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Western Illinois University Vision 2020: Western Illinois University-Quad Cities Master Plan

Creating facilities for the



Our Values
Academic Excellence
Educational Opportunity
Personal Growth
Social Responsibility



Vision 2020 Master Plan Quad City Riverfront Campus Prepared by The Campus Studio



Overview

Thanks to a generous gift of land and facilities from John Deere and Company, WIU-QC, the only public university in the Quad Cities, now has the opportunity to enhance and expand upon its success in the region by constructing a new, aesthetically pleasing and accessible Riverfront Campus. Our new campus will be located along the Mississippi River, just west of downtown Moline at the site of the 20-acre former John Deere Technology Center. This new location will host an initial enrollment of 3,000 students.

Vision 2020, our master plan for the Quad Cities campus, celebrates Western Illinois University's values of academic excellence, educational opportunities, personal growth, and social responsibility.

Our new facilities will have a profound and positive impact as we educate and prepare a diverse student population to thrive in and contribute to our global society.

Defining the Opportunity

The move from our existing campus on 60th Street to our new facility offers many exciting opportunities.

- The ability to grow and offer more comprehensive educational programs.
- Outstanding river views.
- The opportunity to engage in urban renewal with our host community.

Approach

Working with the Western Illinois University community and The Campus Studio, the Quad Cities Master Planning Steering Team created a plan for future physical development of facilities, grounds, technology, and infrastructure.

The team worked collaboratively to collect campus input, develop three design alternatives, and create and refine one campus master plan that was unanimously endorsed by campus governance groups and unanimously approved by the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees.

Values and Objectives

Following *Higher Values in Higher Education*, the University's strategic plan, WIU has created a campus master plan that reflects the core values of the University.

Vision 2020 reflects the institution's values and creates a campus environment where lifelong relationships are established, ideas are tested, and learning is inspired.

The plan envisions a beautiful, safe, and accessible campus, where students can experience a common sense of place and enthusiasm for learning.



Vision 2020 Master Plan

- Creates a learner-centered campus.
- Offers a unified environment for multidisciplinary inquiry.
- Achieves an aesthetically pleasing and visually distinctive identity.
- Supports environmental sustainability and social responsibility.
- Accommodates growth.
- Provides an infrastructure to support academic excellence.
- Enhances the positive relationship with our host community.
- Incorporates flexibility while maintaining our proud traditions and heritages.





WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Vision 2020

Master Plan

Quad City Riverfront Campus

Prepared by The Campus Studio



Future Site of WIU-QC Riverfront Campus

Planning/Design Concepts

In order to transform these objectives into a physical master plan, three alternative plans were prepared, analyzed and critiqued. Based on these discussions, a series of concepts evolved which together define the final Master Plan:

1. Place future buildings in an efficient configuration that provides ease of access. Create three major building clusters that are situated in a grid configuration. Construct buildings to take advantage of the full building capacity of the site (at least two stories high, with the major "image building" three stories high). Locate the primary image building at the end of the main arrival drive, giving it a distinctive design and making it the tallest building on campus.

2. Create a seamless city/University interface with Riverside Park in order to achieve a green "front door" to the campus.
3. Achieve a campus open space system which includes: True "people places" where students and faculty can study, interact or simply relax.

Sustainable designs for dealing with storm water runoff, including natural collection and holding systems, permeable paving, and indigenous planting. Develop cooperative solutions for dealing with storm water runoff flowing across campus and work with the city to create an all-weather two lane service drive along the west side of campus.

Treatment of the existing drainage channels as natural waterways that, with the city park, surround and embrace the more developed portions of campus.

Informal gathering areas (courtyards, sitting plazas, sunning area and outdoor eating areas).

4. Create a continuous, attractive, and safe pedestrian walkway system that connects all major campus buildings, open spaces and parking. It will also link with surrounding community destinations such as Riverfront Park private development areas adjacent to campus.

