COMPREHENSIVE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Overview

During the fall semester, Facilities Management planners and consultants have been actively engaged in discussing issues with community members and with advisory groups from the University Senate, Student Government Association, Administrative and Professional Assembly, and the Graduate Student Council. College/school/unit workshops have convened to consider campus-wide space and resource opportunities. In addition, a number of conversations have taken place with members of the Auburn family to gain insight concerning a variety of campus issues including the iconic exterior spaces in Samford Park at Toomer’s Corner.

Issues referred in the campus master plan update as “planning elements” have been presented via open forums, online surveys, and scheduled meetings. Collectively, these elements are flowing through the governance structure and are being vetted through the Auburn University Community, Facilities Management Master Planning Team, and the University Master Plan Committee. After issues have been discussed and collective decisions have been made, the Executive Facilities Committee will have an opportunity to either request additional information and options or advance the issue to the President for his endorsement and consideration of adoption by the Board of Trustees.

A brief update on the progress of the planning elements discussed to date will be provided on the following pages of this newsletter. For more details about the Comprehensive Master Plan Update, including audio and video presentations, please click on the Campus Master Plan icon graphic on either the Auburn University home web page (http://www.auburn.edu/) or the Facilities Management home web page (http://www.auburn.edu/administration/facilities).
Planning and preliminary design efforts for the Central Classroom Facility project are underway. The new facility is anticipated to be approximately 160,000 square feet in size and include a variety of formal and informal learning environments, such as tiered lecture classrooms, flat lecture classrooms, flat flexible classrooms, problem-based learning classrooms, and individual and group study areas.

The new building will also provide wireless Internet access and be supplied with power outlets for students to charge their laptops and other electronic devices. Rooms will feature additional technology to facilitate teaching and learning, with considerations such as ample marker boards, erasable wall surfaces and windows to provide access to daylight.

The new Central Classroom Facility will primarily house core curriculum classes for freshmen and sophomore students. The classrooms in the new building are planned to not only replace current classroom spaces in Haley Center and Parker Hall, but also to reimagine classroom flexibility, adaptability, and collaboration potential for current and future generations of students and faculty at Auburn University.

More than twenty potential site locations in the core of campus have been evaluated. Six options were presented during an open forum hosted by the Provost.

**Summary of Options**

Option 1: Single CCF Facility at Parker/Allison

Option 2: Single CCF Facility at Dunstan/Tiger Concourse

Option 3: Single CCF Facility at Library (not doable; footprint in front of library is too small to accommodate size of CCF)

Option 4: Split CCF at Parker/Allison plus Dunstan/Tiger Concourse

Option 5: Split CCF at Parker/Allison plus Library

Option 6: Split CCF at Library plus Dunstan/Tiger Concourse

Potential site options have been identified within the core of campus for the replacement of deteriorating academic buildings including Haley, Parker, Allison, Funchess, Upchurch, and Spidle.

**New future facilities identified are:**

- Central Classroom Facility (To Replace Haley Center)
- New Facility for College of Science and Mathematics (To Replace Parker/Allison/Funchess)
- New Facility for College of Liberal Arts (To Replace Haley Center)
- New Facility for College of Human Sciences (Replacement of Spidle Hall)
- New Facility for College of Agriculture (To Replace Funchess/Upchurch)
- New Facility for College of Education (To Replace Haley Center)

Historic buildings including Comer, Mary Martin, Textile, Petrie and Ramsey are included in the plan for future renovation and preservation.
For the first time in Auburn’s history, a formal Landscape Master Plan is being developed as part of the Comprehensive Campus Master Plan. The campus landscape includes all open space, roadways, and parking and takes into consideration both cultural and ecological considerations. The Landscape plan will embrace a sustainable environment, including a stormwater management program that will look at best management practices for maintenance and implementation schedules, as well as restoration opportunities such as the Parkerson Mill Creek.

During the course of the last few months, landscape consultants have been meeting with campus stakeholders to collect information about the campus landscape.

Earlier this month, students, faculty, and staff were invited to share input for the master plan landscape framework during the Provost’s open forum. An update on the work to develop options for enhancements to Samford Park at Toomer’s Corner was also provided.
Campus Landscape

Samford Park at Toomer’s Corner

While the fate of the oaks is not certain, multiple concepts for enhancements to this area of campus are being planned. The Committee to Study the Future of Rolling Toomer’s Corner proposed—and President Gogue accepted—a recommendation of replacing the troubled oaks, should they die, with one or more large trees and using a temporary structure to celebrate victories until new trees established roots. Two workshops were conducted to solicit input to the landscape plan.

