CARROLL COLLEGE

Helena, MT

THE PROJECT

Carroll College retained DOBER LIDSKY MATHEY (DLM) to develop a campus master plan to mark its 100th anniversary and direct growth in the early years of its second century. The eighteen month participatory planning process engaged the broad College community in strategic planning, analysis, discovery and goal setting.

CHALLENGE

Carroll College is a highly regarded, small, Catholic diocesan college with an impressive physical presence and important community role in Montana's state capital, Helena. The challenge was multidimensional: to help Carroll define its broad goals for the future, while engaging the City in discussions about mutually beneficial development; to reach a consensus within the College on project priorities and an implementation strategy, while also addressing existing campus deficiencies, aging facilities, dysfunctional space assignment patterns, space shortfalls and the realities of the current economic environment.

SOLUTION

DLM developed a Centennial Plan that defined a shared view of development projects based on the College's strategic goals, prioritizing the projects into phases reflecting time frame and costs. A fundamental strategy was adopted to build new student housing to open up space in the campus core for conversion to much needed academic space, while simultaneously accommodating enrollment growth. A key component of this strategy is a complete renovation of St. Charles Hall, the College's iconic building.

RESULTS

The College has accomplished several of the projects in Phase 1 of the Plan and is moving forward on others. The Centennial Plan has become a valuable document to help guide the planning in the coming years and the planning process has helped to energize the College community. In the words of Campus Master Planning Committee Chair, DLM's primary consultant "was masterful with individuals and groups. He was able to articulate vision with clarity and push groups to conclusions. Great consultant."



ILLUSTRATIVE CENTENNIAL PLAN



EAST CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT



ST. CHARLES HALL

PRINCIPAL IN-CHARGEGeorge G. Mathey, AICP
Study Director

