GUIDELINES

While the Long Range Plan sets the overall pattern of growth for UTSA’s campuses, more detailed guidance is required regarding the management of that growth and the improvement of the campus environment. The Guidelines of the Campus Master Plan address campus architecture, landscape, sustainability, and wayfinding. These guidelines are intended to preserve what is good and transform what is not, ensuring that new construction projects make the UTSA campuses more beautiful and harmonious while minimizing the University’s environmental impact and conserving natural resources.
INTRODUCTION
The definition of the campuses’ public outdoor spaces by architecture is fundamental to the success of the Campus Master Plan. The facades and massing of buildings facing campus streets and quadrangles must address and define those spaces and contribute to their visual clarity and spatial coherence.

The following architectural principles and guidelines are directed toward promoting architecture that strengthens the civic structure of the campuses, supports the goal of density, and enhances the pedestrian environment. On the UTSA campuses, building typology—form, massing, and the configuration of circulation elements—is more important than style. Elements that reinforce the campuses’ civic structure and enhance the pedestrian environment, such as loggias, arcades, trellises, galleries, and courtyards, should be incorporated in their design.

FORM AND MASSING
- Buildings are to support the campus civic structure, giving architectural definition to the campuses’ streets, quadrangles, and other open spaces. Buildings are to front directly onto these spaces and to support them by their form, massing, and the design of their facades.
- Buildings are to be three to five stories tall, and generally a maximum of four stories tall.

FACADES
- Building facades are to be articulated into constituent parts to mediate between the pedestrian scale and the scale of the building, provide visual continuity with neighboring buildings, and engage the landscape design of open spaces.
- Buildings should have a base, middle, and top. An articulate ground floor is especially important, as it reinforces a building’s connection to the public space upon which it fronts.

CIRCULATION
- Buildings are to incorporate loggias, trellises, outdoor passages, and internal galleries as appropriate to their function and location so as to enhance the campuses’ networks of interconnected pedestrian circulation systems.
- To reinforce the connection to the existing campus architecture, the University should mandate that new buildings extend the existing loggia system, particularly buildings adjacent to campus quadrangles and Paseos.
COURTYARDS

- Where appropriate, buildings are to incorporate courtyards and atria, either fully enclosed or open to the adjoining streets, quadrangles, and Paseos.
MIXED-USE BUILDINGS

- Where appropriate, buildings are to incorporate multiple uses, placing public functions on the ground floor and less public or more utilitarian functions on upper floors.
- The accommodation of office, academic, or retail space in the exposed sides of parking garages will humanize adjoining open spaces.
THE PASEOS
The Main Campus’s Paseos are of particular importance. They are, in effect, the “main streets” of the campus.

- Buildings located on the Paseos are to address them directly and to define them spatially with consistent facades.
- In general, buildings are to be located to maintain a 60’ width between building facades.
- Buildings are to engage the Paseos with loggias.
- Where appropriate, buildings are to support shading elements above the Paseos.

TOWERS
Towers and other vertical elements should mark significant places on the campuses and thereby contribute to wayfinding and campus identity. Two towers are proposed on the Main Campus.

- A new tower will be located at the north end of the North Paseo. It will be visible from Loop 1604 and will mark the north entrance to campus at John Peace Quadrangle.
- A second tower will be located in the new Central Quadrangle, on the axis of Walter Brenan Avenue and the reconfigured south entrance to campus from UTSA Boulevard, and will provide an orientation point for the campus as a whole.
**SUNSHADING**

- As amenities for the public realm, buildings should incorporate shading and covering elements—trellises, canopies, loggias, pergolas, ramadas, etc.

**FIGURE 5**
Canopies, South Peaseo, UTSA Main Campus

**FIGURE 6**
Trellis, Roadrunner Cafe, UTSA Main Campus

**FIGURE 7**
Sunshades, the Sonbrilla, UTSA Main Campus

**FIGURE 8**
Trellis and Vines, University Center II, UTSA Main Campus
MATERIALS ON THE MAIN CAMPUS

- On the Main Campus, the colors of masonry and stucco are to relate to the warm gray and buff shades of the existing buildings.

- Exposed precast and poured-in-place concrete should match the light earth-toned color of the existing buildings.

- Warm-toned limestone may also be used as a primary system of enclosure.

- Ornamental stone and tile may be used as accents.

MATERIALS ON THE DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

- On the Downtown Campus, the existing buildings establish a more varied palette of masonry colors.

- Clear glass must be used at the ground level and at entries.

- Gray-tinted glass may be used at other areas.

- No reflective glass should be used.

- Stucco systems may be used to clad portions of buildings and to provide relief and contrast from basic wall materials.
LIGHTING

- The tradition of using handcrafted metal and ceramic light fixtures should be continued.
- Lighting should comply with “dark sky” principles.
- When implementing architectural lighting, a lighting consultant should be utilized to ensure adherence with dark sky principles and to ensure adequate lighting is provided for security.
- Careful consideration should be given to energy efficiency and natural color rendition.

PUBLIC ART

- When public art is to be incorporated in building and landscape projects, the artist should be engaged early and integrated into the design process.

SECURITY

- When new buildings are designed, security issues should be considered, including emergency access, notification systems, and building layout.

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

- Air intakes should be located on roofs or more than 30’ above grade.
- Roof-mounted mechanical equipment should be screened.
- Site-mounted equipment should be minimized, and should be screened.
- Where air conditioning is provided by “split systems,” compressors should be roof-mounted.
- Energy efficiency and long-term cost should be considered when systems are chosen.

FIGURE 8
Light Fixture, Business Building, Main Campus

FIGURE 9
Light Fixture, Multidisciplinary Studies Building

FIGURE 10
Light Fixture, Humanities and Social Sciences Building

FIGURE 11
Sculpture, University Center III, Main Campus

FIGURE 12
Relief Sculpture, University Center I, Main Campus

FIGURE 13
Mosaic, Main Building, Main Campus

FIGURE 14
Sculpture, Art Building, Main Campus