Program Vision & Mission

The Construction Science Department's Strategic Plan is reviewed on an annual basis. The current review is focused on the time period of 2023 to 2028. With the departure of President Ruth Simmons and the newly appointed President, Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande, taking office on June 1, 2023, the university has directed all colleges/schools, departments and programs to hold on their reviews to allow her time to give directives. Dr. LeGrande has indicated that a main focus of her administration will be on recruiting and retention of students.

The strategic plan under development for the next cycle will be constructed to provide purpose and direction for the department. The goals and objectives set forth in this plan will demonstrate our commitment to excellence in construction education, research, and service.

Vision

The Prairie View A&M University Construction Science Department seeks to maintain its position as the foremost program that provides minority and female graduates to the industry through dedicated teaching, research, and service.

Mission

The Construction Science Department is dedicated to education, discovery, development, and application of knowledge in the field of construction while fulfilling its role to supply qualified graduates to the industry.

A. **Mission Statement**

a. Mission: The School of Architecture combines teaching, research and service to develop in a proactive manner the discipline of creative and innovative problem solving to address the needs of our society.

b. Vision: Graduates of the School of Architecture will participate in the contemporary milieu, encourage, anticipate and respond to changes in the local, national and international communities.

The School of Architecture, with programs in Architecture, Construction Science, Community Development and Digital Graphic Media Arts, is dedicated to accomplishing their mission through graduates for excellence in teaching, research and service by preparing graduates for leadership roles in rebuilding America's cities and improving the quality of the built environment. By offering a diverse curriculum led by an accomplished faculty in a comprehensive studio and classroom environment, the School of Architecture programs educates students for significant roles as practitioners, developers and leaders in architecture, construction, community planning and community development. Students in these programs will be challenged to develop their abilities in problem solving, creative thinking and informed decision making as a focus of their professional education. They will accomplish this in a nurturing and student-centered environment that fosters personal development and professional excellence.

The location of the School of Architecture near the City of Houston offers an opportunity for students to enrich their learning experience through access to the greater architectural and construction community of the region and to employment opportunities in the field.

In the year 2023, the architecture program will be in its 41st year of operation. The School of Architecture strongly supports the mission of the University by offering a National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) [1] accredited, professional degree that qualifies architecture students to apprentice and pursue professional registration by taking the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) [2] examination which leads to licensure as an architect.

The School of Architecture supports the application to and obtaining accreditation for the Construction Science program through the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE). Entering the Fall Semester 2024, the Construction Science program will begin its 22nd year of operation.

The curriculum and support activities of the program have been tailored to meet the needs of the traditional audience of Prairie View A&M University as well as a future, more diverse enrollment population. The program is committed to excellence in

[1] National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB)
[2] National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB)

teaching, involvement in appropriate research activities, and support of community-based service opportunities to prepare professionals dedicated to making the world a better place to live.

c. Instructional Organization: The School of Architecture offers programs leading to the following degrees:

Program	Degree Offered
Architecture	Bachelor of Science in Architecture Master of Architecture (professional degree)
Construction Science	**Bachelor of Science in Construction Science**
Digital Media Arts	Bachelor of Arts in Digital Media
Community Development	Master of Community Development

Bachelor of Science in Construction Science Program

The School of Architecture offers a Bachelor of Science in Construction Science comprising a total of 120 credit hours. This program has three components: Core, Construction Management and Architecture. The curriculum is structured to prepare graduates for professional management and technical positions within the construction industry. Graduates also have the option of obtaining a Masters in Community Development at Prairie View A&M University or a Master of Science in Construction Science at other institutions.

Construction Science as a Second Degree and a Minor

Due to the increased use of the Design-Build Method for project delivery, the School of Architecture offers students majoring in architecture the opportunity to obtain a second baccalaureate degree or a minor in the field of construction science.

B. **Alignment of the Program to the University's Mission**

a. The Construction Science program plays a vital role in the University's mission by providing instruction to produce graduates who are qualified to obtain entry-level in the construction industry throughout the Greater Houston area and across the state of Texas.

b. Beginning in 2006 the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) issued imperatives for all institutions to meet. The University administration issued these with corresponding goals for our institution. These imperatives and goals are summarized in **Table 1** below. Goals noted in bold font are those adopted by the SOA for inclusion in strategic planning process for the Construction Science program.

