

INITIATIVE BRIEF

# INTEGRATED DESIGN



*To fully leverage UTSA's expertise across architecture, construction, planning, and engineering.*

---

**LAUNCH DATE**

April 2020

---

**THE CHALLENGE**

Current collaborative programs between architecture, planning, construction science and engineering, combined with societal priorities at the intersection of these disciplines (e.g., smart cities, sustainability, and low-impact development), reveal unmet potential to further expound on these partnerships. Moreover, to offer the highest quality educational experience, architectural and design studios are limited in size, creating a disproportionate administrative burden under the current administrative structure, which can hamper program growth. UTSA is committed to supporting an infrastructure that allows CACP and COE faculty to build on past success and create new opportunities for growth, innovation, and excellence in these fields of study.

**THE IMPACT**

By bringing the disciplines currently administered by COE and CACP under one administrative home, UTSA can fully leverage expertise across these disciplines and optimally position the university on the cutting edge of transdisciplinary research, academic programming, and workforce preparation for students. The alignment and connection of these interdisciplinary programs also presents tremendous potential for the development of new programs and partnerships. Furthermore, under one administrative home, these disciplines will have the needed administrative resources and services that can be leveraged and augmented to serve all faculty – including development, financial, student success, and research support structures.

**OVERVIEW**

The UTSA College of Architecture, Construction and Planning (CACP) is a model for engaged learning, career readiness, and industry and community partnerships. To fully leverage UTSA's expertise across architecture, construction, planning, historic preservation and interior design, as well as engineering – and to optimally position UTSA on the cutting edge of transdisciplinary research, academic programming, and workforce preparation for students – the Integrated Design Initiative will explore potential structures that bring the disciplines currently administered by CACP and the College of Engineering (COE) under one administrative home.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**JoAnn Browning**

Dean, College of Engineering  
Interim Dean, College of Architecture, Construction & Planning  
joann.browning@utsa.edu  
cacp.utsa.edu | engineering.utsa.edu

INITIATIVE BRIEF

# INTEGRATED DESIGN



## PHASES

- » Consider the landscape of UTSA student interests, regional workforce needs and partnering opportunities, and multidisciplinary research opportunities related to architecture, construction, planning and engineering
- » Propose multiple notional organizational structures
- » Engage key community and university stakeholders, including CACP and COE faculty, staff and students prior to implementation

## BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- » Enhance student success, through promoting cross-disciplinary curricular and experiential learning opportunities
- » Prepare students for the modern integrated, collaborative workforce, and particularly take active steps to prepare first-generation, Hispanic and other underrepresented minority students for prosperous futures

## PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

- » Student scholarships
- » Endowments to support new faculty and new programs
- » New building for a home for a school of interdisciplinary programs

## PARTNERSHIPS

- » External collaborations with industry, non-profits, and other academic institutions, including those seeking HSI partners
- » Community collaborations, particularly in sustainable, smart, connected cities and infrastructure that also support San Antonio's cultural heritage and future

## BENEFITS TO FACULTY

- » Increase UTSA's ability to successfully compete for extramural funding opportunities to address grand challenges
- » Promote cross-cutting collaborations internally with other campus units, potentially through exploring joint faculty appointments or other means