# **Academic Affairs Strategic Planning**

# **Academic Facilities Committee Report**

## **Committee Members**

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# **Charge of the Committee**

The charge of this committee was to tour each academic building on the ULM campus and provide recommendations of improvements based on student perception as well as student needs in the classroom and other learning environments. To fulfill this charge, the committee went on a tour of academic areas with a recruitment staff member (Hawkseeker) to see what learning environments prospective students are encountering on recruitment tours. The Committee then took in-depth tours of every academic building on campus in which classes are scheduled.

## <u>Survey</u>

To best gauge the needs of the university community, a five-point Likert scale survey was created and distributed via email to students in their last semester at ULM, all faculty, and unclassified staff members. The Committee chose to narrow the student group being surveyed to only graduating students to include a population of students who have likely taken classes of various instructional methods in most buildings on campus. The Committee also wanted to survey faculty to gauge whether classrooms on campus are conducive to teaching and learning activities. Unclassified staff were also included in the survey as many work in academic buildings and have regular access to the facilities. Participants of the survey were asked to choose which academic buildings they utilize the most for either taking classes, teaching, or working.

Buildings listed in the Survey:

- Bienville Building- College of Pharmacy
- Brown Hall
- Bry Hall
- Caldwell Hall
- Chemistry and Natural Science Building
- Construction Building
- Hanna Hall
- Hemphill Hall

- Kitty Degree Hall
- Sandel Hall
- Strauss Hall
- Stubbs Hall
- Sugar Hall
- University Library
- Walker Hall

Multiple buildings could be chosen and participants were given four prompts to which they could respond using the 1-5 Likert scale with 1 defined as "Strongly Disagree" and 5 defined as "Strongly Agree".

Student Survey Prompts

- (Building Name) is clean and well maintained.
- (Building Name) is comfortable.
- The classrooms I utilize in (building name) are comfortable and conducive to learning.
- The classrooms I utilize in (building name) contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.

Faculty and Staff Survey Prompts

- (Building Name) is clean and well maintained.
- (Building Name) is comfortable.
- The classrooms I utilize in (building name) are comfortable and conducive to learning.
- The classrooms I utilize in (building name) contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

Participants of this survey were also given a comment box at the end of the survey to provide feedback to the committee. These comments are included at the end of this report.

# **Recommendations of the Committee**

Consisting of both faculty and unclassified staff members, the committee kept many factors in mind when touring each academic facility and compiling recommendations. Most importantly, the committee kept in mind students' needs and satisfaction from the prospective freshman on a recruitment tour to an upperclassman completing their final classes. The committee also paid close attention to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance issues, building maintenance, technology, and space utilization in all academic facilities across campus. This report will detail observations and recommendations of the committee with these factors and the committee's charge in mind.

Below, this committee recommends both a five-year and ten-year plan with considerations made to planning stages, budgetary factors, space reallocations, and critical needs of the campus. As part of this continuous plan, the committee has identified concerns in the academic facilities that can be acknowledged immediately and a building that the committee has pinpointed to need complete demolition and reconstruction.

Recommendations of this committee cover general improvements that can be made across campus and all academic buildings followed by a breakdown of each academic building. Each academic building was given a grade of either Critical, Major Concerns, or Minor Concerns based on the committee's observations of the building and needs for improvement. Also included are the results of the five-point Likert scale survey distributed to graduating students, faculty, and unclassified staff that pertain to that particular building.

# **Five-Year Plan**

The committee recommends that immediate concerns identified for the campus and academic buildings in this report be addressed first. Immediate and critical concerns that affect most academic buildings should be prioritized.

Immediate Concerns

- HVAC and Roof Issues
  - Most buildings across campus show signs of HVAC and/or roof issues. In many buildings, our committee observed signs of water damage in the form of water stains on ceiling tiles, mold on ceiling tiles, and rooms with trashcans being used to collect water.
- ADA Compliance
  - Many of the older academic buildings across campus are not ADA compliant and make it difficult for individuals with disabilities to enter buildings, change floor levels, and use the facilities.
- Painting and Maintenance
  - The committee observed that many classrooms, hallways, stairwells, and building interiors would be greatly improved with new paint. In almost every building, walls have been scraped or scuffed over time. In older buildings, the paint colors are dark making spaces feel small and uncomfortable. Color schemes, such as those used in Sandel Hall, are more uplifting and could be replicated across campus. In addition, minor maintenance such as replacing dirty or missing ceiling tiles, fixing broken floor tiles, and making sure that replaced flooring matches would greatly enhance the aesthetic of our buildings. The committee noted a number of maintenance issues across campus and academic buildings.

- Replace Trash Bins and Newspaper Receptacles Near Academic Buildings
  - Several buildings on campus such as the Chemistry and Natural Science Building and Walker Hall have trash bins and/or newspaper receptacles outside of the buildings which are old with chipped paint and rust. These receptacles are typically located at the entrance of a building and could be easily replaced.
- Correct Building Maps for Reference
  - Many academic buildings do not have an accurate building map or any map which displays room numbers and helps direct visitors and students to the correct classroom or office suite.
- TV Monitors in Each Building for Recruitment
  - Some academic buildings such as Walker Hall, Strauss Hall, and Hemphill Hall have TV monitors in the hallways or entrances which show information on ULM, campus events, safety information, and other important topics. These monitors are a great informational and recruitment tool and could be replicated in every academic building across campus.
- Regular Cleaning and Maintenance of Academic Buildings
  - Regular cleaning and routine maintenance should be completed in classrooms and all academic buildings. In many buildings, the committee observed dirty floors, staircases, and walls and classrooms that were littered with trash on the podiums.

In addition to these immediate concerns, planning should begin during this period to obtain funding and reallocate the offices and classrooms in the Chemistry and Natural Science Building for demolition and the construction of a new academic science building.