Table No. 1: Imperatives and Goals

Texas A&M System Imperatives	Corresponding PVAMU Goals
Imperative I. Strengthen the Quality of Academic Programs	**Goal I.A. Conduct external academic program reviews.** **Goal I.B. Achieve specialized accreditation of selected academic programs. (ARCHITECTURE with NAAB; last reviewed in 2018; accredited through 2027) (CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE with ACCE; currently in candidate status)** **Goal I.C. Succeed in achievement of Licensures in applicable academic program areas. (ARCHITECTURE)** Goal I.D. Eliminate non-productive academic programs. Goal I. E. Increase the prominence of faculty scholarship. **Goal I. F. Increase the number of faculty FTE's producing research/scholarly and creative works. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)** Goal I.G. Retain regional accreditation. **Goal I.H. Retain accreditation held in specialized programs. (ARCHITECTURE-graduate level for NAAB)**
Imperative II. Improve the Academic Indicators of the Student Body	Goal II.A. Conduct annual reviews of admission standards/requirements. Goal II.B. Increase/improve the standardized test scores of matriculates. **Goal II.C. Collaborate with Texas' other educational programs to increase the number and success of transfer students. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)** **Goal II.D. Admit and enroll an increasingly higher caliber of student. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)** **Goal II.E. Increase the number of students who adhere to the University's Conduct Standards. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)**
Imperative III. Increase Applied and Basic Research	**Goal III.A. Enhance the research environment and expertise of faculty and staff. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)** **Goal III.B. Align university research goals with federal, state, and industry needs and goals. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)**

	Goal III.C. Enhance pre-award and post-award services to the University research and sponsored program community.
Imperative V. Achieve (and maintain) Financial Stability	Goal V.A. Expand the financial capacity of PVAMU. Goal V.B. **Address potentially critical funding issues involved with the eventual loss of special OCR Priority Plan funding. (CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE; through MOU's with construction firms for scholarships and supplies; through the CIAC for program support)** Goal V.C. Meet or exceed expectations associated with the current Capital Campaign. Goal V.D. Take appropriate steps to "right-size" the annual operating budget of PVAMU. **Goal V.E. Increase the availability of scholarship funds. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE; through MOU's)** **Goal V.F. Increase the size and number of endowments for student scholarships and for academic chairs.** **Goal V.G. Increase funded research. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)** Goal V.H. Stay competitive in tuition and fees/align tuition and fees to be competitive with other general academic institutions in Texas.
Imperative VII. Promote Programs that Contribute to Student Success	Goal VII.A. Engage students in rigorous educational programs and provide an environment conducive to success. **Goal VII.B. Increase/improve the percentage of PVAMUI graduates who are accepted to graduate and/or professional schools. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)** **Goal VII.C. Increase placement rates of all PVAMU graduates. (ARCHITECTURE and CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE)**
Imperative IX. Increase and Enhance the Visibility and Awareness of the University to the Community at Large/all Stakeholders	Goal IX.A. Effectively communicate to all Stakeholders the PVAMU Vision/2020 and revisions to the plan. **Goal IX.B.** Expand its service to the community by promoting Service Learning, Distance Education, Continuing Education, K-16 programs, Small Business and Entrepreneurial Initiatives, Cooperative Extension, and Health Care by engaging its people and resources in a renewed commitment to outreach. Goal IX.C. Improve the climate for diversity.

c. To support the University's commitment to higher education, objectives of the Architecture and Construction Science programs are as follows:
   - **Teaching:** Prairie View A&M University was designated by the Texas constitution as

one of the three "institutions of the first class" in 1984. The Construction Science program, established by the State of Texas legislature and the Office of Civil Rights in 2002, is committed to educating and preparing undergraduates to enter graduate programs and/or the industry in order to be contributing members of the profession.

