Synergistic Spaces
Recommendations from the Acts of Determination Committee

Acknowledging that any space may have, for someone or some group, a certain synergy, for the purposes of our Acts of Determination work....

Synergistic Spaces are spaces where several elements of the collegiate experience combine in dynamic ways. The interacting elements, which may be historical, social, technological, cultural, recreational, spiritual, or educational, come together synergistically so that the impact of each element is strengthened and the overall experience is amplified. In addition, spaces that have a productive and meaningful synergy will be characterized by:

- People – students want to be there and are there.
- Purpose – there is intentionality about the space.
- Physicality – the space works geographically and architecturally.

Recommendations

1. Learn from our past – We recommend that previously constructed spaces, especially those that were intended to be “synergistic”, be evaluated for their effectiveness with regards to synergy.

2. Create Communities within the Community - We recommend that the current residence hall refurbishing plan be continued and that the synergistic intentionality displayed in the South Russell floor plan continue to be emphasized in each hall’s refurbishing.

3. Nurture a Residential Campus – We recommend the University continue to emphasize and provide increased space for students to live on campus. We recommend consideration and investigation be made to accommodate our growing living-learning programs and to add beds to the campus inventory in place of those lost during the refurbishment process.

4. Create Campus-wide Spaces - We recommend the following new spaces be constructed:
(1) a new union that will facilitate vibrant student life programming, student organization experiences, co-curricular learning, social engagement, and entertainment, becoming a synergistic hub for the campus.

(2) an intramural facility that is connected more strategically to the campus.

(3) an expansion of the SLC to accommodate the size of Baylor's community.

5. **Move into the Final Frontier** - We recommend that study be done, training be provided, and resources be committed that will enable the Division to nurture continued expertise with social media and its ever-developing applications for engaging our students in community, learning, service, reflection, and fun.

**Committee Members:** Jim Broaddus, Ramona Curtis, Jordy Dicky, Rob Engbloom, Robert Graham, Curtis Odle, Ronda Kruse, and Burt Burleson