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Committee Meeting: 5/7/2025

**Board Meeting:** 5/8/2025 Austin, Texas

Jodie Lee Jiles, Chairman Christina Melton Crain Robert P. Gauntt Janiece Longoria Nolan Perez Stuart W. Stedman

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Convene	2:15 p.m. Chairman Jiles		
U.T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action regarding Consent Agenda items, if any, assigned for Committee consideration	Discussion	Action	74
2. U.T. System: Discussion and appropriate action regarding authorization to renew Coursera agreement	<b>Action</b> <i>Dr. Holmes</i>	Action	75
3. U.T. Arlington: Discussion and appropriate action regarding approval of an update to the Campus Master Plan	Action President Cowley	Action	89
4. U.T. San Antonio: Approval to establish a Doctor of Philosophy in Community and Policy degree program	<b>Action</b> <i>Dr. Holmes</i>	Action	133
<ol> <li>U.T. San Antonio: Approval to establish a College of Al, Cyber, and Computing</li> </ol>	<b>Action</b> <i>Dr. Holmes</i>	Action	136
6. U.T. System Academic Institutions: Discussion and appropriate action regarding a) authorization to establish and assess a Medical Services Fee at Stephen F. Austin State University and b) delegation of authority for approval of increases to Medical Services Fees for the other academic institutions for the 2025-2026 Academic Year	Action Dr. Holmes	Action	137
Adjourn	2:45 p.m.		

# 1. <u>U.T. System Board of Regents: Discussion and appropriate action regarding Consent Agenda items, if any, assigned for Committee consideration</u>

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Board will be asked to approve the Consent Agenda beginning on Page 176.

# 2. <u>U.T. System: Discussion and appropriate action regarding authorization to renew Coursera agreement</u>

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer, and the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel that the U.T. System Board of Regents approve a renewal of the Coursera agreement as described below.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Building on the goal to produce university graduates who are "Broadly Educated and Specifically Skilled," the University of Texas System is partnering with Coursera to provide access to an extensive, industry-recognized microcredential program. This initiative, part of the Texas Credentials for the Future program, offers more than 345,000 students, as well as faculty, staff, and alumni from U.T. System's academic and health institutions, free access to self-paced, online, professional certificates. Delivered exclusively on the Coursera platform, the Career Academy features over 65 entry-level professional certificates from leading companies like Google, IBM, Microsoft, Adobe, Amazon and Salesforce. These certificates are offered as co-curricular materials and are integrated into degree programs to enhance students' qualifications for high-demand jobs, providing hands-on projects and interactive assessments to apply their skills in real-world scenarios. This collaboration continues to better prepare the U.T. System community for the current and future workforce demands.

In May 2024, the contract was amended to include students and staff at U.T. System's health institutions. Early indicators have shown a large demand for access from the staff at the health institutions who outnumber the student population by 3 and 4 times.

#### SUMMARY OF TERMS OF AGREEMENT

This initial agreement with Coursera was effective August 1, 2022, and did not require Board approval as the total contract amount was below U.T. System's delegated approval threshold. On July 27, 2023, the Board approved an amendment to the initial agreement to extend services to Stephen F. Austin State University, to expand access to all enrolled students, faculty, and staff, at the academic institutions, and to provide access for alumni of the academic institutions to the Coursera Career Academy, from August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2025, at a cost of \$2,060,000.

This renewal contract expands access to Coursera for all students, faculty, and staff at the health institutions and provides access for all alumni of the health institutions to the Coursera Career Academy. There was a 0% increase to the baseline subscription costs for all current learner populations served under this agreement. This is a two-year renewal proposal, from August 1, 2025 through August 31, 2027 at \$3,973,967.50, with an option to continue for a third year through August 31, 2028 at the same fixed rate, at U.T. System's discretion, at a total cost of approximately \$5,881,467.50 over the potential three-year-term.

# Coursera and the U.T. System

May 7-8, 2025 Meeting of the U.T. System Board of Regents - Academic Affairs Committee

Dr. Archie Holmes, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

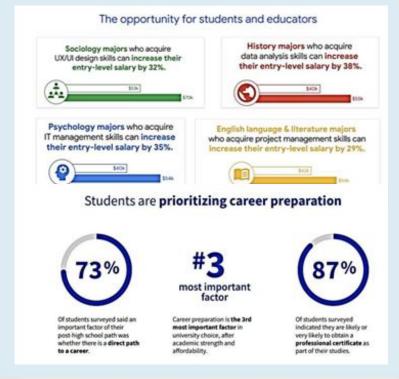
U.T. System Board of Regents Meeting Academic Affairs Committee May 2025



# Broadly Educated and Specifically Skilled

U.T. System's Ecosystem Approach for Creating Better Post-completion Outcomes

#### THE OPPORTUNITY





Source: ECMC, 2021, Eduventures Research, 2020, Cibyl/Coursera study, May 2022

# Broadly Educated and Specifically Skilled (cont.)

U.T. System's Ecosystem Approach for Creating Better Post-completion Outcomes

#### THE SOLUTION

#### Bachelor's Degree +





Source: ECMC, 2021, Eduventures Research, 2020, Cibyl/Coursera study, May 2022

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The University of Texas System

The University of Texas System

# Broadly Educated and Specifically Skilled (cont.)

U.T. System's Ecosystem Approach for Creating Better Post-completion Outcomes

#### THE APPROACH

Scaling and Expanding Capacity Building and Infrastructure Development Efforts

Faculty and Staff Development

University Policies & Procedures

Scaling Microcredential and Skills Badge Adoption and Participation

Faculty & Staff Incentives and Support

**Student Financial Assistance and Support** 

Source: ECMC, 2021, Eduventures Research, 2020, Cibyl/Coursera study, May 2022

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# **Breadth of Coursera Library**





# Coursera Career Academy at U.T. Institutions









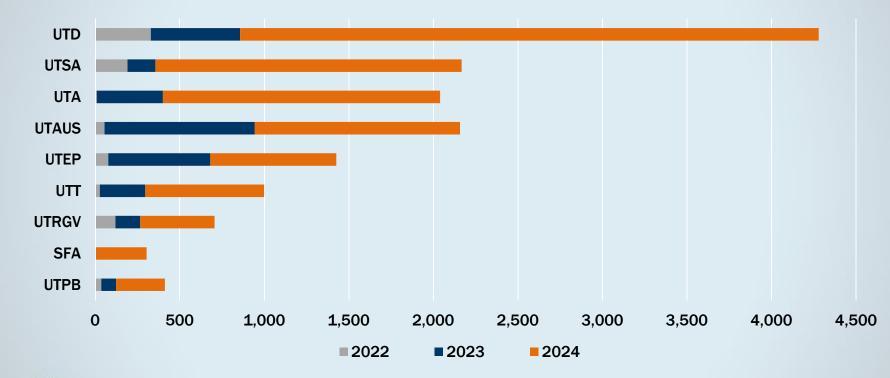


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May 7-8, 2025 Meeting of the U.T.

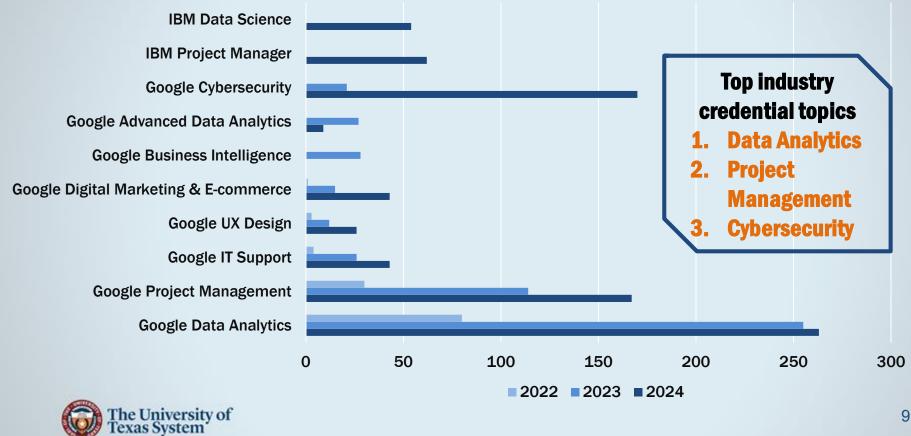
System Board of Regents - Academic Affairs Committee

