




**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Illinois' first public university

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October 8, 2009

To: Dan Layzell
Vice President for Finance and Planning

From: Al Bowman 

Re: Campus Master Plan Update

For nearly the past ten years, *The Master Plan: Achieving Distinctiveness and Excellence in Form, Function, and Design 2000-2020* has guided the physical development of the campus. The plan, along with our strategic plan, *Educating Illinois*, has served us well as the campus has undergone an amazing physical transformation.

There have been a number of changes in the external environment that point to the need for a new plan to guide the future development of the campus. These changes are ones in which you are quite familiar: the state fiscal environment, state statutes concerning fire safety, and development of new technologies, to name just a few. These changes present a much different planning environment for Illinois State University than that when the 2000 Master Plan was developed. Furthermore, now that we have a land-use plan for the Gregory Street Property we need to consider its development. It is for these reasons that I am asking that you, in collaboration with Vice Presidents Adams, Ashby, and Everts, to lead the effort in updating our campus' master plan.

As you collaborate on the development of a new campus master plan, I expect a number of issues to arise and merit your consideration. While we may not know the extent of those issues today, I ask that you consider among them the following questions specifically.

- What changes in the University's facilities and physical infrastructure are needed to ensure instruction, research, public service, support activities (student, academic and administrative), recreation, alumni, and intercollegiate athletics are supported appropriately in the 21st Century?
- What further developments should occur on the Gregory Street property? How best can the historic quad be linked with the Gregory Street property?
- What is the best use of the land upon which the South Campus residence halls and dining center are located in anticipation of the decommissioning and subsequent demolition of these facilities?

- What is needed to further advance the University's position as a significant asset to the Town of Normal, the City of Bloomington, and the Main Street Corridor project?
- What opportunities exist to leverage public-private partnerships to accomplish the University's goals and objectives with regard to its future facilities needs?

These are just a few of the issues at stake, and I realize that others will arise during the planning process that also will need to be considered. It is imperative that the process you establish for developing the new campus master plan involves consultation from the entire University community as well as from the Normal and Bloomington communities, and the surrounding area.

Thank you.

cc: Steve Adams
Dianne Ashby
Sheri Noren Everts
Jay Groves