## **Ten-Year Plan**

The committee observed that the academic building in the most critical condition is the Chemistry and Natural Science Building (CNSB). Due to the two large classrooms and the lab space in CNSB, this building is heavily scheduled throughout the academic year, yet the building no longer provides the space, technology, or adequate learning environment to sustain the science programs and classes it houses. In addition, CNSB sits on the corner of Northeast Drive and University Avenue, a major path for traffic through campus. CNSB is also the oldest building along Northeast Drive situated between Hemphill Hall and the HUB. Further observations of the committee on the physical condition of CNSB can be found under the section for that building below in the report. Due to the mass number of refurbishments needed to fix the major issues in this building and create a learning environment that fits the needs of modern-day students, the Committee recommends that the Chemistry and Natural Science Building be demolished and that a new academic science building be built in its place. Given the status of ULM as a Health Sciences school, it is the opinion of this committee that a new and modernized science building is essential to support student needs and facilitate a better learning environment for future ULM students.

The Chemistry and Natural Science building houses the majority of laboratories on campus used for science classes. Prior to any sort of renovations, planning and some minor refurbishments will need to be completed in other academic buildings to house the relocated labs during this transition period. Potential lab space already exists in Sandel Hall, Hanna Hall, Stubbs Hall, and the Bienville Building. Many labs could be relocated to Hanna Hall and Stubbs Hall with minor refurbishments made to their lab classrooms to allow more space for students and to address plumbing, drainage, or equipment issues. To properly serve student needs and the science programs, this committee recommends that the new space include active learning rooms, lecture rooms with mobility and versatility, modernized lab spaces with plenty of storage space for equipment and adequate lecture space for teaching, an open concept layout at the entrance, and designated student lounge and study spaces.

# **Committee Recommendations for the ULM Campus**

## **Observations of the Committee**

After extensive tours of all academic buildings on the ULM campus, it is obvious that the academic units and buildings are not cohesive. The campus has a mixture of old and new buildings that each serve different academic areas and are so spread apart that there is no flow or cohesion to the campus. The mixture of old and new is something that makes ULM unique and is something that we can embrace as a community, however, the older buildings cannot stand against newer facilities if they are not properly maintained. From these tours, it is obvious that cleaning and maintenance has not remained a top priority in some buildings, yet classes are still being held in these areas and these issues are seen by students daily. In addition, this committee observed numerous areas where space is not being utilized yet other buildings on campus are overcrowded and overbooked with classes each semester.

## **Recommendations from the Committee for the ULM Campus**

- Create a cohesive and student-centered environment across campus.
  - Create more study areas around campus outside of the academic buildings.
  - Add more green space and walkways for students walking between buildings.
  - Consider removing obstacles to student traffic such as the University Avenue traffic in front of Kitty Degree Hall. A redesign of this space could allow for a new green space or "Quad" in the center of Walker Hall, Hanna Hall, Kitty Degree Hall and Sugar Hall.
- Remove and replace outdated and dirty trash and newspaper receptacles across campus.
- Clean the exterior of buildings and add landscaping around academic buildings

- Increase coordination and sharing between academic units. There is currently an increased sense of ownership by academic units of certain facilities and a refusal to share these spaces with other units.
- Engage academic units during decision making to ensure buy-in.
- Create a catalog of classroom usage, capacity, teaching technology requirements, etc. This can be accomplished through the purchase of new scheduling software to replace the current EMS system.

# **Committee Recommendations for All Academic Buildings**

## **Observations of the Committee**

Tours of the academic facilities on campus proved that there are numerous issues with nearly all academic buildings on campus. Frequently, the committee found that ADA compliance, HVAC, and general maintenance were a universal issue across campus. In addition, many buildings showed no pride in the programs housed in those facilities. Prospective students and parents want to see the accomplishments of the students and faculty of those programs, and existing students want to be in a program that shows pride in its work and its students. ULM should be using its buildings to recruit students, yet our tours brought us to one building after another with bare white cinderblock walls. There is also a major lack of student designated areas in academic facilities on campus. A student-centered campus should provide areas in each academic space for students to gather, study, and relax outside of the classroom.

## **Recommendations from the Committee on All Academic Buildings**

- All academic buildings should be brought up to ADA compliance
- HVAC systems in all academic facilities should be examined by the Physical Plant and repaired accordingly.
- Roof issues leading to water leaks and damage should be examined by the Physical Plant and repaired accordingly.
- Building interiors should be redecorated to help recruit new students and create a positive learning environment.
  - Repaint interiors (hallways, stairwells, classrooms)
  - Decorate hallways, entrances, display cabinets with program and/or college recruitment and program information. Use these spaces to recruit for our academic programs.
  - TV monitors can be hung in hallways and building entrances and display ULM information.
  - Provide amenities such as water filtration stations, charging stations, vending machines, etc.

- Examine the current practice of routine cleaning and maintenance being done.
- All buildings should have an accurate map with room numbers and office locations in building entrances. Interactive building maps (such as the map located on the first floor of Sandel Hall) could be utilized in larger or more complicated facilities such as the University Library and Walker Hall.
- Create a student-centered lounge or study area for students in every academic building.
- Create a room dedicated to testing for students with learning disabilities in every academic building.
- Establish a defined package of classroom tech that each classroom requires and implement across all academic facilities. This should include access to power outlets for students using technology in the classroom.

# **Bienville (Pharmacy Building)**

## (Minor Concerns)

## **Observations of the Committee**

The Bienville Building is one of the two newest academic buildings under the ULM university umbrella. Its classrooms are all very well equipped for the pharmacy students and are the most current and up to date with technology. Every classroom is set up for hybrid classes with camera, microphones, and speakers that allow the instructor to conduct distance classes in real time. Each table has power for electronic device charging and adequate WiFi coverage in each room. Each floor consists of one large classroom and one smaller classroom. There are also seven student study rooms complete with technology for student collaboration. All classrooms are carpeted and clean.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**



The College of Pharmacy is comfortable. 9 responses



The classrooms I utilize in the College of Pharmacy are comfortable and conducive to learning. 9 responses



The classrooms I utilize in the College of Pharmacy contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.