# Coursera Student Enrollments in Industry Credentials Over Time

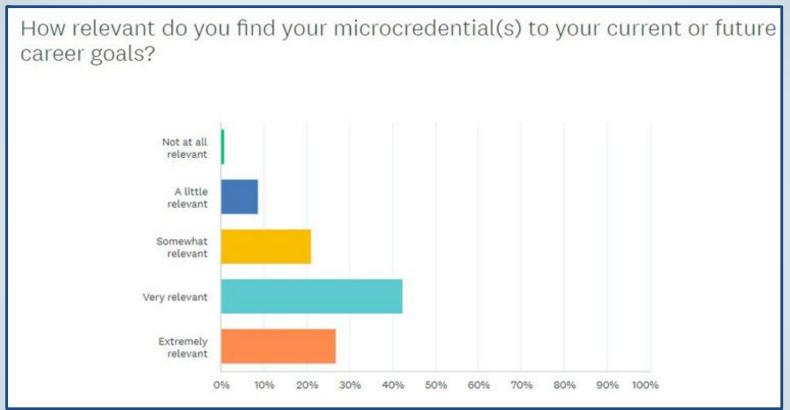




# Top Industry Credentials Students Earned on Coursera



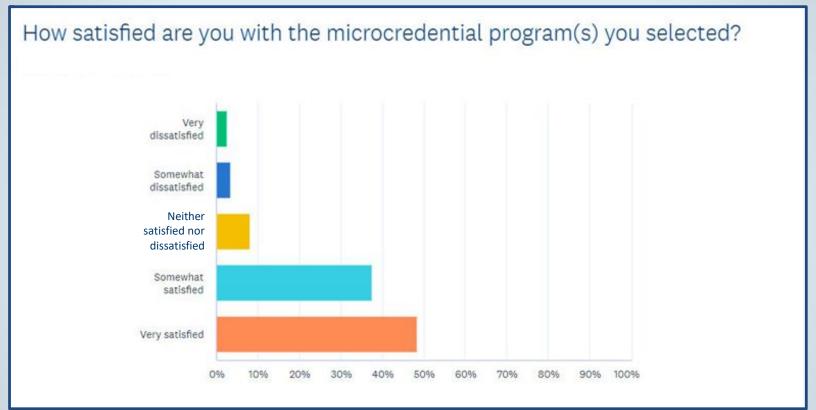
# Microcredential Learner Experience Survey





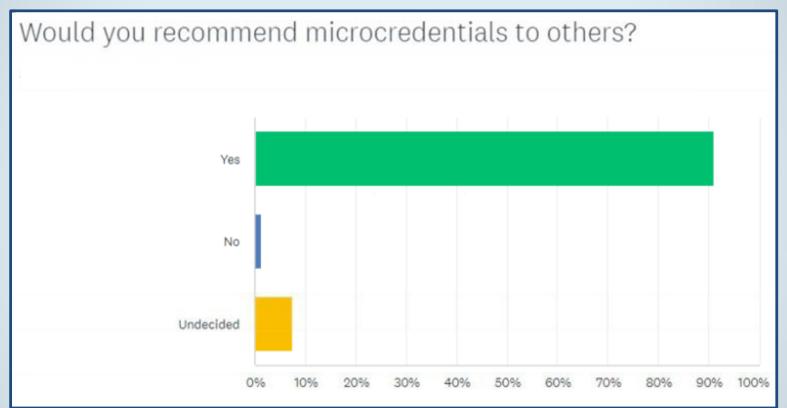
Source: UT System Office of Academic Affairs designed and launched a 27-question survey in April 2024 to over 7,600 students and alumni who enrolled in a Coursera specialization (9% have completed the survey).

# Microcredential Learner Experience Survey (cont.)





# Microcredential Learner Experience Survey (cont.)





# **Next Steps**

- U.T. System's Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) is partnering with Strada Education Foundation to evaluate the impact of the System's microcredentialing efforts including surveying microcredential learners and earners and faculty champions.
- OAA will collaborate with the Office of Institutional Research and Analysis to track microcredential earners after graduation to determine U.T. System alumni perceptions of their earned industry credentials and their job outcomes.
- U.T. Education & Research Center Laredo will expand offerings for community partners.



## 3. <u>U.T. Arlington: Discussion and appropriate action regarding approval of an</u> update to the Campus Master Plan

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that the U.T. System Board of Regents approve an update to the Campus Master Plan for U.T. Arlington as described in the PowerPoint and Executive Summary set forth on the following pages.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

President Cowley will present U.T. Arlington's (UTA) updated Campus Master Plan, a forward-looking strategy to guide the university's physical growth over the next 10 to 20 years. The plan provides a strategic framework that aligns with UTA's overarching goals to support student success, expand research capacity, and strengthen community engagement, all while ensuring responsible stewardship of campus resources.

Developed over 18 months with input from over 400 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community stakeholders, the Plan aligns with *UTA 2030: Shared Dreams, Bright Future* and offers a data-driven roadmap that reflects the needs and aspirations of the UTA community. It balances visionary growth with practical strategies, combining new construction and renovation to support an enriched academic and campus experience. As a living document, the Plan will be continuously updated to reflect evolving priorities and institutional goals.

Portions of the near-term roadmap are already underway, including planning for new academic and research facilities, expanded housing, enhanced student success spaces, and upgrades to student life and recreation centers. Early efforts include reimagining core campus areas, improving infrastructure, and advancing projects that support UTA's growing student population and research enterprise.

Long-term efficiency and connectivity are central to the Plan's vision. Strategic investments in energy use, utility upgrades, and green space expansion will support a future-ready campus. Enhancements to pedestrian pathways and public spaces will create a more connected campus, fostering a stronger sense of community and place.

The Campus Master Plan positions UTA to build on its momentum as a nationally recognized public research university. Through thoughtful growth, strategic investments, and an ongoing commitment to excellence, UTA is shaping a campus that will continue to serve its community, drive innovation, and inspire future generations.

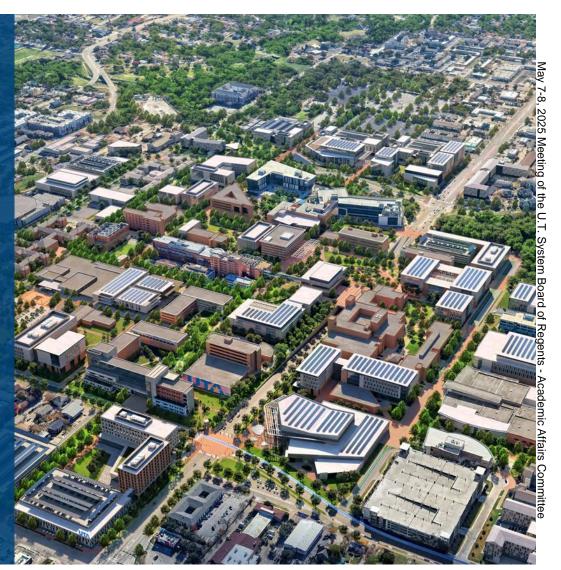
# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON CAMPUS MASTER PLAN UPDATE

**Dr. Jennifer Cowley, President** 

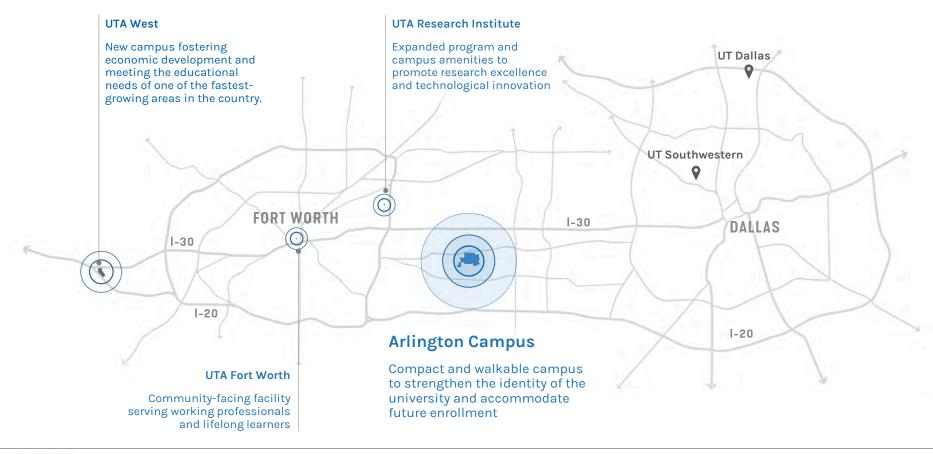
U.T. SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

