THE CIVIC POTENTIAL OF THE CAMPUS: FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CATARINA AND DEMOCRACY IN THE CITY

Potencial cívico do campus: a universidade federal de santa catarina e a democracia na cidade

Potencial cívico del campus: Universidad Federal de Santa Catarina y la democracia en la ciudad

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The central square of the campus and the city. Fountain: Authors.

ABSTRACT

This article advocates the potential space for promoting public democratic environments. In recent decades, public university policies in Brazil have provided an expressive shift towards more inclusive campuses. On the other hand, the growing urban commercialization has significantly reduced diversity within the city's public areas. This study aims to highlight the relevant role that university campuses can play in providing civic areas for the city and to evaluate the spatial characteristics that facilitate democratic gatherings. In 2019, the Federal University of Santa Catarina's main campus was the stage of several events to protest against the government's reduction of the education budget. The study starts from the recognition of the university areas that house students from more diverse areas of study. Subsequently, university community assemblies have been registered within this area and their spatial attributes have been analyzed. More flexible and permeable spaces on the buildings' ground floor influenced these choices to gather and confront ideas. These findings point to solutions that go against current practices, aimed towards more protected entrances. Furthermore, they suggest directions so the university reduces its boundaries, inviting the city into its open areas through buildings that offer free services to its citizens.

Keywords: Public space, university campuses, citizenship, social infrastructure, democracy

RESUMO

Este artigo defende o potencial do espaço físico para promover ambientes públicos democráticos. As políticas públicas das universidades nas últimas décadas no Brasil proporcionaram uma mudança expressiva em direção a campi mais inclusivos. Por outro lado, a crescente comoditização urbana reduziu significativamente a diversidade nas áreas públicas da cidade. Este estudo tem como objetivo destacar o papel relevante que o campus universitário pode desempenhar para fornecer áreas cívicas à cidade e avaliar as características espaciais que facilitam os encontros democráticos. Em 2019, o campus sede da Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina foi palco de vários eventos para organizar uma resistência contra a redução do orçamento federal da educação. O estudo parte do reconhecimento das regiões universitárias que acolhem estudantes de áreas de estudo mais diversas. Posteriormente, assembleias da comunidade universitária no campus foram registradas e seus atributos espaciais analisados. Espaços mais flexíveis e permeáveis no térreo dos edifícios influenciaram essas escolhas para reunir e confrontar ideias. Essas descobertas apontam para soluções opostas à prática atual, voltadas para entradas mais protegidas. Além disso, os resultados sugerem orientações para a universidade reduzir suas barreiras, convidando a cidade a suas áreas abertas através de edifícios que ofereçam serviços gratuitos aos seus cidadãos.

Palavras Chave: Espaço público, campus universitário, cidadania, infraestrutura social, democracia

RESUMEN

Este artículo defiende el potencial espacial para promover entornos públicos democráticos. Las políticas de las universidades públicas en las últimas décadas en Brasil han proporcionado un cambio expresivo hacia campus más inclusivos. Por otro lado, la creciente mercantilización urbana ha reducido significativamente la diversidad dentro de las áreas públicas de la ciudad. Este estudio tiene como objetivo resaltar el papel relevante que puede desempeñar el campus universitario para proporcionar áreas cívicas a la ciudad y evaluar las características espaciales que facilitan los encuentros democráticos. En 2019, el campus principal de la Universidad Federal de Santa Catarina fue el escenario de varios eventos para organizar una resistencia contra la reducción gubernamental del presupuesto educativo. El estudio parte del reconocimiento de las regiones universitarias que albergan estudiantes de áreas de estudio más diversas. Posteriormente, se han registrado asambleas de la comunidad universitaria dentro de esta región y se han analizado sus atributos espaciales. Los espacios más flexibles y permeables en la planta baja de los edificios influyeron en estas elecciones para reunir y confrontar ideas. Estos descubrimientos apuntan a soluciones opuestas a la práctica actual, orientadas hacia entradas más protegidas. Además, sugieren direcciones para que la universidad reduzca sus fronteras invitando a la ciudad a sus áreas abiertas a través de edificios que ofrecen servicios gratuitos a los ciudadanos de la ciudad.

