



Overview for the State Building Commission October, 2004

INTRODUCTION

The UW-L Campus, which has grown from a single building constructed on two city blocks in 1909 to a 118 acre campus with 34 major buildings, is located in a residential area in the east central part of the City of La Crosse. The city, which serves as a regional educational, medical and commercial center for an area encompassing portions of three states, is also surrounded by an abundance of exceptional natural beauty provided by the Mississippi River and the adjacent bluffs, wetlands and forested areas. This natural beauty enhances the educational environment and compliments the excellent academic programs that fuel a continually increasing demand for access to the university.

Although the university is in the fourth year of a six-year enrollment management plan that has resulted in a recent decrease in the number of students admitted to UW-L, the overall enrollment at the university has risen over 20% since 1970. Academic and Student Support Service Programs have grown significantly but there has not been a corresponding growth in physical space. The last significant addition of academic building space on campus occurred over 30 years ago when Wimberly Hall, the building that contains over 50% of the general access classroom space, was constructed.

CAMPUS PROFILE

Student Profile - Fall 2004

- 8,513 Headcount (7,846 Undergraduate & 667 Graduate)
- 7,002 Residents (83%)
 - 254 Non-residents (3%)
- 1,133 Minnesota Reciprocity (13%)
- 124 Foreign (1%)
- 2,820 Living on campus (33%)
 - RA's currently have roommates.
 - 40 Students accommodated in spaces formerly used as student study areas.
 - Only housing 76 students in Reuter Hall in fall of 2004 (has a capacity of 200). The facility will be demolished in March 05 so only students needing 1st semester housing were placed there this year.
- 0 Campus residency requests rejected

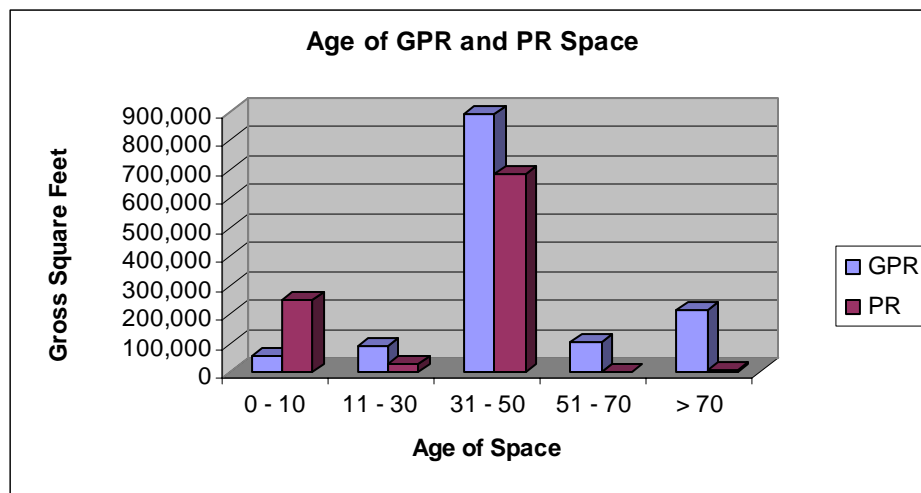
Academic Profile

- 1,220 Fall 2004 course offerings
- 5 Most common majors: Biology, Exercise and Sport Science, Psychology, Elementary Education, Management

Physical Profile

- 118 Acres (110 on Main Campus & 8 on North Campus)
- 1,361,353 GSF – General Program Revenue (GPR) supported
- 329,624 GSF – GPR w/ major addition or remodeling in past 20 years
- 824,322 GSF – Program Revenue (PR) supported
- 108,738 GSF – PR w/ major addition or remodeling in past 20 years
- 3% Classrooms designed and equipped for modern teaching methodology
- Have installed instructional technology in approximately 40% of the classrooms on campus, but these are still classrooms that were designed and constructed over 30 yrs ago and so the physical constraints of the rooms (aspect ratios, ceiling hts, bldg ventilation systems, fixed seating, etc.) are still not conducive to modern teaching methodology.
- 40 Years old – average age of 11 student housing buildings
- 2,410 Parking stalls on campus (Fall 2004)
- The City of La Crosse Municipal Transit Utility has implemented bus routes that are designed to specifically serve the campus community, and registered students are issued a "U-Pass" that allows them use their student ID to ride the municipal buses anytime and anywhere. In addition, the City of La Crosse, and the UWL Campus have become very "bike friendly" by adding amenities such as multiple bike routes and paths, parking posts, bike carriers on municipal buses, etc. As a result, bus ridership and the use of bicycles has more than doubled in recent years.

The graph below illustrates the age of building space on the University-La Crosse campus.