## **Results of Student Survey**

The classrooms I utilize in the College of Pharmacy are comfortable and conducive to learning. 1 response



The College of Pharmacy is comfortable. 1 response



The classrooms I utilize in the College of Pharmacy contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning. 1 response



#### **Recommendations for the Bienville Building**

No building recommendations other than a possible relocation of the Pharmacy building back on campus and possibly creating a health science center at a location on campus to be determined. This would allow the pharmacy students to have better access to campus facilities. Bienville also houses the only active learning room on campus that could be better used by a wider variety of classes if it were located on campus.

# **Brown Hall**

## (Major Concerns)

#### **Observations of the Committee**

The Committee observed that Brown Hall is in need of some significant attention but is generally functional and can continue to serve the university's academic mission. Our primary observations relate to improvements to classroom functionality and comfort, but Brown Hall infrastructure issues demand immediate attention and reconciliation by the university. Specifically, the committee discovered that, though the third floor of Brown Hall is unoccupied, it is currently accessible and utilizing valuable university resources. In serendipitous conversation with a faculty member, we were informed that the lights on the third floor are always on. Whether this is completely accurate or not, if the third floor is vacant, we believe it should not be consuming energy resources for power and HVAC, nor should the plumbing system be active as this could invite potential leaks and damage in the future. Possibly most troubling to the Committee was our observation that there is no swipe card access on any second-floor classrooms – which are utilized and include significant technological assets – while the unused rooms on the vacant third floor do have card readers. We consider this indicative of the lack of a coherent vision for the physical infrastructure at ULM and a failure to communicate between the various academic and administrative support units on campus.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**



Brown Hall is comfortable. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Brown Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Brown Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

4 responses



# **Results of Student Survey**

Brown Hall is clean and well maintained.

2 responses





The classrooms I utilize in Brown Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.

2 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Brown Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 2 responses



#### **Recommendations for Brown Hall**

- Immediate evaluation by ULM administration to identify how existing infrastructure deficiencies in Brown Hall can be reconciled.
- Additionally, maintain functionality of Brown Hall as an academic asset in the immediate term we recommend:
  - o a significant HVAC assessment.
  - evaluation and immediate replacement of damaged flooring, ceiling tiles, rails, etc.
  - new classroom furniture.
  - significantly refreshing building corridors with new paint, flooring, ceiling tiles, program-specific wall-decorations, building map/directory, room signs, *etc.*

# <u>Bry Hall</u>

## (Major Concerns)

## **Observations of the Committee**

This building has several issues. We do not know if it is the historical significance of the building, but that could be an issue. The downstairs of the building has been cleaned up (possibly had some remodeling) and organized as a gallery, showing off many of the student's creations. This adds to the uniqueness of the building. However, the second floor is another issue entirely. In our opinion there are some issues with overall access to different areas. The entire floor needs repair. The walls need to be patched and painted. The floors need to be redone. The floor could be completely remodeled.

## **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**



Bry Hall is comfortable.



The classrooms I utilize in Bry Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 1 response



The classrooms I utilize in Bry Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.



## **Results of Student Survey**

No students responded regarding Bry Hall.

#### **Recommendations for Bry Hall**

- The first floor of the building has had some work done to it. It is in reasonable shape
  - There are multiple artistic displays
  - Flooring needs improved
- Second floor needs flooring, paint, and drywall repair. The space needs to be redesigned for better access to the different spaces.

- The second floor needs major improvement.
- The rooms need to be repainted at a minimum on the second floor.
- Realistically the second floor needs to be remodeled.

# **Caldwell Hall**

## (Major Concerns)

## **Observations of the Committee**

The Committee's tour of Caldwell Hall revealed this to be an old building with significant structural issues. The HVAC system appeared to be dysfunctional with several rooms containing outdated and/or nonfunctional equipment. A larger number of damaged ceiling tiles were also observed. While in this building, a faculty member enlisted Mr. Andrews with a concern regarding correct card reader access to the classrooms, including the SMART classroom (Caldwell 239). The Committee observed that instructors were unable to access rooms that they were required to for their duties. The large classroom/clinical lab (Caldwell 220) included decrepit cabinetry. We identified several unique/interesting structural features such as a cement exterior feature and antique office doors on the second floor.

## **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**



Caldwell Hall is comfortable. 5 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Caldwell Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 5 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Caldwell Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.





## **Results of Student Survey**

No students responded regarding Caldwell Hall.

## **Recommendations for Caldwell Hall**

• Caldwell Hall appears to be one of the most dated academic buildings on campus. We therefore recommend that the university administration give strong consideration to assessing the long-term future of Caldwell Hall in its building portfolio and whether to

substantially renovate Caldwell Hall or determine if its key functions, such as the dental hygiene clinic, can be relocated to other buildings on campus.

- In order to maintain functionality of Caldwell Hall as an academic asset in the immediate term we recommend:
  - a significant HVAC assessment.
  - evaluation and immediate replacement of damaged flooring, ceiling tiles, rails, etc.
  - o new classroom furniture.
  - significantly refreshing building corridors with new paint, flooring, ceiling tiles, program-specific wall-decorations, building map/directory, room signs, *etc.*

# **Chemistry and Natural Science Building (CNSB)**

(Critical)

## **Observations of the Committee**

After an extensive tour of CNSB, the Committee was in unanimous agreement that the number and magnitude of critical deficiencies demonstrated in CNSB prevents it from adequately serving either the academic or research missions of the university. In evaluating the current state of CNSB, the Committee wants to emphasize that, in addition to the biology and chemistry majors which spend most of their academic time in CNSB, the large number of services courses provided by the School of Sciences to pre-pharmacy, toxicology, and College of Health Sciences majors means a substantial number of ULM undergraduates take classes in CNSB. Accordingly, we believe CNSB should be a keystone academic building on campus. CNSB has significant, long-term, and recurring HVAC issues, problems with stairwell and exterior doors, classroom technology, and teaching lab infrastructure. Water leakage into hallways, classrooms, and labs occurs with regularity, and a number of ceiling tiles are damaged. Similarly, restrooms require frequent maintenance and are generally off-putting. The Committee notes that Hawkseeker tours typically avoid CNSB unless specifically requested; we therefore consider it somewhat deceptive that prospective students are shown a biology lab (Sandel 364) during a tour that is not representative of what their actual academic environment will be.

