

The budget for the build phase for the most preferred design is **\$800**

Try to think strategically about where you source the material from. Is there a second hand alternative? Have you explored the possibility of a discounted rate since this is a student event? Are there any local sponsors who could provide financial aid or donate some form of material?

Transport

Transport and associated costs of delivering materials to the workshop will need to be considered, ensure this is logically considered when choosing a supplier.

5. Now you have decided your design collective, completed the reverse local brief workshop and determined your design intent for the built form complete the local brief template to finalise your local brief.