Perimeter Colleges

Clarkston campus
Due Diligence and Discovery

COOPER ROBERTSON
Perimeter Colleges

In 2016, Georgia State University consolidated itself with the five Perimeter Colleges serving the communities of Alpharetta, Clarkston, Decatur, Dunwoody and Newton, making Georgia State the largest university in the University System of Georgia with an overall student population of 52,000.

Georgia State’s strategic plan for the Perimeter Colleges is for them to be feeder schools to the downtown campus, a place of transition from high-school to bonafide university life and a four-year degree. The Perimeter Colleges’ focus will be a high degree of individual attention and support to better prepare its students for the rigors of a university education.

Georgia State’s strategic plan does not include growth for the Perimeter Colleges – one, in general, their student populations are below capacity currently; two, growth would incur the ire of the communities in which they are located in that a perception already exists that the Perimeter Colleges contribute to traffic congestion at peak periods of the day; and, three, growth would eventually reach a tipping point where redundancies in facilities and services would be required.

Should growth ever be desirable, each of the campuses have ample capacity for new buildings, facilities and recreational areas. In the interim, the Perimeter College should be “branded” to the greatest degree possible as “Georgia State” by adopting the same palette of materials, hardscape, landscape, lighting, wayfinding and street furniture as the downtown campus.
### Dunwoody

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Population</td>
<td>6,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing Buildings</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing GSF</td>
<td>340,722</td>
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<td>Potential Buildings</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Potential GSF</td>
<td>179,960</td>
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### Decatur

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Population</td>
<td>2,671</td>
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<tr>
<td>Existing Buildings</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing GSF</td>
<td>264,556</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potential Buildings</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potential GSF</td>
<td>192,549</td>
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</table>
### Alpharetta
- **Student Population**: 2,202
- **Existing Buildings**: 2
- **Existing GSF**: 99,114
- **Potential Buildings**: 1
- **Potential GSF**: 38,580

### Newtown
- **Student Population**: 1,781
- **Existing Buildings**: 3
- **Existing GSF**: 164,966
- **Potential Buildings**: 2
- **Potential GSF**: 64,582

### Clarkston
- **Student Population**: 5,155
- **Existing Buildings**: 15
- **Existing GSF**: 770,527
- **Potential Buildings**: 6
- **Potential GSF**: 212,253
SUMMARY OF KEY RECOGNITIONS

GSU Downtown lacks a strong sense of continuity & identity;

GSU Downtown suffers from a public safety perception problem;

GSU Downtown is largely commercial office space appropriated for academic uses.
SUMMARY OF ISSUES

How does GSU Downtown transform itself to become a 21st Century Campus and Research Institution?

What is the connective tissue that links the emerging districts and GSU Downtown's component parts?

How does GSU Downtown differentiate itself from other urban universities?