May 2025





# **U.T. ARLINGTON (UTA) CAMPUSES**



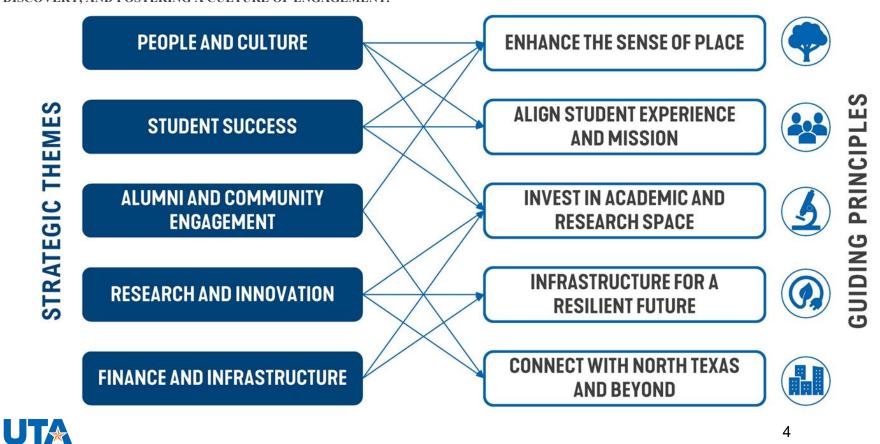


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### STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

#### VISION

TO HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE BY DEVELOPING THE TALENTS OF OUR STUDENTS, LEADING IN INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY, AND FOSTERING A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT.



# **PLANNING DRIVERS**



Increased Research (by 2030)

**\$300M** annual expenditures

100 additional faculty/researcher hiring through the **RISE 100** Initiative



#### **Responsible Growth**

**10,000** additional students over the next decade

Increased academic capacity and collaborative learning



#### **Enhanced Student Life**

**3,000** additional beds in the next decade

Wider range of housing typologies

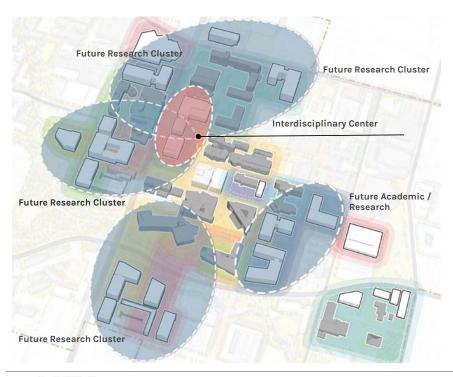
Expanded student life programs



## **RESEARCH GROWTH**

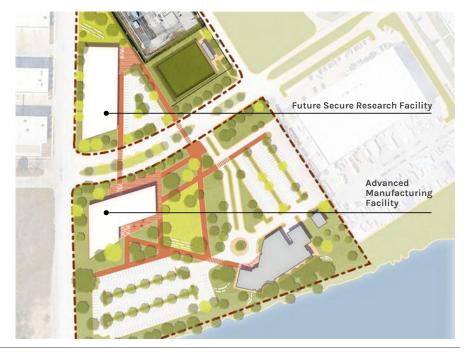
#### **Promote Intersectional Research**

 Foster innovation and collaboration by adopting a transdisciplinary, clustered, and theme-based model

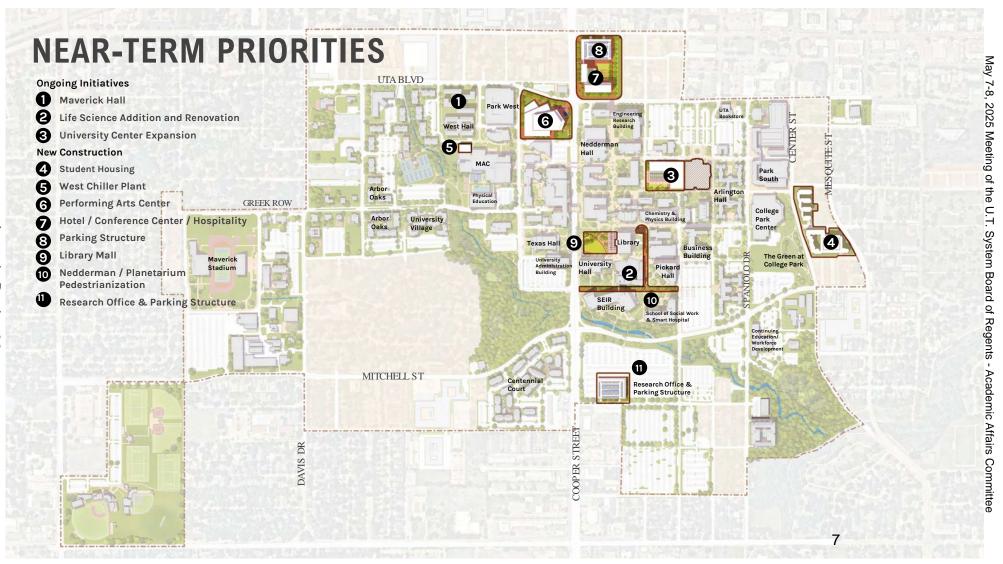


# University of Texas at Arlington Research Institute (UTARI)

 Drive economic growth and societal impact through research excellence and technological innovation

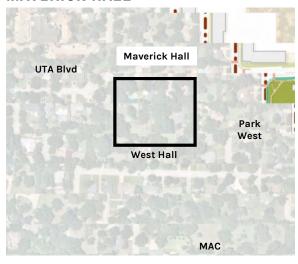






# **ONGOING INITIATIVES: STUDENT HOUSING**

#### **MAVERICK HALL**



Project budget: \$116 million

• GSF: 205,638 sq. ft.

■ 650+ beds

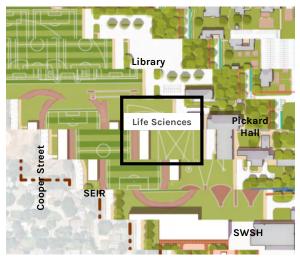
Anticipated Opening: Fall 2025





# **ONGOING INITIATIVES: ACADEMICS & RESEARCH**

#### LIFE SCIENCES ADDITION AND RENOVATION



• GSF: 300,000 sq. ft.

Anticipated Budget: \$180 million

Anticipated Completion: Fall 2027



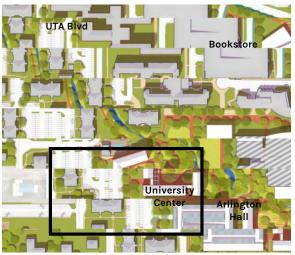


# UNIVERS

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# **ONGOING INITIATIVES: STUDENT LIFE**

#### UNIVERSITY CENTER RENOVATION/EXPANSION



- Capital Budget: \$175 million
- Expanding and modernizing the student union from current GSF of 244,782 to 262,664
- Anticipated completion: Summer 2028





# **NEAR-TERM INITIATIVES**



#### Performing Arts Center

A facility to support academic space for performing arts programs



#### **Student Housing**

Future project to accommodate the demands for student housing



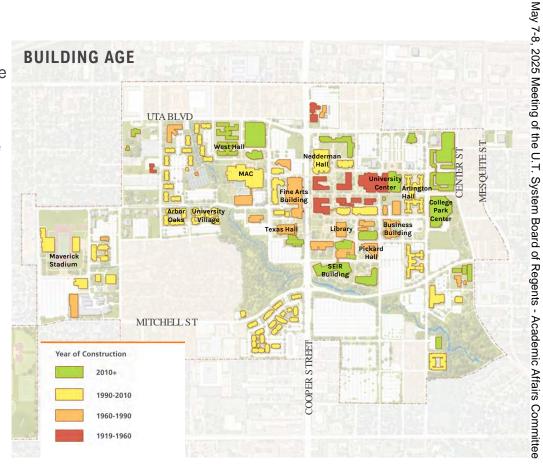
#### **Library Mall**

Reimagined Library plaza with outdoor gathering spaces and a shade structure, serving as a new campus living room



### **DEFERRED MAINTENANCE**

- With current deferred maintenance costs for the main campus estimated at more than \$136M, staying on track with scheduled replacements, repairs, and ongoing maintenance is invaluable for the success of UTA
- Aligning costs with anticipated replacement schedules helps minimize disruptions
- Replacing aging or outdated building systems often results in improved efficiencies, allowing the University to reach energy efficiency goals
- Allocating dollars to catch up with the existing deferred maintenance backlog is critical to maintaining the health and safety of the campus population





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# Campus Master Plan Update

The University of Texas at Arlington

**Executive Summary** 

## The Maverick Way to a Bright Future

The boldest dreams need a visionary and ambitious plan if they are to be realized. This Campus Master Plan Update is just that—a strategic framework that will guide the evolution of our University's physical spaces over the next 10 to 20 years, supporting our mission of excellence in education, research, and community engagement.

