

MASTER PLAN



South Dakota State University
October 2008

South Dakota State University

2025 Facility Master Plan

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The South Dakota State University campus of 2008 is far different than the campus of just a few years ago.

University leaders are charged with managing resources in order to meet the academic needs of students and to fulfill the mission of the University. The resources include the physical facilities that comprise a campus — buildings, outdoor gathering places, green spaces, and infrastructure. Just as curriculum is modified to reflect new theories and practices, these physical facilities must be designed and adapted to meet current needs and to address future expectations.

A special task force drawn from throughout the University and including representation from the greater Brookings community met during the 2007-2008 academic year for those reasons: to consider the needs of South Dakota State and its students into the next two decades and to offer ideas on how the campus and its configuration can meet those needs. This Master Plan document represents their work — drawn from insights and experiences — and their diligence. The Master Plan does not predict the future but provides guidance for making choices over time and for assuring the physical development of the campus meets future needs while staying true to guiding principles.

A major principle of the plan is the maintenance of a strong relationship with the greater Brookings community. The tremendous growth and success of the University in the current decade correlates directly to the growth and economic vitality of Brookings and Brookings County. This plan affirms that robust alliance.

A good plan provides direction, not details on individual projects. This Master Plan document presents the vision of the campus of South Dakota State University through 2025.



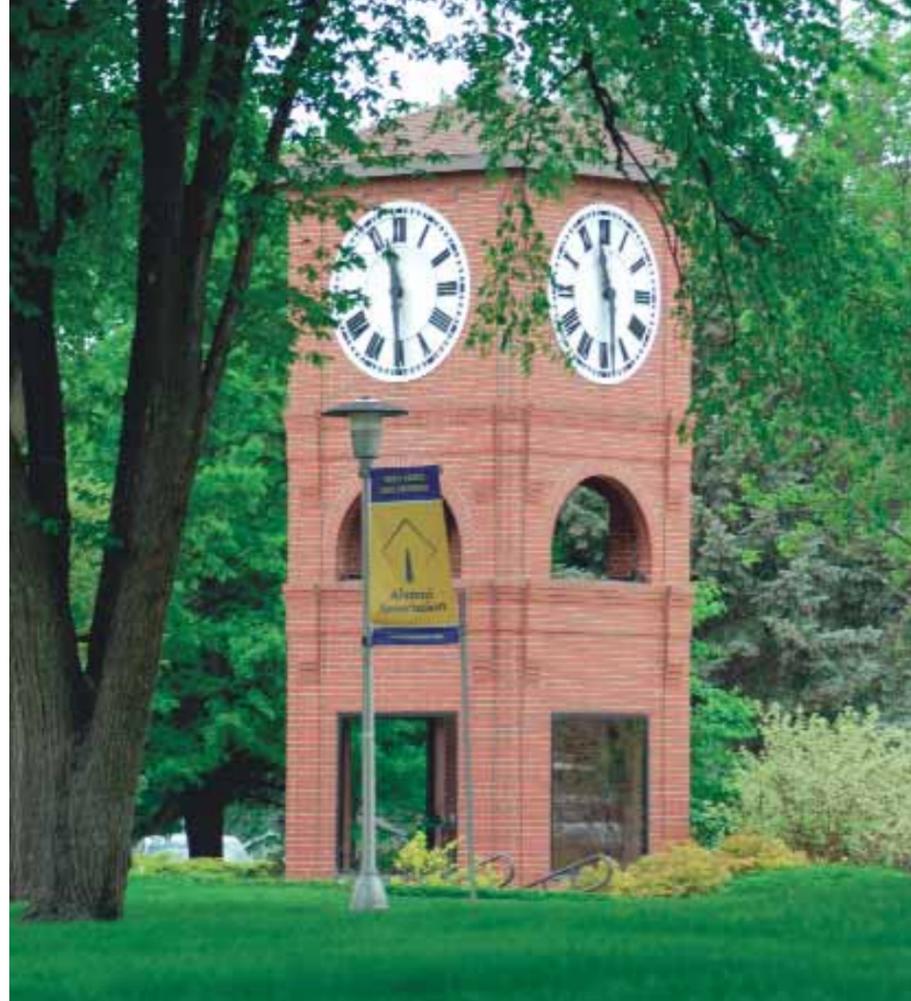
David L. Chicoine, Ph.D.
President



BACKGROUND

Intent

The Campus Master Plan Update for South Dakota State University (SDSU) is intended to provide a guide for physical development of the 271-acre campus over the next twenty-five years. The plan builds upon the framework established by the original Millennium Master Plan created in 2002. This Update reaffirms the initial plan and incorporates changes established by the Master Plan 2008 Review committee.



