COMPETITORS:

Of the firms who responded to the request for qualifications to prepare designs, five leading architectural firms were chosen.

Arata Isozaki & Associates, Tokyo, Japan in collaboration with Peter Walker & Partners, Berkley, CA, USA, and ERGA Group, Beirut, Lebanon
This team is composed of a collaboration of three design firms. Arata Isozaki is winner of the RIBA Royal Gold Medal Award and is one of Japan’s most important contemporary architects and urban designers. Peter Walker is a leading international landscape architect with fifty years of experience. ERGA Group SAL has an extensive list of prestigious and distinguished executed projects whose high quality is recognized not only in Lebanon but throughout the Middle East.

Gensler, Washington, USA in Association with Rafik El-Khoury & Partners, Beirut, Lebanon
Gensler, AIA Firm of the Year 2000, is a leading global architecture, design, and planning firm, with over 2,200 people and offices in 30 locations across the US, Europe and Asia. Founded in San Francisco in 1965, Gensler works with corporate, government, and institutional clients to plan and design superior places that support people and organizational objectives. Rafik El-Khoury & Partners are leading multidisciplinary consulting engineers in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Hashim Sarkis, Beirut, Lebanon and Cambridge, USA in collaboration with Payette Associates, Boston, USA
This team is a collaboration of two firms with offices based in Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts and Beirut. Hashim Sarkis pursues design synthesis between the urban, landscape, and architectural aspects of each project. Payette Associates specializes in the programming, planning, and design of complex buildings for medical and scientific research, academic teaching, healthcare, and corporate research.

Nabil Gholm architecture & planning SARL, Beirut, Lebanon
Nabil Gholm is an architect, urban planner, and the principal of NGAP.
He established his practice in Beirut in 1994. Today, NGAP has grown into a regional practice with an office in Barcelona, Spain.
NGAP has won several awards and distinctions including Cityscape and the ‘Overall Winner’ prize from MIPIM Architectural Review Future Project Awards 2006.

**Rafael Viñoly Architects PC, NY, USA**

Rafael Viñoly Architects PC is a critically acclaimed global practice that provides comprehensive building design and master planning services. Noted for distinctive design intelligence, the firm strives for elegant responses to program requirements. Intensive research and informed evaluation lead to a variety of design and technical alternatives which RVA proposes to the client and often result in buildings that function beyond the client’s expectations. The firm’s extensive experience working within academic contexts includes buildings at major campuses throughout the US and Europe.