Facilities Master Plan

Overview
The State University Construction Fund (SUCF) is currently conducting Facilities Master Plans (FMPs) at each of the 32 four-year SUNY campuses. The FMPs will focus on the 10-year period from 2013 to 2023 and will identify, prioritize and sequence future construction projects that support the academic mission of SUNY and its member colleges. The overall goal of the FMPs is to help advise future construction funding requests for both UAlbany and SUNY and to identify a viable implementation sequence for related capital projects, similar to UAlbany’s 1998 Facilities Master Plan.

More specifically, each FMP will make evaluations and recommendations regarding land use, space use, image and identity, access, vehicular and pedestrian circulation, parking and transit services, building opportunities, open space, recreation and athletics, utilities and other infrastructure for existing and potential new campus growth. UAlbany’s enrollment projections and resultant space needs relative to the existing University facilities will be factored against available funding to produce an overall plan for campus redevelopment and improvement 2013 to 2023.

Process
UAlbany’s Office of Facilities Management is overseeing the development of the FMP in conjunction with the SUCF. The project will follow a uniform sequence of five project phases that will facilitate the eventual compilation of all 32 plans currently in development into a single system-wide master plan:

Phase 1: Campus Profile
Gathering information about the campus

Phase 2: Conditions Assessment
Determining existing conditions, opportunities and constraints as well as identifying considerations that will inform future uses

Phase 3: Analysis of Space Needs
Identifying current and future utilization of facilities; evaluating capacity and space needs of campus facilities and programs based on institutional/academic direction

Phase 4: Concept Alternatives
Development of alternate strategies to accommodate the future academic goals of the University

Phase 5: Final Recommendations
Selection of a preferred strategy for redevelopment and plan for implementation

For more information please visit http://www.albany.edu/facilities/fmp/

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

Development

+ Retain existing facilities in the Uptown, CNSE, Downtown and Health Sciences Campus, with the Uptown Campus Podium serving as the academic core for Undergraduate support and instruction.
+ Maximize utilization of all existing and future facilities, and coordinate with Capital Improvement projects.
+ Provide timely and efficient restoration of the Campus core with no more than 2-3 simultaneous projects on the Podium.
+ Maximize physical and figurative connections between the Uptown and Downtown Campuses.
+ Pursue strategic developments and collaborations at nearby entities (Patroon Creek, Harriman State Office Campuses, etc.).
+ Pursue development with the City of Albany and in other sites in the community that strengthen University partnerships.
+ Provide surge needs internally with no off-site leasing.
+ Invest in sustainable infrastructure.

Academic Facilities

+ Maintain academic facilities close to the Podium.
+ Limit relocations of departments.
+ Align classroom and lab inventory with pedagogy and enrollment projections.
+ Due to specialized facilities, maintain existing precincts of Science, Humanities, Libraries and Fine Arts.
+ Incorporate interior spaces that facilitate informal gatherings for students and faculty.
+ Consolidate physical collections and storage, while distributing access and displaying unique resources.
+ Preserve and respect E.D. Stone’s architecture on the Uptown Campus and the historical nature of the Downtown Campus.

Support Facilities

+ Enhance the centralized student spaces in the Campus Center.
+ Develop campus infrastructure around a model of sustainability.
+ Align facilities with the University’s goals to support student engagement in physical activities.
+ Incorporate interior spaces that facilitate informal gatherings for students and faculty.
+ Co-locate student support services for efficiency and improved student service.

Open Space and Circulation

+ Increase connectivity within and between the Uptown and Downtown Campus facilities.
+ Develop outdoor spaces and circulation paths for interaction in an urban park-like setting.
+ Reinforce the pedestrian connectivity and open spaces at Uptown Campus Commons (the areas between the Podium and Quad).
+ Mitigate pedestrian/vehicular conflicts around the Podium and University Drive.
+ Define the Campus entrances, boundaries and level of permeability to the surrounding communities.
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Facilities Master Plan Open Forum
9 February 2011

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