



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.



- **Employ the campus landscape to bring a unified character to the University.**

Seattle University has grown incrementally from the original Garrard Hall, transforming an urban neighborhood with a grid of streets into a campus that still lacks a cohesive and complete campus landscape. Certain improvements have been made towards this goal, such as the lawn east of the Library, Union Green and the Quad. The campus grounds crew, inspired by Fujitaro Kubota and Ciscoe Morris has created a rich series of interstitial landscape spaces between buildings. Perhaps the most important remaining step towards unifying the campus will be to create a set of pathways replacing the former grid of city streets, with particular focus on the “central walkway”, which should take the form of a series of ‘slipping planes’, or pedestrian scaled paths that shift slightly as they extend from the Student Center north to Madison Street. Architectural cohesiveness can be encouraged through a set of design guidelines or a process of design review.

- **Minimize the James/Cherry Street divide to connect the campus and reduce safety hazards.**

Expanding the campus landscape and improving the connections to the student housing and athletic facilities south of James/Cherry Street will enhance the student experience and increase safety.