The University of North Carolina at Charlotte does not shy from opportunity. As the critical significance of having a major university as a partner in regional development has become more widely recognized and the demand for access to high quality and affordable public higher education has grown, UNC Charlotte has transformed into a doctorate-granting research institution of considerable size and scope.

We are North Carolina’s urban research university – urban in our focus as an institution and committed in our responsibility to help address the cultural, economic, educational, environmental, health, and social needs of the region. No empty tagline, this title conveys our ongoing commitment to extend our research and creative capacities within the context of our city and region, develop a strong and enduring cultural and artistic presence, and effect positive change in a broad range of communities.

Because these communities are our greatest strength and most strategic partners, we invite you to explore our plan for development, Building North Carolina’s Urban Research University: UNC Charlotte Master Plan 2010.

The 2010 Master Plan addresses UNC Charlotte’s expanding mission, its increasingly diverse people and programs, and its emergence as a keystone institution of strategic importance to ensure a vibrant economic and cultural future for those who call the Charlotte region home. As a process, the Master Plan helps identify problems, needs and aspirations. As a product, it helps link programmatic growth with physical development and resources. We are excited by the prospect it offers to serve our urban region by connecting research to the lives of people and communities.
Campus planning exercises in 1995 and 2000 established principles for the physical planning of the University, emphasizing a traditional “commons” approach to education with internal quadrangles and enabling the growth of a memorable campus core, integral to a thriving research campus. Based on an 18-month planning and design process, the 2010 Master Plan presents a cohesive, people-oriented campus committed to sustainability, efficiency, and social interaction. It also presents a stronger set of building and infrastructure connections to our surrounding neighbors.

We will continue to build up the historic campus core of the University with new facilities and improvements that add much-needed density and academic space and give recognizable character to the heart of campus. New academic residence “villages” support and promote student activities and learning communities to enhance campus life. Thoughtful land use planning preserves and celebrates the range of natural landscapes and forested areas on campus to foster sustainable growth.
As the center of University City, the most diverse and second largest neighborhood in Charlotte, we are committed to designing the connections and campus necessary to support our position as a learning and research hub in the region. Development along North Tryon Street, University City Boulevard, and Mallard Creek Church Road, along with new footpaths and added transit connections, energize the campus perimeter and support a vibrant, connected University City.

We begin with the three principles that guided the planning process: Strengthening Our Collegiate Experience, Creating Memorable Places, and Engaging with Our Larger Community.
The 2010 Master Plan addresses the physical expansion required to accommodate our growing student body, the breadth and depth of our academic programs, and critical research initiatives. This calls for building and maintaining an infrastructure adequate to support a planned student enrollment that could exceed 35,000 within the next ten to twenty years.

What we don’t want to lose as we grow is the strong sense of place largely developed through the previous plans for campus development. Building and strengthening the collegiate quality of the campus is essential to attracting top quality students, faculty members, and staff. This quality is presented through facility design, accessibility, living and cultural experiences, services, and a rich learning environment.

Strengthening Our Collegiate Experience by:

- Addressing campus growth
- Building upon our academic mission
- Reinforcing and expanding on-campus community
- Celebrating our cultural resources
- Improving access, visibility, identity, and welcoming presence
- Expanding athletics and recreation
- Creating a pedestrian-oriented, compact campus
- Integrating transit and parking

"The Master Plan is much more than a wish list. It makes tangible the values and aspirations we hold as a campus community."

Phillip L. Dubois
UNC Charlotte Chancellor
A well-designed, connected campus boosts the spirit and pride of students, faculty and staff, and community – the people who sustain the University and support its expanding role in the region’s culture and economy. The 2010 Master Plan balances the necessity for growth with the University’s obligation to create a walkable, orderly campus that highlights the uniqueness and diversity of our natural landscapes.

Lively public spaces and accessible parks and greenways create memorable places and encourage the community to partake of the University as a cultural and creative asset. Good stewardship is paramount to this end – stewardship of our environmental as well as social and economic resources. While people returning to campus often cite the dramatic growth and change seen at this institution, they also remember the character of personal experiences they had on this campus.

