

I - Introduction

The Educational Plant Survey process is required by Florida Statutes of all public educational entities. For the State University System it is a requirement that at a minimum of every five (5) years, each university report on the use of its existing facilities and project its future facility needs five (5) years out. This projection must be based on an examination of data on its existing facilities and a projection of future needs based on anticipated university growth.¹ (The procedures, as approved by the Board of Governors, are included as Appendix A).

Definitions and Requirements for Educational Plant Survey

An Educational Plant Survey is defined in s. 1013.01(8), Florida Statutes, as a systematic study of present educational and ancillary plants and the determination of future needs to provide an appropriate educational program and services for each student based on projected capital outlay FTE's approved by Florida Board of Governors. The term "Educational plant" is defined in s. 1013.01(7), F. S., as those areas comprised of the educational facilities, site, and site improvements necessary to accommodate students, faculty, administrators, staff, and the activities of the educational program of each plant. The term "Ancillary plant" is defined in s. 1013.01(1), F. S., as an area comprised of the building, site, and site improvements necessary to provide such facilities as vehicle maintenance, warehouses, maintenance, or administrative buildings necessary to provide support services to an educational program. A Survey is required at least every five years pursuant to s. 1013.31(1) F.S. In addition, s. 1013.64(4)(a), F.S., requires that each remodeling and renovation project included in the Board of Governors 3-year PECO Project Priority List be recommended in a Survey and, that the educational specifications for new construction be approved by the Board of Governors before appearing in the first year of this list. PECO (Public Education Capital Outlay) Funds are the primary source available to universities for academic and support facilities. By definition, as found in Section 1013.01(16), Florida Statutes, a PECO Funded Project is any "site acquisition, renovation, remodeling, construction project, or site improvement funded through this source of revenue and all buildings, equipment, other structures, and special educational use areas that are built, installed, or established to serve the primary educational instructional program of... [a] university board of trustees."

Surveys may be amended if conditions warrant a change in the construction program. Each revised Educational Plant Survey and each new Educational Plant Survey supersedes previous Surveys. This report may be amended, if conditions warrant, at the request of the board [of Trustees] (s. 1013.31(1) (a), F. S.). Recommendations contained in a Survey Report are null and void when a new Survey is completed.

The Purpose of Educational Plant Survey

The purpose of a survey is to aid in the formulation of five-year plans to house the educational program and the student population, the faculty required to deliver and support the programs, and

¹ As noted on the BOG webpage <http://www.flbog.org/about/cod/finfacoffice.php>.

the staff and auxiliary and ancillary services needed for campus operations. Specific recommendations are provided to assist in the facilities planning process. The survey should be considered as one element in the overall facilities planning process, which begins with the master planning process, and includes the capital improvement element of the master plan for the long-term physical development of the university, the shorter-term five-year capital improvement program, and the development of specific building programs before submitting a request for funding. An overview of the Master Plan for both Main Campus and Panama City Campus can be found in Appendix C.

Types of Facilities Addressed in Survey

Ten categories of space have been identified as those needed to meet educational program requirements. These categories are included within the nationally recognized space classification, as identified within the Postsecondary Educational Facilities Inventory and Classification Manual, dated May 2006. The need for merchandising facilities, residential facilities, and special-purpose non-credit facilities such as demonstration schools, continuing education centers, or dedicated intercollegiate athletic facilities are not addressed in this report. An evaluation of facilities needs associated with these activities would require a separate analysis of demand measures and program requirements.