Themes identified during these workshops were:

- Retain and enhance the existing and historic character of the corner
- Include at least two large replacement trees
- Consider the entire intersection and City context
- Retain 1917 gates
- Retain and enhance the of the pedestrian (and service) access into the campus from the corner
- Strive to improve openness, visibility, access, and usability
- Expand usable/occupiable space behind (to the southwest of) the existing brick wall
- Provide additional seating and shade areas

Members of the Auburn University campus community shared their ideas and landscape concepts concerning the Oaks at Toomer’s Corner.
Using input received from the initial workshops, two identical presentations revealed four design concepts for enhancements to the area. Attendees offered input on preliminary landscape design concepts. The University is asking for additional input from the Auburn family to ensure that important traditions and historic character of this special place are preserved and enhanced for future generations. See online survey information below.

Samford Park at Toomer’s Corner Online Survey

Input from the Auburn community is being sought on preliminary landscape design concepts for the Samford Park at Toomer’s Corner in Samford Park. Options for enhancements to the area were presented during campus workshops on November 27 by Auburn University’s Office of Campus Planning and Space Management and Nelson Byrd Woltz/jB+a Landscape Architects. An online survey is available through January 18, 2013, at http://survey.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_dogWPB7I6fARz5b For updated information about the Oaks, go to the website http://www.auburn.edu/communications_marketing/oaks/index.html.

Upcoming Workshops

Two identical follow-up workshops are planned in February to present and discuss revised options.

Auburn University - Foy Hall, Rm. 258

Workshop 1: Feb. 27, 2013 - 3-5:00 PM
Workshop 2: Feb. 27, 2013 - 7-9:00 PM
Campus Quality of Life, Student Housing, and Campus Security

In addition to meetings with campus constituents, the Provost hosted an open forum in October seeking input on campus quality of life, housing, and security issues. A great deal of feedback was received from participants during this session.

Should the University increase the level of housing so that all freshmen can live on campus? Concerns like these are being addressed so that sufficient space on campus is reserved for future housing expansion.

In addition to questions regarding future housing facilities, discussion topics have included the academic and study environment, dining services, recreation fields and facilities, and campus security (i.e. adequate lighting, emergency call stations, and pedestrian/bicycle/vehicular conflicts).

Health Science Sector

Development of a Health Science Sector on the Main Campus includes multi-disciplinary opportunities among such disciplines as pharmacy, nursing, and other health-related, instructional, research, and outreach activities.

Preliminary site layouts have been developed in potential locations for the health science sector and are being discussed with campus stakeholders.
During the past ten years, the campus has been transformed by a family of walkway projects that have created safe, pedestrian-friendly areas within the core of campus – convenient and free of automobiles. Surface parking has given way to campus green spaces, and the Tiger Transit bus system usage has increased exponentially since its inception in 2002.

During the Provost’s Open Forum in October, input regarding campus traffic flow, the pedestrian nature of the campus, transit capability, non-motorized modes of transportation, and parking was received from the campus community. In addition, meetings and online surveys with campus students, faculty and staff have provided the following comments for future campus planning consideration:

**Parking**
- Faculty/Staff need desire parking in north core
- Commuter Students desire more parking in south east core
- Resident Students desire more parking west of The Village

**Tiger Transit**
- Need express routes and an inner campus loop
- Faculty/Staff seldom use the system

**General**
- Bicycle/Pedestrian conflicts exist
Members of the Master Planning Team have met with a number of administrative, school, and college representatives to discuss long range land use.

The following land use requirements for the future are being addressed in the Campus Master Plan 2012 Update. These land use requirements are in addition to existing land uses.

- **Health Science Sector**
  - College of Osteopathic Medicine
  - Performing Arts Center & Welcome Center
  - Expansion of Recreational Fields
  - Field Laboratories
  - Athletics Complex Expansion

**Consolidation of Service Functions**

**Game Day Activities**

Dan King, Assistant Vice President for Facilities, discusses land use issues with Athletics Department members Jeff Steele, Associate AD-Facilities and Randy Byars, Director of Athletic Facilities.
Space Needs of Colleges and Schools

Members of the Master Planning Team have met with a number of administrative, school, and college representatives to discuss space needs.

College/School Space Priority Areas include:

- Replace outdated buildings and provide higher quality replacement space:
  - Funchess and Upchurch Halls (Agriculture and COSAM)
  - Parker and Allison (COSAM)
  - Spidle Hall (Human Sciences)
  - Haley Center (Liberal Arts and Education)

- Address large space deficits with new buildings and/or facilities:
  - COSAM (approx. 78,000 sf. deficit)
  - Nursing (approx. 22,000 sf. deficit)

- Renovate buildings to improve quality of space:
  - Comer Hall (Agriculture)
  - Textile Building (Engineering)
  - Dudley Hall and Dudley Commons (CADC)
  - Mary Martin Hall
  - Greene Hall (CVM)

- Expand existing buildings:
  - Dudley Hall (CADC)

- New or renovated space to meet research needs:
  - Agriculture
  - Pharmacy
  - Veterinary Medicine

- Add new space for program expansion:
  - Business

- Resolve adjacency issues (or preserve adjacencies) for departments within the Colleges:
  - CADC
  - COSAM
  - Education
  - Engineering (preserve)

- Encourage facility sharing:
  - Animal containment and housing
  - Clinical care laboratories

*Fall 2010 data