“The twentieth century was about getting around. The twenty-first century will be about staying in a place worth staying in.”

– James Howard Kunstler

Creating Memorable Places

Creating Memorable Places by:

- Viewing the campus and necessary growth comprehensively
- Modeling and practicing sustainable development
- Balancing growth with land capacity
- Building a cohesive campus
- Building identity to cultural destinations, memorable buildings and spaces, and the natural beauty of the land
Through thoughtful design, UNC Charlotte will expand its role as a learning and research destination. While the physical changes in the 2010 Master Plan focus on our campus and the surrounding neighborhood, it aspires to have broader regional implications. Charlotte is the center of a metropolitan area that encompasses 16 counties and more than 100 cities and townships. The 2010 Master Plan seeks to address the University’s current and future roles given the reality of its urban regional context.

Our commitment to the intellectual and professional needs of our region calls for forward-thinking development like the pedestrian and transit-oriented design that comes with light rail and its attendant land use requirements. It also necessitates proposals for more complementary and connected development of land adjacent to the campus. Supporting the increasing range of creative and recreational opportunities on campus will reinforce our central role in the community and act as a catalyst for collaboration. This synergy between campus, its immediate surroundings, and the city presents the opportunity for healthy, active, intellectually engaged citizens to view our campus as a partner.

Engaging with Our Larger Community by:
- Embracing a regional perspective
- Partnering and collaborating with our neighbors
- Strengthening physical connections to University Place
- Supporting and influencing local planning initiatives
- Fostering mixed use development at our edges
- Providing a variety of housing options adjacent to campus
- Developing the potential of new transportation modes
- Integrating greenway construction

“The quality of any experience you have is dependent on the amount of energy you invest. Get involved, gain more.”

Rebecca Norwood, UNC Charlotte Student, Department of Art & Art History
18.

Master Plan Components

The 2010 Master Plan does more than anticipate growth; it facilitates change. Proposed development and improvements follow a strategy that places academic, research, and residential uses in convenient and functional proximity while respecting the existing context and geography of the campus. These campus sectors are identified as Campus Core, Charlotte Research Institute (CRI) Campus, North Campus, Arts & Culture, Athletics & Recreation, and the Student Residential Villages.

The reorganization of campus uses addresses all three of the planning principles which have guided development of the Master Plan. Research and academic programs connect more fluidly to promote greater interaction and collaboration. Student housing is clustered together to form residential villages that promote student interaction and sense of belonging to a collegiate community. The Campus Core gains density and design clarity while the CRI campus proceeds to develop according to a research village model. East and North campus improvements accommodate new facilities for our growing academic space needs and programs and create the connections essential to a dynamic campus.

These campus sectors will connect and energize the dynamic flows of people, information, and resources and provide a sure but flexible foundation for UNC Charlotte’s long term planning needs. Additional considerations included here, such as landscape and our City Center Building, give further context to the University’s development goals.
A connected campus plan starts at the center - the heart of academic and student life at the University. Starting at the Belk Tower, two new buildings will replace the Denny Complex and add 130,000 gross square feet of academic and student service space. Designed to strengthen the public gathering space at this central location and open up views east and west across campus, the buildings will add density to the Campus Core.

State-of-the-art laboratories and classroom space will occupy a new science building just west of the new Student Union. This facility completes a growing science quad along Craver Road, which provides convenient access to the Charlotte Research Institute (CRI) campus and its many learning opportunities.

Essential to a cohesive UNC Charlotte campus is overcoming the perceived barrier between the Campus Core and the CRI campus. The 2010 Master Plan addresses this design problem with an elevated pedestrian boulevard. Drawing on precedents at other universities, the walk will launch from the third floor of the new science building in the Campus Core and land by the new football complex on the eastern edge of the CRI campus. By connecting the academic core to research and educational experiences at CRI, the bridge will link the two sides of campus and generate increased collaboration.
The University’s connection to Uptown Charlotte will take concrete form with the proposed CATS Northeastern Light Rail line, which would bring three stations to University City including one on the main campus and one on currently undeveloped land owned by the University. To highlight and take advantage of this future direct link to center city, UNC Charlotte plans for new facilities and infrastructure in North Campus.