The Millennium Master Plan was developed in conjunction with SmithGroup/JJR campus planning consultants and the SDSU office of the Executive Vice President for Administration. The 2008 Review, completed in collaboration with the office of the Executive Vice President for Administration and the office of Facilities and Services, reflects the current campus facility program and land use needs. It makes minor plan adjustments which include:

- Acknowledgement of recently constructed facilities;
- Approved projects currently under construction;
- Projects in the design phase;
- Projects anticipated in the next two or more years; and
- Designates future building sites.



VISION

The SDSU Millennium Master Plan provided a flexible philosophical and physical framework that accommodated growth in an orderly and efficient manner. The campus has become too complex to consider buildings, open space, roads, walks, and parking as isolated elements. Instead, each must be viewed within the context of the entire campus.

The center of the SDSU campus has shifted as important student destinations such as the Hilton M. Briggs Library (Library), University Student Union (Union), Wellness Center, and Frost Arena developed east of Rotunda Lane — the traditional boundary of the historic SDSU campus. The addition of the Performing Arts Center at the eastern edge of campus illustrates the campus center shift and underscores the need for long-range planning to accommodate growth.



Future development opportunities must strengthen existing patterns, balance new investments, and protect valuable cultural and natural resources.



The plan Update re-emphasizes the creation of a framework that:

Celebrates the SDSU commitment to its **land-grant mission and heritage**.

Promotes the SDSU partnership with the City of Brookings by continuing to work to preserve critical natural and man-made resources and establish welcoming and mutually beneficial physical relationships.

Sets a standard for the quality of spaces within the campus to enrich students' academic and campus-life experience, and engenders respect for the physical environment.

Embraces the unique identity of SDSU by preserving and/or restoring the best architectural, landscape, and planning elements of the historic campus, and translating these qualities to the new areas of campus development.

Creates a user-friendly, **walking campus** that is welcoming, easily navigable, and safe for visitors, students, faculty, and staff.

Establishes an environment that nurtures interaction and communication by providing spaces and amenities such as benches, walkways, and common areas that invite the exchange of ideas.

The Plan is not focused on explosive growth. However, specific facilities have been identified for future growth beyond the potential to add general classrooms and an expansion of the Library. Buildings no longer functional, inefficient in use, or occupying key sites will be removed to provide new building sites or open space opportunities as additional needs arise.



2008 REVIEW PROCESS

A campus master plan review committee of nineteen faculty, staff, students, and community members was convened to review and update the 2002 facility master plan.



The 2008 Review task force met on six occasions to evaluate the Millennium Master Plan, assuring that it meets current and future campus needs. The primary goals of the original plan were to develop a flexible, orderly, efficient, and user-friendly document that will serve as a guideline for the campus over the next twenty-five years. The guiding principles of the Master Plan are:

1. Recognize existing functional districts (College Green, Academic Core, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Engineering, Athletic, and Housing).
2. In-fill with new construction. Do not expand the footprint of the campus, especially to the east (PAC phases one and two as the farthest construction to the east).
3. Transition over time to a walking campus. Reduce or eliminate vehicle traffic in the core of campus.
4. Preserve and expand open green spaces, adding outdoor seating and gathering spaces for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.
5. Define clear entrances to the campus and improve signage and way-finding for guests.
6. Move parking to the outskirts of campus and explore mass transportation options.
7. Coordinate with the City of Brookings on bike and walking paths, including connections to downtown and other areas of the city.