Palabras Clave: Espacio público, ciudad universitaria, nacionalidad, infraestructura social, democracia

INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1960, the campus of the *Federal University of Santa Catarina* (UFSC, in Portuguese) is one of the few public spaces that has survived the pressure of tourist exploitation and commercialization in Florianopolis. It is from the lands of the UFSC and its 40,000 students, that we seek to address the democratic potential of the public university in the promotion of the Brazilian citizenry, Dober (1992) confirming that the design of the campus is a civic art that echoes with meaning for the current generation.

The relevance of universities when facing anti-democratic positions is well-known in the country. The student movements have always been prominent and are based in the physical space of the universities for the organization of their movements. We believe that considering academic territory as a structure independent from the cities does not contribute to a suitable characterization of the university as a social infrastructure and as a civic space. The insertion of the campus in the urban context, offering services to the community and promoting the diversity of gatherings, materializes uses that go beyond its main role. We also work to make clear the civic prioritization in the construction of cities that correspond more to the social needs, than to the imperative mandates of the capitalist system's profit.

At the end of the second decade of the 21st century, contrary to opinions that the current protests are limited to publications on social media, in 2019, the role of the public space was restored as the setting of contemporary democracy. The public protests, that appear in the pages of Brazilian history books, got new records of the occupation of the streets and squares in movements which, although organized online, were inspired by previous generations, uniting their voices in defense of the rights already been won.

The complexity of the events narrated in this chapter of Brazilian history means that this is a task far from understanding and suitably theorizing this period. Within this period of time, this article starts by reviewing the democratic role of a university campus in the urban fabric. It is about reasserting the relevance of the campus on facing increasingly more volatile scenarios, and focused on the accumulation of capital that takes form in the spaces of cities. In scenarios where the civil potential of cites enters more and more into conflict with the commercialization processes that affect them (Harvey, 2003; Brenner et al., 2009), the role of the campus as social infrastructure is resignified.

Parkinson (2013) says that democracy is nourished by specific types of physical spaces for its performance. Political tolerance tends to be associated with the coexistence of groups with contradictory standpoints and diversity tends to reinforce the perception of the possibility of plausible debates between different points of view (Sunstein, 2018). There are spatial arrangements that amplify or silence behaviors that defenders of democracy consider valuable. This work sought to recognize what the spatial and programmatic characteristics are, that differentiate and elevate a territory to a democratic level, using the UFSC campus as a laboratory of analysis. How can the university campus be an active territory in the promotion of more democratic cities? How are these locations set up? How, in general, can the spatial layout of a building/university space amplify the democratic action of a population?

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BRAZILIAN CONTEXT

Facing a 91.6% growth in the offer of undergraduate courses in Brazil between 2003 and 2013 (Brazil, 2013) and the affirmative actions that flourished in the universities, the last decade was marked by a set of critical moments that shook the structure of the ideals of public education in the country. The June days, as the protests that took the streets in 2013 were named, opened a scenario of popular discontent from different ideological perspectives, that culminated in a complete change of the national political direction.

From a proposal to modify the Federal Constitution (Brazil, 2016), which imposes a great reduction in public expenditure over 20 years, through to the economic agenda of President Jair Bolsonaro, elected in 2018, essential investments like education and health became the goal of the political group that took over the country. Against the containment measures of resources destined to public universities and scientific production, the crowds came back to occupy the main cities in a series of marches opposing the announced setback for historic social achievements.

These movements were amplified by the mobilization capacity on the social media. The feelings expressed online are connected through real concerns, of real people in the same human experience that is demanded in the calls of online events (Castells, 2015). Despite the networks, it is necessary to ask what the characteristics of the physical places and groups of people in the protests that began digitally, but that are supported in urban spaces, are. The lack of public spaces to exercise citizenry and democracy in the cities means that these events begin where the most politically committed groups are. The idea that democracy depends on physical space, in many ways contradicts the current orthodoxy of democratic theory and broader political science, and the problems of the built space are almost entirely off the radar of those studying politics (Parkinson, 2012). There is coercion for public universities to reduce investment, while the demand for the public services being offered and the pressure for performance and production increase. Democracy depends, to a great extent, on the availability of public places, even at a time that is supposedly so close to the Internet and online communication. Starting from the interpretation that university grounds are an integral part of the cities, it can be said that, in the current situation of resource shortage, the spaces for democratic action are at risk.

