



MASTER PLAN

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Goals

The master planning process has been collaborative and inclusive, and so the master plan goals are a summary of the most important issues that consistently emerged from the discussions with all the participants. The goals and the master plan support the university's mission, vision and values. It is important, as the university proceeds with implementation of the master plan and as project designs develop, that the goals are directly addressed so that they are supported and achieved.

- **Strengthen the vitality of the academic community as the setting for student life.**

To become a vital and engaged campus of distinction, to serve the social, spiritual, and intellectual needs of the students, there must be opportunities to integrate learning and student development on the campus. Students have a more positive academic experience when they are engaged in campus programs and activities, and the quality and character of residential life contributes to that experience.

The physical design of the campus can contribute immeasurably to this vitality by providing students with a sense that they belong to a cohesive community. The campus of the future should also provide spaces that enable informal interaction and spontaneous meeting, while building formal spaces like classrooms, labs and lecture halls that reflect the importance of the university's academic programs.

- **Enhance the University's mission, identity and visibility within the community.**

The academic programs at Seattle University strongly support the Jesuit tradition of educating the whole person towards social responsibility, and there are established volunteer programs and internships with the community. For the future health of the university, the physical campus needs to be enhanced in ways that support the mission and increase the presence and visibility within the community and the City of Seattle. The plan recognizes and reinforces the role the Chapel of St. Ignatius plays as the symbolic heart of the campus.

- **Assure the capacity to meet foreseeable and long-term space needs.**

The university has identified a current need and future need for academic space, student housing, support space and parking. The Master Plan provides multiple options to meet these needs.

- **Incorporate the principles of sustainable design in all aspects of site and building design, construction, maintenance and operation.** Since the mid-1990's, Seattle University has successfully incorporated many sustainable building practices into its buildings and landscape. In 2006, the university signed the mayor's Seattle Climate Partnership Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and committed to purchase new renewable energy from Seattle City Light.

A sustainable campus can:

- Enhance the reputation of the institution and serve as a recruiting tool for faculty, staff and students;
- Provide opportunities for research and information sharing;
- Help fulfill the university's greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments;
- Contribute to a healthier campus and local environment.

The Master Plan - Related Sustainability Actions on page 94, should be pursued to make SU a leader in sustainability, both among Jesuit and non-Jesuit universities. Because sustainability impacts virtually every aspect of campus growth and operations, sustainability principles permeate the entire Master Plan. The primary sustainability principles are:

- Comprehensively incorporate sustainable design approaches into the design of all physical campus elements and systems including campus site layout, circulation plans and systems, landscape and hardscape systems, building design and campus infrastructure;
- Harmonize the human built environment with natural systems and processes in such a way that non-renewable natural resources are conserved and that the natural environment maintains its capacity for healthy growth and regeneration;

- Make sustainable features visible and available as learning and teaching opportunities;
- Endeavour to build structures for permanence and quality as well as flexibility to adapt to changing program requirements over time in order to demonstrate resource efficiency;
- Design new and renovation projects to meet LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold standards.

- **Create a gracious arrival experience and accommodation for visitors and part-time students.**

Seattle University needs to have campus entries that reflect the institutions' openness to public interaction and access. This is indicative of a new philosophy at SU, away from an inward focus that was prevalent in the past 40 years. The most important entry to campus at East Marion Street should be improved to be clear and welcoming and expressive of the university's mission and history, while providing clear way-finding onto campus. New facilities such as a new underground parking facility replacing the surface lot east of the Chapel of St. Ignatius, Admissions, the Bookstore, or meeting spaces, are planned in this area to support any type of visitor need.

Master Plan-Related Sustainability Actions

Transport

SU is committed to reducing the number of cars that come to campus, and improving the utilization of the parking supply.