The 2008 Review considered:

- Entry ways and way-finding on campus
- Pedestrian routes and safety
- Parking and mass transit options
- Green space and open areas, including outdoor seating and gathering areas, art and outdoor sculpture
- In-fill construction rather than expansion of the campus footprint
- New academic and administrative construction
- Demolition/removal of existing facilities
- Connection to community, retail, services, and recreational opportunities

2008 Review recommendations:

1. Three primary entry points to the campus were identified as Twenty-second Avenue, the U.S. Highway 14 Bypass, and Sixth Street. Appropriate signage and directional markers will be established during the beginning of the fall 2008, school year.
2. The Millennium Master Plan identified existing buildings and potential building sites for the future. The 2008 Review identified new building sites and structures to be demolished over the next twenty-five years. An updated list of potential facilities likely to be added to campus over the next twenty-five years was approved and forwarded to the Facilities and Services department for future use as funding becomes available.
3. Reaffirm the possibility of moving support services to the north of the Highway 14 Bypass if necessary.
4. The Facility Master Plan for Intercollegiate Athletics was reviewed by the committee for information only. No concerns or conflicts were identified with the athletic plan.

5. The 2008 Review re-affirmed the general campus boundaries established in the 2002 Master Plan. The boundaries are:
 - West – Ninth Avenue, west of Berg and Bailey Halls
 - South – Eighth Street
 - East – Performing Arts Center, Sixteenth Avenue
 - North – U.S. Highway 14 Bypass

Attention to boundaries is crucial to keep campus growth focused on in-fill rather than expansion.

6. The 2008 Review considered parking access, the cost of parking, visitor parking availability, pedestrian conflicts with vehicles, and mass transit options. The review affirmed the need to continue efforts to move parking to the outskirts of the campus, to plan for mass transit, and to increase costs for parking in the core of campus.

FUNDAMENTAL PLANNING CONCEPTS

The Master Plan is direct in its approach and achieves many of the attributes essential to a good campus layout. These concepts are strongly rooted in historic patterns, current needs, gathering places and a fundamental understanding by the campus and community of its goals and aspirations.

A university within or contiguous to an existing community must work to define a unified identity and a consistent growth management policy.

SDSU is an integral part of the Brookings community, and because the campus is located on the peripheral edge of town, it functions as a transition between the active downtown and the surrounding agricultural fields. The campus grid itself is visually consistent with the surrounding agricultural fields and urban patterns. A joint policy that conserves agricultural lands and natural features, protects historic neighborhoods, and strengthens the viability of the campus and town must continue to be pursued.



The grouping of land uses into functional campus districts provides a sense of organization, enhances the campus experience, and improves operational efficiency.

SDSU is organized into districts comprised of facilities with similar use or function. Those districts include the College Green, Academic Core, Engineering, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Athletic, and Housing. The University must strengthen these districts by continuing to locate compatible uses within.

A well-defined vehicular approach to campus with clearly identified entry points, and a logical on-campus circulation and parking system are important components for creating a safe, attractive, and orderly pedestrian-oriented environment.

Multiple entries provide vehicular access to the campus along Medary Avenue, and Twenty-Second Avenue. The 2008 Review identified the three primary entry points to the campus as Eleventh Street via Twenty-Second Avenue, the Highway 14 Bypass, and Medary Avenue via Sixth Street. Appropriate signage and directional markers were established prior to the Fall 2008 school year. These entry points work with the original recommendations of a perimeter system with

penetrating roads that provide access to key campus destinations (e.g., Administration, Library, Union, and Athletics). Roads and parking areas that compromise pedestrian safety or occupy key sites need to be removed, relocated to the perimeter of the Academic Campus Core, or restricted to service and emergency use. A proposed campus transit system would provide a convenient means of moving commuting students, patrons of special events on campus, and residents from perimeter parking lots to campus drop off points. Shelterbelts can be integrated into the campus landscape to offer additional protection from high winds along distant and less intensively used routes.