## **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**

CNSB is clean and well maintained.





CNSB is comfortable.

11 responses



The classrooms I utilize in CNSB are comfortable and conducive to learning.



The classrooms I utilize in CNSB contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

11 responses



# **Results of Student Survey**

All questions are on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)



#### The classrooms I utilize in CNSB are comfortable and conducive to learning. 5 responses



CNSB is comfortable. 5 responses



The classrooms I utilize in CNSB contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.

5 responses



#### **Recommendations for CNSB**

- We recommend that the ULM administration pay serious attention to the function of CNSB in future plans at ULM. We acknowledge that one Committee member is housed in CNSB, however the recommendations in this report are the unanimous consent of the entire Committee. CNSB exhibits significant deficiencies. Some are infrastructure-related (HVAC, plumbing, air balance), some are aesthetic (discordant wall colors, dirty and damaged stairwells), some are technical (outdated classroom SMART systems or classrooms lacking any technology), and some are architectural (the Committee notes that entering campus on Northeast Dr., visitors are meet with the International House and Hemphill Hall, with the Library, HUB, and University Commons further along; the design and building materials for CNSB noticeably and negatively stand out along this corridor). We believe that a modern, advanced, physical sciences building can significantly enhance university academic and research missions, and function as an attractive recruiting asset.
- In order to maintain functionality of CNSB as an academic asset in the immediate term we recommend:
  - a significant HVAC assessment.
  - a significant plumbing assessment.
  - evaluation and immediate replacement of damaged flooring, ceiling tiles, handrails, *etc.*
  - o new classroom furniture.
  - $\circ$  additional, easily accessible, power outlets in CNSB 100 and CNSB 101.
  - significantly refreshing building corridors with new paint, flooring, ceiling tiles, program-specific wall-decorations, building map/directory, room signs, *etc.*

## **Construction Building**

#### (Minor Concerns)

#### **Observations of the Committee**

The Construction Building, due to private money, is in relatively good shape. The areas that need work are the interior atrium, bathrooms, and auditorium. The interior atrium needs attention specifically flooring. The bathrooms and auditorium are out of date. The classrooms, however, are in good shape. All of the classrooms have smart boards.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**

# All questions are on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)

The Construction Building is clean and well maintained. 2 responses



The Construction Building is comfortable. 2 responses



The classrooms I utilize in the Construction Building are comfortable and conducive to learning. 2 responses



The classrooms I utilize in the Construction Building contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

2 responses



## **Results of Student Survey**

## All questions are on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)



The Construction Building is clean and well maintained.

#### The Construction Building is comfortable.









The classrooms I utilize in the Construction Building contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.





### **Recommendations for the Construction Building**

- There are HVAC issues and roof leaks that will need immediate attention.
- Restrooms need to be updated.
- The auditorium needs major update

# <u>Hanna Hall</u>

## (Critical)

#### **Observations of the Committee**

The Committee's tour of Hanna Hall was conducted with the pending renovation of Sugar Hall partially in mind. In general, we find that Hanna Hall will require significant attention on its own merits; however, as described elsewhere in this report, we believe that any decisions made regarding Hanna Hall should be made in coordination with the current plans for Sugar Hall and in concert with Walker Hall. Multiple academic units utilize Hanna Hall, which has a diverse portfolio of classroom sizes for lectures and labs. Additionally, the presence of the Museum of Natural History provides a general interest attraction but limits some of the functionality of Hanna Hall. In the Committee's assessment, the Sugar/Walker/Hanna "horseshoe" should be developed with a combined focus to ensure synergistic capacities with a minimal amount of unnecessary redundancy. The Committee is concerned that Hanna Hall may not be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**

Hanna Hall is clean and well maintained. 9 responses

Hanna Hall is comfortable.



The classrooms I utilize in Hanna Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 9 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Hanna Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

9 responses



## **Results of Student Survey**



Hanna Hall is comfortable.





The classrooms I utilize in Hanna Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Hanna Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning. 4 responses



#### **Recommendations for Hanna Hall**

- The Committee believes that the Sugar/Walker/Hanna "horseshoe" has the potential to become an academic focal point on campus. Future plans for Hanna Hall should be made with those other buildings in mind; however, immediate improvements for Hanna Hall are required regardless.
- In order to maintain functionality of CNSB as an academic asset in the immediate term we recommend:
  - assess how to best accommodate diverse teaching practices with the available classrooms in Hanna Hall. Replace/rearrange furnishes as necessary.
  - new classroom furniture.

- additional, easily accessible, power outlets in larger lecture halls such as Hanna 337.
- significantly refreshing building corridors with new paint, flooring, ceiling tiles, program-specific wall-decorations, building map/directory, room signs, *etc.*

# **Hemphill Hall**

## (Minor Concerns)

## **Observations of the Committee**

Hemphill Hall was remodeled about 20 years ago and remains in good shape. The building has technology of some sort in most rooms. They recently got their accreditation, so the building continues to be well maintained. The building does have some issues with furniture. Also, their main auditorium could also use some attention. Finally, they do not have a good area for students to gather and work together.

## **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**

All questions are on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)



#### Hemphill Hall is comfortable.

13 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Hemphill Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 13 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Hemphill Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching. 13 responses



## **Results of Student Survey**



#### Hemphill Hall is comfortable. 2 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Hemphill Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 2 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Hemphill Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.