THE CAMPUS

Up until the first half of the 20th century, Brazilian universities and colleges were built in isolation before later being elevated to the level of a university structured under a more unified body. Brazilian campuses, inspired by the American model, tend to be spaces for teaching away from urban centers, with the campus being the materialization of this ideal. According to Chapman (2006), the history of the institution is found on the campus: where it was set up, what was built and what happens there. The geographic boundary between a campus and a community is a history built on how separated or integrated the university's administration has chosen to be. In Brazil, there was a careful adaptation to the intended and permitted types of sociability within universities. Barros (2017) states that this became clearer in the forms of sociability common to the American campuses and that, however, it went against the efforts of the Brazilian dictatorship to suppress the protests of students and faculty members, watched carefully when the opposition to the regime was the issue at hand.

The university's territorial project in Brazil, led by the Government after the 1964 Military Coup, was predominantly based on economic efficiency, organization, and control over users. The "Comprehensive Planning Manual for the University Campus", published in 1970 by Rudolph Atcon, one of the most active American consultants in the agreements between Brazilian and American Governments, is considered as the main document to define the
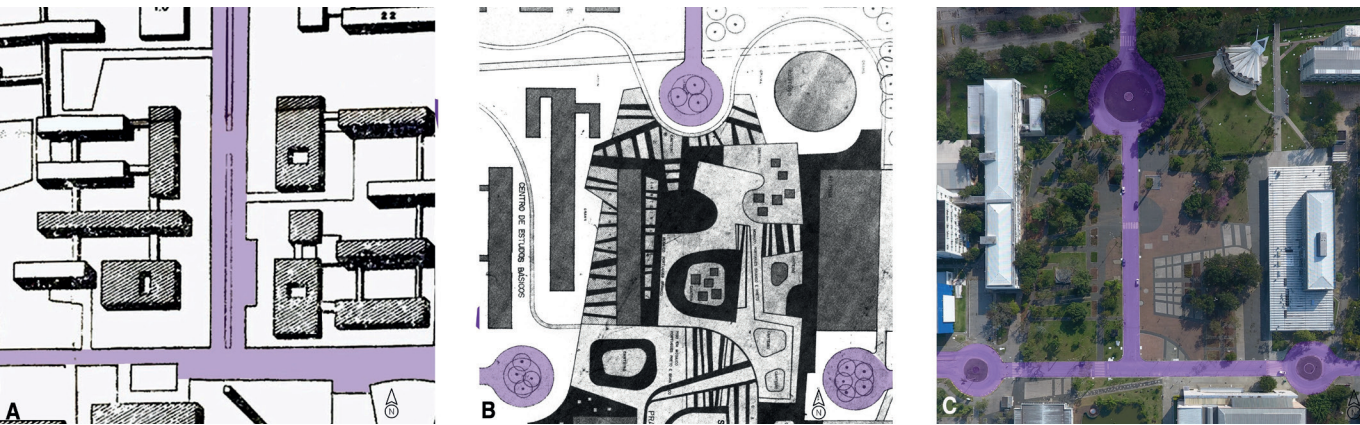
set of ideas responsible for the characterization of campuses after the 1968 University Reform (Buffa & Pinto, 2009).

The first campus site Master Plan, approved in 1957 and partially implemented, was prepared by the architect Hélio Duarte and the engineer, Ernest Mange (Teixeria, 2009). The general conceptualization and specialization of sectors, the road network and the drainage channels were built and have remained unchanged, consolidating their image on the campus. Meanwhile, between 1957 and the second plan, from 1964, some of the buildings that we will look at were built, namely, the Primary Education Center (CCE, in Portuguese) in 1957 by Paulo Macedo and Adroaldo Pereira; and the Rectory (1959), by Felipe Gama D'Eca and his team (Teixeria, Yunes, Souza, Sansão & Godoy, 2014). These plans and buildings are inserted in the modernization and ongoing improvement context of construction techniques that the capital of Santa Catarina went through then, with a certain limitation of local technical workforce.