The Campus Master Plan Update aligns seamlessly with the priorities of our strategic plan, UTA 2030: Shared Dreams, Bright Future, which focuses on themes such as People and Culture, Student Success, Alumni and Community Engagement, Finance and Infrastructure, and Research and Innovation. By aligning physical development with these strategic themes, the Campus Master Plan Update reflects our commitment to creating a campus environment that inspires big ideas, fosters collaboration, enriches the Maverick experience, and enhances the University's role as a leading institution in the region.

The development of this plan began in Fall 2023 and unfolded in phases that included seeking input from those who know UTA best—our students, faculty, staff, and alumni—extensive data analysis, and ultimately, the realization of our ideal campus.

To that end, these updates are centered on strengthening our ability to support the success of our growing student body, enhance our research capabilities, and ensure the sustainability of our campus resources. More than physical improvements; they are foundational to creating a University that is future-focused and globally competitive. As stewards of our resources, we are implementing these changes responsibly, with an emphasis on financial sustainability and operational efficiency. By prioritizing strategic investments, we are ensuring that every step forward is purposeful and supports the overarching goals of UTA 2030.

The Campus Master Plan Update represents a shared vision, and we invite you to continue sharing your insights and to join us in celebrating these milestones as they unfold. Thank you for your dedication to making UTA a beacon of opportunity, innovation, and impact.

We would also like to thank the Executive Committee, Steering Committee, and the many working groups for their time, expertise, and efforts in guiding the future of our campus, along with SmithGroup for their valued partnership.

Together, we are building a brighter future for our Maverick community and beyond.



Dr. Jennifer Cowley, Ph.D. President

## **Shared Dreams, Bright Future**

The University of Texas at Arlington Campus Master Plan Update defines an exciting vision for the next decade and beyond. This vision highlights a framework to guide the responsible growth and development of UTA as a nationally prominent public research university. This plan is the culmination of an 18-month process guided by input from students, alumni, faculty, staff, the City of Arlington, and community members. The Campus Master Plan Update is a series of powerful ideas to advance and support the institution's mission.

The University of Texas at Arlington is transforming Texas and the world with its premier academic programs, groundbreaking research, record enrollment, unparalleled student achievements, and renowned faculty. UTA is proud of its national excellence and continues its pioneering leadership in student success.

To sustain this impressive momentum, the Campus Master Plan Update outlines a bold vision for the next generation of Mavericks.

We have a unique moment to Dream Big.

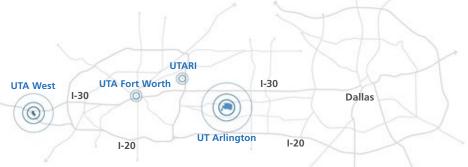
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The Campus Master Plan Update outlines opportunities to create innovative teaching, learning, and research spaces, strengthen our infrastructure, celebrate the unique character of North Texas, connect with our host community, and enhance the student experience.

#### **Institutional Overview**

Established in 1895, UTA has grown to offer more than 180 baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degree programs, with a student body nearing 41,000.

Located in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan region, UTA encompasses 420 acres, 100+ buildings, and more than 7M square feet of facilities. It is recognized as a Very High Research Activity institution according to the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, reflecting its commitment to research excellence. The university maintains multiple campus locations in the Metroplex including the largest and oldest footprint in Arlington, a Downtown Fort Worth Campus, The University of Texas at Arlington Research Institute (UTARI) Complex, and UTA West. The primary focus of this Campus Master Plan Update is the Arlington Campus.



## **Planning Drivers**

The actions of today define the outcomes of tomorrow. Foundationally, UTA has identified several important planning drivers to shape the direction of the Campus Master Plan Update. Foremost among them are:

- Providing greater academic and research capability,
- 2. Managing burgeoning enrollment growth,
- 3. Enhancing student life and the residential experience, and
- 4. Aligning with the Energy Efficiency Plan.

Collectively, these factors present both challenges and opportunities to UTA, including efficient land use and capacity, energy leadership, programmatic innovation, and balancing growth while simultaneously maintaining campus character.

#### **Increased Research**

UTA aspires to grow its research enterprise by improving both capacity and support infrastructure. The university is planning for \$300 million in annual expenditures and anticipates hiring additional faculty through the RISE 100 initiative by 2030. This research growth will further enhance UTA's \$29 billion annual statewide economic impact and reinforce strategic research areas of Health and the Human Condition, Sustainable Communities, Culture and Societal Transformations, Data–Driven Discovery, and Global Environmental Impact.

#### **Enhanced Student Life**

As the residential network continues to evolve, UTA will transition to a higher percentage of on-campus housing. This maturation includes increasing the bed count by 2,800, offering undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to choose a wider range of housing typologies including traditional, suites, and apartment styles. Parallel to this growth, UTA anticipates developing additional student center space, more collaboration and amenity spaces, additional indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, and enhanced student services and academic support spaces.

#### **Responsible Growth**

UTA will continue to responsibly grow student enrollment. Over the next decade, UTA anticipates adding up to 10,000 additional students. This trajectory will increase growth in both undergraduate and graduate cohorts and proportionally increase participation in each of the schools and colleges. Special emphasis will be placed on space needs related to research and teaching laboratories, classrooms, interdisciplinary and collaborative learning spaces and the student support network.

# **Energy** Efficiency Plan **Alignment**

One of the most important elements of the Campus Master Plan Update is the strategic alignment with the Energy Efficiency Plan. Specific recommendations incorporate infrastructure strategies to expand chilled water service, expedite the conversion from steam to hot water, expand electrical capacity, and utilize the creek corridor for expanded stormwater management.

# **Strategic Plan Alignment**

"Together we will realize our strategic plan, ensuring we accomplish big dreams together."

UTA 2030, Shared Dreams, Bright Future

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The Campus Master Plan Update translates the strategic initiatives from the UTA 2030: Shared Dreams, Bright Future vision into physical responses for the continued growth and evolution as a leading public research university. The primary goal of this document is to provide a forward-looking, flexible framework for developing and maintaining

a physical setting that supports the continued advancement of the university's teaching, research, and public service mission dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through scholarship and creative work.

This Campus Master Plan Update continues the longstanding tradition of linking physical and strategic planning and sustains the momentum of previous capital investments. This plan leverages the progress achieved by prior and current capital improvement efforts, while pivoting toward the future—laying the groundwork for forthcoming capital campaigns.



## **Guiding Principles**

Interpreted from the Strategic Plan, the following planning principles serve as tangible foundation of the Campus Master Plan Update and will guide decision-making and prioritization during both project planning and implementation. These principles are the product of a transparent and consensus-driven process with input from critical stakeholders from vital communities of interest.



#### **Enhance the Sense of Place**

- Create a network of open spaces that promote a variety of activities and comfortable outdoor environments.
- Activate campus outside of daylight hours by enhancing the transparency and openness of the building facade.
- Strengthen pedestrian and micromobility networks across all of campus.
- Improve connectivity across Cooper Street, focus on Trading House Creek Corridor improvements.