#### **Recommendations for Hemphill Hall**

- The lounge area at the entrance of the building is nice but rarely used. The lounge area may be better suited and used in another area of the building.
- Stairwells need better cleaning and maintenance.
- South doors need to be adjusted to open smoothly.
- Access to power from all tables or desks.
- Furniture that will fit a laptop or textbook. The desktops are currently too narrow.
- Overall furniture in several rooms needs to be reviewed and updated.

## Kitty Degree Hall

#### (Minor Concerns)

#### **Observations of the Committee**

Kitty Degree Hall is somewhat outdated but seems to still meet the student needs of the Nursing program students. Grants have allowed the program to provide new technological innovations and provide active learning style classes with hands-on experience. The only issue with the building is a noticeable HVAC or roof issue. During our tour, the Committee observed several classrooms using trash bins and buckets to collect water dripping from the ceiling.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**



Kitty Degree Hall is comfortable. <sup>4 responses</sup>



The classrooms I utilize in Kitty Degree Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Kitty Degree Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.





#### **Recommendations for Kitty Degree Hall**

- Examine and fix HVAC and/or roof issues
- A complete interior remodel will need to be done eventually.

## Sandel Hall

#### (Minor Concerns)

#### **Observations of the Committee**

Sandel Hall is the newest facility on campus and contains two classrooms and one biology lab. Technology for teaching is adequate in all the rooms. There are conference rooms available for use, but they do not have any built-in technology. The building structure is not set up ideally in the large classroom with pillars in the middle of the classroom. Furniture in classrooms isn't designed for laptop use. Overall, the building is in great shape and should be the architectural model for the campus moving forward.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**



Sandel Hall is comfortable.

17 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Sandel Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 17 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Sandel Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

17 responses



## **Results of Student Survey**



Sandel Hall is comfortable.

7 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Sandel Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 7 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Sandel Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning. 7 responses



#### **Recommendations for Sandel Hall**

- Good space to model other academic buildings off
- Update conference areas and classrooms with built-in or more accessible technology
- Biology lab should be the model for labs across campus

## **Strauss Hall**

#### (Major Concerns)

#### **Observations of the Committee**

After an extensive tour of Strauss Hall, the Committee recommends a remodel of this facility while keeping the original facade intact if financially feasible. Strauss Hall currently houses the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences in addition to the Marriage and Family Therapy program and Clinic. The building is currently outdated and does not meet student learning needs in every classroom. Some classrooms have seats or desks dating back thirty years or more and some lecture rooms have no technology for instructors to use while teaching. Classrooms are also overcrowded and dark due to the cinderblock walls and small windows. Some minor refurbishments should be made to make this building a welcoming and comfortable environment for students but to also meet the learning and teaching needs of students and instructors. A remodel of the interior will be needed in the future to adequately accommodate the needs of modern students. In addition, Strauss is one of the facilities that has become a silo for the programs housed there. As a part of the College of Business and Social Sciences, the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences is far removed from the College located in Hemphill Hall. Consideration should be given to moving the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences to a building closer to Hemphill and possibly making Strauss a General Education building or a facility housing a different academic unit.

#### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**

Strauss Hall is clean and well maintained.

All questions are on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)

18 responses

Strauss Hall is comfortable.



The classrooms I utilize in Strauss Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 18 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Strauss Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching.

18 responses



## **Results of Student Survey**



Strauss Hall is comfortable. 6 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Strauss Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning.



The classrooms I utilize in Strauss Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.

6 responses



#### **Recommendations for Strauss Hall**

- The building will need interior remodel.
- Power outlets should be accessible from every desk/table.
- The cinderblock walls and small windows make classrooms uncomfortable. A remodel of classrooms should include fixing this issue.

# Stubbs Hall

## (Major Concerns)

### **Observations of the Committee**

Stubbs is an interesting building. It has a lot of classrooms, but the usage of the building seems pretty minimal. The main item in the entire building that would be hard to replace and is often used is their large auditorium. Other than that, everything else could be moved to other locations on campus. This is why we are suggesting that it be torn down. (Possible site for a new Pharmacy building or parking garage)

Most of the building is in rough shape. The bathrooms, classroom, and furniture all need attention. Then there are the electronic needs in the building. Stubbs Hall is more than a new coat of paint. You also need to consider mold and the HVAC system.

## **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**






The classrooms I utilize in Stubbs Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 10 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Stubbs Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching. 10 responses



# **Results of Student Survey**

Stubbs Hall is clean and well maintained.



Stubbs Hall is comfortable. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Stubbs Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Stubbs Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.

4 responses



#### **Recommendations for Stubbs Hall**

- Recommendation to eventually demolish Stubbs Hall (not appropriately utilized.)
- Classes currently in Stubb's studio classrooms can be moved to spaces in Bry or Biedenharn.
- Classes in Stubbs 100 can be moved to large rooms in Sandel, Construction, and Walker or to auditoriums in Kitty Degree, Biedenharn, or Brown.
- There seems to be issues with HVAC, the roof, the restrooms, and other parts of the building
- Without inspecting the issue, mold is more than likely in many areas of the building

• Other than the use of the auditorium and some office space the building is not being used. These items can be moved to other locations in the university.

# **University Library**

## (Minor Concerns)

## **Observations of the Committee**

After touring the teaching areas of the library, the Committee found the classrooms to be up to date with technological needs except for hybrid class capabilities. Also, the Committee noted the VR lab is seldom used and could be utilized more if computer lab classes were allowed to be scheduled in this room. The VR equipment is out of date and needs replacing. We also noted that there is ample room available on the fifth floor to add classroom space without losing all the study space for students. The library has 11 fully equipped study rooms as well for students to reserve. The spaces are quiet but could use a furniture upgrade to include tables and more comfortable chairs in each space. The desks in the current classroom spaces are adequate but could be updated.

## **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**







The classrooms I utilize in the University Library are comfortable and conducive to learning. 16 responses



The classrooms I utilize in the University Library contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching. 16 responses



## **Results of Student Survey**



The classrooms I utilize in the University Library are comfortable and conducive to learning. 4 responses



The classrooms I utilize in the University Library contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.