2005-2011 Long-Range Capital Development Six Year Major Project List

2005-2007 General Purpose Revenue

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. New Academic Building - Planning | 2,960,000 |
|--|-----------|

2007-2009 General Purpose Revenue

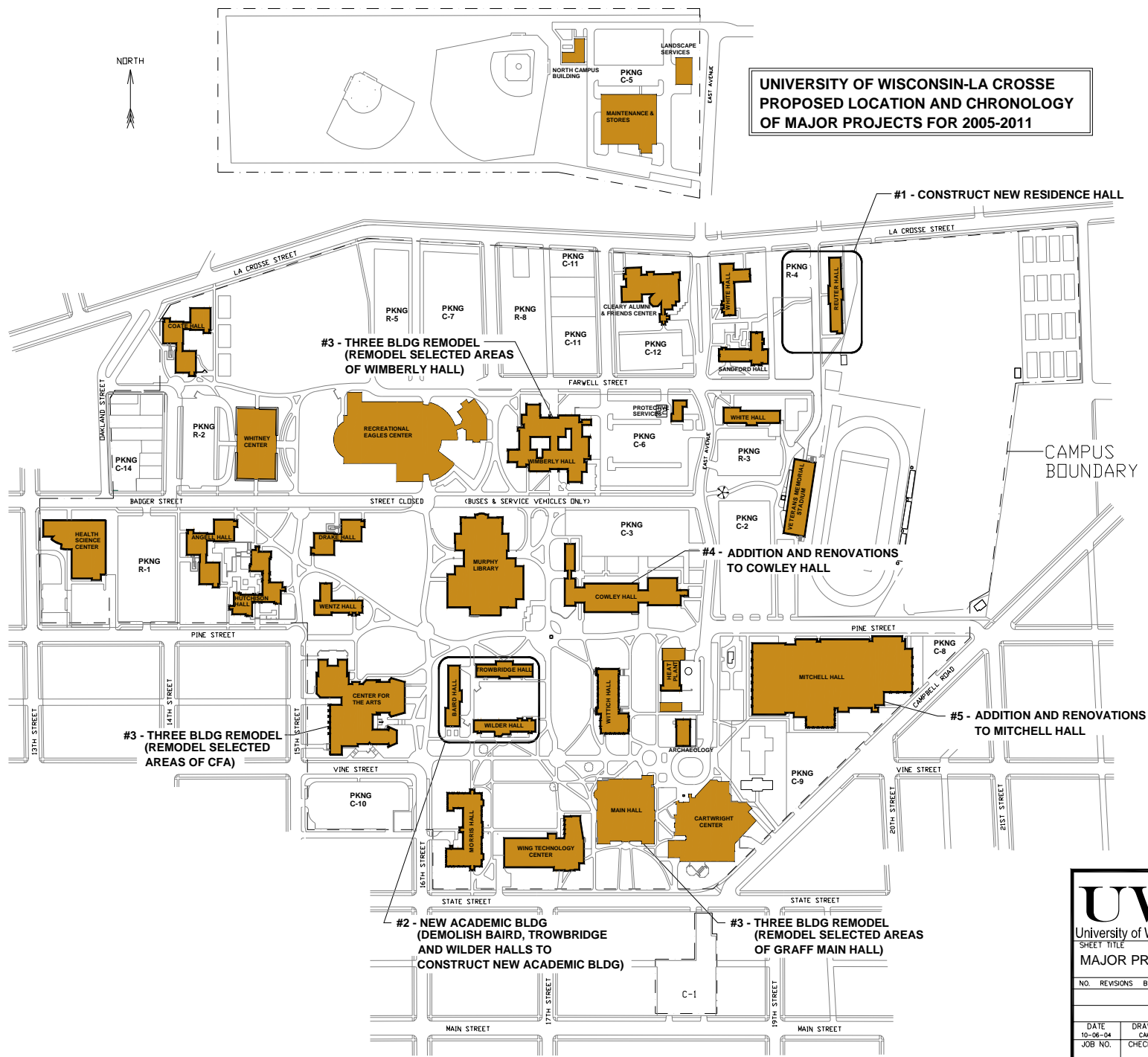
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|---|------------|
| 1. New Academic Building - Construction | 31,125,000 |
| 2. 3 – Building Renovation – Planning
(Graff Main Hall, Wimberly Hall, Center For The Arts) | 500,000 |
| 3. Addition and Renovations to Cowley Hall - Planning | 1,200,000 |

2009-2011 General Purpose Revenue

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. 3 – Building Renovation - Construction
(Graff Main Hall, Wimberly Hall, Center For The Arts) | 3,000,000 |
| 2. Addition and Renovations to Cowley Hall - Construction | 24,000,000 |
| 3. Addition and Renovations to Mitchell Hall - Planning | 800,000 |



**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE
PROPOSED LOCATION AND CHRONOLOGY
OF MAJOR PROJECTS FOR 2005-2011**



UW-L
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
SHEET TITLE
MAJOR PROJECTS 2005-11

NO. REVISIONS BY		
DATE	DRAWN	SHEET
10-06-04	CAK	
JOB NO.	CHECKED	
CAD FILE	SCALE	

UW-La Crosse Campus Facilities Six-Year Planning

MAJOR PLANNING ISSUES

The immediate critical space issues that currently have the most adverse impact on the ability to provide quality instruction to the students at the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse are as follows:

