

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

MASTER CAMPUS FACILITY PLAN - PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The purpose of the planning principles is to guide the development of The University of Southern Mississippi's campus* sites. The planning principles and tenets express the vision and mission of the University and are intended to span decades of change while also serving as an ongoing guide to incremental decisions with regard to consistency and long term planning strategy for all Southern Miss locations.

*In this document, "campus" refers to major campus sites, teaching and research sites and other properties owned or leased by the University.

PROTECT HISTORIC OPEN SPACES AND BUILDINGS

- The character of the historic buildings on all locations will be preserved.
- The significant open spaces will be protected and enhanced.

EXTEND AND ENHANCE THE CHARACTER OF CAMPUS THROUGH THE CONTEXTUAL DESIGN OF FUTURE BUILDINGS AND OPEN SPACES

- Future buildings and landscape design should compliment the positive precedents of the adjacent buildings and open spaces.
- The scale, proportions, and materials utilized in adjacent buildings and open spaces will be considered in future designs.

CREATE AND PROMOTE SAFE ENVIRONMENTS FOR LEARNING, RESEARCH AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

- Campus will be developed as learning environments, emphasizing flexibility, innovation and collaboration.
- All locations will be planned and designed to engage populations and individuals of all abilities.
- Integrate student life and academic spaces, including landscaping, where informal gatherings and interaction can occur.
- Design will facilitate views of outdoor spaces
- Nodes of interaction between the University and community will be established.
- Physical developments will incorporate safety to ensure a sense of well being.

PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN AND ENERGY CONSERVATION

- The landscape will enhance the pedestrian environment, provide shade, and address environmental impacts that include stormwater, habitat, and air quality.
- Architecture will conserve energy and respond to the climate through building orientation and color, shade, and roof form.
- Planning for future buildings shall include consideration for the tenets of sustainability as associated with the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria

DEVELOP AN INTEGRATED CIRCULATION SYSTEM

- A coordinated approach to inter-campus and intra-campus circulation systems will include pedestrian, bicycle, electric cart, transit, automobile, service, disability, and emergency access.
- The campus will be a pedestrian-oriented environment emphasizing accessibility, safety, security and comfort.
- Parking will be located on the periphery and linked to the academic core via the enhanced pedestrian network.

INTEGRATE MODERN TECHNOLOGY

- The University will sustain and improve access to technology.
- Current and emerging technologies will be incorporated into campus design.

IMPLEMENT STRATEGIC GROWTH PRACTICES

- Academic facilities will be concentrated in the pedestrian core of the campus.
- Housing should be located in relation to student amenity and support facilities.
- Planning for new facilities shall account for/address comprehensive operational costs.
- Planning of future facilities will consider the displacement and/or replacement of existing uses.
- Planning for future facilities will emphasize continuity of operations based on regional topography and natural disasters.
- A standing Design Review and Implementation Committee will be established to ensure that the placement of new buildings, renovation of existing structures and the development of open spaces adheres to the Planning Principles of the Master Campus Facility Plan.
- The Plan should maintain the existing compatible land use relationships with the surrounding business and residential districts in order to enhance partnership opportunities with the local community. Partnership ventures should be carefully considered relative to the impact on education enterprise with regard to economic, cultural, and recreational opportunities.