In 60 years, UFSC's structure has progressed, segregated from the city, strengthening however, the central aspects of the campus. The *Praça da Cidadania* or Citizenry Square [Figure 1], a landscape design of Roberto Burle Marx in 1970, is an urban landmark where most of the events that rescue for the university, its democratic nature as a public space, take place. The debate that permeates through academic theories and the practical reality of the social infrastructures requires, therefore, a reappraisal of UFSC as urban property and the legal compliance of its social role.
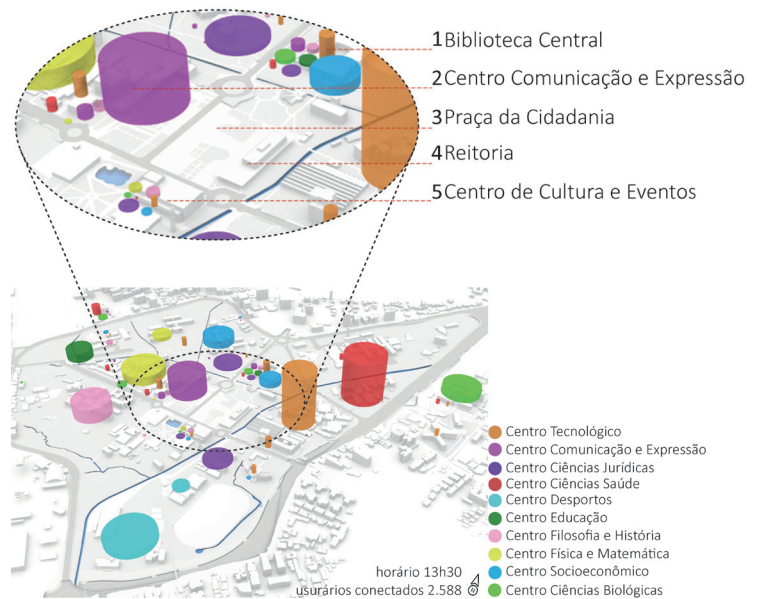
METHODOLOGY

This article was prepared starting with the exploration of a quantitative analysis of daily life on campus and in its urban context, followed by the evaluation of a temporal framework based on the qualitative observation of the public protests that took place throughout 2019. To assess the daily dynamics of the Campus, a demographic mapping was made of the meeting points using data obtained from the connection of undergraduate students' mobile devices to the wireless network (Wi-Fi) linked to the Eduoram service, available for the international academic community. The authentication data, through which the previously registered user safely accesses the Internet, has been stored for the last 10 years.

In 2019, we obtained significant indicators of the effects provoked by the functional division and territorial segmentation on campus, which allowed us to confirm which parts had a greater integration among undergraduate students from different areas. It was seen that, on the outskirts of the campus, there was less integration between students from different teaching centers. In the central areas, following the results that we will present later, a more expressive integration was confirmed. These results highlight the fragmented dynamics of the campus and reinforce the campus as a civic space, capable of improving the academic and community-based integration.

Figure 2
Dynamics of Wi-
Fi connections
in the UFSC
Citizenry Square
(3) and surrounding
buildings: Library
(1), CCE (2),
Rectory (4) and
Culture and Event
Center (5).
Source: eliminated
for dispatch.

1 Biblioteca Central
2 Centro Comunicação e Expressão
3 Praça da Cidadania
4 Reitoria
5 Centro de Cultura e Eventos

- Centro Tecnológico
- Centro Comunicação e Expressão
- Centro Ciências Jurídicas
- Centro Ciências Saúde
- Centro Desportos
- Centro Educação
- Centro Filosofia e História
- Centro Física e Matemática
- Centro Socioeconômico
- Centro Ciências Biológicas

horário 13h30
usuários conectados 2.588

In Figure 2, the connections of the students are represented with groupings by teaching centers, around Citizenry Square. With the results of these daily dynamics, we look to demonstrate through the 2019's gatherings, how urban design helps promote meetings and the civic role of the university.