# Align Student Experience & Mission

- Increase on-campus housing and dining quantities in locations that improve campus life.
- Enhance holistic wellness access across campus.
- Identify locations for more collaboration and student organization space.
- Align athletics and recreation spaces with user needs.
- Provide spaces that enhance the sense of community for all campus users.





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- Improve the quality and quantity of research space across the main campus and satellite campuses.
- Transform teaching spaces into smart, flexible classrooms that support dynamic, interactive learning.
- Identify and address library needs across all colleges.
- Increase inter/multidisciplinary research, learning and collaboration spaces.



#### **Invest in Infrastructure**

- Expand utility capacity to enhance reliability and ensure continuity of campus operations.
- Upgrade energy systems to improve efficiency and support long-term campus needs.
- Prioritize renovation and modernization of existing facilities to address maintenance needs and align with the university's future growth.
- Integrate strategic design principles to enhance campus functionality and longterm efficiency



# Connect With North Texas & Beyond

- Enhance educational opportunities in the greater Dallas-Fort Worth region.
- Create physical spaces for partnership opportunities that align UTA's mission with workforce needs in the Dallas-Fort Worth region.
- Improve physical and programmatic connections with downtown Arlington.
- Create additional venues and facilities that can host public outreach and engagement events.

# **Planning Process**

The Campus Master Plan Update was conducted in three phases over 18 months, completing in early 2025. These phases included Understand, Explore, and Realize. This was an iterative and cumulative planning process, allowing each phase to consecutively build upon the previous one. The resulting planning syntheses ensured alignment with university fiscal, spatial, and strategic goals.

## **Building Consensus**

The University of Texas at Arlington intentionally established an inclusive, multi-tiered process consisting of standing committees, focus groups, open forums, and online engagement. This process involved widespread participation and garnered support from a large cross-section of the institution and the greater Arlington community. More importantly, the Campus Master Plan Update benefited from hundreds of individual voices representing, students, staff, faculty, civic leaders, and community members. As a result of this collaborative process, the Campus Master Plan Update has engendered widespread understanding and support.

## **Interactive Website & Survey Tools**

In addition to in-person participation, UTA developed a robust online platform to engage faculty, students, staff, alumni, and other interested stakeholders. This interactive planning website was used successfully throughout the planning horizon to expand communication, collect ideas, and provide feedback to a broad constituency. The website was particularly useful to extend conversations started during on-campus visits. This platform featured a number of robust tools including an interactive mapping tool called MapMyCampus.

The MapMyCampus tool is a custom web-based survey mapping application used to collect location-based data from UTA students. faculty, and staff. This tool allowed participants to describe "a day in their life" by highlighting individual circulation routes, rating classroom and laboratory learning environments, identifying favorite and least places on campus, and other experientially focused questions.

Collectively, this engagement platform was visited by hundreds of people, generating many useful and insightful ideas. More importantly, these tools allowed critical feedback on proposed planning ideas during each phase of the project. This data-driven approach enabled university leadership to make real-time informed decisions about campus improvements, facility management, and student life enhancements.

**Campus Community Open Houses** 

**MapMyCampus** Responses

**15** Executive/Steering Committee Sessions

**On-campus** Pop-Up Sessions

**Focus Group** 

**Virtual Stakeholder** 



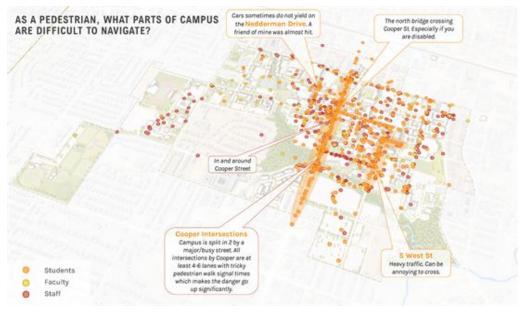


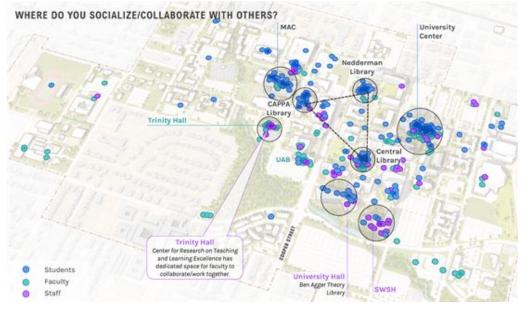












# **Campus Master Plan Update**

## **Academics/Research**

- 1 Performing Arts Center
- 2 Hotel/Conference Center & Hospitality Academic Complex
- 3 Science Hall & Earth and Environmental Sciences Building Replacement
- 4 Academic & Student Life Building
- 5 Hammond Hall Expansion
- 6 College of Business Building Renovation
- 7 Fine Arts Building Renovation
- 8 College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs Building Renovation
- 9 Academic/Research Building

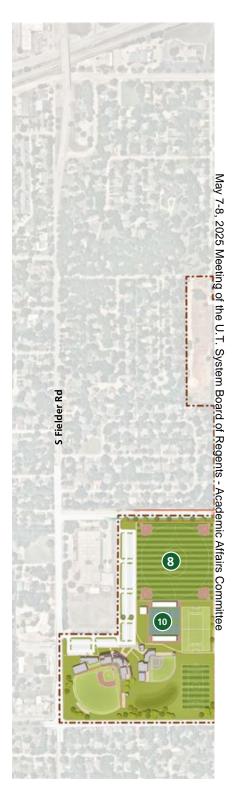
## **Student Experience**

- 1 Student Services One-Stop/ Welcome Center
- 2 Transit Hub
- 3 University Center Renovation & Expansion
- 4 Student Housing/Student Life Building
- 5 Library Expansion & Pavilion
- 6 Physical Education & Recreation Building
- 7 Student Life & Recreation Building
- 8 Student Housing
- Maverick Activities Center Renovation & Expansion
- 10 Health Center
- 11 Centennial Courts Addition
- 12 New Athletics Building & Gateway

## **Sense of Place**

- 1 University Center Entry Landscape
- 2 Library Mall
- 3 East Library Green Space
- 4 New Campus Green Spaces
- 5 Brazos Park Expansion & Drop-off
- 6 Creek Landscape & Greenway
- 7 Street Intersection Improvements
- 8 Multipurpose Recreation Fields
- 9 Track & Soccer Field
- 10 Tennis Courts
- S West Street Conversion
- 12 Nedderman Street Pedestrianization
- 13 Oak Street Pedestrianization

<sup>\*</sup>The numbers on the map do not indicate implementation sequencing.



# **Academics & Research**

## **Reposition for Next-Generation Education**

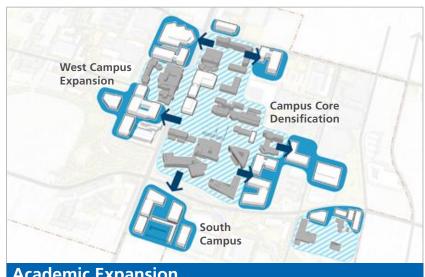
Students and their success come first at The University of Texas at Arlington. We celebrate our robust academic programs, the value of face-to-face education, research opportunities, and meaningful relationships with world-class faculty. This differentiates the UTA experience and remains at the core of our ethos. Today, UTA offers innovative degree programs throughout nine colleges, providing students a technology-rich, experiential and project-based learning environment at the intersection of arts and humanities, science and technology and engineering.

# **Increase Academic Capacity**

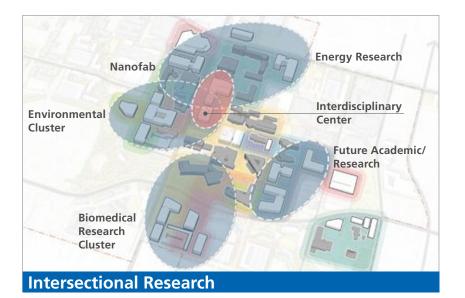
Based on the strategic and enrollment plans, UTA anticipates accommodating 10,000 more students and hundreds of additional faculty and staff over the next decade. The existing campus buildings and infrastructure are currently stretched to meet the demands of this burgeoning student population. As a result of these compounded pressures, the Campus Master Plan Update recommends adding, renovating and repositioning significant quantities of space. Campus growth and expansion will require the transformation of land use patterns, use of surface parking lots, and the redevelopment of low density and/or underutilized building assets.

