

Appendix 1

High quality educational environments breed skilled professionals

Vision for Development: Creating the future University College Copenhagen

One region, one capital, one university college: prolific education

The Capital Region needs skilled, well-educated professionals who can face the future challenges of society in a competent and qualified manner. This task requires strong educational environments, which can set new standards for professional bachelor's education, continuing education, and practice-oriented research and development. The merger of Metropolitan University College and University College Capital is a natural step in taking the professional bachelor's education to a new level – and a natural step in the development of the two organisations. The new, shared university college in the Capital Region will provide a sole entrance to new, quality educational environments for all students, course participants, and partners of the institution.

Metropolitan University College and University College Capital are complimentary in terms of the professional profiles and educational environments. The educational environments combined cover all core areas of the welfare state. Moreover, the merger will allow a closer, sustainable collaboration to raise the standards of educational environments that need improvement. The education portfolios of the two institutions are largely overlapping, but they are not completely alike nor different. This creates the best basis for the development of competencies and growth in a harmonious collaboration with regions, municipalities, and businesses.

The new university college will be able to position itself on a new level and in new contexts. The new university college will have the professional and organisational strength necessary to accommodate future needs for the development of society. The new university college will strive to be the preferred partner for the public and private sector. The university college will also be an attractive and equal partner for other education and research institutions.

With its sheer volume, the merged university college will be pacesetter in the education sector. In close collaboration with key stakeholders in the Capital Region, the new university college will have the opportunity to set the agenda for the development of the framework in the education sector – including key areas such as 'learning'.

In sum, the new university college will create opportunities to:

- Set new standards for professional bachelor's education, continuing education, and practice-oriented research and development by providing high quality, professional educational environments with profound and diverse knowledge.
- Create a better framework for learning, which supports varying teaching methods and an attractive study and work life.
- Be experimental and agenda setting in order to face future challenges of the welfare state
- Being influential in students' choice of study programme(s) and creating a platform for political changes relating to education.

The Welfare State in transition

Expectations and requirements to the central welfare institutions will change with increasing speed in the coming years. The complexity of the services provided by welfare institutions will therefore increase. The ever-accelerating digital development is now the basic condition, which inevitably will lead to change within the educational sector. The new university college will have the necessary capacity to develop new strategies and solutions to face the future challenges of the welfare state. The new university college will be the natural arena for municipalities and regions in the development of projects concerning the public.

The new university college will be the platform for interdisciplinary inspiration – breaking down traditional discipline-bound barriers and creating cooperation in new contexts. With its profound pool of professional knowledge and expertise and the increased organisational strength, the new university college will create new opportunities for a comprehensive and systematic focus on the interdisciplinary element in our education programmes and in the continuing knowledge creation.

The new university college considers regional and national challenges to be interconnected. Correspondingly, an international orientation is pivotal in creating new knowledge. The university college will have an ambition to set new standards for practice-oriented, research-based professionally oriented higher education programmes.

Education for the Future – Educations of the Future

The fundamental ambition for the new university college is to provide education of the highest quality. New configurations of cooperation with practice-oriented elements will be a pivotal component of the education programmes. Likewise, the university college with its strong, professional educational environments will be an active agent in knowledge creation and circulation. This will serve as the very foundation for quality enhancement of the education system and its programmes.

Across a wide range of programmes, the new university college shall strive to strengthen the reputation and legitimacy of the field(s) of profession(s). In doing so, we will support the graduate's role as 'specialist in the field' who induce interconnecting solutions for institutions and the public. The graduate of the university college has the courage, the capability, and the competencies to actively participate in the development of the welfare state. Through our graduates, we can take part in creating change in organisations and fields of professions.

The rationale for the merger between Metropolitan University College and University College Capital is multifarious. The merger will allow us to:

- Establish a broad-based foundation for a comprehensive interdisciplinary collaboration between different education programmes.
- Strengthen the programmes' knowledge basis. In addition, ensure opportunities to experimental approaches (e.g. didactic approaches) across the programmes to develop new ways of organising and practicing 'learning'.
- Ensure deep and diverse curricula in the more robust educational environments to raise our profile and be more attractive when competing for student applications, projects, and resources.
- Be a competent research and development institution, specifically encouraging research in specific subject area(s) by means of professional support through funding/grants and internationalisation.
- Procure investors to professionally develop and test new digital platforms for education programmes as well as for administrative purposes.

- Approach course participants, clients and key strategic stakeholders in connection with continuing education programmes in a competent, coherent, and transparent manner.
- Being influential in students' choice of study programme(s) and creating a platform for political changes relating to education

Attractive study and learning environment

With modern facilities and campuses, the new university college will provide the best possible working- and study environment, which will encourage flexible and innovative teaching methods.

The students will experience being a part of a challenging learning environment, in which systematic practice-oriented learning and varying teaching methods are pivotal. The students must be challenged and have easy access to learning every day, all day. Teaching and learning processes include integrating theory and practice through 'future labs', simulation and training. The students must have easy access to practice-oriented learning through collaborative agreements with organisations, institutions, and businesses.

The future graduates of the new university college shall master digital and technological challenges within their own field of profession. The graduates must view the digital development as a resource – and a prerequisite for their profession. Technology and digitalisation will be a driving force for the new graduates.

Internationalisation is a solid foundation and an integrated element in the professional development. For that reason, internationalisation will continue to be reflected in key subjects and key areas.

The new university college will take the interdisciplinary collaboration to a new level – not by reducing the focus on mono-professional subjects, but by developing and realising the interdisciplinary element in the education programmes. The increased interdisciplinary collaboration(s) will act as a catalyst for increased development of subjects and professions.

The new university college will encourage a close working relationship with the local community. This will be realised through students' voluntary engagement with the local community and formal collaboration agreements with businesses and institutions. The university college will enter into strategic partnerships with suppliers and contractors who develop and utilise products and technologies, which professionals use in their daily lives.

The new university college will cement itself as an 'Operations and Development Organisation', which streamlines high quality administrative and infrastructural solutions targeted to service students, employees, and other key stakeholders. Students and employees have a shared responsibility to contribute to a well-functioning and coherent organisation, service, and support.

The new university college will be an attractive workplace, which provides all employees with new personal development opportunities in a more robust organisation. The university college will be able to attract and keep highly qualified employees through strong, professional environments. The solid collegial work relationships will serve as a tenacious foundation for a shared ambition to collectively face challenges of the future welfare state.