Highlights in North Campus include a Student Health and Wellness Center, additional student residences, and the North Mall. The North Mall, a linear green space connecting the Campus Core to the new academic and residential buildings of North Campus, will provide a convenient and appealing path to the future light rail station for the students, faculty, and visitors.

All improvements in North Campus follow the University’s mission to preserve the natural landscape and create a memorable campus experience while accommodating the needs of a growing research University. Development will take place on previously developed land to protect existing forests on campus, and existing surface parking lots will be consolidated into decks.
Complementing the recent creation and development of the College of Arts + Architecture, the proposed Music Performance Building, a civic-oriented landmark viewable from University Boulevard, will anchor the eastern entrance to campus from John Kirk Road. This new facility will provide UNC Charlotte with additional academic and music rehearsal space as well as a 1,500-seat multi-purpose performance hall to provide major events a comfortable, accessible location.

Also greeting visitors, students, and faculty at the eastern entrance will be the new Garden Welcome Center. The center, in combination with the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens, will serve as a front door amenity of the University and connect nature with music. A new mixed-use area with additional student housing, academic space, and recreational fields will further animate the eastern side of campus.

As with all parts of the Master Plan, connectivity is a priority. An “Arts Walk” will connect the new Music Performance Building to the existing Arts + Architecture quad in the campus core. As an on-campus laboratory for arts student experimentation as well as a place for professional art installations, the Arts Walk will activate the path, connect the campus core with the Botanical Gardens, and diminish the perceived distance between Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts and the new larger performance facility.
The 2010 Master Plan accommodates housing needs on campus by organizing residences into unique living communities around the campus perimeter. With varying levels and types of spaces and services, these “villages” address the diverse needs of our current and future campus residents.

**Mallard Creek Church Road Village**
Mallard Creek Church Road Village represents the University’s commitment to diverse, pedestrian and transit-friendly area along the campus perimeter and CATS Northeastern Light Rail corridor. Intended for graduate students, faculty, staff, alumni as well as the general community, it will be a mixed-use development of 750 apartments adjacent to the proposed Mallard Creek Church Road Light Rail station. Retail space incorporated into the residential village will provide key services to Village residents and light rail commuters alike.

**East & North Villages**
East Village will provide new residence halls for upper classmen and add 960 beds to the University campus at full build-out of the 2010 Master Plan. Designed for the needs of students in the advanced stages of their undergraduate education, East Village residents will be close to the new facilities at the eastern entrance, including the Music Performance Building, Arts Walk and recreational fields.

**South Village**
Located near the Main Entry to campus, South Village serves our incoming first and second year students. A renovation of the existing high-rise towers and the construction of new residential halls at this location will provide as many as 1,150 additional beds and create an active student corridor connected to the Campus Core. Communal space between the towers, a centrally-located dining facility, and consolidated deck parking will foster the residential feel of the area. Outdoor quad-like spaces and recreational fields will provide areas for social gathering and strengthen the sense of community within South Village.
As with our celebrated arts performance roster, athletics add an extra dimension to campus life and reinforce the University’s place in the community. Our athletics programs strengthen the collegiate experience by building pride on and off campus. When students, alumni, and the local community participate in these events, the campus becomes a memorable place for everyone.

UNC Charlotte sponsors several outdoor intercollegiate athletics programs conducted at on-campus facilities: tennis, track and field, baseball, softball, and soccer. Football will be added to the list in 2013, the projected start date of this exciting new campus athletics program.

In preparation for the football program, a new campus stadium, designed for an initial 15,000 seats and with an expansion capacity of 40,000 seats, will supply the necessary facilities for the practice and play of the game as well as concessions, ticket sales, locker rooms, and box seating. An adjacent support building will offer necessary meeting spaces, coach offices, weight and training facilities, academic and medical support, and locker rooms.

**Recreation Fields**
The 2030 Master Plan provides over 28 acres of recreational fields for team-based and general student use. Toward the goal of a connected campus, all recreational fields will link to the Campus Core, student housing, and other integral parts of campus by pedestrian and bike paths as well as on-campus transit.

