

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 18, 2009

Fiscal Year 2010 Master Plan Update

Background

The Western Illinois University Board of Trustees approved *Campus Master Plans* for the Macomb and Quad Cities Campuses in March 2007 and June 2006, respectively. Both *Campus Master Plans* identify the general (macro) parameters for the future physical development of new and existing facilities, grounds, technology, and infrastructure to support the academic mission and service operations of Western Illinois University.

The University has also developed specific implementation plans that are carefully aligned to *Campus Master Plans*. These component plans include the *University Housing and Dining Master Plan*, *Target Western Forward* plan for athletic facilities, *Institutional Strategic Plan for Technology*, and the *Utilities and Infrastructure Master Plan*.

With both *Campus Master Plans* and component plans, the University has a strong history of achieving its goals. This report, the fourth in an annual series of *Campus Master Plan Updates*, documents institutional master plan accomplishments over the last year.

Accomplishments

Western Illinois University continues to support **A Learner-Centered Campus** through classroom improvements, purchase of new furniture, and the Electronic Classroom/Faculty Computer Upgrade Programs. All of these actions are designed to create environments that support academic excellence.

Through combined efforts of staff from Physical Plant, University Technology, Quad Cities Technology, and Academic Affairs, 40 of the University's 127 general instructional electronic classrooms (31.5%) will have been upgraded by the end of calendar year 2009. Approximately one-third of the University's electronic classrooms have been updated within two years of program implementation.

During summer 2009, new furniture (i.e., tablets, chairs, and/or desks) was ordered for 39 classrooms, which includes 880 tablets (chair and desk combined), 1,064 chairs, and 60 new tables. Ninety-five of the 170 Macomb Campus' classrooms have been furnished with new furniture in the last three years. Western Illinois University-Quad Cities has 20 classrooms, with new furniture installed in all three classrooms at the Caxton Building, in addition to Rooms 110, 113, 115 and B-10.

In addition to these efforts, University Technology supports 25 student-computing facilities in academic buildings, residence halls, and dining areas. All 597 computers in these facilities follow a four-year replacement rotation cycle. The same is true for the 92 computers in student-

computing facilities on the Quad Cities campus. The Caxton Block building, which began operations in 2009, features all new computers, and students in Museum Studies are supported with laptop computers in a mobile computing environment at the Figge Art Museum.

Fiscal Year 2009 was the third year of a multi-year commitment to develop and maintain faculty computers on a four- year rotation cycle. When this program was established there was a 26-year range between the oldest (1981) and newest (2007) operable faculty computers. Moreover, 382 faculty computers were purchased prior to 2000.

There is now a 14-year range between the oldest (1995) and newest (2009) faculty computers. Moreover, with the continuation of the program and the purchase of just 20 computers, all Western Illinois University faculty computers will be nine years old or less, and approximately one-half of the computers are in a four-year rotation cycle.

To promote an **Aesthetically Pleasing Appearance** the University supported enhancements to the Simpkins Hall south entry, University Village patio area, and Tanner Circle. Likewise, We Care activities, permanent improvements, and sustainability accomplishments on both campuses also promote an aesthetically pleasing appearance, as does many of the accomplishments described throughout this *Update*.

Environmental Awareness and Commitments demonstrates our value of social responsibility. The October 2009 grand opening of the new Multicultural Center marked the first new Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified facility. Building elements include geothermal heating and cooling, energy-efficient fluorescent lighting, use of recyclable materials, including bamboo flooring, and closely monitored removal of construction material. Future construction, including the Performing Arts Center on the Macomb Campus and all buildings on the Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus are committed to achieving silver LEED certification.

During the past year, the University maintained an approximate 4:1 ratio of 39 new trees planted to 10 trees removed due to storm damage (2), disease (4), construction (1), other reasons (3). Fall and spring campus We Care activities included plantings on 60th Street and Riverfront Campus, Multicultural Center landscaping with all Illinois native plants (shrubs and grasses), Grote Hall East side patio improvements and landscaping, Spencer Recreation Center addition landscaping, and Malpass Library berm expansion.

The University also piloted with LED lighting, including the stop sign in front of Western Hall; continued with lighting retrofits in academic buildings, including Brophy, Browne, Horrabin, and Tillman Halls; purchased a new electric utility vehicle; installed noise and motion light sensors; replaced sedans with hybrids; and continued implementing *Green Purchasing Guidelines*.

