



## **Imperative VIII**

### **Construct useful and aesthetically pleasing physical spaces.**

#### Executive Summary

“Baylor is making it a priority to enhance community by improving the physical environment. In addition to creating green spaces and walking malls along the axes of campus, Baylor will renovate the Student Union Building to provide more appropriate meeting venues for student groups, build the Stacy Riddle Forum, construct a new intramural fields complex for recreational activity and create a Prayer Garden suitably located within our campus perimeter. We will give increased attention to the aesthetic value of the campus, renovating the facades of buildings whose designs are dissonant with the rest of the campus and ensuring that the major entries to the campus, as well as streets, walking plazas, landscaping and works of art form a place that promotes community. In further recognition of the importance of physical space, parking facilities will be constructed at the perimeter of the campus to move vehicles more toward the edges of activity. To provide service to the local community and increase interaction across generations, Baylor will further develop for leisure and academic use the corridor along both sides of the Brazos River and construct a Baylor Retirement Village. Finally, Baylor will continue to develop venues that enhance life on the campus and provide for major sports and other student life events.”

#### *(1) Create green spaces and walking malls*

In the summer of 2004, a number of parking lots were closed around campus to create more green space. (p. 4)

*(2) Renovate the existing Student Union Building or construct a new Student Union Building*

A proposal for the renovation and restoration of the Bill Daniel Student Center that will expand the building in its present location was submitted to the Strategic Planning Council. After deliberation, other alternatives such as the construction of a new Student Union Building are also being considered. (p. 4)

*(3) Build the Stacy Riddle Forum*

The Stacy Riddle Forum was opened in fall 2003 and is home to Baylor sororities. (p. 4)

*(4) Construct a new intramural fields complex*

The intramural fields complex was completed and ready for use in Fall 2003. (p. 5)

*(5) Create a prayer garden*

Three prayer gardens have been established on campus. (p. 5)

*(6) Renovate facades of buildings*

Yet to be initiated. (p.5)

*(7) Increased attention to landscaping and works of art*

A number of green spaces have been added in the last several years. Attention has been given to landscaping on all of the new major construction projects on campus. New University and School/College banners have been installed on campus to identify University spaces and support a sense of community. (p. 5)

*(8) Construct parking facilities at the perimeter of the campus*

The third of three new parking garages opened in Fall 2007. (p. 6)

*(9) Further develop the leisure and academic corridors along both sides of the Brazos River*

A new river walk along the Brazos River extending from the Ferrell Center to the existing river walk under I-35 is being constructed by the City of Waco. (p. 6)

*(10) Construct a Baylor retirement village*

Yet to be initiated. (p.6)

*(11) McMullen-Connally Faculty Center*

The 10,900-square-foot facility showcases the McMullen-Connally Family Collection. (p.7)

*(12) Jay and Jenny Allison Indoor Practice Facility*

The Jay and Jenny Allison Indoor Practice Facility was completed in August 2009. (p.7)

## Further Detail

### **(1) Create green spaces and walking malls**

- In the summer of 2004 a number of parking lots were closed around campus to create more green space.
- During the fall of 2008, business structures between Martin Hall and I-35 were razed creating additional green space. These areas have been planted with grass and trees and have created an attractive view of Brooks, which was formerly obstructed by buildings
- A landscape architect was hired to design a master plan for 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Fountain Mall, to improve the landscaping in these areas. We anticipate having a plan by the end of Spring 2010 and are planning on phasing in portions of the work over the coming years.

### **(2) Renovate the Existing Student Union Building or Construct a New Student Union Building**

- The proposed renovation/restoration of the Bill Daniel Student Center at Baylor University would expand the building in its present location and the outdoor paving and public gathering areas will be enhanced around the building.
- After consideration by the University Strategic Planning Council, an alternative plan calls for the construction of a new student union building across from the McLane Student Life Center and reassigning the space in the Bill Daniel Student Center to other academic or student life purposes.

