

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
Campus Facilities Planning Committee
Agenda Item Description Form

1. **ITEM:** SW Addition and Floor Renovation Concepts
2. **REQUESTING DEPARTMENT:** Graduate College of Social Work
3. **CONTACT NAMES & PHONE NUMBERS:** Connie Loyd, x3-3599
4. **PRESENTER:** Connie Loyd
5. **RECOMMENDATION/
ACTION REQUESTED:** Information Only

6. SUMMARY:

The Graduate College of Social Work has been in discussion with a donor who is interested in supporting the work of the College but has postponed making a commitment without having more particulars about what his donation could accomplish.

Based on typical costs of construction on campus and examples provided by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, a maximum number of SF of new construction and of floor renovation has been determined. Brave Architecture, one of our continuing services architects, was hired to provide renderings based on a very preliminary program with the following objectives:

Construct an addition/gateway element for the Graduate College of Social Work that will provide visual interest and a sense of arrival, promote public gathering and social activity/interaction; and create a sense of community and neighborliness. The addition will provide the primary public setting for social interaction and will assist in communicating the college's identity, philosophy, and accomplishments. The style of the addition will draw from the campus' historic palette of limestone and aluminum and feature more recent "green building" elements such as wood cladding and zinc metal finishes.

The current floor plan jumbles general classroom circulation with GCSW students, community visitors, and researchers. The proposed addition and reconfiguration will clarify circulation and, in addition, will create spaces for different groups to mingle, and will streamline hosting of lectures and community meetings.

The first floor reconfiguration will improve classrooms by enabling new instructional technologies, and improve occupant safety by moving more of the vertical circulation to the interior.

- 7. PROPOSED START DATE:** TBD
- 8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:** Renderings