

## Design Philosophy

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### Design Process:

It is a time-honored tradition at Purdue that the University facilities are of high quality construction and that they are both durable and adaptable. All facilities should be designed for visual compatibility and context with the rest of campus.

Before beginning the design, you should review the Program and Handbook, and make a thorough study of site conditions and the requirements of the project. If you are of the opinion that a deviation from the Program or Handbook would be of benefit to the University you should bring the matter to the attention of the PM for a decision.

In the early design stages, various solutions of the design problem should be explored. We expect you to use due diligence, ingenuity and professional expertise to develop the best possible design for all elements of the project within the constraints imposed. While we do not wish to discourage innovation, the use of untried concepts and materials for which no "track record" exists is unacceptable.

### Design Materials:

Design materials should be carefully explored with long-term goals (projected life of facility, equipment, and systems) in mind. The Handbook refers to many products by name. For the most part these are listed to establish quality. We still expect you to discuss with us the materials you will be using as basis of design as it is likely we have some experience (either positive or negative) with the material.

### Unique Aspects of University Work:

1. We anticipate University buildings to have a structural "100-year" lifetime of usability. The major mechanical equipment and systems are similarly expected to have a 50-year lifetime, while the building interior surface finishes need to be designed with a 30-year lifetime.
2. The University cannot limit bidding to a selected list of Contractors, therefore, drawings and specification requirements must be clear, concise, and thoroughly detailed and coordinated. Though there are some areas of expertise that are traditionally performed by a contractor or supplier, we expect you to perform the professional services that would be considered common practice for each professional discipline.
3. Existing conditions must be adequately shown on the drawings and described in the specifications. Where existing conditions cannot be readily determined, such as the thickness of pavement or existence of hidden items, then the conditions will need to be estimated to establish a basis for bidding. When the cost to demolish or alter hidden features is potentially significant, the A&E can request the PM to authorize pre-design investigation or testing to quantify these costs.
4. For the most part, specifications should be "nonproprietary" and allow full and open competition in the expenditure of public funds. Exceptions to this do exist. Specific brand or style requirements will be noted in the Program, Handbook, or communicated by the PM.
5. Electronic and technical systems in University buildings require a higher order of reliability than private industry systems.