

The provision of a fashion school for the University of Pretoria answers to the functional need of a more conducive working environment for the Clothing Department of the Faculty of Consumer Sciences. The department is currently situated in the Old Agriculture Building on Main Campus. Because the lecture halls and laboratories are shared amongst the three departments of Clothing, Food Sciences and Interior Design, the faculty is in dire need of more space. All three courses involve four years full time study and there are a maximum of 40 students per year group. Because the existing fashion labs can only accommodate 20 students at a time, some design classes must be duplicated.

Subjects in the first year of study involve topics such as Sewing Techniques, Principles of Design and Clothing Production Processes with subjects becoming more specialised in senior years to include issues relating to Consumer Behaviour & Service Marketing, Fashion Forecasting, Social & Cultural Aspects of Clothing and Clothing Merchandising.



Each student uses a needlework machine, and because there is not enough space for it to be stored in the intended cupboards in the Old Agriculture building, students are using the fitting rooms to store their machines. Complaints have been voiced by students that ironing boards in the fashion labs are poorly positioned and that they obstruct movement. Lecturers of the Clothing department have been forced to share old storage rooms as offices, as their offices are currently being utilised by lecturers from the other two departments.

By moving the Clothing Department to the new site in Hatfield, four fashion laboratories and two lecture halls in the Old Agriculture Building will become vacant for use by the Food Sciences and Interior Design students.

1 out of fit real world problem



1.1 context fig. 10



1.2 study area