Intent

The State University Construction Fund (SUCF) is currently conducting Facilities Master Plans (FMPs) at each of the four-year SUNY campuses. The plans will provide criteria and guidelines for campus improvements and facilities developments that support each campus’ academic mission and strategic vision. They address improvements for the ten-year period from 2013 to 2023.

As a part of UAlbany’s FMP, the planning team is conducting a series of workshops involving different segments of the campus community. The intent is to work together to identify areas of concern as well as current and future opportunities.

This workshop will focus on the experience and perspective of faculty and staff. The goal is to inform participants of parameters that have been determined to date while soliciting input and advice on the future of each UAlbany campus.

Format

Each Workshop will be two hours in length. During each task facilitators from the planning team will circulate to keep sub-groups on task, ensure participation from all attendees and help pin up/prepare material for reporting out.
University at Albany Facilities Master Plan
Workshop: Faculty and Staff Perspective

Agenda

Introductions (5 minutes)
- Facilitators will introduce the session, including process, objectives, and ground rules

Project Overview (15 minutes)
- Description of the scope and schedule for the FMP
- Institutional Vision for the Future
  - Brief summary of the campus’ Strategic Plan
  - Statement of enrollment targets
- Overview of the campus and facilities
  - The age and condition of the facilities: that 80% of the space at UAlbany was built within a single time frame; that it is obsolescing as a piece and in serious need of a plan for renovation and renewal
  - That there is a modest need for new space, primarily related to programs that cannot be accommodated by the existing structure.
- Planning Considerations
  - An order of magnitude translation of the capital funding obligations these first two points imply: the campus is in need of significant amounts of new funding
  - This amount is likely to exceed the actual funding allocation. It’s therefore necessary the plan not be a compilation of “wish lists” but an implementable plan that can accommodate the changes required within a 20 year time frame

Exercise 1 (45 minutes: 20 minutes task; 25 minutes reporting out): Challenges
The master planning process to date has identified a number of significant issues including the need to renovate broad portions of the campus while providing for a 21st century academic environment.

i. Which aspects of the UAlbany campuses detract from a positive image of the University and don’t reflect the level of academic excellence to be found there?

ii. As faculty and staff, what do you see as the challenges the existing facilities present to your fulfillment of UAlbany’s overall mission? In what ways do they fall short of supporting the institution’s strategic goals?

Participants will work in teams of eight to ten people to list responses on PostPads. Each team will chose a recorder and a presenter, tasked with reporting out that group’s findings to the room.

Exercise 2 (45 minutes: 20 minutes task; 25 minutes reporting out): Opportunities and Successes

- Clarify for us this notion of “high-quality students”: what are the characteristics that distinguish a UAlbany student today and what will they be in the future?

- Which individuals or groups of faculty and staff are most effecting positive change at the University and what are the tools or methods they’re using to create that change?

Closing (15 minutes)

Extracts from the 2010 University at Albany Strategic Plan: Select Strategic Goals
• To enhance the quality of undergraduate education at UAlbany and attract and serve a highly qualified and diverse group of students

• To create an excellent student experience that integrates academic and co-curricular experiences, engages the surrounding community and the world, and fosters lifelong pride in the University

• To advance excellence in graduate education in support of the University’s reputation, role, and stature and the preparation and competitiveness of graduates

• To increase UAlbany’s visibility in, and resources for, advancing and disseminating knowledge, discovery, and scholarship