**Halton-Wagner Tennis Complex**
Providing twelve new courts for the UNC Charlotte 49ers Tennis teams and the campus community, the new Tennis Complex will feature stadium seating, locker rooms, state-of-the-art lighting, playing surfaces, and shade structure facilities.

**Athletics & Recreation**

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Football Stadium

The stadium for our highly anticipated football program connects to the Campus Core via a pedestrian bridge. Positioned along this primary corridor between the main campus and CRI, the stadium becomes a central component of the UNC Charlotte campus experience throughout the year.

The stadium will be located on the current Hayes Recreation Fields and visually centered between Duke and Grigg Halls on the CRI campus.

Proposed Football Stadium (shown here after expansion to a seat capacity of 40,000).
The Charlotte Research Institute (CRI) is the most concentrated display of UNC Charlotte’s commitment to research. With 1.4 million gross square feet of expansion potential, the CRI campus is home to research, engineering, business incubation, and many of our collaborations with local business and industry partners.

CRI’s location on North Tryon Street and adjacent to the proposed CATS Northeastern Light Rail corridor makes it ripe for the vibrant, transit-oriented development that will stimulate private sector growth along this side of campus. Several projects planned for CRI are already underway or completed such as PORTAL, EPIC, and a second Motorsports building; other components will develop over the next ten to fifteen years.

The PORTAL (Partnerships, Outreach, & Research for Accelerated Learning) Building affords the University opportunities to engage our communities here on campus by providing space for University research, business development, entrepreneurial activity, and partnerships. The Ben Craig Center, the University’s business incubator, will be located in the building as well as flexible surge spaces that will be able to accommodate large research projects.

The EPIC (Energy Production & Infrastructure Center) Building will provide classroom, office and laboratory space for research and long-term collaboration with industry partners. The expertise brought to bear through the EPIC will dramatically increase the region’s supply of trained engineers, assure the efficiency and reliability of the next generation of power plants and distribution systems, and reinforce Charlotte’s position as a global leader in energy production. The facility, scheduled for completion in 2012, will be home to the departments of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Electrical & Computer Engineering.

Construction on UNC Charlotte’s second Motorsports Building begins in 2011, providing the additional classroom and lab space necessary to accommodate the growing academic and research programs. Closely tied with local racing teams, the North Carolina Motorsports and Automotive Research Center produces important players in the regional motorsports industry.

Future plans for CRI could accommodate a Hotel and Conference Center with access to the North Tryon Light Rail station and the Center City business community by extension. Set in a partially wooded area with views of the pond on the CRI campus and connections to the regional greenway, the location of the Conference Center creates an ideal environment for company retreats and other business or social gatherings.
UNC Charlotte makes its contribution to the city skyline with the new Center City Building at the corner of 9th and Brevard Streets in First Ward. The Center City Building provides 143,000 square feet of academic and student support space for University graduate programs, including the MBA and the Master of Urban Design. Continuing Education staff and programs and the Design + Society Research Center of the College of Arts + Architecture will be housed in the building along with a public art gallery. Completion is expected in the fall of 2011.

Providing UNC Charlotte with a lasting presence at the cultural and economic core of the region, the Center City Building will be a hub of the city’s intellectual life and close to many of the University’s corporate, governmental, civic, and cultural partners. With a striking design developed by KieranTimberlake of Philadelphia and Gantt Huberman Architects of Charlotte, and construction managed by Rodgers Builders of Charlotte, this exciting addition to the University will be available for public and private events.
UNC Charlotte sits on approximately 1,000 acres of rolling hills in University City. While areas around the campus have been largely developed over the past 40 years, much of the UNC Charlotte campus remains in its original, undeveloped state. As expected, the preservation of these natural landscapes on campus played a primary role in the master planning process as they are integral to building the University’s identity and creating memorable places.

In keeping with UNC Charlotte’s Sustainability Plan and its established best practice strategies and goals for sustainable procedures at the University, the Master Plan targets specific areas on campus for protection and regeneration. Restoring zones of native plantings between built areas and wooded riparian areas creates visual and physical amenities for the campus community that double as outdoor learning classrooms for biology, civil and environmental engineering, and art among others. The Toby Creek Greenway, a Mecklenburg County project in collaboration with UNC Charlotte, provides recreational as well as scenic opportunities on campus for our students and faculty as well as the region by acting as a connector between the county greenway system, UNC Charlotte, and the retail and offices at University Place.