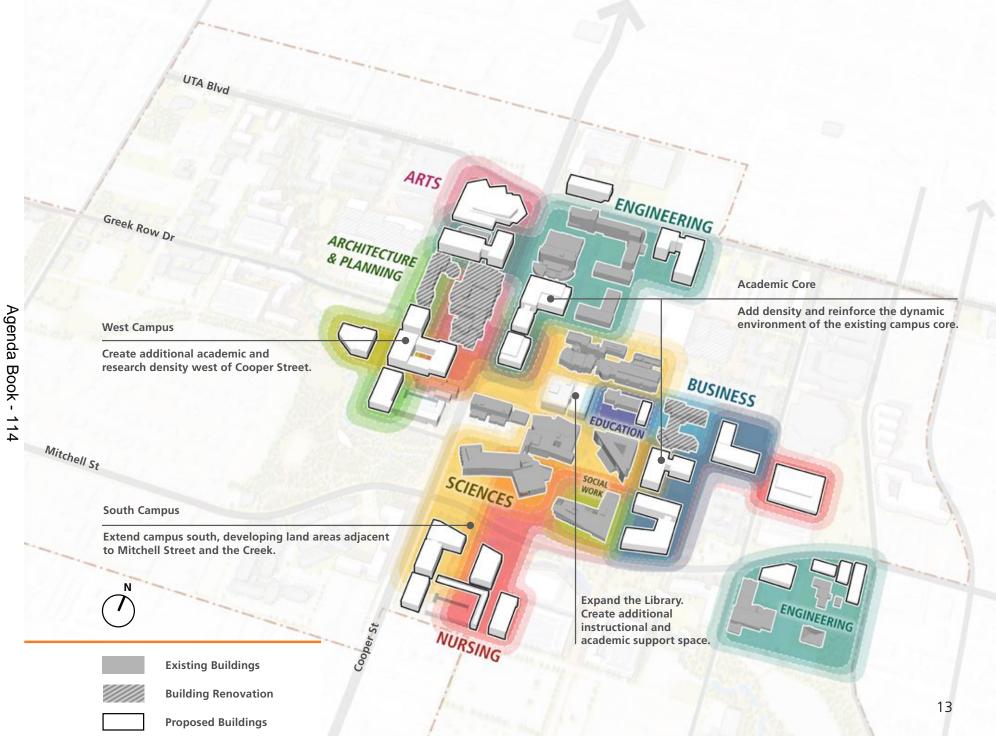
## **Promote Intersectional Research**

The UTA research enterprise drives innovation and industry collaboration in Texas and beyond, significantly impacting engineering, health care, life sciences, and environmental markets. Seeking to achieve \$300 million in sponsored awards, the university is challenging how research activities are delivered—advocating for a transdisciplinary, clustered, and theme-based model that blurs physical and disciplinary boundaries.









# **Student Experience**

## **Dynamic Campus Life**

A priority of the UTA 2030: Shared Dreams, Bright Future is to "Integrate UTA values throughout the university to support the campus in creating an environment and culture of belonging and engagement." For our Mavericks, we have an obligation to promote social interaction and personal growth. The Campus Master Plan Update fosters these shared perspectives and experiences by creating facilities, spaces, and amenities to enhance the student experience.

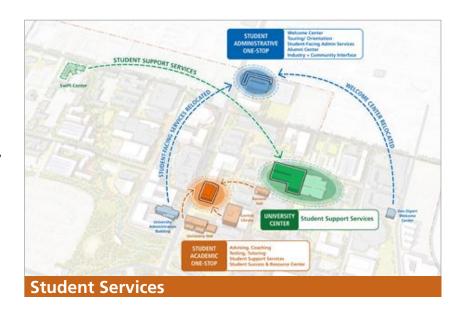
This planning effort intentionally integrates experiences outside the classroom by creating spaces for making memories, reinforcing campus traditions, fostering friendships, and encouraging the exchange of ideas and civic discourse. The Campus Master Plan Update recommends strengthening environments for living, dining, socializing, and recreating.

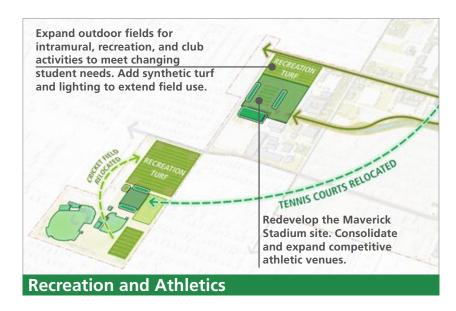
## **Disciplina Praesidium Civitatis**

The Latin motto of The University of Texas at Arlington, which translates to "The cultivated mind is the guardian genius of democracy."

# **Expanded Student Network**

As student enrollment grows, UTA will transition to a higher percentage of on-campus housing. This maturation includes increasing the total bed count, offering students the opportunity to choose a wider range of housing typologies. In tandem to this growth, UTA anticipates developing additional student center space, more collaboration and amenity spaces, additional indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, and enhanced student services and support spaces.





# **Sense of Place**

## **Landscape as Brand**

Consider the importance of our place. North Texas, Arlington, Cross Timbers and Prairies Ecoregion, and the UTA campus have created indelible memories and unique traditions. Our brand is reflected in our environment: the campus, downtown and urban fabric, Trading House Creek, and Doug Russell Park.

As the university continues to expand, it is crucial to preserve the campus's cultural and environmental resources. Thoughtful planning and development will ensure the integration of both campus and community character and the quality of the student experience.

As an important part of the Campus Master Plan Update, we elevate several tenets to guide decision-making.

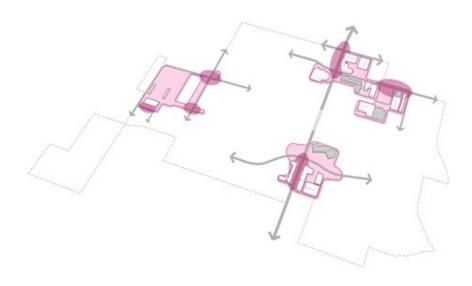
- Celebrate the Genius Loci "spirit of the place."
- Gathering spaces and gateways matter and are vital to our purpose.
- Pedestrian mobility is a priority.
- Campus connectivity is paramount.
- Vehicular movement, parking, and service are necessary but subservient to the pedestrian experience.

## **Enhanced Open Spaces**

The existing landscape and open spaces, such as the iconic Central Library Mall, Brazos Park, and the Green at College Park, create memorable spaces that enhance the student experience. The Campus Master Plan Update builds on this existing landscape structure, extending the character of the campus core into new and emerging districts and neighborhoods—namely south across Mitchell Street and westward across Cooper Street. Planning opportunities include new signature spaces, improved pedestrian pathways, enhanced natural landscapes, vibrant malls and new plazas. Each utilizing native landscape, amenities, and seasonal responsiveness that reflect the university's commitment to sustainability and continuity of campus experience.

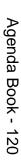
# **Campus Frameworks**

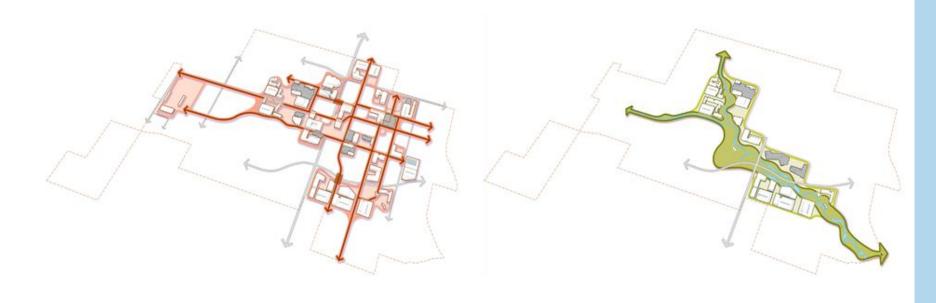
Campus Frameworks are an important organizational tool to help shape physical development. For UTA, these framework diagrams offer a simple, yet powerful guide for organizing and implementing complex patterns over time. They are reductive, distilling complex planning concepts into easily understood and cohesive forms. The Campus Master Plan Update is layered on three overlapping frameworks: Campus Gateways, Campus Connectors, and Creek Corridor.