### **Recommendations for the University Library**

- Remove chalkboards from all classrooms.
- Add blinds or coverings on classroom windows to help with classroom warming in the afternoons.
- Add option to tint or frost glass to classroom windows facing the library interior.
- VR lab could be used as a computer lab only for classes.
- Add cameras and microphones in classrooms to enable hybrid classes.

## Walker Hall

#### (Major Concerns)

### **Observations of the Committee**

Walker Hall is one of the few buildings on campus that house classrooms being used by many different departments. Half of the first floor has been updated with classroom space. The technology is adequate but has no hybrid class capability in any of the classrooms besides one classroom on the second floor. Several of the classrooms require new projectors to move away from bulb usage to laser projection. Classroom furniture isn't adequate for student laptop use

and there are no power outlets available. The bathrooms in this building are outdated, small, and are not ADA compliant. Chalkboards are outdated and the dust is a problem in SMART classrooms. The paint and overall architecture is outdated and not conducive to house classes for so many different academic units. The HVAC system was redone two years ago but it is still not functioning properly.

### **Results of Faculty/Staff Survey**

All questions are on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree)



Walker Hall is comfortable.

31 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Walker Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 31 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Walker Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my teaching. 31 responses



# **Results of Student Survey**

Walker Hall is clean and well maintained.



Walker Hall is comfortable.





The classrooms I utilize in Walker Hall are comfortable and conducive to learning. 8 responses



The classrooms I utilize in Walker Hall contain the proper technological innovations to support my learning.





### **Recommendations for Walker Hall**

- Half of the first floor, second floor, and third floor will eventually need complete remodel.
- Fresh paint is needed in classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms.
- Flooring needs to be updated/replaced to match throughout the building.
- Examine regular cleaning/maintenance practices.
- Establish a new room numbering system. The current system is confusing and difficult to navigate.

- Add a student lounge or study area on the first floor. Walker 1-120 is a video recording room that is not used and is in a prime location close to the larger first-floor classrooms. This area could be better utilized as a student study or lounge area.
- 1<sup>st</sup> floor classrooms need blinds/window coverings. The classrooms get warmer later in the day.
- Bring power to tables/desks either along the wall or with built-in power outlets.
- Have more interactive classrooms with versatile and mobile furniture.
- Larger rooms with long tables (WALK 1-101, 1-102, 1-142, and 2-105) could mirror Pharmacy large rooms. Each room would have long tables with power outlets and movable chairs for better interactive activities in class.

# Survey Results

In addition to the building-specific questions, the survey distributed to faculty/staff and graduating students included a priority ranking for seven general parameters covering possible renovations that could be conducted campus wide, as well as an open comments option. In total, 153 faculty/staff responses and ten graduating student responses were recorded, though respondents were not required to answer each question. The table below includes the raw responses to the priority rankings. The open comments are included as Appendix I.

Faculty Results										
Priority Rank:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>			
Flooring should be replaced/cleaned/updated in shared areas (hallways, stairwells, study rooms, etc.)	29	21	20	18	15	21	24			
Restrooms should be updated	39	20	28	13	12	15	23			
Walls should be painted and adored with program-specific information, electronic message boards, ULM decorations, etc.	26	20	25	24	16	14	25			
Classroom furniture (i.e., desks, chairs, etc) should be upgrade/replaced.	26	27	26	23	18	11	17			
Classroom functional layouts should be evaluated to maximize usage of best teaching practices.	34	27	17	15	15	21	19			
Classroom technology should be upgraded/replaced.	47	24	16	18	15	10	20			
A dedicated student lounge/gathering space should be provided in each academic building.	26	17	19	26	12	20	30			
Student Results										
Priority Rank:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>			
Flooring should be replaced/cleaned/updated in shared areas (hallways, stairwells, study rooms, etc.)	1	1	2	3	0	0	2			

Restrooms should be updated	4	0	1	1	1	2	1
Walls should be painted and adored with program-specific information, electronic message boards, ULM decorations, etc.	0	1	0	4	2	0	2
Classroom furniture (i.e., desks, chairs, etc) should be upgrade/replaced.	2	2	3	0	0	1	2
Classroom functional layouts should be evaluated to maximize usage of best teaching practices.	1	2	0	2	4	1	0
Classroom technology should be upgraded/replaced.	3	2	1	1	1	0	1
A dedicated student lounge/gathering space should be provided in each academic building.	2	1	1	2	1	1	1

## **Comments from Student Survey**

CNSB bathroom fixed. Constantly smells. Walker- classrooms on varying floors have drastic temperatures

CNSB smells bad; air fresheners?

Ensure all air conditioners and heaters work properly.

## Comments From Faculty/Staff Survey

A variety of individuals should have input on classroom furniture (one size does not fit all). Restrooms need to be cleaned more thoroughly. Not all classrooms are used in the same way, programs using particular classrooms should be asked for input (again, one size does not fit all).

A working HVAC system in Hanna Hall would be amazing! It is usually freezing cold in this building, except when the HVAC completely fails, and the building turns into an oven quickly. It is never a comfortable temperature throughout Hanna making learning, teaching, and just working in my office there difficult.

ADA accessibility should be priority (ramps, elevators, wheelchair access to desks, ramps to doors, etc.)

