The University of Illinois System is among the preeminent public university systems in the nation and strives constantly to sustain and enhance its quality in teaching, research, public service, healthcare, and economic development.
The University Office of Capital Programs (Capital Programs), in collaboration with the three universities and other system colleagues, supports the University of Illinois’ mission by facilitating and overseeing the development of and adherence to policies, procedures, and systems pertaining to the built environment of the university.
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As we emerge from two of the more challenging years in recent memory, I continue to be impressed by our team's dedication to facilitating capital delivery for the University of Illinois System. Whether it be leading the transition to implement a brand new contract creation software, overseeing design reviews, or managing an ever-changing construction landscape, the professionals in Capital Programs are trustworthy and competent and I am proud to be part of it.

This year's highlights include the continued project management of the new Discovery Partners Institute Facility in downtown Chicago which is advancing through design, assisting the universities in contract processing and reviews, and kick-starting the process of selecting and implementing a new Capital Project Management system.

Given all that we accomplished, despite soaring market prices and an ongoing pandemic, I cannot wait to see what Fiscal Year 2023 has in store for us.

Michael A. Wilson, II
AVP, Capital Programs and Utility Services
Capital Programs serves as a conduit between university operated capital construction units and the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Capital Development Board.

The office was created to help craft policy and advise on regulatory matters. In addition to policy, our office serves as Professional Services Consultant (PSC) Selection Committee members, coordinates system-wide capital planning initiatives and master planning efforts, and ensures adherence to policy on Board of Trustee capital items.
MISSION & GUIDING STANDARDS

Experience

We are a small unit, comprised of professionals with backgrounds in engineering, architecture, business and finance. Combined, we have more than 50 years of experience at the university. This level of institutional knowledge, combined with previous professional experiences, allows our team to be trusted resources for our customers – the University of Illinois capital construction units.

Service

Capital Programs ensures that the capital delivery process throughout the University of Illinois System adheres to university and State of Illinois policy. Capital Programs works closely with other system offices, university construction units, the State of Illinois Capital Development Board and other state agencies.

Continuous Improvement

We work closely with university construction units to identify opportunities for improvement in both policy and practice. Twice annually, Capital Programs solicits customer feedback regarding project and financial management software. We then use that feedback to implement change and improve systems. In addition, Capital Programs actively advocates for procurement and capital delivery reform to save our universities time and money without compromising quality.
**Contracts+ Implementation**  
Creating new capital contracts

The University of Illinois System went live with a new contract creation and routing software, Contracts+, in FY22. Our office led the charge to include capital contract templates in the new system and oversaw all change management components to ensure a smooth transition.

**State-Funded Capital Projects**  
Working with state agencies

Capital Programs continues to work closely with the State of Illinois Capital Development Board and the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget to advocate for the release of appropriated capital funds. More than $200 million in state funds have been released for projects currently in design and construction.

**Seeking New Software Solution**  
RFQ issued, finalizing selection

In Winter 2021-22, Capital Programs issued a Request for Qualifications for a new capital project management software solution. Respondents included industry leaders and we are excited to move forward with replacing our aging systems in FY23.

**Retainer Approval Thresholds**  
Expediting small capital delivery

Retainers are an oft-used solution for utilizing prequalified and preapproved professional service consultants. In FY22, our office recommended an increase to retainer thresholds to $2 million per year, allowing our universities to quickly engage with architects and engineers on smaller capital projects.

**Diverse Utilization Goals Increased**  
A push for more utilization

Capital Programs has long been a leader in diverse vendor utilization and this year was no exception. Effective August 1, 2021, our office incorporated new language in all capital contracts requiring diverse vendor utilization of at least 30 percent, with an additional 3 percent of each contract being required to go to a veteran-owned business entity.

**Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) Progress**  
Design firm selected, design begins

JJacobs + OMA was selected as lead architect for the new $250 million Discovery Partners Institute facility in Chicago’s newest downtown development – the 78. Our office oversees management of this project on behalf of DPI and the university. Initial design is expected to be complete in the summer of 2022.
$866 M
Projects in Planning and Design
There are more than $870 million of capital projects in planning, architect selection and design phases. Of these, $220 million relates to state-funded projects awaiting fund releases.

$631 M
Projects in Construction
There is more than $631 million in projects in active construction in FY22.

$224 M
FY22 Capital Spend
Capital expenditures totalled approximately $224 million in FY22. This represents a 16% decline over FY21 and is considered a lagging indicator of the pandemic. Spend is expected to increase in FY23.
DIVERSE BUSINESS UTILIZATION

Diverse vendor utilization continues to be a leading priority for Capital Programs. In FY22, diverse utilization minimums increased to 30% for all contracts, with an additional 3% of contract values required to be directed to veteran-owned businesses.
CURRENT CAPITAL PROJECTS

Library Commons (UIS)

- New Building
- Status: Design Approved by Board of Trustees, Construction to Begin 2023
- Budget: $35,000,000
- Funding Source: State Funds

Undergrad Library Renovations (UIUC)

- Renovation
- Status: Design Approved by Board of Trustees, Construction to Begin 2023
- Budget: $50,198,160
- Funding Source: Institutional Fund

Computer Design Research and Learning Center (UIC)

- New Building
- Status: In Construction
- Budget: $117,800,000
- Funding Source: State and Institutional Funds
CURRENT CAPITAL PROJECTS

Ubben Basketball Complex (UIUC)
- Renovation and Addition
- Status: In Construction
- Budget: $39,800,000
- Funding Source: Donor Funds

Innovation Center Expansion (UIC)
- Addition
- Status: In Design
- Budget: $10,000,000
- Funding Source: State and Institutional Funds

Discovery Partners Institute (System Office)
- New Building
- Status: In Design
- Budget: $250,000,000
- Funding Source: State and Institutional Funds
Contact Us

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