Key Master Plan Initiatives

Key Building Initiatives
- ALLWell Phase I (new design) academic, athletic, and recreation space, including a new field house to replace the outdated PE Center
- ALLWell Phase III: academic, athletic, and recreation space, including a new natatorium
- ALLWell Phase IV: academic, athletic, and recreation space, including a new gymnasium
- New Dining Commons (60,000 GSF)
- Prospects Hall repurposed for academic and support functions (35,000 GSF)
- New academic space on High Street (North Academic Building) to address remaining space deficits (115,000 GSF)
- Renovation of Hyde Hall (81,500 GSF)
- Rounds Hall (39,500 GSF)
- Conversion of CoGen plant to compressed natural gas (CNG) and ultimately biomass
- Building and infrastructure energy efficiency projects
- Use of high-performance building standards for new construction and major renovation projects
- Development of ALLWell Center as green buildings powered by wood pellet boilers

Key Landscape Initiatives
- Define a stronger campus gateway at High Street
- Improve walkability between campus destinations and remote parking lots
- Add additional informal seating in key campus outdoor spaces
- Create campuswide signage program

Key Climate Action and Building Efficiency Initiatives
- Conversion of CoGen plant to compressed natural gas (CNG) and ultimately biomass
- Building and infrastructure energy efficiency projects
- Utility upgrades, including conversion of central plant; completion of steam, condensate and water main loops; expansion of electrical capacity; storm drain and stormwater management improvements; and upgrade of tele/data infrastructure
- Key Parking & Transportation Initiatives
- Continue to monitor utilization of parking and visual lot allocations as appropriate
- Continue to provide shuttle service with 10-minute peak headways, linking remote lots to the campus core
- Improve walkability between campus destinations and remote parking lots

Acknowledgements
Thank you to the hundreds of students, faculty, and staff members who contributed time and energy to the development of this plan.

Key master plan initiatives

Addressing PSU’s space needs

The master plan update involved a robust assessment of current and anticipated future campus space needs. This analysis provided an important foundation for the master plan, defining the quantity and type of space needed to support the University’s programs. The assessment concluded that PSU has space deficits related to labs, classrooms, athletic and recreation space, dining space, offices and support space. The master plan outlines a strategy for fully addressing these space needs. Completion of the ALLWell Center (see inside of handout) will cut PSU’s current space deficit in half. A dynamic Space Model that PSU can use over time will enable the University to adjust assumptions about space needs as circumstances change.

The PSU community shapes the future of the campus

Between the fall of 2012 and the summer of 2013, hundreds of Plymouth State University students, faculty, and staff participated in the development of an updated master plan for PSU. The master plan update builds on a strong foundation provided by the University’s strategic plan and prior master plans (completed in 1994 and 2004), providing a “roadmap” for guiding campus improvement over the next ten years and beyond.

At PSU

Plymouth State University is a public regional comprehensive university of approximately 4,800 undergraduate students and 2,500 graduate students located within the towns of Plymouth and Holderness, New Hampshire. Established in 1871, PSU has a longstanding commitment to the academic, economic, and cultural life of the region and the state. Academic offerings at Plymouth State University include 55 undergraduate majors and 75 graduate degree and certificate programs.

PSU’s faculty, staff, and students value the strong sense of community at Plymouth State, the University’s natural setting at the foot of the White Mountains and spanning the Pemigewasset River, and proximity to downtown Plymouth and its amenities.

The master plan process

Through the master plan process, PSU investigated campus infrastructure and facility renewal needs; current and anticipated space needs; actions needed to achieve PSU’s carbon reduction goals; and alternative approaches to strengthening the campus as a cohesive, effective place that supports PSU as a community of learning. The planning effort considered both current requirements and the needs PSU will face in the years to come.

The master plan was part of a regular every-ten-year update undertaken by University System of New Hampshire institutions. In 2023, along with its sister institutions, PSU will once again update its master plan in response to evolving needs.
Strengthening the PSU campus

The master plan outlines a series of initiatives that will:
- Address a space shortfall of over 400,000 square feet through development of new facilities and renovation of existing campus buildings
- Continue to strengthen the campus’ physical cohesiveness, its sense of place, and its relationship to its neighbors in the towns of Plymouth and Holderness

A summary of master plan initiatives is described at right, with a full list on the outside flap of this handout.

Moving forward with ALLWell Center will provide much needed academic, athletic, and recreation space; it is PSU’s highest priority initiative.

Completion of the ALLWell (Active Living, Learning, and Wellness) Center is needed to provide approximately 200,000 GSF of additional academic, athletic, and recreation space—fully half of PSU’s current space deficit. First identified as a need ten years ago within PSU’s 2004 master plan, and further developed through the 2007 ALLWell Master Plan, the ALLWell initiative has been advanced through construction of the Welcome Center and Ice Arena (ALLWell Phase I) and design of a new academic and field house facility (Phase II).

Moving forward with ALLWell Center will provide much needed academic, athletic, and recreation space; it is PSU’s highest priority initiative.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

MAJOR RENOVATION

BUILDING REPURPOSED (FULLY OR IN PART)

Repurpose Prospect Hall for academic and support space (≈35,000SF)
-renovate some space (≈15,000SF) for academics and support

Museum of the White Mountains addition (≈4,000SF)

Free space in Lamson through use of compact shelving; renovate some space (≈15,000SF) for academics and support

Repurpose Samuel Read Hall for academic and support space (≈25,000SF)

New south academic building on Highland St. (≈40,000SF)

Improve Court Street pedestrian environment/visual connection between campus and Main Street

Renovate Rounds to upgrade systems and provide improved academic and/or admin space

Improve High Street corridor

Enhance campus gateway with plantings and signage

Improve Holderness Road streetscape

Explore alternative locations for Physical Plant facility

Create a new Dining Commons on Merrill Street that becomes a major new campus hub and redefines Hyde Lawn as a major campus open space.

Enhance the campus gateway with new signage and plantings on High Street near EcoHouse.

Repurpose Prospect Hall for academic and support space. Remove large loading docks and enhance the relationship of the building to Alumni Green and High Street.

Prominent capital projects within the master plan framework include:

- Museum of the White Mountains addition
- New academic building on Highland St.
- ALLWell Phases II, III, and IV
- Phased replacement of student apartments
- Transition CoGen Plant to CNG and ultimately Biomass
- New Dining Commons on Merrill
- Repurpose Prospect to create new Dining Commons
- Enhance Hyde Lawn; remove small houses; develop peace garden
- ALLWell Phases II, III, and IV add three new academic, athletic and recreation facilities (≈200,000SF)
- New riverfront park (ALLWell Phase V); continue to acquire properties along River Rd. in the flood plain

GREENING PSU

The master plan charts a course for 50% reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2025.