Where appropriate, the 2010 Master Plan maintains forested areas along the campus periphery and creates wooded buffers along streams. High-quality open spaces are integrated throughout campus as well as educational signage and programming that relate to responsible environmental stewardship and opportunities for sustainable life practices.

The 2010 Master Plan goes beyond preservation of the natural landscape to recommend the refinement and integration of formal outdoor quads, recreational fields, water features including sustainable storm water management strategies, and axial alignments throughout campus. Appropriate building practices and features further the University’s mission to promote and maintain a sustainable built environment.

No discussion of the University’s attention to the natural environment would be complete without mention of the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens. Comprised of the McMillan Greenhouse, Van Landingham Glen and Susie Harwood Garden, the Botanical Gardens offer year-round opportunities for the community to explore and appreciate the beauty and wonder of plant species from a range of habitats and epochs while providing a living classroom for our students. A new Garden Welcome Center at the eastern entrance will become the new base of operations for the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens and support its mission to promote the knowledge and appreciation of plants for educational, environmental and aesthetic purposes.
Data

Fall 2010 Total Student Enrollment ........................................ 25,063
2010 Undergraduate Student Enrollment ............................. 19,755
2010 Graduate Student Enrollment ......................................... 5,308
New Freshman ..................................................................... 2,985
States represented ................................................................. 46
Countries represented ....................................................... 89
Inaugural Enrollment in 1946 ........................................... 287 Students
Anticipated Long Term Capacity Enrollment .............. 35,000 - 40,000 Students

172 Degree Programs
  91 Undergraduate Degree Programs
  63 Masters Programs
  19 Doctoral Programs

Number of Teaching Faculty (Fall 2010) .................. 1,369
Student to Faculty Ratio ......................................................... 18 to 1
Average class size ................................................................. 33

University City District
  Population
    University City .............................................................. 137,481
    Charlotte Mecklenburg .............................................. 929,915
  Diversity (Percent Minority)
    University City ............................................................ 53.2%
    Charlotte Mecklenburg ............................................... 46.5%

2nd Largest Employment Center in Charlotte
82,442 Total Civilian Jobs (2010 estimate)
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Principal Contributors: Adam Gross, FAIA; Kevin King, AIA; LEED AP; Dana Perzynski, LEED AP; Rebekah Garley, Kate Rosenberg.

Transportation Planning & Traffic Engineering
Martin A. Lyons
Raleigh, North Carolina.
Principal Contributors: Don Dymond, PE; Greg Saur, PE, PTOE.

Academic Planning
Paul J. Angilotto, Inc.
Denver, Colorado.
Principal Contributors: John Bengston, Lisa Keith.

Real Estate Advisors
RECO
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Principal Contributors: Marc McCusker, Christian Voss, Stephanie Sejka.

Environmental & Sustainability
Planning Solutions, Inc.
Denver, Colorado.
Principal Contributors: Ted Brown, PE, LEED AP; Jennifer Zielinski, PE; Jennifer A. Dowdell, LEED AP, Assoc. ASLA.

Civil Engineers
Stewart
Charlotte, North Carolina.
Principal Contributors: James R. Baysinger II, PE, LEED AP; Jeff D. Oden, PE.

MEP Engineers
United Engineering
Charlotte, North Carolina.
Principal Contributors: Don Pettigrew, PE; Don Steigerwalt, PE; Atul Nerurkar, PE.

Publication Design
Copywriting
Jessica Thomas, Speak Your Design
Charlotte, NC.

Graphic Design
David B. Benedict, Associate Professor of Art
Photography
Joe Czarnecki, Czarnecki Photography
Charlotte, NC.

Wade Branton, Campus Photographer

David Benedict, Associate Professor of Art
UNC Charlotte Student Photographers
Ryan Tyler Martinez
Andrew Lichtenhan
Irvin Williams
Giovanni Gutenrain

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Charlotte, NC.

James Vesce, Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Theatre

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