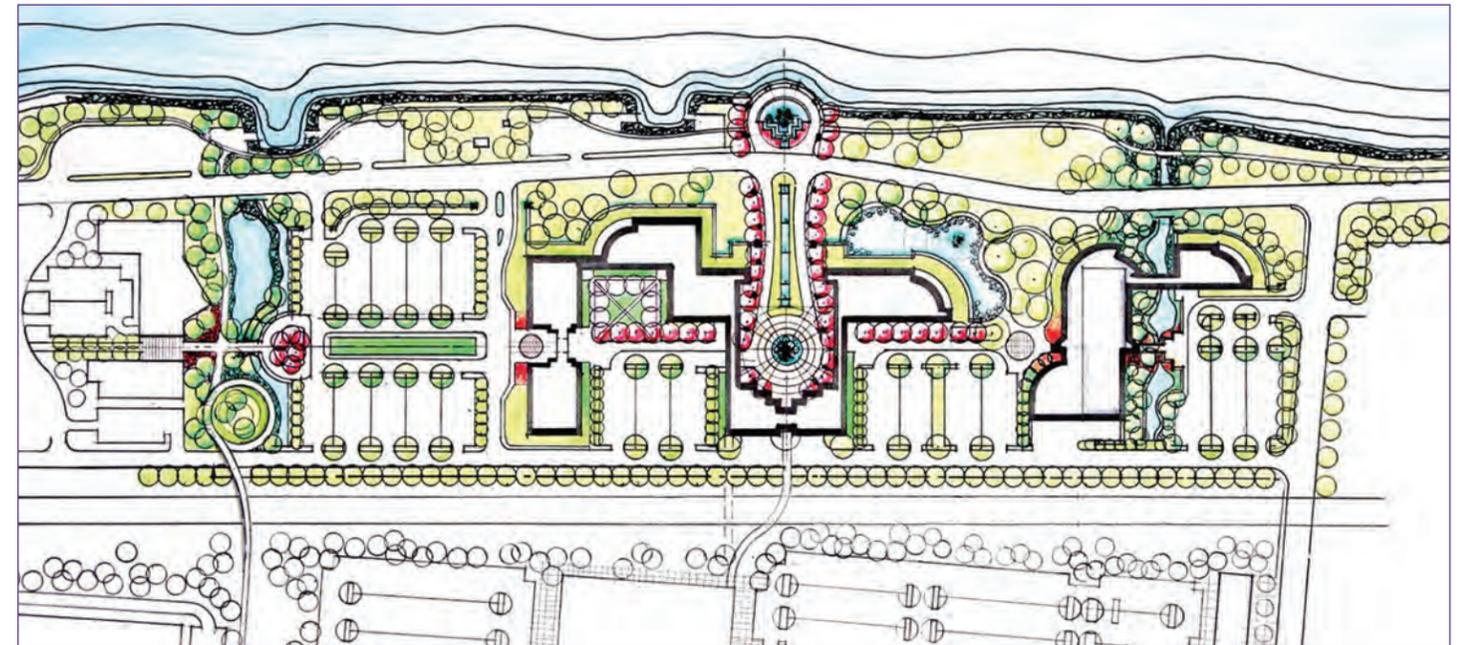
Provide two elevated walkways that cross the railroad tracks located along the west side of campus. One will connect public destinations and the other will connect public parking areas and the proposed municipal recreation center with the campus.

1. Elevated Walk over Tracks
2. Natural Retention Pond
3. River Road South Entry
4. Sitting Area
5. Bio Drainage Swale
6. Automobile and Bus Pick-Up Area
7. River Road North Entry
8. Courtyard/Quadrangle

9. Format Arrival Drive and Plaza
10. Image Building
11. Elevated Walk over Tracks
12. Pond (retention)
13. Outdoor Eating Area
14. Major Surface Pedestrian Corridor
15. Relocate Parking in City Park
16. Remove Existing Butler Buildings

17. Pedestrian Bridge across Channel
18. Renovate and Expand Existing Building
19. Front Green
20. Naturalize Existing Drainage Channel
21. Service Dock
22. All-Weather Service Drive
23. Image Corner with Identity Marker

Illustrative Master Plan



Provide additional entry points at strategic locations along 34th Street, River Drive and the service road.

5. Provide vehicular access to campus via 34th Street, River Drive, and from a new service road to be constructed directly south of the main campus.

Create a main entrance and arrival court off of River Drive near the center of campus.

6. Provide adequate parking, using either surface lots or structures.

Cluster parking as much as possible along the south edge of campus adjacent to the railroad tracks.

7. Serve as a catalyst to redevelopment projects in the area.

Future Growth

A capacity analysis indicates that the building clusters and parking patterns illustrated in the plan can support approximately 190,000 gross square feet of space in as many as three building complexes. The number of parking spaces shown are required to support this amount of new building space. Because surface parking consumes more land than any other use, it is the most significant factor in restricting growth. Should the University choose to utilize structured parking in the future, additional building space can be accommodated.

The level of development illustrated will be achieved over many years. In addition, some aspects of the plan, such as the



development of city park land, roadway improvements, and the railroad overpasses, require the approval or action of multiple agencies other than the University. Under these conditions, it is likely that some parameters affecting the design of the campus will change. The plan has incorporated the flexibility to adjust to these changing conditions by placing a strong emphasis on the principles discussed in the previous section. If these principles are adhered to, they will help achieve the campus objectives even though specific elements of the illustrative plan may need to be adjusted over time.

Because of the need to respond to unanticipated situations, periodic updates of the master plan will be required. However, if the principles are followed, the result will be an exceptional campus—one that not only reflects the University's long-term expectations, but also offers a physical setting that is aesthetically unique; appealing to faculty, students and staff; and reflects a demonstration of University priorities and its commitment to quality.