

Elastic Spaces for learning, teaching, working, enjoying:

how digital infrastructure enables high flexibility, lower Opex and keep options open for the future

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Top-down, long range Estates Master Plans are and always will be needed.

But their content needs to re-focus in favour of flexible general-purpose and quickly reconfigurable spaces - both new-build and the existing estate.

Highly specialised spaces require the sort of certainty and predictability that are no longer available to us.

This talk identifies the implications for key space reconfigurations & repurposing and how digital infrastructure capabilities enable them to deliver greater stakeholder experience and operational efficiency. Hybrid Campus +

rapid, frequent and unpredictable change =

Elastic Campus

here we focus on what *Elasticity* means for physical spaces

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Themes

- Elastic Campus scenarios
- Space elasticity scenarios
- Place as a Service
- Enabling digital capabilities

Elasticity Scenarios

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Some scenarios are particularly demanding of *Elasticity*...



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...and some very relevant for Estates:

- Merger/ acquisition/ Rapid/reactive and planned • Retrofitting spaces that were not designed for divestment with/of change to people density and their new purpose **proximity** limits another HE Enterprise • Pop-up spaces - e.g. 'local' satellite micro-• Rapid/reactive and planned Virtual and blended campus or admin functions physical conferences change to behaviour and PPE • Increase space utilisation from (average) 25% e.g. for Open Days requirements (e.g. facemasks) to 50% Reactive University External event/ space/location business environmentreconfiguration development driven change Academic vear & repurposing and evolution peaks and Planned troughs incl. space/location mass Student reconfiguration lifecycle & repurposing Controlled Rapid and events/ Research change in frequent shift journey projects and pedagogy, between multitiming & teaching/ organisation curriculum learning collaborations design modalities
- Major curriculum reconfiguration adjusting in-person vs virtual attendance
- Need to fragment large group assembly into smaller (physical) units e.g. lectures, events
- Scheduled rotation of courses through reconfigured spaces to enable a blend of theory (remote), group/social (in-person) and practical/experiential (e.g. STEM, Vocational) learning

Space Elasticity Scenarios





Our customers have noticed some frequently recurring space reconfiguration & re-purposing scenarios...



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And the implications...



We're seeing the idea of 'as a Service' being extended to Space – but it's limited to rent/buy and focused on office-based workers.

We're extending this emerging concept to be inclusive of People and their experience – *Place as a Service*.

- Space is only valuable and useful if it is fit for a specific purpose, where needed and when needed to deliver on the Stakeholders experience requirements
- This means matching the 'supply' of the built environment + equipment + space operation (staff and automation) with the 'demand' by stakeholders...
- ...where needed, when needed and at a tolerable cost.
- We view Space as a *Capability* (People, Activity, Technology) and want to enhance the quality of *Flexibility* & Adaptability with a greater frequency and range of reconfiguration.



How Digital Capabilities enable these types of flexibility and help deliver *Place as a Service*...

...and be planned in to anticipate them.

For example, these areas of flexibility...



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...depend on these digital capabilities:



Sorry for the Digital/IT-speak...

...but these are areas where close(r) working of Estates and IT is critical. This involves sharing each-others language.

Without it, spaces will remain specialpurpose and utilisation will stick at current levels and costs (23% and £2044/sq m/pa on average according to HESA)

And...the impact on student, worker and researcher experience will result in fewer students, workers and research projects.

Having worked through few examples – most involve Situational Awareness



Situational Awareness provides the link between Applications, the Built Environment, Digital Infrastructure and space Users

Location Services (Raw and Space) Movement Tracking Environ- ment Sensing Notifications, Alerts Application Alerts Services Services	Proximity (Person, Group, Thing) Locating & Finding (Resource & Space)	Attendance Navigation Tracking Wayfinding	k Intelligent Transport
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Too much detail for now – but Cisco and its partners have developed and integrated the technologies to deliver *Situational Awareness*:

Raw location: Locates identified or anonymous individual Person or Thing (e.g. Equipment, device). Tracks and makes accessible location at various degrees of precision/resolution	Typically the domain of IoT measuring the natural and built environment such as: switches (door open/close), temperature, humidity, water flow, pressure, air composition (smoke, pollen).			Offers a unified interface into a rich set of HE Applications along with limited intelligence to combine and integrate key reference data and systems of record (e.g. Student, Faculty, Course). Including App Systems for: Property Management, Student Information, Learning Management, Asset Management, Building Management				App-App integration, e.g. routing mess and objects. Focuses on routing and tra does not 'unpack' payloads and interpre- information content. Simply a means or Applications to perform any kind of cor Would support point-to-point and othe (e.g. publish/ subscribe).		
Location Services (Baw	Movement	Environ-	Events, Notifications	HE-Specific Application	Situational	Proximity (Person Group	Locating &	Attendance	Navigation &	Intelligent
and Space)			Alerts	Context	Awareness Services	Thing)	(Resource & Space)			
Space location: Locates identified or anonymous individual Person or Thing (e.g. Equipment, device) in terms of the surrounding bounded space.	Typi devi (e.g to c rele situ info	ically 'pushed' no ices (e.g. Smart F . notice board, s onfigure rules ar vance of commu ation combined s rmation from Ap	otifications distri Phone) or shared pecialised displa nd composite co unication based o with other, slow oplication system	ibuted to individ d/general equip y). Includes the nditions to ensu on the 'sensed' 'er-changing ns	duals' ment ability ire		Enables other re based o space ch quiet, te location features (e.g. alre	Users to locate sources (e.g. e n their criteria, naracteristics (e eaching), their e (e.g. nearest), s/equipment, c eady booked o	e spaces and quipment) including e.g. study, current capacity, urrent status ut, under	

ion

Tracking the movement of individuals (e.g. via handheld devices) and 'Things' (e.g. via RFID tags & WiFi-enabled equipment. Operates at a variety of resolution and latency, Covers specific movement types (e.g. crowd motion) recognising the specifics of individual vs mass movement A specialised type of Notification, focused on enabling an individual to physically locate individuals and groups (e.g. 'find my friends') for a variety of purposes - e.g. social, work, learning.. maintenance).

We'd be grateful for some help in...

Thank you.

- Identifying the high priority & most frequently occurring space repurposing scenarios
- Being more specific about what 'flexibility' means
- Developing response patterns in terms of space design & use
- Working through the digital capabilities that enable them – new build or retrofit.





The *Elastic* Campus: What *Elasticity* means for stakeholders, scenarios, capabilities and digital

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Ensuring continuity of learning, teaching, researching and working, wherever, whenever, however...