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Project Name: University of Pittsburgh Master Plan

ASG Project #: 21735

Subject: Academics

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2017

*Note: **Bold text** denotes a reoccurring comment*

Strengths

- Integration with Oakland community (interweaving)
- **Urban campus (or quasi urban)**
- Closeness to UPMC (physically and programmatically)
- CMU (shared classes) + collaboration/interaction
- Center of gravity (Schenley Plaza)
- Proximity to parks, green space
- Access public transit
- Preservation of historic fabric
- Book space converted to collaboration space (**SIS/SCI + B School**)
- **Culture of efficiency**
- Registrar classrooms looking at evolving pedagogies (common space w/instructional space)
- Flexibility/multi-use rooms (e.g. Benedum); students can use rooms at night
- Decentralized decision making
- Joint appointments encourage collaboration
- **Compact campus**
- Opportunity to get out of buildings and experience other spaces when displaced
- Porous campus
- Public transit (living near campus)
- **Branding in the public realm**
- Guaranteed undergraduate housing
- Pass down housing for grad students

Weaknesses/Disadvantages

- Minimal technology in the Cathedral
- No surge space
- Quality of spaces vary significantly
- Decentralized decision-making
- Lack of creative space, especially for the arts
- Decentralization of spaces means different rules for different spaces
- Emergency preparedness
- Architecture doesn't always fit (LRDC + Posvar)
- Poor conversion of buildings from research to office
- Cost + phasing
- Urban grid – hard to get from one side of campus to another while dealing w/vehicular traffic
- Topography
- Lack of graduate/international housing
- No office, housing, or central/collaboration space for visiting scholars

- Wayfinding – esp. Posvar
- No grocery store
- VIP/visitor parking limited / not in the right place
- Competition for parking resources w/UPMC

Opportunities

- Planning Committee
- Committee on maker spaces
- Places where people can bump into each other
- High-tech corridor
- Grad students living off campus allows them to get invested in the neighborhoods
- Scholarly housing
- Finish gateways/branding plan but what happens when Pitt expands?
- More unifying places (eg. Schenley Plaza)
- More renovations like 3rd floor Posvar Hall (Arts & Sciences)
- Student innovation

Threats/Challenges

- Collaboration hindered by T3
- Compact campus – when programs grow they can't expand in place forced off-campus
- **Peer institutions' investments in new buildings**
- Private developers
- Real estate market
- Affordability, safety
- Changing/constantly evolving academic delivery
- Keeping up w/advancements in technology
- Online learning
- Residential learning might not be the panacea
- Be ready to support changing physical + mental health
- Advancements in parking (need to adapt)