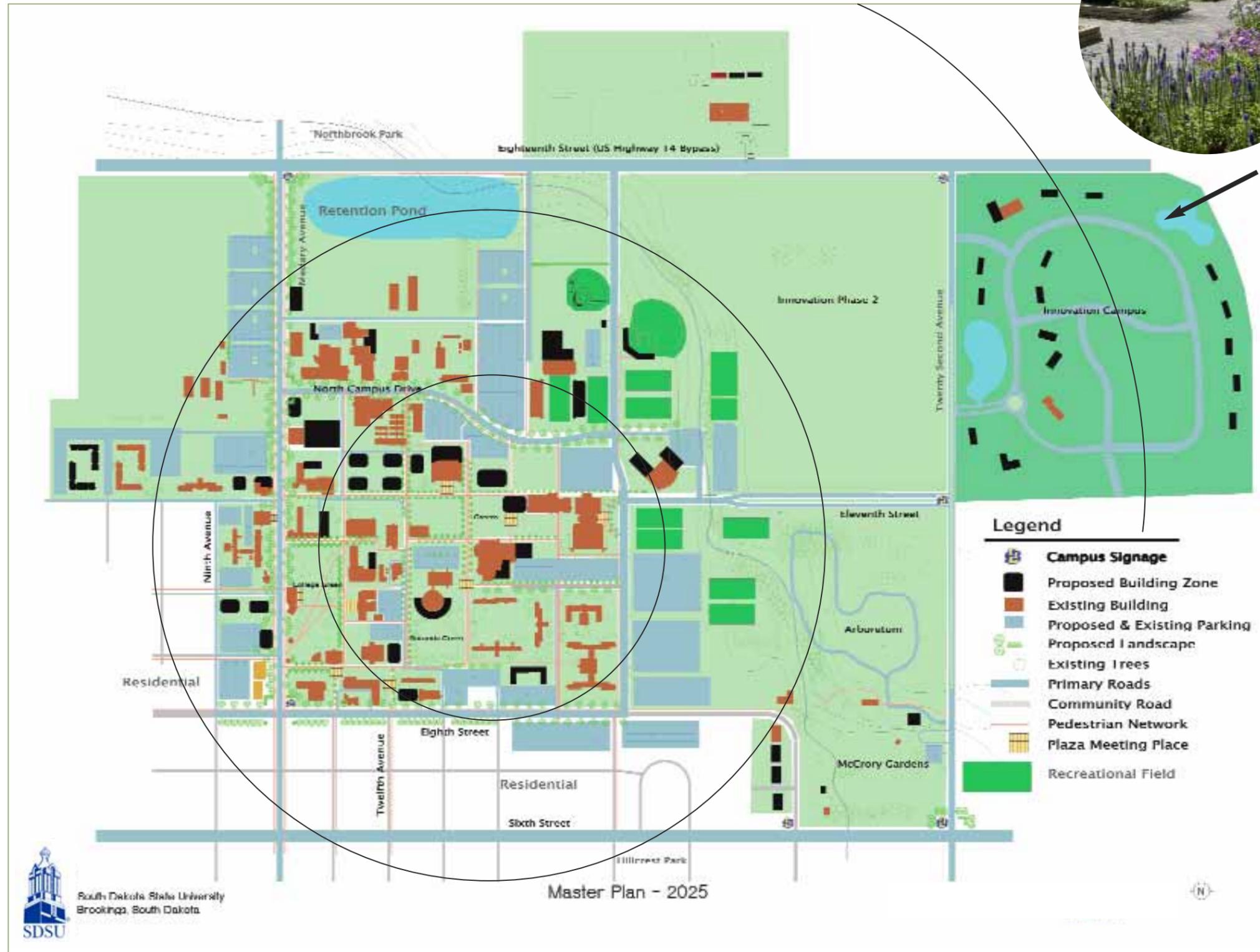
The identification of in-fill opportunities within the Academic Campus Core is vital to creating a concentrated, “walking” campus.

The existing campus layout conveys a pattern that can be strengthened by architectural in-fill, landscape improvements, and circulation and parking modifications. Opportunities are available to utilize existing and proposed interior building corridors to connect important destinations and accommodate pedestrian movement in inclement weather.

The 2008 Review affirmed new building sites for architectural in-fill and current structures identified for demolition over the next twenty-five years. Potential facilities underway or likely to be added over the next twenty-five years include:

- The Avera Health & Science Center
- Biosystems Engineering Building
- Dykhouse Student-Athlete Center
- Performing Arts Center, Phase II
- Electrical Engineering Building, Phase II
- Architecture & Design Center
- Residential Life
- Student Union and Food Services
- General Classrooms

The addition of these facilities will further strengthen the concept of a concentrated, “walking” campus.



