Agenda: University at Albany Facilities Master Plan

Workshop: The Student Experience

Meeting Date: March 17, 6:00 PM
Location: Campus Center Ballroom

Project Name: University at Albany Facilities Master Plan
Project No. 031535.000
SUCF No. #01844

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 UA’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 students: past and present. The goal is to inform participants of parameters that have been determined to date while soliciting input and advice on the future of each UA 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.
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 or don’t reflect the level of academic excellence to be found there?

ii. When you visit other universities what are you surprised to see there that you don’t see at UAlbany?

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

- Which space on campus most speaks to a positive image of UAlbany today and why?
- As recruits which aspect of your visit to campus “closed the deal”? Are there spaces on campus about which you once felt negatively but now appeal to you?
- When coming back to campus from break what are the places to which you most look forward to returning?
- As alums which spaces mean most to you in retrospect and why?

Closing (15 minutes)

Extracts from the 2010 University at Albany Strategic Plan: Select Strategic Goals

Our Values:
Excellence  We pursue performance at its highest level, across all our endeavors
Access       We are committed to enabling individuals to pursue education without limitation by economic or societal factors
Collaboration We cultivate an environment in which we share our respective strengths to work toward common goals
Engagement   We address local to global needs through engagement with diverse communities
Respect      We value diversity, academic freedom, and the rights and dignity of individuals
Integrity    We are committed to, and expect from all, honesty, transparency, and adherence to these core values