Utility and Technology Infrastructure—As documented in the *Utility Master Plan Update* and the *Institutional Strategic Plan for Technology Update* presented to the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees in October 2009, current, new and remodeled facilities all have critical technology and infrastructure needs that must be meaningfully supported to advance educational goals and priorities. Both *Updates* included a review of annual plans and accomplishments, and both site challenges to an aging infrastructure and funding.

Community Interface includes both functional enhancements and economic development. On the Macomb Campus, the dock area of the South Quad on Adams Street is undergoing renovation to improve both aesthetics and usability. Roof replacement for the dining center and a new entry

on the south side of the University Union are in design. Other permanent improvement projects include repair to the Sherman Hall Cupola, Heating Plant stack repair, Malpass Library exterior crack repair, Q-Lot condensate and steam leaks, Tanner Hall expansion joint replacement, and repair to the dedication brick display at the Spencer Student Recreation Center

Successful re-development of adjacent property to the newly developing Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus known as “RiverTech” will create a \$100 million taxable base. It will also attract 2,000 new and existing jobs with a one-time construction impact in excess of \$150 million.

Current RiverTech projects that Western Illinois University-Quad Cities helped to cultivate by virtue of the new campus location include a \$50 million commitment by KONE Corporation to house their North American Operation Center on the Mississippi Riverfront that completes a three-phase, \$71 million mixed-use development known as Bass Street Landing; a \$45 million Transit Oriented Development/Amtrak Station that will include an intermodal pedestrian transport center and a new high rise office structure and support retail and food court; a \$5 million new facility for research and development by the public and private sectors; a \$12 million, 90-unit work-live urban lofts, with retail and businesses located on the lower floors; and a \$3 million new Healthcare Center for those underserved in the Hispanic community

Flexibility includes responsiveness to ever-changing expectations of higher education. While not originally in *Campus Master Plans*, donations to the *Comprehensive Campaign* enabled opening the Wright Residence to centralize Veterans Services in Macomb and the Caxton Building to support the new School of Engineering and other programs in the College of Business and Technology in the Quad Cities.

Likewise, students on the Quad Cities Campus voted to support a high-priority facility enhancement project. In December 2009, the campus re-opened Room B-10 as reconfigured space from Manufacturing Engineering Technology to a new computer lab, University Technology Store/Marketplace, and Testing Center.

Today’s students want more amenities in residence halls compared to the time when the buildings were constructed. Renovation of systems, restrooms, common areas, and the dining center is in design for Corbin and Olson Halls. A similar project for bathrooms and bedrooms in Lincoln and Washington Halls is in design, with construction scheduled for 2011 and 2012.

Tanner Hall elevator modernization, fire suppression system installation, and renovation of the second floor to include a state-of-the-art computer store and convenience store are complete. Installation of fire suppression systems and evaluator modernization in Thompson Hall is also complete, and Wetzel Hall has been taken off-line. Additionally, in fall 2009, University Technology purchased an additional 50 megabits to support increased student bandwidth demand and consumption.

Promoting a Positive Student Experience, the University opened the Multicultural Center, completed renovation to the Spencer Recreation Center, and continued the renovation of Memorial Hall that is scheduled to be completed in August 2010. The University also received the second highest funding (of the 12 Illinois public universities) in the summer 2009 state capital bill for the construction of the Performing Arts Center, first two buildings on the Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Riverfront Campus, and \$3.5 million for campus permanent improvements.

In support of its 20 intercollegiate Division I athletic teams, serving over 500 student-athletes and members of the campus and external communities, the student-athlete study area was renovated and the baseball outfield drainage system was completed. Current projects in occurring as a Result of the *Target Western Forward* include renovation/expansion of athletic training facilities and Olympic Sport Locker Rooms in Western and Brophy Halls. Also in design are the west side of the Football Stadium (press box, suites, offices, academic support space, classroom space) and construction of Women's Staff Locker Room.

In summary, **Comprehensive Physical Planning** has produced many benefits for Western Illinois University and our host communities. We continue to support a learner-centered campus, with commitments to aesthetics, environmental sustainability, utility and technology infrastructure, community interface, flexibility, and the promotion of a positive student experience. We will continue to use *Campus Master Plans* to identify the general parameters for the future physical development of new and existing facilities, grounds, technology, and infrastructure to support our academic mission and service operations. The Board will receive its next Master Plan Update in December 2010.