The spaces where gatherings took place on campus were analyzed in greater detail, starting from the consideration the Wi-Fi study and the relevance of the diversity of meetings for the promotion of more democratic spaces has made. In this way, the most significant gatherings were seen, regarding numbers in the central part of the campus, considering their programmatic characteristics and their spatiality. The analysis of the meetings was done through the observation of the dynamics of people on the campus' grounds. Meetings published on social networks and on the UFSC official online pages, calling the community to the face-to-face meeting to defend public education in the country, were assessed.

Besides the central area, other locations in the other parts of the campus, where events took place in the indoor hall of the classroom blocks or outdoors, were quickly examined. The choice of the events analyzed was based on the geographic location in the campus and the groups of people connected to them.

Later, at a city level, the concerns of the academic community overflowed, that led to protests and marches on the main avenues in the Florianopolis central macro-region, resulted in a short narrative about how the architectonic and urban design also has an impact on the campus boundaries.

RESULTS

CAMPUS MEETINGS

This synergy between the virtual space and the daily life of the university campus awoke the interest of face-to-face academic meetings in the densification of the democratic debate. Bringing the historic context of UFSC in tone with the political scenario presented in the then current federal administration in 2019, the lines that follow provide an opportunist narrative of some of the protests that took place in the university over that year, whether on campus or, from it, throughout the entire city of Florianopolis.

On campus, the events that took place around Citizenry Square, the main democratic and integration space for meetings at UFSC, were intentionally highlighted, set out on a map located on the ground floor of the existing buildings [Figure 3], listed from 1 to 6. Illustrated from the observations, the

Figure 3
Indication of the
meetings that
took place in
Citizenry Square
(3) and surrounding
buildings: Rectory
(4), Culture and
Events Center (5),
Cohabitation Center
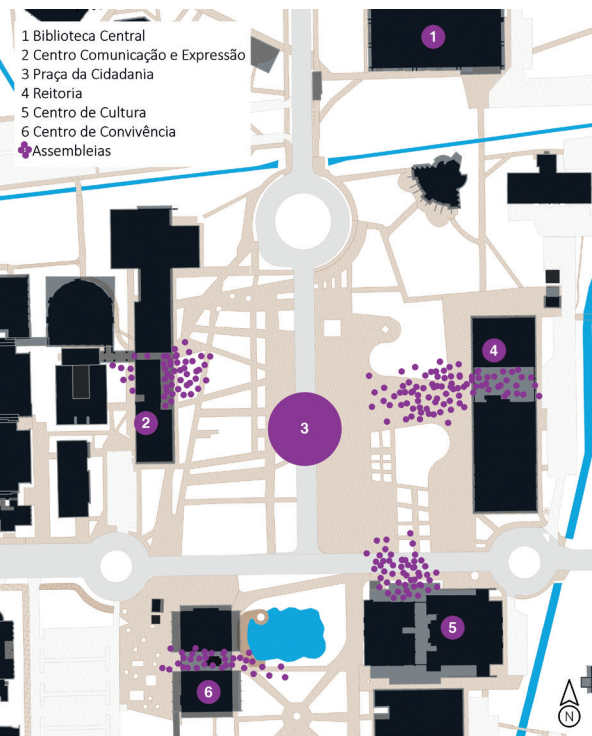(6) and CCE (2)
Source: Authors.

1 Biblioteca Central
2 Centro Comunicação e Expressão
3 Praça da Cidadania
4 Reitoria
5 Centro de Cultura
6 Centro de Convivência
✦ Assembleias

Figure 4
Student meetings in
Citizenry Square,
2019
Source: Marcelo
Ferro; B–F. UFSC.

crowds of people during the events and the buildings related to them are shown in purple.

The architectonic makeup and landscaping that Citizenry Square forms, was designed to house the civic nature of the academic community. However, it happens that throughout the university's development, the economic resources destined to spaces were scarce and, as a result, the square lost part of its urban sociability potential, corroborated by the predominance of cars parked on the road that runs through it.

Figure 4A is a record of the gathering that took place on September 10th, 2019, with students from around 70 undergraduate courses supporting the General Students Strike. The magnitude of the scale of Citizenry Square, its topography and its centrality on campus are factors that contributed to the event taking on a large scale, bringing together people from different sectors, taking up once more the role originally considered by the landscaper. Conceived during different times within the campus' history, the Rectory in 1959 and the Culture and Event Center in 2004, are also part of this setting and demonstrate in their different typologies, priorities regarding opportunities for gathering.