# **Campus Gateways**

First impressions matter. The gateways framework is part of a larger outward facing initiative committed to enhancing the UTA signature brand and identity. Several components comprise these improvements: distinct architectural, vehicular, and landscape/signage features at each gateway location. The Campus Master Plan Update recommends fewer, but better "front doors" as both vehicular gateways and pedestrian portals. This includes simplifying the number of campus entrances and giving each gateway consistent UTA brand identity. The primary gateway locations include the intersections of Cooper Street and Spaniolo Drive at Mitchell Street and UTA Boulevard. Secondary considerations highlight Davis Drive at Greek Row Drive and Center Street at UTA Boulevard.





# **Campus Connectors**

UTA is reinforcing the connection between campus walkability and the pedestrian experience. The Campus Master Plan Update is reinforcing the longstanding tradition of linear malls and an interconnected pedestrian ecosystem. Expansion of this network creates both linear movement and destination locations. Both elements are important in the development and preservation of memories and campus traditions for students and visitors. To achieve these objectives, reinforce the existing east-west pedestrian mall linking East 2nd Street to Greek Row Drive and develop a new corridor along the West 4th Street connecting the Green at College Park to the athletics and recreation district. In addition, extend and transform two north-south corridors into vibrant pedestrian malls: South Oak Street and South West Streets.

# Creek Corridor

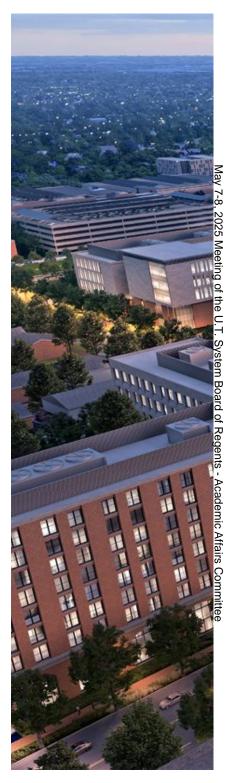
The Trading House Creek is an important, yet undervalued community and campus amenity. The Campus Master Plan Update envisions transforming this asset from a divisive back-of-house feature into a central-organizing and connective front door element. To achieve this transformation as a centerpiece of the future open space framework, several components should be considered: reinforce the trail network for pedestrian and non-motorized transportation connecting campus and community networks, daylight sections of the creek corridor, stabilize and restore creek banks, and utilize the corridor as a stormwater demonstration project.

# **North Gateway**

Plans for the North Gateway re-imagine the old Social Work Complex into a welcome center and one-stop location for student services, a new transit hub, a hotel and conference center, an academic building for the Hospitality and Service Industry Program, and structured parking.

Across the intersection, a new Performing Arts Center anchors the gateway, resulting in a dynamic mix of uses that expand opportunities for UTA's mission and provide additional venues for community engagement. This new gateway visually promotes UTA's brand and announces its presence at the busiest intersection on campus.







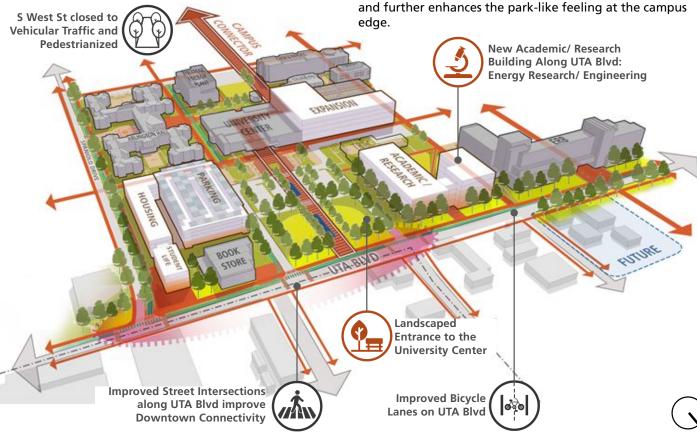




# **Campus Front Door**

Frontage along UTA Boulevard is perhaps the most significant campus edge as it borders downtown Arlington. Today, this edge consists primarily of surface parking and inconsistent landscape treatment. Many of the buildings are significantly set back from the street, which creates a relatively poor first impression when approaching from downtown Arlington.

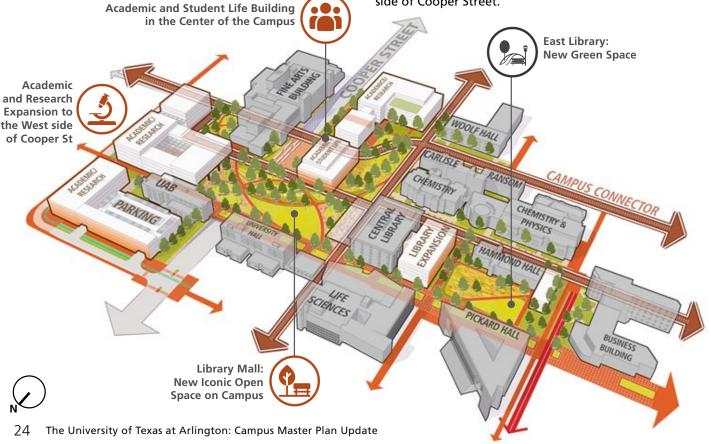
The Campus Master Plan Update proposes significantly enhancing this gateway by expanding student housing and student life functions at the corner of UTA Boulevard and Spaniolo Drive, an expanded University Center, a new academic/research building, and a consistent campus green buffer along the entirety of the campus edge. Replacing surface parking, a new campus green acts as the formal approach for pedestrians traveling to the University Center, and further enhances the park-like feeling at the campus edge.



# **Campus Nexus**

The Central Library sits at the heart of campus today and is adjacent to Library Mall, the most significant open space. The library is the second campus hub alongside the University Center, where students gather for study, collaboration, creative pursuits, and relaxation. Intersecting the space is the primary north-south pedestrian mall that traverses the entire campus.

The Campus Master Plan Update proposes expanding the Central Library to the east, re-imagining Library Mall in the near-term with a long-term vision of extending the mall over Cooper Street. The north edge of Library Mall is transformed into an academic/student life building containing a mix of student life, academic, and interdisciplinary research. On the west edge of the park a new academic/research neighborhood is planned that will increase the capacity for academic functions on the west side of Cooper Street.





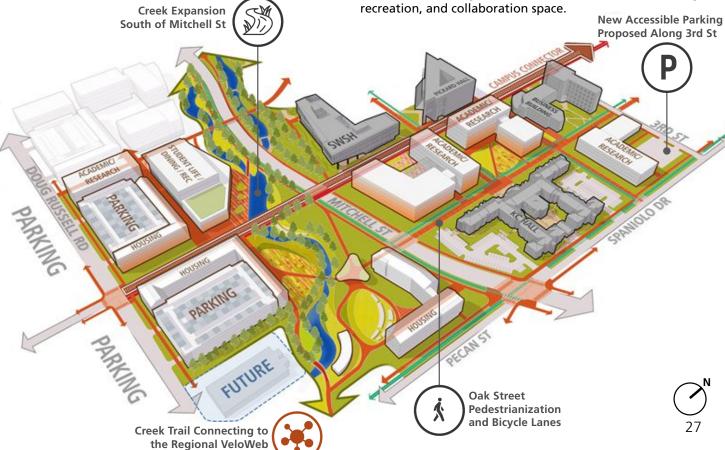
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# **Campus Link**

The easternmost side of campus is a mix of academic, residential, athletic, and student life uses. The University Center, College Park District, and multiple student residence halls and academic buildings line S West Street, S Oak Street, and Spaniolo Drive. All these streets, in part or full, are vehicular today. All land south of Mitchell Street, and several interior parts of this neighborhood are surface parking.

The plan envisions dynamic redevelopment of this edge of campus long-term, pedestrianizing S West Street and S Oak Street, and turning Spaniolo Drive into a complete street with dedicated micromobility infrastructure. S West Street will have a point-to-point shuttle linking the parking assets in south campus all the way to the University Center and academic core. South of Mitchell Street, new housing and a student life hub building are proposed, creating a new mixed-use neighborhood with 1,000 new beds, dining, recreation, and collaboration space.