- **Lack of adequate general access classrooms:**

Approximately 40% of the existing general assignment classrooms have aspect ratios greater than 1.5 which means these rooms are not suited to accept the installation of modern instructional technology. Continually evolving teaching techniques require larger classrooms. Fixed rows of seating are no longer adequate to accommodate interactive teaching methods that are increasingly being used. It is typical for students to be divided into small groups for discussion and project work. Clusters of tables and chairs in lieu of fixed seating and table armchairs are required for this type of instruction. The majority of general access classrooms on the UW-L campus cannot accommodate this type of arrangement. Many of the existing classrooms are too small for the size of the class sections that they need to support. In addition, a large majority of the existing general access classrooms are in buildings that were constructed over thirty years ago and no aesthetic updates (ceiling, wall and floor finishes) and no infrastructure upgrades (mechanical ventilation, etc.) have occurred in many of these areas. All of these factors are not only detrimental to the delivery of instruction, but they also prohibit the effective implementation of instructional technology. Consequently, almost half of the existing general access classrooms on the UW-L campus are considered to be substandard (Type 'B') classrooms.

- **Lack of space for several academic and student support programs:**

Along with the shortage of appropriate classroom space, the various academic and student services departments, and all of their associated programs, have grown significantly in the last thirty years, but there has not been a corresponding growth in building space. Any additional space these programs have obtained has been through reallocation of existing support areas. Consequently, there are very few areas left for storage, group study, meeting rooms, offices and support functions, as many of these spaces have been reallocated to serve more direct delivery of instruction, although the spaces are often not well suited for this activity. In many cases, the end result has been the development of substandard instructional space while causing a shortage of office, conference and student study areas.

- **Lack of space for Physical and Life Sciences Programs:**

The College of Science and Allied Health provides the curricula for all of the classical sciences at the university as well as for those programs that are part of the new institutional focus in allied health. In order to meet the needs in both science and allied health, programs have been enhanced and expanded. In addition, related programs, such as Nuclear Medicine Technology and Radiation Therapy, will continue to be developed to address critical state and national shortages in the allied health professions. Also, there has been a rapid rise in the numbers of majors in Biology, Chemistry, Microbiology and Physics, as well as a significant increase in the number of students needing credits in those subjects to meet their general education requirements or to satisfy the requirements of their majors in the various allied health programs. In addition, there is an increased emphasis on graduate, undergraduate and faculty research. That has placed a severe strain on the ability of the existing laboratory facilities to accommodate such activities as Cowley Hall, the main science building on campus, was constructed forty years ago, and it was not designed to support any significant research functions. As a result, there are critical space needs related to the delivery instruction, and research activities, in the physical and life sciences.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENT BODY

The quality of students entering UW-L, as measured by ACT scores and high school class rankings, has risen sharply within the last decade, and that trend is expected to continue. The quality of the academic programs offered at the university continues to result in increased demand for admittance by highly qualified students. Following are some recent examples of excellence in the programs and students at UW-L:

- US News and World Report ranked UW-La Crosse 3rd in the nation among top public universities in both its 2004 and 2005 editions of "America's Best Colleges".
- Kiplinger ranked UW-L #19 on its most current list of 100 best colleges in the U.S.
- UW-L Radiation Therapy graduates recently attained a 100% passing rate in the ARRT Radiation Therapy Exam putting UW-L Radiation Therapy in the top 6 programs in the country.
- The 2003 combined PANCE scores of the UW-L Physician Assistant graduates placed the program among the top 5 Physician Assistant Programs in the country.
- The 2003 Athletic Trainer Board of Certification test results for UW-L graduates put the program among the top ranked programs in the country.
- A UW-L faculty member was recently awarded a \$310,000 National Science Foundation Grant Award to study "spin-based quantum computing".
- UW-L River Studies Center publications were referenced in recent White House Report of the National Science and Technology Council Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources.
- A UW-L student majoring Theatre Arts received the 2004 National Commendation Award from the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival.
- A UW-L student was the recipient of the 2004 American Physical Therapy Association Minority Scholarship for Academic Excellence.
- 17 UW-L Theatre Arts graduates have received full-tuition scholarships totaling over a half million dollars since 1999.
- UW-L is currently ranked #1 in the nation for CPA Exam passage rates of the university's Accounting graduates.
- Two UW-L students have received awards under the Homeland Security Scholars and Fellows Program. Only three other undergraduate students in Wisconsin have received such awards.
- The UW-L chapter of the Society of Physics Students was selected as an Outstanding SPS Chapter for the 2003-2004 school year. Fewer than 10% of SPS chapters nationwide are so honored.
- The UW-L Physics Program was referenced as a "great" program in a 2003 article in Physics Today entitled "Why Many Undergraduate Physics Programs Are Good But Few Are Great".

As these examples help to illustrate, UW-L has become an institution of choice for many of the most talented students. These students attending the university today bring with them a much higher expectation of excellence for their entire experience here at the university, and so the academic, recreational and residential facilities must accommodate a much higher level of activity than they did only a decade ago.