Innovation Campus the site of the SDSU research park



CAMPUS ORGANIZATION

Defined land use districts exist on the SDSU campus and can be strengthened as future facility location decisions are made.

College Green

The original SDSU campus, a historic district, is an area of major community/campus interface and currently serves as the primary location for administrative, alumni, and visitor-oriented functions. The district also contains the majority of the buildings with historic or cultural significance, such as the Coughlin Campanile, Coolidge Sylvan Theater, Lincoln Music Hall, Administration Building, and Solberg Hall. These graceful buildings, organized around the historic College Green, project an appropriate sense of scale and visual richness that must be protected. These qualities that characterize SDSU should guide new development and improve campus aesthetics.

Defined land use districts exist on the SDSU campus and can be strengthened as future facility location decisions are made.



Academic Campus Core

Opportunities for creating a dynamic campus center that respects the traditions and character of the original campus core need to be identified and implemented in the Academic Campus Core. Roads and parking that prevent the formation of a cohesive district need to be considered in the context of creating a new center of academic life that is found in the historic area of campus. The Plan identifies the opportunities to convert existing roads into pedestrian corridors and replace asphalt parking lots with green open spaces and/or "placeholders," when appropriate, for future buildings.

Rotunda Lane will be converted to a pedestrian walkway, eliminating a barrier to pedestrian movement and strengthening the connection between the Historic District and the Academic Campus Core.





Two significant open spaces are identified within the Academic Campus Core that will significantly improve the organization and appearance of the SDSU campus.

Jackrabbit Green

Jackrabbit Green is a major new open space west of Frost Arena, framed by the Wellness Center and Library to the north, and the expanded Union to the south. This informal space is planned as an extension of activities in the Union and HPER and could provide opportunities for year-round active recreation, such as informal lawn games, ice sculpting, and marching band performances.

East Parkway

The east approach to campus on Eleventh Street will be significantly improved from Sixth Street, along Twenty-Second Avenue and McCrory Gardens to create a major east entrance. Recognizing the importance of directing regional visitors to campus from the east of Interstate 29, upgrades will include road modifications, signage, and landscape respectful of the McCrory Gardens setting. Similar to the Coughlin Campanile to the west, the Performing Arts Center serves as an icon to help organize this new open space and welcome campus visitors from the east.

Southwest aerial view of the Avera Health and Science Center



The Performing Arts Center, part of the East Parkway will welcome campus visitors from the east.





Agriculture and Life Sciences

The Agriculture District is located to the northwest of the Academic Campus Core. The Northern Plains Biostress Lab, Animal Sciences Complex, Animal Resource Wing, New Dairy Processing Facility and other key facilities are located within this district. The old Sexauer Field will provide a building site for another science lab and a secondary open space will be created. Improved parking, walkways, and the addition of landscaping will create a well-functioning and pleasant research and academic environment.