- **Research:** The Construction Science program will participate in faculty research through the "ARCHITECTURE+CONSTRUCTION ALLIANCE" that has been formed by seventeen (17) universities that have both architecture and construction programs housed in one academic unit. The Construction Science faculty will also participate in research projects with other PVAMU faculty and with those of the Texas A&M University Construction Science program.
- **Service:** Owing to the needs of our society for adequate housing, especially in light of the damage caused by Hurricane Ike, the program is committed to volunteer services to efforts such as Habitat for Humanity in the Texas Gulf Coast Region. Involvement of our students in the C.U.R.E.S. and the Texas Institute for the Preservation of History and Culture Centers in the School provide valuable opportunities for community service and service learning.

The Construction Science program will align its unit mission to the University's core values in the following manner.

- **Access and Quality:** The program will promote educational opportunities for the 'un-served' and underserved populations in construction and building so that we increase the numbers of minorities and females entering the workforce and/or pursuing a graduate or professional degree.
- **Diversity:** The program will endeavor to convince potential students that a career in the construction industry is possible and desirable. Students will be exposed to opportunities to enter and succeed in the profession through programs aligned with the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE). Students will also be introduced to and encouraged to join student chapters of industry organizations such as the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), the Association of General Contractor (AGC), the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the Associate Builders and Contractors (ABC).
- **Leadership:** The program will concentrate on improving the course offerings so that our students will be inspired to pursue their individual aspirations and become leaders in the construction profession. We will expand our offering by combing our on-campus classes with distance education programs available through the PVAMU Center for Teaching Excellence to enhance the opportunities to join the program and obtain a degree.
- **Relevance:** The Construction Science Program will respond to the need for highly qualified personnel in the workforce by emphasizing to graduates who are competent in the technical and management aspects of the profession.
- **Social Responsibility:** The program will promote active participation in constructive social change through volunteerism, leadership, and civic action on the part of its faculty and students. Their efforts will be focused at the local, regional and state levels to work on public policy relating to the construction profession and to encourage involvement in projects that benefit the communities in which they live and serve.

C. **Outcomes**

a. Core Curriculum Outcomes: Not Applicable.

b. Unit/Program Outcomes: The newly appointed President, Dr. Tomikia P. LeGrande, will be taking office on June 1, 2023. Until she arrives, the university has directed all colleges/schools, departments and programs to hold on their reviews of Program Outcomes to allow her time to give directives. The listing below was under review by the School of Architecture to address the next cycle of 2023-2028. A resumption date is projected for August 2023.

i. Program Outcome #1: Increase the number of students enrolled in the Construction Science program.

1. **Assessment Measure:** The program will commencing conducting an entrance survey of all entering freshman and transfer students at start of both the Fall Semester and Spring Semester. A series of closed- and open-ended survey questions will query students on their decision to select this major at Prairie View A&M University.
2. **Assessment Criteria**: At least seventy percent (70%) of the entering students will participate in the survey.

ii. Program Outcome #2: Increase the number of students who are enrolled in the dual-degree program (Architecture and Construction Science) to meet the demands of design/build trends in the development and delivery of projects.

1. **Assessment Measure:** The same survey used to track Program Outcome #1 will be used along with annual degree audits to track the percent of architecture and engineering (civil and mechanical) seniors who enter the dual degree program. A secondary goal of this measure is to determine which career path the students select for their professional career.
2. **Assessment Criteria**: A goal of achieving at least 20% of all architecture majors enrolling in the dual degree program. [Note: Current enrollment data indicates that approximately 40% of architecture majors are pursuing a 2nd degree in Construction Science. For the Spring Semester 2023 4 of the 21 ARCH majors are to receive their 2nd degree in CONS, a 19% ratio.]

iii. Program Outcome #3: Increase the visibility of our program in the greater metropolitan areas in Texas (1st concentration: Houston; 2nd concentration: Dallas/Ft. Worth; 3rd concentration: San Antonio).

1. **Assessment Measure**: The same entry survey used to track Program Outcomes #1 and #2 will be used to track the percent of incoming students who are admitted to the program from these major metropolitan areas. We will also seek to gain information on those graduating seniors of this program who gain employment in professional, career-related work in these locations.
2. **Assessment Criteria**: Target enrollment each year will be: 1st concentration: Houston: 50% of all freshman and transfer students; 2nd concentration: Dallas/Ft. Worth: 20%; 3rd concentration: San Antonio: 30%.