COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

Wooster, OH

THE PROJECT

DOBER LIDSKY MATHEY (DLM) has been assisting the College with campus design and facility issues since 2000. The College owns a substantial amount of land, including an 9-hole golf course; but the various parcels are not all contiguous and some of the land is not used to its fullest potential. Primary goals were to provide more and better academic, administrative, and student life space while at the same time enhance the campus landscape and strengthen its pedestrian character.

CHALLENGE

In 2000, the renovation of Kauke Hall, which housed half the campus classrooms and faculty offices, was a priority. Another was the creation of a new academic building to reduce density at Kauke. A third priority was to construct a new admissions building.

The update in 2006/2007 focused on the improvement of student life facilities including the campus center and athletic/recreation space.

In 2011, additional student housing, improved science space and enhanced campus center facilities were under discussion.

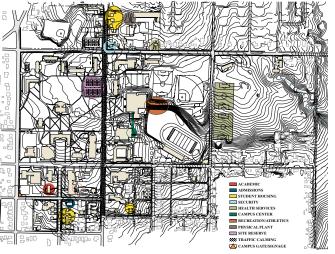
SOLUTION

In the 2000 plan, closing a portion of a city street that divided the main campus was a top priority as was improving another bisecting street with paving, landscape, and street-calming devices. A new Admissions facility was recommended, allowing the vacated space to be used for expanding administrative offices. The recommendation was to construct a new academic building which would allow Kauke Hall to be renovated and the density to be decreased.

Building new student housing was a first step towards decreasing the density in the existing dormitories, allowing student rooms and social space to be improved. New townhouse-style housing, recommended in the New Student Housing Campus Plan Update, has been constructed. The 2007 Plan recommended construction of new athletics, recreation, and campus center space connecting the existing Physical Education Center and Lowry Center, the current student center. This concept will enable the seamless transition for students from athletics and recreation to campus life activities. To achieve these goals, play fields will be relocated to golf course land, which will require moving several holes of the course to the east.

REFERENCE

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CAMPUS PLAN SITE CHOICES 2000



CAMPUS PLAN CONCEPT 2005

After the 2007 and 2011 Campus Plan updates, we created facility programs for two separate campus houses: Bornhuetter Hall and Gault Manor.

RESULTS

Most of the projects that were recommended in 2000, 2007 and 2011 have been completed. The city street section was closed and landscaped. Plans are underway by the College, in association with the City of Wooster, to improve a through street between the core campus and the student life sector. New buildings have been built for student housing, Admissions and for the Wellness program; and an existing building has been renovated for Safety and Security. A new academic building created the necessary staging space to allow Kauke Hall to be renovated. A new athletic center is now completed as are three student houses and a new bio & molecular bio center.

PRINCIPAL IN-CHARGE

Arthur J. Lidsky, AICP, FAAAS Study Director

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