# **Creek Corridor North**

In the north part of campus along the creek, a mix of apartment housing, recreational uses, and surface parking exist today, and the creek is in an underground tunnel for much of the section between UTA Boulevard and Greek Row Drive.

The Campus Master Plan Update proposes a significant expansion to the west residential neighborhood long-term, replacing the tennis courts, some surface

parking, and University Village Apartments with higher density housing and structured parking. Several outdoor courtyards, open spaces, and plazas are proposed within the new residential neighborhood. Significant expansion of the Maverick Activities Center is proposed to alleviate the recreation space deficit, and a new chiller plant addresses infrastructure needs to accommodate new campus construction. The creek corridor itself becomes a pedestrian pathway that links campus with the larger regional trail network.







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# 4. <u>U.T. San Antonio: Approval to establish a Doctor of Philosophy in Community and Policy degree program</u>

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Doctor of Philosophy in Community and Policy degree program at U.T. San Antonio; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **Program Description**

The Ph.D. in Community and Policy (CAP) is designed to provide advanced graduate training to understand and address complex social problems that manifest in communities and beyond. The program aims to provide students with the conceptual and analytic skills necessary to identify and address the causes and consequences of social problems manifested in areas such as, but not limited to, physical and mental health, crime and safety, poverty and socioeconomic well-being, and public policy. The CAP program is designed to prepare students for careers in research, academia, government, private, and not-for-profit sectors with training on how to develop solutions to social problems through research, community practice, and policy initiatives.

The curriculum aims to train students in the following core areas: Theoretical Foundations of Interdisciplinary Social and Behavioral Sciences, Research Methods, Causes and Consequences of Contemporary Social Problems, Solutions to Social Problems, and Specialized Training in Area of Focus. The curriculum consists of 21 semester credit hours of core courses, 15 hours of electives, 12 hours of dissertation, and six hours of a practicum. For students entering the program without an M.S. degree, the number of elective hours will increase to 33 and six extra thesis/dissertation hours will be required.

#### Need and Student Demand

Significant labor market demand for social scientists exists in San Antonio, the State of Texas, and nationally. According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for professions that are served by this program, employment opportunities exceed 200,000 at the national level and roughly 15,000 within the state. In addition, the 5-year projected job growth is 12% nationally and 26% in Texas. The program also received numerous letters from local San Antonio businesses and non-profit organizations expressing support for this program and their need for Ph.D.-level social scientists to fulfill their organization's mission.

There is also significant student demand for a Ph.D. program in social sciences that addresses the varied needs of communities in San Antonio and Texas. A recent student survey shows that current graduate students agreed this type of program would present a great opportunity to continue their graduate education (100%), assist in addressing social problems (100%), and align with their expectations for a graduate degree (100%). Moreover, most current graduate students who completed the survey indicated that they would like to learn more about the program (100%) and/or apply to the program over the next five years (over 70%). Likewise, over 90% of former students responding to the survey indicated they want to learn more about the program and/or would consider applying in the next five years (75%).

Projected student numbers are provided in Table 1 (below). These projections are based on existing data on students successfully completing other primarily post-Master's Ph.D. programs within the College of Health, Community, and Policy. They also reflect the goal of accepting part-time students.

**Table 1: Enrollment Projections** 

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Total New Students	5	5	7	8	10
Attrition	1	2	2	2	2
Cumulative Headcount	4	7	12	16	21
Full-time Student Equivalent	4	5	10	12	15
Graduates	0	0	2	3	5

#### **Program Quality**

Given the interdisciplinary nature of this program, faculty from diverse disciplines (Criminology & Criminal Justice, Public Administration, Public Health, Nutrition, Social Work, and Sociology) will be involved. The Ph.D. committee has gathered interest from nearly 50 faculty members with nine faculty specified as 'core'. Collectively, the nine core faculty have received more than \$33 million in funded research and generated more than 500 peer-reviewed publications. Additionally, the supporting faculty have generated an additional \$30 million in funded research and published more than 1,800 peer-reviewed publications. No new faculty are required.

## Revenue and Expenses

Expenses and revenues are summarized in Table 2 (below). Over the course of five years, a net positive of \$308,915 is anticipated.

Table 2: Budget

Table 2: Badget				
Expenses	5-Year Total			
Faculty				
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 28,575			
Graduate Students				
TA Salaries and Benefits	\$ 480,000			
GRA Salaries and Benefits	\$ 1,200,000			
Staff & Administration				
Graduate Coordinator Salary	N/A			
Administrative Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$ 212,268			
Other Expenses				
Student Scholarships	\$ 45,000			
Miscellaneous	\$ 25,000			
Total Expenses	\$ 1,990,843			

Revenue	5-Year Total		
From Student Enrollment			
Formula Funding	\$ 1,051,489		
Tuition and Fees	\$ 365,030		
From Institutional Funds			
Institutional Funds	N/A		
From Grant Funds			
Grant Funds	\$ 560,000		
From Other Revenue Sources			
Required Fees	\$ 323,239		
Total Revenue	\$ 2,299,758		

## Coordinating Board Criteria

The proposed program meets all applicable Coordinating Board criteria for new doctoral degree programs.

### 5. <u>U.T. San Antonio: Approval to establish a College of Al, Cyber, and Computing</u>

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional president that authorization, pursuant to the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a College of AI, Cyber, and Computing at U.T. San Antonio; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Pursuant to Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40601 (Institutions Comprising the University of Texas System), U.T. San Antonio proposes the establishment of a College of AI, Cyber, and Computing. The establishment of the College of AI, Cyber, and Computing represents U.T. San Antonio's next step in meeting the region's growing demand for skilled professionals. The college will aim to prepare students and researchers for the evolving landscape of these fields and to increase visibility and synergies among programs.

The new College will be comprised of the following components: (1) Department of Computer Engineering, (2) Department of Computer Science, (3) Department of Information Systems and Cybersecurity, and (4) Department of Statistics and Data Science. These departments will collectively oversee a robust portfolio of undergraduate and graduate degree programs designed to prepare students for high-demand careers in Artificial Intelligence (AI), cybersecurity, and computing, while advancing U.T. San Antonio's role as a research powerhouse.

Upon approval by the Board of Regents, the Office of Academic Affairs will notify the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board of the change so that the U.T. San Antonio administrative unit structure may be updated.

6. U.T. System Academic Institutions: Discussion and appropriate action regarding
a) authorization to establish and assess a Medical Services Fee at Stephen F.
Austin State University and b) delegation of authority for approval of increases
to Medical Services Fees for the other academic institutions for the 2025-2026
Academic Year

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the institutional presidents that the U.T. System Board of Regents

- authorize Stephen F. Austin State University to establish and assess a Medical Services Fee of up to \$55 per semester or term to provide medical services to students; and
- b. delegate authority to the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to approve academic institutions' requests to increase existing Medical Services Fee for the 2025-2026 Academic Year, not to exceed 10%, up to the maximum amount of the fee authorized by *Texas Education Code*, Section 54.50891(a) following verification by the Office of Academic Affairs that such increases are in compliance with *Texas Education Code*, Section 54.50891 and institutional policies.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

As a result of rising costs due to inflation, institutions within the U.T. System may need to increase their medical services fee over the next academic year in order to maintain current levels of medical services to students.

Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA), which joined the U.T. System in 2023, is eligible to charge the Medical Services Fee in accordance with *Texas Education Code*, Section 54.50891. SFA will use revenue from this fee to cover the increasing cost of providing essential medical services to its students. SFA proposes a fee charged at the rate of \$55.00 per enrolled semester. The Medical Services Fee has been established by the U.T. Board of Regents at all other U.T. academic institutions and is categorized as a non-academic mandatory fee. Consistent with *Texas Education Code*, Section 54.50891(b), students and administrators will be provided an opportunity to offer recommendations to the Board as to the type and scope of medical services that should be provided prior to consideration of this item during the Committee meeting.

The Medical Services Fee is a non-academic mandatory fee that may not exceed \$55 for each semester or term at the time of establishment. The Board can increase the fee by no more than 10% from one academic year to the next unless the increase is approved by a majority of the students in a general election held at the institution for that purpose. Additionally, the fee cannot exceed \$75 per semester or term unless approved by a majority of the students in a general election held at the institution for that purpose.