- Encourage pedestrian access to SU with new, safer crosswalks.
- Increase housing on campus, thus reducing auto use.
- Improve transit access to encourage transit use with convenient stops, including shelters, benches, good lighting, easy access from main campus.
- Consolidate service and delivery in one central receiving place to remove large, inefficient trucks from main campus and reduce idling of such trucks.
- Continue the process of replacing gasoline-powered vehicles in the campus fleet with low-emissions/alternative fuel/electric vehicles.
- Add bike racks close to building entrances to encourage cycling. Add shower/changing facilities to buildings where appropriate.

Parking

New parking should be built underneath open green space or buildings.

Landscape

Landscapes should be designed:

- to enhance the quality of the pedestrian environment;
- with respect to slope, drainage, solar orientation, and micro-climate;

- with maintainable materials that are dominated by drought tolerant, edible herbs and fruit and Pacific Northwest native species;
- to incorporate signage and other educational efforts to instill a greater appreciation for the role and importance of plants within the campus and surrounding community;
- as a teaching tool for the SU and Seattle communities;
- to create outdoor class / lecture areas defined by combining landscaping and building facades with input from the grounds department and the academic community;
- within a specified water budget that guides the selection of plants.
- Where separation or enclosure is required, utilize living fence or landscaping materials whenever possible.
- Consider the addition of water feature(s) on campus that are supplied by water and kinetic energy via diverted roof discharge or concentrated surface flows. These may be flow forms, small reflecting pools or intermittent channel flows. Appropriate vegetation to enhance wildlife proliferation should be located at the edge of water features.
- If appropriate species can be identified, use plants that supply color, bouquet and texture all year.
- Eliminate monocultures. Contrast formal planting schemes with more natural planting designs. Work to create tiered vegetation from the upper canopy to the forest floor.
- Continue SU's organic pesticide-free status and use of Integrated Pest Management.
- Continue SU's status as 'Wildlife Sanctuary'.
- Install green roofs on new and existing buildings where possible.
- Maximize efficiency of irrigation system to minimize waste.
- Increase street tree coverage of perimeter streets to lower urban heat island effect and also reduce impervious surface.

Water

Capture and reuse waste water from new campus buildings for irrigation, to flush toilets and/ or in HVAC systems.

Install high-efficiency water fixtures and equipment in buildings.

Stormwater

- Reduce impervious surfaces represented by excess width of Upper and Lower Malls, Columbia and Marion, replace with landscape and pervious pavement.
- Use Low Impact Development (LID) strategies to manage stormwater runoff naturally from roofs, roads, sidewalks and plazas on-campus and integrate LID strategies into the design of buildings and parking. New hardscape surfaces, plazas should be pervious.

- Use LID strategies to manage stormwater that flows onto campus from the surrounding city streets, sidewalks and roofs where grade pushes dirty water onto campus. (Broadway, James St.).
- Install green roofs wherever possible.

Energy

The use of alternative energy sources such as wind turbines, solar panels, and geothermal may be appropriate for campus buildings and should be explored on a case-by-case basis.

Daylight access to interior spaces should be maximized to reduce use of electric lights. Building depths in the range of 60 feet are proposed wherever program permits to provide natural daylighting and ventilation.

Systems that monitor and adjust lighting levels should be built into the design.

Commissioning shall be integrated into the design, construction and operation phases of new building construction and renovation.

- Purchase 'green power' from local utility.
- Participate in regional climate-change mitigation initiatives.
- Install new trees on campus where shade can help cool buildings or hardscape surfaces.
- Campus lighting should use efficient fixtures and should be located to minimize wasted light overlap.

- Encourage more sharing of energy-efficiency technological information between Engineering School and Facilities.

Recycling

- The collection and removal of recycling and trash generated by building occupants shall be designed into new and renovated buildings with the assistance of Facilities recycling staff.

Building Materials

Where possible utilize building materials, including furnishings and on-campus signage that have been recycled, are made of renewable natural resources, that minimize the use of non-renewable natural resources, are manufactured locally and/or that minimize negative impacts upon the natural environment.

Building Siting

Locate buildings to take advantage of context, solar access for daylighting and cooling breezes for natural ventilation.



For more information about Seattle University, go to www.seattleu.edu.