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# The Pennsylvania State University

# GPI



Land Planning & Development

**Client/Owner:** The Pennsylvania State University

**Project Location:** University Park, Pennsylvania

GPI was commissioned by Penn State to provide site planning services for a new campus for the College of Engineering. Nine new engineering research and academic buildings totaling 850,000 sq ft of space were identified in the plan. Over and above these primary buildings, the \$8-million plan included a new 40,000-sq-ft chiller plant, parking structures for 1,800 cars, a building and grounds facility, and a new roadway network. The site studied for the new West Campus comprised 45 acres of land west of Atherton Street on the southern portion of the White Golf Course.

The purposes for the planning service were to identify the program for the site, define the key planning principles for the site, and provide a site development plan that would guide the orderly development of the West Campus through the year 2010 and beyond.

The challenge to the planning team was to provide a master plan that could be constructed in small increments over time, and withstand changes to the building sizes without losing the strength of the conceptual idea.

The planning service was organized as an interactive process, whereby we worked very closely with a Penn State Core Committee as the decision making group. The planning process centered around workshop sessions, which included representatives from local governments and commissions. The process moved through data collection, site analysis, planning options, and resulted in a final report that clearly defined planned phases of development and construction budgets.