

Facilities Planning and Management

As stewards of the built environment, we serve to develop and maintain a living, learning, and working environment where students, faculty and staff can thrive and contribute to our global society.

Facilities Planning, Design and Construction Assessment UPDATE 21/22

Implications for Practice:

1. Annual re-evaluation of the University's priority capital projects.
2. Include enhanced marketing support as part of the feasibility study process.
3. Create sustained campus interest in unfunded projects.

Assessment Follow-up:

1. Annual re-evaluation of University priority capital projects:
The department is conducting a space assessment as part of the 2020-22 Strategic Plan Extension to develop a framework for the campus to set priorities for space allocation and future project requests. We will plan to use the results of this study to guide the Space Planning Advisory Committee (SPAC) in prioritizing space requests to efficiently utilize space in the best interest of the University.

The results will also better inform the development of the Multi-Year Capital Outlay Plan submitted to the Chancellor's Office as part of the annually funding request process. The department will continue to critically consider the potential viability of long-standing project requests and re-assess campus priorities with Senior Leadership.

2. Marketing in Feasibility Studies:
The department has started to shift the framework of viewing feasibility studies as a planning tool towards more of a marketing tool. Feasibility Studies can be viewed as an investment to start donor fundraising for capital funding. For studies in progress as of the assessment presentation in November 2021 (i.e. Interdisciplinary Science Lab Building, PDC Student Services Building), we have added scope to include additional marketing materials beyond what is typically required for a state-supported project. This change allows the department to further support our University Advancement partners with their capital campaigns.
3. Advocacy for unfunded projects:
The department is working to create sustained interest from the campus community and external stakeholders for future capital projects. The first step was creating a website to host feasibility studies for unfunded projects to support our campus partners in their capital fundraising efforts. In conjunction with the effort to use feasibility studies as a marketing tool, this change will hopefully better position the University when competing for limited capital funding.