Until 2004, the Rectory's auditorium [Figure 4B and Figure 4C] was the main space for cultural events that brought the entire community together. The protests that took place in the Rectory throughout the university's history, confirm that its architectonic setup, aligned with the ratio of continuity and permeability with the outdoor area (*Citizenry Square*), reinforced by the ground floor of the building and through the glazed panel that marks it out, provide opportunities for these events to continue having this democratic nature of free access until today. The Culture and Events Center is responsible for the evident barriers between its main space – the auditorium located on the higher floor– and the outdoor area, limiting the events to the preset capacity of the main hall. The circulation areas on the building's ground floor have a significant unevenness compared to the square and a linearity that complicates their use as a meeting point, abruptly distinguishing the semi-private nature of the inside from the outdoor public space.

The meetings of the University Council, held in 2019 in this auditorium and open to the entire academic community, including the units off the central campus, illustrated the capacity restrictions the building's setup provides, fact that led to the division of events with the occupation by the people of *Citizenry Square*, who watched the debates on the screen installed there, limiting them to a merely passive and spectator-like participation.

Other buildings form the Central Core and are a constant setting for protests, including artistic and cultural activities. The Meeting Center, closed years ago awaiting remodeling, expressed signs of abandonment and deterioration in the idleness of its areas. With the events of 2019, the students mobilized to occupy this building, recovering its original role in student life. The Community Center has a hall at the square level, closed with a glazed panel at both ends, which allows a continuity between indoor and outdoor use.

The CCE [Figure 5A] has an area of pilotis on its ground floor with a direct link to *Citizenry Square*, expanding it. Although this space has a linear setup just like that in the Culture and Event Center, the continuity of the ground floor and the lack of elements to enclose it, favor the chance of gathering and sheltering the students. The building has always had an integrating pedagogical role in the study plan, being one of the few of this nature in the university.

Figura 5
A. CCE;
B. Technological
Center
Source: Authors.

The open areas in other parts of the campus gained a new appearance when they were used as a site for debate and knowledge exchange starting from these movements in 2019. This yearning for inhabitable spaces became even more notorious in the episode of Figure 5B, where students from the Technology Center blocked vehicle access in the area. This movement was called "come to the square", reconfiguring the space used daily as a parking lot, despite the great potential the people have to stay there.

TO THE CITY

The actions of the gatherings broke barriers on campus and aggravated a new view to the democratic potential of the built-up area UFSC is inserted within. The concerns of the region's students and public education workers spread onto the streets of Florianopolis and sought their space in the city. On the historic day of May 15th, 2019, almost 20,000 voices reached *Citizenry Square*, calling civil society to join them in the defense of education, bringing groups from different organizations, set up beforehand on social media at a national level.

From the center of UFSC towards the commercial and foundational center of Florianopolis, little by little a crowd was formed which walked an approximately 10-kilometer-long route [Figure 6]. The design of the itinerary, that stemmed from a meeting with other educational institutions, brought a reflection about the public spaces along this route, inspired in the analysis made here about the campus'-built space.

The crowd used important routes as a starting point. Lauro Linhares Street has been, since the foundation of UFSC, the main access road to the campus on foot. With the expansion of the university and the resulting demographic densification of the surroundings, the route became predominantly commercial

Figure 6
Route taken on May
15th 2019.
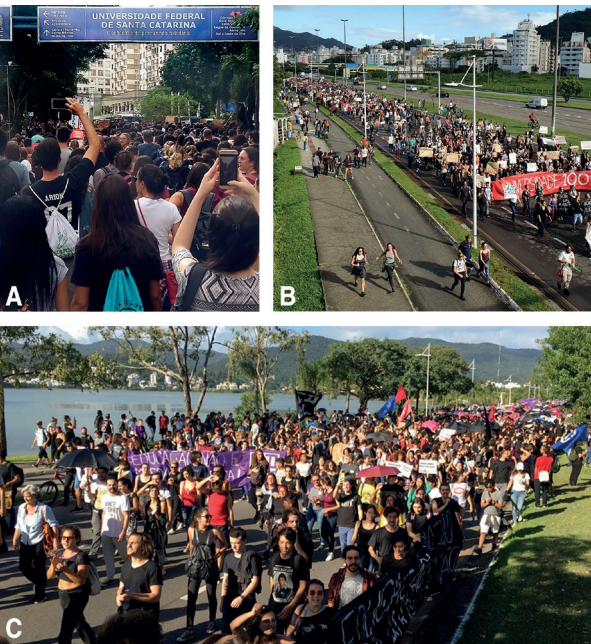Source: Google
Maps adapted by the
authors.