Air Conditioning units and electrical system (more breakers) should be installed/replaced/updated in Hemphill Hall. It would also be beneficial to change the layout of offices specifically on the first floor so that more faculty/staff have access to a window. "Windows are an excellent way of increasing light within a building, creating a greater sense of openness and the natural light also helps to stimulate us, keeping us more awake and energetic. Dark offices can have negative impacts on our internal body clocks and cause drowsiness, hence hindering workflow." (https://collective100.com.au/7-ways-windows-can-improve-office-

<u>life/#:~:text=Windows%20are%20an%20excellent%20way,cause%20drowsiness%2C%20hence%20hin</u> <u>dering%20workflow</u>.) "It's no surprise that having access to windows and the natural light they bring can lead to a better day at work. The good news is many companies have realized the benefits of having a workspace with as many windows as possible. Those benefits include the ability to focus better and put less strain on the eyes." (<u>https://www.wework.com/ideas/workspace-</u> <u>solutions/flexible-products/window-into-the-</u>

workplace#:~:text=It's%20no%20surprise%20that%20having,less%20strain%20on%20the%20eyes.) IT

CAN HELP BOOST ENERGY LEVELS DURING THE DAY, IT CAN HELP REDUCE JOB-RELATED STRESS, and IT CAN IMPROVE OVERALL LEVELS OF HAPPINESS! (<u>https://mtglass.com/blog/windows/benefits-window-office-workspace/</u>)

Anyone that teaches after 4pm knows that the sunlight is blinding for about an hour. Shades are needed. Further, a/c NEVER is good. Either too hot or cold. Students and faculty either sweat or freeze.

Bry Hall is an ignored, run down and poor representation of the university. The floor tiles are coming up constantly, the building leaks and is full of water damage, the carpets are stained, the restroom is not handicap accessible, barely functions and is poorly maintained (other than cleaning). We host a lot of people on campus in the Bry gallery we should be able to present the university with more pride than the current state that it is in. There is never working HVAC. When the air is on the units leak and flood the floors (they are rarely functioning). We had no heat all winter long despite several requests for building tickets.

Building needs to be upgraded/cleaned or condemned.

Buildings should be assessed for whether they have hot water and working thermostats. Strauss Hall is usually either way too hot or way too cold.

Caldwell Hall is one of the oldest buildings on our campus with the least amount of renovations. This building serves not only as a education site but a clinical site for thousands of patients every academic year. Please consider Caldwell Hall as the next update on the Strategic Plan.

CNSB and Walker are so dirty. Stair wells need to be cleaned, dusted. Trash needs to be properly picked up in classrooms.

Do not waste the funds on fancy electronic boards, focus on energy efficiency. A General Studies Undergraduate building close to the library would help rebalance the focus of campus which has shifted towards the HUB back towards the Library, Bayou, and the Other side of the bayou.

During the summer months, many of the offices and classrooms in Walker Hall are almost impossible to keep cool and comfortable.

Heat/AC transition is a manual process. Someone from physical plant has to manually change it over. This should be put on a system rather than waiting for requests to change it. In Fall and Spring, if the high for the day is 79+ then they should automatically send someone over to cut on the AC in buildings that day (without being asked to do so). If the night's low is in the 40's and the high for the day won't exceed 70 then they should make sure the heat is on, possibly the night before.

Hemphill Hall's temperature is always either too cold or too hot. When the temperature is too cold, everyone uses their space heater, which causes circuit breakers to pop, causing power outages in some faculty offices. Walking into my office every morning, the temperature is always in the low 60s. Sometimes during the winter months, I come to my office to find the temperature is in the 50s. How can anyone work in such an environment?

Hot water in the bathroom sinks in Walker is needed.

HVAC needs to be fixed, and roof/window leaks need to be plugged

I am located at a distance campus and this was left off of the survey. Please do not forget that we exist as well.

I do not teach in any of the subject facilities and cannot judge their conditions.

I serve on professional staff so don't use classrooms and other spaces in the facilities named; however, I do think those buildings should be updated to accommodate those who do. Would more than likely improve the health of those who do. Spirits would certainly be lifted.

I would love to see the walkways and such pressure washed around campus. It would do so much to freshen things up, without a big price tag.

If we don't show that we respect our buildings by keeping them well maintained, how are our students going to think we respect their education? Walls regularly painted, trash cans emptied daily, stair treads regularly updated, all lights working and of same warmth throughout entire building and every classroom and public space, furniture maintained and replaced, windows washed quarterly, buildings powerwashed annually, handrails painted annually, floors swept nightly and mopped, restrooms cleaned daily and stocked appropriately.

Inconsistent heating/cooling are significant problems in Kitty DeGree Hall. Each semester classes are cut short due to excessive temperature, usually heat. Leaks that stain ceiling tiles are frequent and on multiple occasions tiles have soaked and fallen to the floor.

Many of the spaces that I visit around campus need to be updated. The bathroom fixtures in most buildings need to be replaced. I see toilet paper rolls stuck or placed onto broken holders, and also broken tissue holders that won't stay closed. Brown Auditorium had multiple HVAC units that are not functional and need to be replaced. There is no HVAC on the second floor in Brown Theatre Complex. This includes the Dressing Rooms which also serve as a lab space for a couple of classes.

Mold shouldnâ€<sup>™</sup>t be visible on walls in CNSB

My building has leaks all over it. They are regularly reported and all that happens is sometimes the ceiling tiles are replaced. But once the leak gets bad enough, the ceiling tile bubbles again. These leaks are both from roof leaks and AC condensation problems. Since I have been at ULM, zero of the issues I have reported have actually been fixed. These have done, and have the potential to do, several thousand dollars in damages. These need to be fixed first, otherwise new technology in classrooms will just be ruined by ceiling and roof leaks.

N/A

None at this time.

Offices on 3rd floor of Strauss (south end of building) are extremely hot-maybe work on some temperature control

Older building like Caldwell are in poor shape in several areas. Repairs are done where possible when requested, but they are surface repairs and don't last very long in most cases.

One of the largest issues / drawbacks to Brown Hall is the lack of the handicap accessibility to the second and third floors. Third floor could be utilized for some department but lack of accessibility prevents it. Also, the third floor does not have any restroom facilities.

Only some of the classroom buildings were asked about on this form. CNSB routinely has infrastructure issues, including water in the ceiling and ceiling tiles falling.

