Projections for Growth

Academic Programs

The 2002 Land Use Plan proposed an enrollment growth target of ten percent. The University has grown towards that goal as revealed in Appendix __. Additional new and improved academic, student life, and support facilities are needed to effectively support this growth. In many instances, the need for new facilities will drive a need to replace out-of-date, undersized, or inappropriately located buildings. Recently completed examples include the Women’s College, the Graduate School of Social Work, and the School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management. Projects that are under consideration include enhancing the Penrose Library and addressing opportunities at the Driscoll Center.

Active planning now underway includes the consolidation of science, mathematics, and engineering programs into a new building to house the School of Engineering and Computer Science; and the relocation of the Morgridge College of Education closer to its pre-collegiate programs.

Student Housing

In 2002 the University housed approximately 1,980 students with a goal of approximately 2,800 beds for undergraduate students. In 2007 the University houses approximately 2,300 students; with the completion of Nagel Residence Hall in 2008 the University will approach the goal of 2,800 beds for undergraduate students.

The University, in 2002 also supported a goal of 92 percent of first-year undergraduates living on campus; with 96 percent currently housed, the revised target is 94 percent. The goal of 50-60 percent of sophomores living on campus has been achieved and with Nagel Hall set to open, the University will have the facilities necessary to optimally distribute this cohort of students.

The current number of Greek houses supports a Greek population of 15-20 percent of the undergraduate population. The University continues a commitment to providing Greek housing options including recent investments in two new fraternity houses and renovation opportunities for other Old and New Row Fraternities.
The King Lee and Shirley Nelson Residence Hall

Nelson Residence Hall Courtyard

Johnson-McFarlane Hall, where half of incoming freshmen are housed.

Nelson Residence Hall Tower
As the University has observed significant construction in the adjacent neighborhoods targeted at apartment living, it is now considering that much of the anticipated demand expected in 2002 for Graduate Housing will be reduced. Therefore, the University is comfortable with its current stock of between 70 and 100 beds for the immediate future.

Student Life

In the next five years, decisions about space affecting Student Life will be driven by a University priority to build student community. Replanning the Driscoll Center includes additional space for student organizations and student social gathering as well as the possibility of centralized mail service. Food service options will be more responsive to late night and weekend usage. Support for a truly multicultural community could be evidenced by more centrally located space for the Center for Multicultural Excellence and the Office of Internationalization as well as student organizations that support diversity.

Athletics

With the completion of the Ritchie Center, the DU athletic and recreation programs have satisfied much of their interior space needs. There is still a need for playfields for both programmed and informal recreational use, but not at the expense of the enhancement of the physical campus. Due to the limited amount of land available for open space development on campus, the impact of factors such as lighting, pedestrian movement, maintenance, and safety need to be considered when locating new playfields. As was part of the 5 to 10 year planning around the Chambers Center zoning agreement, the University is considering developing a comprehensive plan for extending the playfields west to High Street.

In 2006 the University achieved the prior plan’s near-term goal of replacing temporary bleacher seating for its competition Lacrosse field with the opening of the Barton Lacrosse Stadium. The University is considering a similar project for its competition soccer field. The evolving science of athletic training will likely require improved fitness facilities for the University’s varsity sports participants, resulting in a facility integrated with the spectator seating for the soccer field.