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College of Applied Life Studies Feasibility Study

JBA Incorporated developed a feasibility study and long-range facilities master plan for the College of Applied Studies, at the University of Illinois. The plan includes renovation, and new construction to support current facility deficiencies, new program expansions, space needs, and technological impacts. The College of Applied Life Studies is comprised of the academic units including Kinesiology and Community Health, Recreation, Sport and Tourism, Speech and Hearing Science; one research unit, The Disability Research Institute; and one service unit, Division of Disability Resources and Education Services.

Addressing an ongoing evolution and expansion of research programs within the college and a corresponding need to creatively address associated space planning issues was a central focus of the study.

The feasibility study determined numerous facility improvements necessary to support the College. The study provided numerous improvements and implementation options to bring College facilities into the 21st century, assuring its facilities are supportive of a program of national prominence. To complicate the College's space deficit is that most of the space is in poor condition and becoming functionally obsolete. To begin the improvement process, an addition to Huff Hall was recommended as a top priority. The study also outlined potential improvements at Freer Hall, the Speech and Hearing Building, and the Rehabilitation Center. Each is consistent with the University and College Strategic Plan and the University's Master Plan. The recommendations at each site/building are contingent upon a variety of options related to the overall goal of consolidating the College programs in and around Huff Hall.

The feasibility study was intended to determine the College's near term needs based on today's programmatic demography. It also provides College long-range facility needs based on likely growth within the program and amongst the disciplines. The long range plans and objectives provide a roadmap for near term improvements.

JBA's role on the project was programmer, planner, project manager and project architect.

Budget: N/A

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