Figure 7
March 15th 2019.
Source:
A — Authors;
B — Dhiancarlo
Picini;
C - Leonardo Thomé.

DISCUSSION

in nature alongside private services. This street is currently limited to insufficiently-sized sidewalks that come into conflict with the cars that enter the buildings and whose standard architecture restricts the possibilities of meeting with the internal areas of the buildings.

Apart from this road / commercial typology, that is repeated in other parts of the route, it is worth highlighting *Beira Mar Avenue* [Figure 7C], a place of easy access and connection between the Center of Florianopolis and the UFSC Campus. A tourist attraction renowned for its proximity to the sea and road infrastructure, the predominantly residential road has buildings whose ground floors have a limited relationship with the sidewalks alongside them. Despite this distance, it is one of the main public spaces for protests of the city's inhabitants, which have been occurring since June 2013.

Finally, the May 2019 march headed to *XV November Square*, the main democratic setting located in the center of Florianopolis. Throughout the city's 346-year history, the neighborhood continues being one of the few places where the most traditional commercial activities are concentrated, from establishments facing the street with direct dialog with open spaces, contrasting with the appearance of shopping centers where the relationship between public and private spaces is more abrupt and controlled. The intense daily occupation and circulation of people makes the square and the entire urban setting around it as civic landmark, having held important events throughout history. It is important to mention that the projects for this region (Gaspar et al., 2017) associate, through urban marketing initiatives, the label of "Creative City" to Florianopolis with possible effects of an increase of inequalities and the homogenization of the public space (Gotham, 2005; Schöllmann, et al., 2000).

It is seen that these events indirectly provided a reinvention of the use of the campus and the built-up area it is inserted into, bringing to a fore latent experiences of gathering and debate in different periods of history. Although Wi-Fi data demonstrated that the fragmentation designed in the campus still exists, the analysis of gatherings demonstrated their potential to offer the city its civic nature.

Regarding the built architecture, it was found that the programmatic characteristics that the 2019 protests formed, have spatial and temporal persistence. These depend and are supported mutually in buildings whose program is predefined. Despite this determination, there is still a relation of interdependence and continuity between the boundaries of the buildings. To these aspects, the size of the buildings and their implementation on the campus is added.

One of the most substantial works that illustrates this scenario is the Rectory, whose main access and ground floor hall have continuity with the use of *Citizenry Square*, the setting of historic democratic episodes. The environment that shapes the hall, for example, has suitable dimensions to hold large meetings, inviting those who are passing through to stay. However, the Culture and Event Center does not have a typology the encourages the continuity of the gatherings that take place in the square, limiting its use to closed events.

The open events, like academic meetings and artistic performances, are more common in the CCE, given its central location and the direct relationship between the square and the pilotis. About a decade ago, these events started to be controlled due to pressure from the administration, who felt uncomfortable with crowds of students, constantly asking to close this area of the building to stop their protests.

The resumption of cultural activities in UFSC is related to the fact that the campus can offer more services and civic, rather than commercial, spaces. The university has the possibility of having this attitude, with free services that show off a space that the city gains from the university, so that the campus has more diversity and can take on this role for the congregation of people. During the narratives of the meetings, this demand was made clear on requiring new spaces that promote this exercise beyond Citizenry Square, mainly connected to the green areas, as simulated in Figure 8, integrating the campus with the city through the reclassification of the streams. Having as connectors, buildings that house the free services offered to the community and the square as a meeting space, a new road within the campus can turn it into an attractive connection junction for the free civic action of the entire city.