### **(3) Build the Stacy Riddle Forum**

- The Stacy Riddle Forum was opened in fall 2003 and is home to Baylor sororities. The two-story 51,000 square-foot building contains nine sorority suites/meeting rooms, a computer lab, a chapel and prayer room, and an apartment for the resident manager.

#### **(4) Construct a new intramural fields complex**

- The intramural fields complex was completed and ready for use in fall 2003. It is located on La Salle directly across from the Ferrell Center.

#### **(5) Create a prayer garden**

- Three prayer gardens have been established on campus, one in the North Village Residential Complex, one near the Baylor Sciences Building, and the Wilson-Jones garden, which was a gift from the 2005 senior class.

#### **(6) Renovate facades of buildings**

- There are no plans at the present time to renovate facades of buildings.

#### **(7) Increased attention to landscaping and works of art**

- A lot of attention is given to landscaping on all of the new major construction projects on campus.
- The Immortal 10 statue was completed and installed in summer 2007 and dedicated at Homecoming that fall. As part of this project various landscaping elements (lighting, walls, paving, etc.) were included to enhance the sculpture.
- A new sculpture and landscape garden has been designed and will be installed next to the Carlile Geology Annex in 2010.
- Colorful outdoor banners were installed on lamp posts along high traffic pedestrian and driving routes to add to the beauty, pageantry and community identity of campus. Specifically, each school/college and the University are represented with banners attached to the lamp posts along Fountain Mall. School/college and University banners also were placed on lamp posts along the northwest public entrance to campus – University Parks and Dutton. Banners marking the Wiethorn Visitors Center were placed at the center's entrance from University Parks and in the visitors' parking area in front of the building.

- The remodeling of Waco Hall and the recognition of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building's dedication presented an opportunity to reinforce the Baylor-Waco connection and improve the aesthetics of the building's lobby. Large graphic posters were designed and installed in four strategic locations in the lobby to showcase the community's involvement in the construction of the building and the rich history shared by Baylor and the city of Waco. These durable poster displays can be updated every few years to showcase different aspects of the Baylor-Waco partnership.

#### **(8) Construct parking facilities at the perimeter of the campus**

- The Dutton Avenue office and parking facility was completed and opened for use in fall 2003. Located at the corner of campus (University Parks and Dutton Ave.), it has a parking capacity for 1,194 vehicles.
- The East Campus parking facility was completed and opened for use in fall 2004. Located at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Daughtrey Ave., it has a parking capacity for 1,167 vehicles.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> Street parking garage was completed and opened for use in fall 2007. Located directly behind the Stacy Riddle Forum, it has a parking capacity for 780 vehicles.

#### **(9) Further develop the leisure and academic corridors along both sides of the Brazos River**

- A new river walk along the Brazos River extending from the Ferrell Center to the existing river was completed in Summer 2009. The State of Texas is currently seeking funding to complete the last section of river walk from the Ferrell Center to the Intramural Fields. This project is dependent on funds from the State of Texas.

#### **(10) Develop a Baylor Retirement Village**

- There are no plans at the present time for the construction of a Baylor Retirement Village.

### **(11) McMullen-Connally Faculty Center**

- Faculty can enjoy the work of significant artists from the California School of Watercolor, as well as selected works by Eastern and Texas watercolor artists. The personal collection has more than 300 pieces of art and artifacts.
- The main dining room, with capacity for 120 guests and courtyard dining with 20 additional seats, offers daily lunch service for faculty and executive staff, as well as prospective faculty candidates and visiting speakers. In addition, faculty and visitors may enjoy the Great Room, a relaxed atmosphere conducive to conversation and growing together as an academic community

### **(12) Simpson Athletics and Academic Center**

- The Jay and Jenny Allison Indoor Football Practice Facility was completed in August 2009. With this 74,000 square-foot indoor facility, weather conditions will no longer result in cancelled practices. IN addition, the synthetic playing surface complements the two natural grass practice fields adjacent to the facility, preparing the Baylor football team for all playing conditions.