

THE PROJECT

This multi-year study has culminated in the preparation of a campus master plan for the land-constrained, urban campus of this university specializing in teacher education.

CHALLENGE

Lesley University is a dynamic, multi-faceted institution with 2,700 students enrolled in on-campus programs distributed across 5 schools: Lesley College (LC), Art Institute of Boston (AIB), School of Integrated and Experiential Studies (SIES), Graduate School of Arts & Social Sciences (GSASS), and the School of Education (SOE). These programs are supplemented by courses offered by the Centers & Institutes, Continuing Education, and the Threshold Program for learning-disabled college students. In addition, Lesley offers degree programs in twenty-two states, which enroll another 9,300 students.

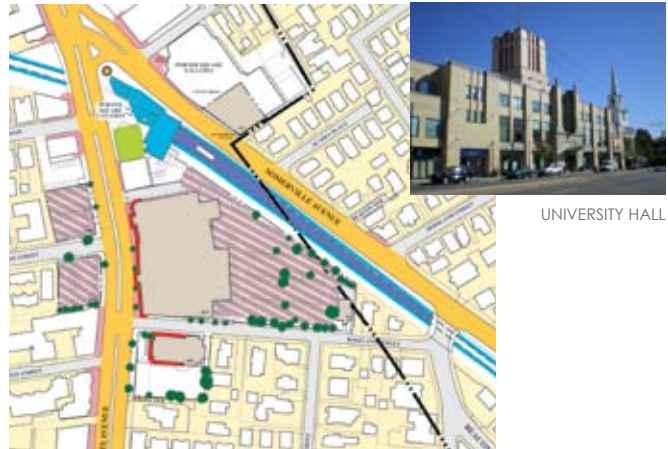
A major goal of the campus master plan is to improve the on-campus experience for undergrads and graduate students by consolidating and enhancing programs on the Cambridge campus. This involves moving the 500-student AIB from Boston to Cambridge, while increasing the enrollment of Lesley College. These two moves generate the need for substantially expanded facilities for academic and campus life functions, as well as student housing. The major challenge lies in the fact that Cambridge land-holdings total only 12.4 acres.

SOLUTION

Part of the solution has been for Lesley to acquire properties at The Episcopal Divinity School, now partially Lesley's Brattle Campus. Additional solutions developed by the planning team have focused on determining the requirements for each school and evaluating alternatives. The alternatives involve space re-allocation, existing property development, further land acquisition, and exploring co-operative arrangements with nearby institutions. The evaluation process is designed to ensure optimal functional adjacencies, feasibility, and highest and best use of scarce property resources.

RESULTS

The team has developed a phased solution allowing for a gradual relocation of AIB, the possibility of a significant new academic building for Lesley College, and the development of new student housing in increments to match enrollment growth. As an integral part of the planning, the team has assisted the University in extending their planning resources as an aid to decision-making: creating a new set of campus maps reflecting all landholdings and buildings, updating key building floor plans, updating and expanding the facility space inventory, and preparing a comprehensive classroom utilization analysis. These resources are particularly important in Lesley's situation where the University needs to continuously identify, evaluate and respond to opportunities and changes in their immediate environs. Early plan initiatives are already underway with the construction of a new residence hall and expanded use of the Brattle Campus.



UNIVERSITY HALL

PORTER CAMPUS



QUAD CAMPUS

STUDENT CENTER



BRATTLE CAMPUS

LAWRENCE HALL

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CREATING CAMPUS SOLUTIONS