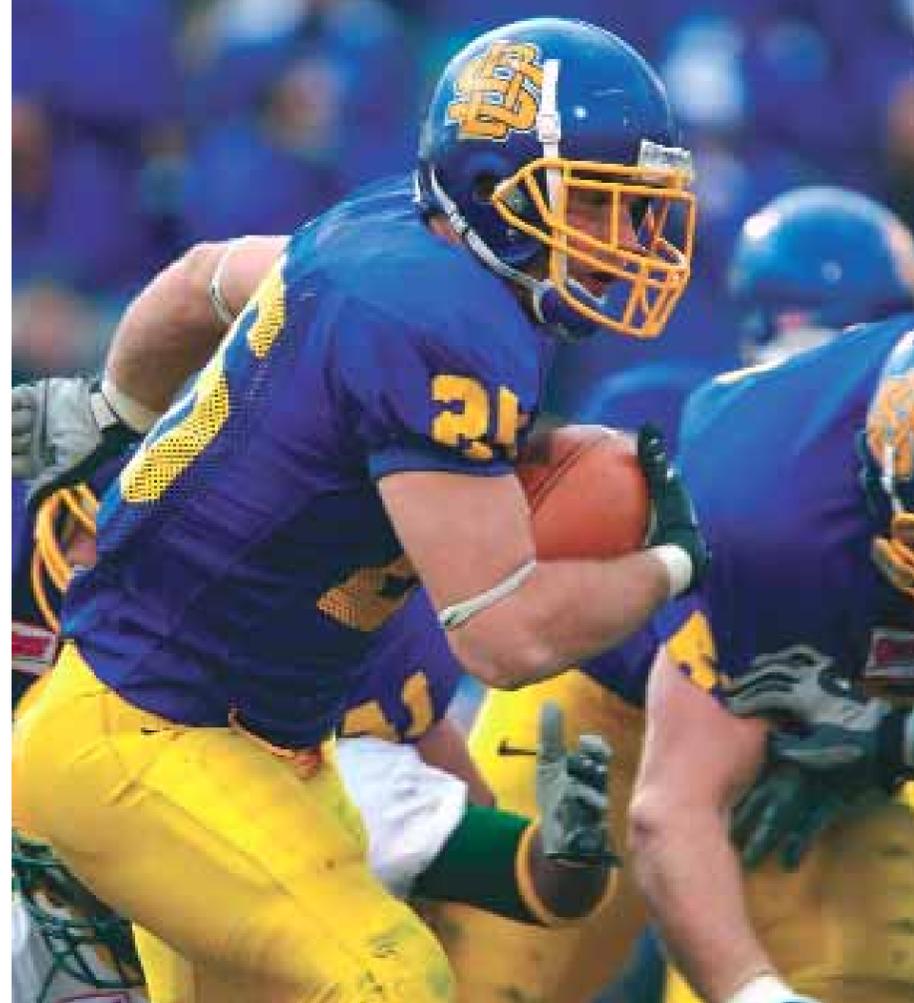
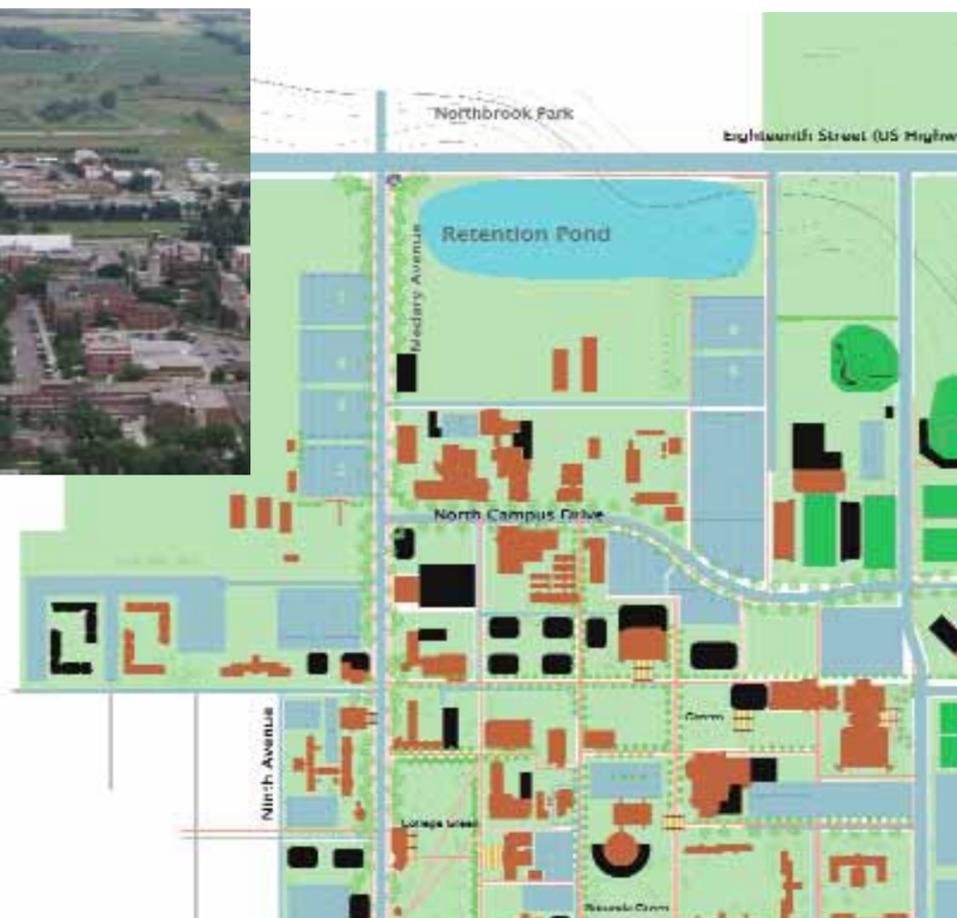
Athletic

