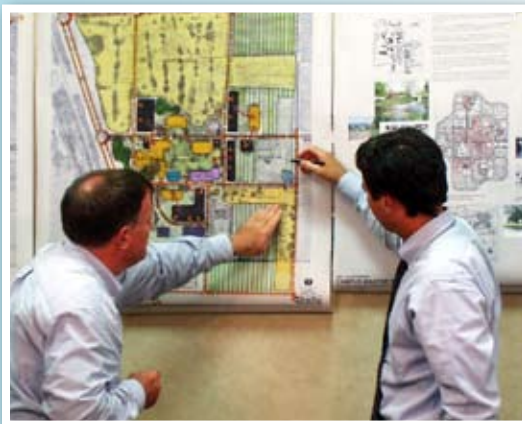


LSU at Alexandria Master Plan



In 2000, Louisiana State University - Alexandria contracted Moore Planning Group, LLC, (MPG), to develop a campus enhancement Master Plan. The goal was to dress up the campus with trees and new sidewalks, while screening unsightly and poorly planned facilities. MPG's analysis work revealed critical and exciting discoveries that would help the University move forward as a dynamic and competitive institution. The resulting plan is a far-reaching, visionary document that anticipates the development of an expanded campus integrated with the Dean Lee Research Station of the LSU AgCenter.

The Master Plan envisions a center for education, research, economic development, culture, and recreation that will serve the region far into the future. It provides developmental guidelines that promote utilization of all campus property, and the development of a modern educational institution conforming to current trends and technology. This plan enhances the institution's educational mission beyond the classroom, to the general campus environment. As a result, LSUA's new identity will be the catalyst for forging technology-based partnerships with local businesses and the LSU AgCenter, cornerstones of the university's new mission. These partnerships will bring new commerce and industry to the region, broaden the employment base, and increase revenues. Another potential benefit is the opportunity to link AgCenter Forestry Research, The National Forest, and LSUA Science curriculums into one coordinated effort. Using trees and vegetation on site, forestry students can learn from AgCenter officials while taking advantage of university experiments.

The Master Plan process involved site investigation, analysis of campus history, natural systems, roadways, parking utilities, pedestrian circulation, and future program needs. MPG conducted extensive user group information and input sessions on campus, and held review sessions to maintain strong communication and quality control with the university. The final Master Plan included a strategic implementation report with phasing and funding for high priority projects, and generated immediate results in the form of a new, badly-needed parking facility, state approval of a long-delayed multi-purpose academic facility, and capital outlay applications for new campus entrances.

- Louisiana Chapter, ASLA Honor Award, 2002

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