UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-VICTORIA

Programs for the Proposed Academic and Economic Development Building

Overview of the Building

The planned UH-Victoria Academic and Economic Development Building will be a three-story, multi-use facility of approximately 63,000 sq. ft. The location, as shown on the current master plan, is northeast of the Center Building (see attached site plan). The facility will house classrooms, student and academic support services, allied health programs, the School of Business Administration, and the Regional Center for Economic Development. Funding for the new building will be through a combination of tuition revenue bonds (already approved by the Texas Legislature), HEAF, and a federal grant from the Small Business Administration.

Academic Programs and Facilities

According to enrollment projections in the campus master plan, by 2014 UH-Victoria will not have sufficient academic space to meet the needs of students. The Academic and Economic Development Building will help bridge this gap:

- **Classrooms**
  Additional classrooms in the new building will accommodate the increased number of freshmen and sophomores taking face-to-face classes due to the success of downward expansion, which began in fall 2010. To meet immediate needs, UHV has been required to take existing classrooms offline to provide additional academic support space for computers, additional faculty, student tutoring, and supplemental instruction – all academic services required for student success at the freshman and sophomore levels. With the new building, the Coordinating Board's space utilization efficiency (SUE) score will be within the acceptable standard by fall 2014.

- **Allied Health Programs**
  Allied health facilities in the new building will allow for the expansion of nursing and biology at both the bachelor's and master's levels. Plans for additional health and science programs that respond to public needs will be also developed. This expansion in allied health will increase research capabilities while further meeting the educational and workforce needs of the region.

- **School of Business Administration**
  In addition to classrooms and allied health programs, UHV will relocate its School of Business Administration to the new building. Doing so will not only provide much needed space for this high demand program, it will facilitate valuable collaborations with participants in the Regional Center for Economic Development (described below).

Regional Center for Economic Development

In addition to providing much needed facilities for academic activities on campus, the new building will serve as a center for regional economic development programs, which, in partnership with UHV's
academic programs (particularly the School of Business Administration), will address the educational and workforce needs of the region. Located in the new building will be the Regional Center for Economic Development, a consortium of economic development entities and UHV programs whose focus will be job creation and retention. Some of these entities will be housed in the new building, along with UHV's Small Business Development Center, Regional Outreach Center, School of Business Administration, and Marketing Department. Locating consortium members in a common facility will create valuable synergies. For example, through the career-preparation services of the School of Business Administration, the Regional Center for Economic Development will establish business internships for bachelor's and master's students with local and regional employers. Applied learning opportunities such as this will extend UHV's outreach into the community and provide academic support for businesses and entrepreneurs.

Other Shared Resources

In addition to space dedicated to classrooms, academic programs, and the economic development center, the new building will contain many shared resources, including a 400-seat multipurpose room, a 200-seat auditorium, conference rooms, training rooms, a business library, a computer lab, and office space. Also, UHV will be able to address any unexpected overflow of student demand for classroom space through the shared use of training rooms. Finally, some space will be shelled to help meet future needs.