Athletic facilities will be consolidated to the northeast of the Academic Campus Core in keeping with the directions established by the 1993 Athletic Facility/Grounds Planning Study. Updates are required to better integrate the Athletic District with the campus proper. A key influence on the reorganization of the district is the shift in major traffic flow to the Dykhouse Student-Athlete Center and the Wellness Center — to create a cohesive athletic complex. Key elements that have changed the Athletic District have included:

- The relocation of the softball and baseball fields to the north of Coughlin Stadium.
- Additional shared campus/event parking.



North view of the Agriculture District.



student housing west of Medary Avenue into the campus, on-street parking was eliminated at strategic points to create well-defined pedestrian crosswalks. Landscaping (large canopy trees and ornamentals) and lighting of suitable character will help reduce the visual scale of the road cross-section and encourage a reduced traffic speed, thus improving pedestrian safety.

Other elements that will further enhance the area are:

- Dykhouse Student-Athlete Center;
- New or improved athletic facilities including a new indoor practice facility;
- Coughlin Stadium improvements including new permanent East and South stands; and
- New practice fields.

Housing

The majority of campus housing, including residence halls and family housing, is currently located to the southeast of the Academic Campus Core and west of the Agriculture District. This arrangement allows for a good transition from the campus to the community. The location of future housing will maintain a similar functional relationship. Converting segments of Ninth Street from Twelfth Avenue to Larson Commons into a major pedestrian/service road will improve safety and aesthetics. Further upgrades to the visual quality of the district will include additional landscaping and better-programmed use of Rotunda Green and Larson Lawn. To help integrate



COMMUNITY AND CAMPUS-WIDE OPPORTUNITIES

Many unique opportunities were identified during the original planning process that have been translated into recommendations for improving the interface between the physical condition of the community and campus environment.

Community/Campus Interface and Identity

SDSU and the Brookings community will continue to benefit from sharing and protecting resources through joint land stewardship. Additionally, exploring avenues for improving the community/campus relationship with SDSU facilities such as the Coughlin Alumni Stadium, the SDSU Foundation, Tompkins Alumni Center, Library, Union, South Dakota Art Museum, and Agricultural Heritage Museum must continue.

The campus/community interface was strengthened with the completion of the Performing Arts Center, the Wellness Center and the expanded Union and athletic facilities. The campus boundaries remain the same as in the Millennium Master Plan with:

West – Ninth Avenue, west of Berg and Bailey Halls

South – Eighth Street

East – Performing Arts Center, Sixteenth Avenue

North – Highway 14 Bypass

A “connected” concept of open space linkages across the campus and McCrory Gardens will further strengthen campus/community interface. Campus identities are needed on Medary Avenue at Sixth Street. Carefully coordinated building setbacks and landscape treatments should identify campus edges, convey a positive image and reinforce SDSU’s relationship with the adjacent neighborhoods.

CONCLUSION

Quality of space, convenience, safety, and a sense of pride and ownership are essential ingredients of a traditional collegiate setting.

SDSU is committed to creating a pedestrian-oriented campus where:

- A hierarchy of pedestrian corridors connect the campus districts and destinations within, and further to the community;
- Conflicts with moving or parked automobiles are reduced;
- Opportunities to enjoy the campus setting are included;
- Interaction of faculty and friends is encouraged by design;
- Parking is moved to the outskirts of campus; and
- A biking route and mass transit system is established in conjunction with the Brookings community.

Acknowledgements

Master Plan 2008 Review Task Force:

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