

## **BOSTON COLLEGE SUBMITS 10-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN**

### **Master Plan Calls for \$800 Million in Construction and Renovation for Academic Buildings, Student Housing, Recreation Complex, University Center, Playing Fields and Arts District in support of University's Strategic Plan**

CHESTNUT HILL, MASS. (December 5, 2007)--Boston College has submitted its 10-year Institutional Master Plan Notification Form (IMPNF) to the Boston Redevelopment Authority that calls for \$700 million in new construction and \$100 million in campus renovation projects during the next decade.

The Institutional Master Plan features the construction of four new academic buildings, a university center, a recreation complex, 610 additional beds of undergraduate housing, a fine arts district, and new athletic fields and facilities. The plan will create 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms and laboratories, replace a 47-year-old student center and a 35-year-old recreation complex, add much-needed playing fields and athletic facilities, and bring 610 students currently living in local neighborhoods into campus housing.

In addition, the plan will help develop an integrated campus with linked quadrangles, pedestrian walkways and buildings in the tradition of BC's distinct English Collegiate Gothic architecture.

**AT RIGHT: Linked quadrangle at the entrance to Middle Campus.**



The Institutional Master Plan will provide the infrastructure to support the University's Strategic Plan (see separate release), which was crafted from a two-year self-study involving more than 200 BC faculty, administrators and students. Developed by Sasaki Associates in conjunction with Boston College's administration, faculty and students, the Institutional Master Plan will enable the University to achieve the seven strategic directions identified in the Strategic Plan and to create the academic, co-curricular and residential facilities needed to help raise Boston College to the highest echelon among premier American universities.

Among its major components, the Institutional Master Plan proposes to:

- \* Construct four new academic buildings on the Middle Campus in Chestnut Hill, including: Stokes Commons, an 85,000 square-foot academic facility to be used as an interim student center and dining hall, a 125,000 square-foot academic facility for the humanities, a 75,000 square-foot facility to house the Graduate School of Social Work and the Connell School of Nursing, and a 100,000 square-foot Institute for Integrated Sciences building, to support BC's burgeoning scientific research and teaching initiatives and to enhance collaboration among physics, chemistry and biology faculty.

- \* Build a 200,000 square-foot student recreation complex with a fitness center, pool, jogging track, basketball courts and multi-purpose rooms on St. Thomas More Drive on Lower Campus at the present site of the Edmonds Hall student residence.

- \* Build a 285,000 square-foot university center on Lower Campus to accommodate BC's 230 student organizations, provide dining and conference space for students and faculty, and allow the expansion and upgrade of Robsham Theater.

**AT RIGHT: Proposed University Center viewed from Walsh Hall, Lower Campus.**



- \* Add a net total of 610 beds of undergraduate student housing that will increase the total of BC students living on campus to more than 90%, exceeding all other colleges or universities in Boston. The addition of 500 beds on the Brighton Campus, 490 beds on Shea Field, 420 beds on the current More Hall site and 185 beds on Lower Campus, will enable the replacement of outdated Edmonds Hall and several modular housing units.

- \* Develop the Brighton Athletics Center, which will include a 1,500-seat baseball and 500-seat softball field, as well as a multi-purpose field for intramural sports, and a field house for track and tennis on the Brighton Campus.

- \* Build a fine arts district on the Brighton Campus that will include the relocated McMullen Museum of Art, an auditorium and academic space.

- \* Build Jesuit housing on Foster Street in Brighton for Jesuit faculty and graduate students from the Weston Jesuit School of Theology, which re-affiliates with Boston College in 2008.

- \* Raze McElroy Commons on the Middle Campus in Chestnut Hill and create a new campus quadrangle and pedestrian walkway that will link with other quadrangles connecting the Upper, Middle and Lower Campuses.

- \* Add 350 parking spaces to the Beacon Street Garage and build a 500-space parking facility to serve the Brighton Campus.

- \* Develop the former Cardinal's Residence on the Brighton Campus into a Conference Center for Boston College.

- \* Develop St. William's Hall on the Brighton Campus into the new School of Theology and Ministry.

- \* Utilize the remaining properties acquired from the Archdiocese of Boston as administrative offices.

The IMPNF, which has been presented to the Allston-Brighton/Boston College Master Plan Task Force and the BRA, will now be reviewed by Boston officials.

The University's Strategic Plan, which calls for hiring up to 100 new faculty and creating more than a dozen new centers and institutes, will help position Boston College to become a national leader in liberal arts education and student formation among American universities and the world's leading Catholic university and theological center, said BC President William P. Leahy, SJ.

"We are announcing our Strategic and Master Plans with the goal of creating the finest campus facilities for our students and faculty, while also committing ourselves to becoming a national leader in liberal arts education and student formation, and the world's leading Catholic university and theological center," said Father Leahy. "The new facilities will support the Strategic Plan and help us to achieve our goals."

Patrick Keating, BC's Executive Vice President, added, "This investment in BC's future through the Institutional Master Plan will enhance our academic resources, beautify the BC campus and surrounding area, provide construction jobs and expanded economic benefits for Boston and Newton, and will help make one of the nation's great universities even greater. We view this as a win-win situation for Boston College and its host communities."

Said Vice President for Governmental and Community Affairs Thomas Keady, "We want to thank the Allston-Brighton/Boston College Master Plan Task Force for working with us in helping to shape this Institutional Master Plan. We appreciate the time and consideration they have given to this important endeavor over the past two years."

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