For Lefebvre (1996), excluding groups and individuals of the city is also excluding them from civilization, if not from society itself. The appropriation of the campus by the neighbors reinforces this civic nature and the role the university can play in movements that promote diversity and reduce inequalities. The initiative of the students to disseminate the knowledge produced, from inside the university spaces towards the city, heads in this way. From the political context of 2019, and aiming at demonstrating to civil society the importance of scientific production and converting them into an ally in the defense of public education, the "UFSC in the Square" movement arose, made up of students from different areas, who structured presentations in the squares of the main neighborhoods, transforming those spaces into real classrooms.

It is necessary to consider the structural change that Brazilian public universities have been experiencing for over a decade. Since the implementation of affirmative action programs in 2008, UFSC has been assisting a growing number of people in vulnerable economic situations, black and indigenous, collaborating to get a less segregated demographic scenario (Passos, 2015). UFSC has changed and is, albeit moderately, less elitist. However, the architecture of its spaces has not kept up with the democratic potential of the campus.

Designing campuses that promote the civic nature and the community construction must be a priority in the circles related to public education, even with limited resources (Klinenberg, 2018). These latent issues arise in exceptional ways, like what was said about the parking lot, where the recovery of the space for private use drove its reinvention. But this attitude has always been in the heart of universities, like when, opening their physical territory to the community, UFSC significantly extends the offer of services related to health, culture, and leisure.

Figure 8
Proposal of the integration of the campus with green areas.
Source: Own preparation

1 colégio de aplicação
2 fórum
3 núcleo estudos da terceira idade
4 teatro
5 hospital universitário
6 biblioteca central
7 clínica odontológica
8 centro de cultura e eventos
9 planetário
10 centro de desportos

CONCLUSION

The conflicts and contradictions are reproduced in the city and on the campus and are healthy in democratic societies. However, when guided by dichotomies that cross debates on the matter, leading to the interpretation of the campus as a place unconnected to the surrounding urban setting, there is mutual damage. These conflicts, for example, can be illustrated with the different opinions about how the UFSC campus must be administered and the firm opinions about the decision to open it to the community or close it with gates at weekends and at night.

We start from the understanding that the university campus is considered by its size as social infrastructure (Klinenberg, 2018), where the collective decision-making is reinforced by its spatiality that allows this posture to reach the urban domain, breaking through the physical and ideological limits of the University. It must be kept in mind that the apparent "neutrality" of the infrastructure, as discussed throughout this work, brings with it a much deeper message than the facilitation of a specific activity. These places merge with the problems of the scale and complexity of democratic societies. While the search of metaphorical conceptions of the public space is a valid effort, and one that has contributed greatly to the conceptions on democracy, Parkinson (2006) states that it is shame that the physical role of spaces has been ignored in these works. He says that the public space is essential for democracy and that ignoring this fact has toxic consequences for the democratic health of society.

The reintegration posture of the campus must be active, since the only obstacle there is, is not just the almost antithetical nature of the term campus in opposition to the city, in the same way that some characteristics are essential so that the campus is not a space set apart from the city. Especially, in the buildings built over two decades ago or with a relevant integrating role, there is an attribute of continuity between indoor and outdoor spaces. There is space for indeterminant programs, for informal appropriation and, mainly, a lesser dependance of the commercial facades that almost exclusively extend to an appropriated sidewalk. The maintenance of spatial arrangements and characteristics that we have mentioned is fundamental so that the campus supports not only the democratic performance of its community, but also so that it is increasingly more capable of supporting external protests.

When we approach protests that leave the building area, they head to squares in the immediate surroundings and then leave the campus towards the city, we reinforce the statement that some types of physical spaces are inseparable. Regarding democratic performance, among many other aspects that form the good qualities of the buildings, the inside and outside are a continuum. The diversity that a campus with buildings and free areas that are welcoming and permeable for all citizens, like the case of UFSC, facilitates, brings invaluable benefits for a university that reflects on the future of society. The road the protests took on leaving the campus towards the city is a strong sign of how we can strengthen the entry of the city to the university symbolically, as it represents the manifestation and physicality for future interventions that reinforce this intersection. Likewise, a city whose citizens contribute to these reflections, through participation in a mutual support and collaboration network in the university, reinforces its civic and democratic nature.

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