



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
Campus Facilities Planning Committee
Request for Project Approval Form

1. **Project Number**
2. **Project Name** **Jack J. Valenti School of Communication Expansion**
3. **Committee Date** **April 10, 2009**
4. **Requesting Department** **School of Communication**
5. **Contact Name & Phone Number** **Dr. Beth Olson, x3-2881**
6. **Presenter:** **Dr. Beth Olson, x3-2881**
Ward Booth, x3-2860
7. **Description of Request**

This agenda item seeks site approval for the addition of approximately 5000 square feet to the northeast corner and east wall of the School of Communication building to accommodate an entry lobby, production studio and studio support spaces, production and faculty offices, and a large classroom. Expansion will occur in two or more phases based on available funds.

Project Overview

The proposed new entry will create an identity for the building, mitigate circulation issues, increase needed studio space and help leverage student and alumni pride in the Valenti legacy.

The building lacks a street identity and features a minimal entry off the interior courtyard and relies on this courtyard for circulation. This project will link a new entry located on the north side to interior spaces and this courtyard and will necessitate some modification or relocation of interior space.

Background Information:

The Valenti School of Communication is one of the larger majors on campus, ranking behind biology and running a close second with psychology. The student population of approximately 1,600 includes majors in Media Production (243), Print and Broadcast Journalism (312), Public Relations and Advertising (469), Corporate Communication (110), Interpersonal Communication (29) and Media Studies (25). Approximately 100 students are seeking a Masters of Arts in programs emphasizing theory and research.

The school has experienced extensive growth over the last several academic years and must turn students away from classes due to shortage of both classrooms and production studio space. Dozens of classes fill by June, student demand each semester averages 10 more sessions than space permits; and student work labs are open and operating at capacity 7 days a week.

One classroom was lost as part of the creation of the suite housing the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts (48 seats). Another was downsized to create office space for emeritus Director of the School of Theater & Dance Sidney Berger (loss of 25 seats). Necessary ceiling height in the sole production studio was taken away in 2002 to build additional faculty offices on the second floor.

The production studio has numerous deficiencies. It is both too small and too short to serve typical production needs and contains antiquated equipment. Despite these drawbacks, it is overbooked and unable to meet customer demand.

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| 8. | Cost of Project | \$3,000,000 |
| 9. | Source of Funding: | Gifts |
| 10. | Proposed Start Date: | Upon BOR approval of business plan: estimated November 2009 |

Dave Irvin
Associate Vice Chancellor/Associate Vice President
Plant Operations

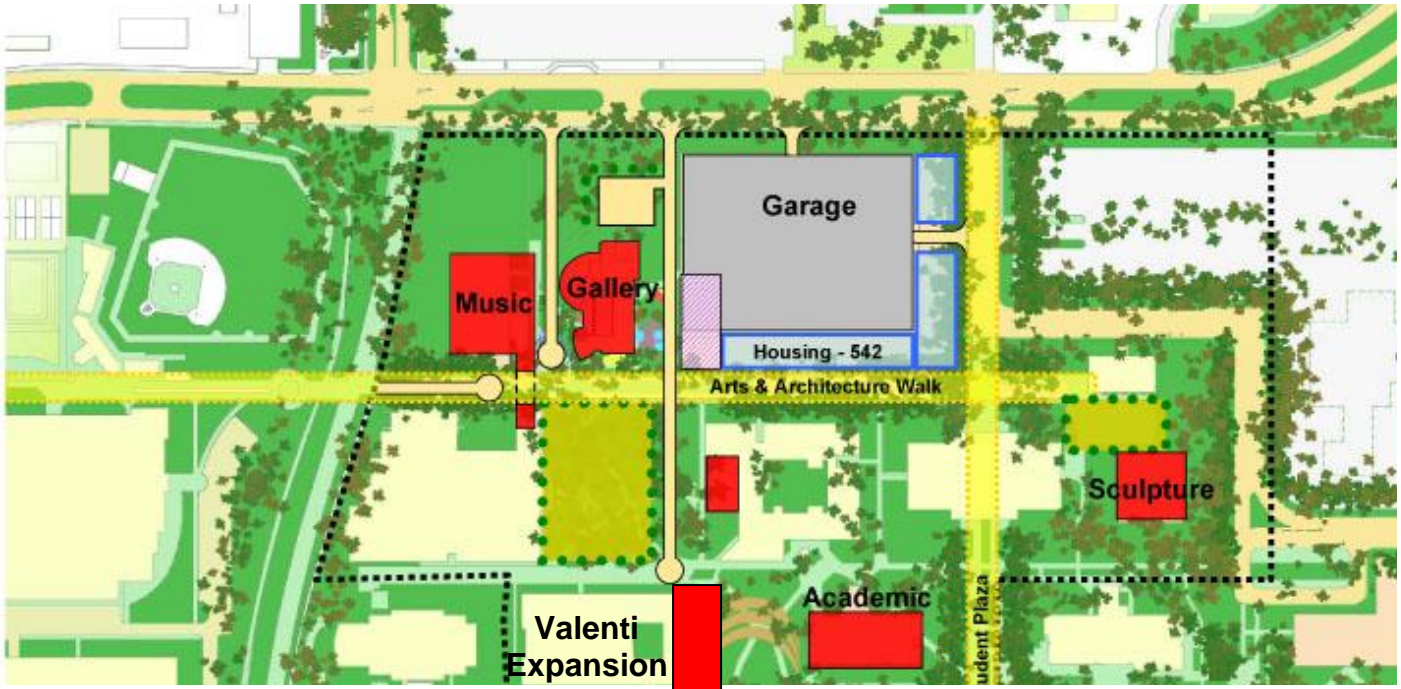
Date:_____

Attachments: Site plan, aerial

Jack J. Valenti School of Communication Space Program

4/2/2009

Room type	Renovation	New Construction	Phase I	Total GSF Future Exist & Renov
Public Space				
Lobby/Entry	725	450	1,175	0
Reconfigured space for circulation	0	194	194	2
Group 1 - Studios				
Large video production studio	0	2,000	2,000	0
Video production studio	1,200	0	1,200	0
Studio storage	1,000	125	125	1,000
Mechanical / electrical	93	In Efficiency Factor	93	82
Studio control rooms	250	250	500	0
Announcer / voice-over booth	50	0	0	50
Group 2 - Audio				
Hi-definition edit suites	150	150	150	150
Post-audio / suite control room	150	0	150	0
30 seat audio classroom	960	0	960	-210
20 seat classroom	410	0	410	0
Audio control room	0	0	0	250
Edit stations	200	0	0	250
Group 3 - Studio Support				
Engineering Room	750	0	0	750
Equipment storage	0	0	0	600
Workstudy Bullpen	0	0	0	300
Group 4 - Administration				
Staff offices - production	300	150	450	0
Admin offices suite, incl: Reception, Breakroom, Conference, Office Storage				TBC
New faculty offices	0	750	0	750
Relocated faculty offices	300	0	0	300
Future growth faculty /staff offices	0	600	0	600
Phase I New Construction NSF			3,169	
Phase I Renovation: Program Space NSF			4,238	
Phase I New Construction GSF			4,875	Includes 65% Efficiency Factor
Phase I Renovation: Program Space GSF			6,520	
			11,395	



Framework Plan Arts Precinct



Site Limits