Remove and update the carpet in Stubbs 100, PLEASE!!!! It smells so badly in that room when the weather is damp or warm/hot outside. Larger framed students and handicapped students have limited seating in that room and both issues (carpet smell/outdated classroom furniture/format) affects classroom performance and student confidence.

Strauss temp control is not very good. Bathroom floors, faucets and sinks need replacing.

Students must have better access to Wi-Fi. Internet connection is often sketchy and students are thrown out of important exams administered in Moodle.

Thank you!

The biggest need is to fix roof and air conditioner leaks.

The classrooms with long, immovable desks do not support student engagement. We need more 30 seat classrooms with round table to support discussion and student involvement.

The HVAC system in Hemphill needs to be replaced. Each floor has a different temperature. The classrooms on a given floor have various temperatures. Some are routinely hot while others are routinely cold. My office is often below 64 degrees and often above 80 degrees. I frequently have to

report problems with the heat/air conditioning, sometimes with several occurrences in a given week. This is not a new problem. It has been going on for years. This is a serious issue and is not receiving attention.

The major improvement to Walker should be heating/cooling: A/C units are very loud and distract from teaching (I usually have to resort to turning them off, and having to suffer through the cold/heat so we can hear each other). They also often leak, leaving puddles in the rooms. The 3rd floor especially suffers from poor A/C. I've had students who've had to leave class because they are too hot. This is a major issue. The second major improvement would be to return hot water to the bathrooms: there is a basic level of human dignity that is being ignored when we do not have the basic necessity of cold and hot water.

The people hired from outside companies (e.g., Service Master) should actually clean. The lab in Sandel Hall is filthy, and the floors haven't been properly cleaned since the beginning of last summer.

The pharmacy building is beginning to get old and some things need to be updated. The new facility manager is doing a WONDERFUL job of trying to fix many of the problems that have been piling up over the years. However, some things have not been maintained and are starting to look bad (carpets, wallpaper in bathrooms, landscaping). We talk about wanting our spaces to look professional to stakeholders when they visit our campus. It is time to start replacing things that are in bad condition. Also, the accent colors in the original State Farm building construction are blue. It would be nice if our building looked more like ULM colors.

The physics labs in Hanna Hall are not adequate. We had to retrofit two or three classrooms to make into physics labs when the museum of natural history moved to the first floor of Hanna Hall. One serves as a stock room which seems to be sufficient. Hanna 315 is too small for a physics lab. It has no smart board technology, no computer screen, no projector, no dry erase board. Hanna 322 and 315 have computer and electrical cables falling from the walls and all over the floor. The classrooms are not well suited for interactive and cooperative learning.

The roof on Caldwell leaks. The paint/plaster is literally sliding off the wall from the moisture.

The students who attend classes in Sugar Hall record videos when it rains, as water drains from the roof through third floor and then pours through the SECOND floor ceilings. They purchase individual heaters and fans to bring to class due to the poor temperature control. It is honestly humiliating.

The Wi-Fi is very unreliable in Strauss and Stubbs. I can never get connected. My students cannot either. This limits my ability to use interactive media such polling apps and other media that would enhance instruction.

There is no academic master plan for facilities. One desperately needs to be created. What is the purpose of each structure? Are there inefficiencies in the distribution of space? Yes. We operate in a Wild West of office space - every man for himself and first come, first serve. Itâ€<sup>™</sup>s disheartening. Also, there should be a student print station in every building.

This semester I teach two classes in Walker 2-49. During the 12:30 - 1:45 class, another class is being taught with the teacher podium adjacent to the wall where my podium is. They are usually showing a video or livestream. It is so loud in my classroom that it is difficult to lecture above it. When the students are trying to take a test, it is difficult for them to concentrate. There should be better insulation in the walls or the teacher stations should be on opposite sides of the room.

This survey didn't ask about Hemphill, which is my building. However, the HVAC in Hemphill is terrible! It's always freezing.

Walker Hall is an embarrassment to the university and should taken down, replaced as soon as possible. The restrooms on the 2nd and 3rd floors are disgusting, despite efforts to clean them. Just visit one and you will see. Also, how could a wheel chair fit into one? The entrances to the restrooms are too narrow. The offices are cramped and have no insulation for sound. The windows in faculty offices are the worst in terms of design that I have ever seen. Why place a tiny window that opens on the floor atop a narrow slit of window, one that provides no view and no sunshine? Recently, my office AC/Heating unit was replaced. The office had had a great AC and I didn't bother with heating. Not so the new one. The replacement AC/Heater now has a switch that is almost impossible to access. Even more significant, it does not cool nearly as well as it once did. By the way, in replacing my unit and other units in the building the workers left a great deal of mess in my office. Doubtless some robot architect in 1960s won an award for designed the obscenity we call Walker Hall, but even without the building's long term neglect it is a terrible place in terms of design for human beings to work and study in.

In addition, Walker is often the home to bats and leaks. The leaks provide an unintended waterfall down staircases on rainy days. By the way, stair cases are now somewhat cleaner than in years past. For a number of years several of them were only swept once a semester at most.

There is no hot water in the building, with the exception of a private heater for the dean's office, or so it is rumored. A decade or so ago Walker burned on the first floor. Some improvements were made to the first floor, though one can't help wondering where all the insurance money went. Then a bright light had the idea of bunching up as many classes in Walker as possible, leading to the construction of large classrooms on the first and second floors. Unfortunately, these large classrooms were not designed to hold large classes. To give an example, some students in each large classroom will have an obstructed view of the lecture podium, thanks to large pillars. Another example of ULM doing on the cheap what should have been done at expense and done right.

On a positive note, the technology in the classrooms is generally very good and thankfully usually well maintained.

We need a dedicated FACULTY AND STAFF break room/gathering place in Strauss.

We need a satellite copier in Hemphill Hall.

While I do not frequently use Brown I have been in there recently and it DESPERATELY needs updates. It looks like Rydell High, from

The movie Grease. The theatres need renovation so VAPA can actually compete to get majors outside of music performance.