



University of Virginia

DARDEN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS PROJECTS (PLANNING/DESIGN)

Executive Summary

In September 2022, the Board of Visitors approved the master plan for the development of the Darden School of Business, developed by Darden in collaboration with Robert A. M. Stern Architects. The plan is based on the following elements and principles:

- Enhancing the academic experience including a centrally located academic innovation “hub” and technology spaces to deliver the Batten Institute’s mission to advance collaboration, connectivity, programs, and student success; and improvements to the north and south faculty buildings to support Darden’s strategic aspirations.
- Enhancing the grounds through quads, landscaping, pedestrian bridges, and open green spaces that expand outdoor learning options; improving North Grounds and Ivy Gardens connectivity; and enhancing safety and accessibility for students.
- Developing an innovative, proximate, high-quality residential housing option to fully deliver Darden’s world-class MBA experience.
- Enabling office, meeting, and research support spaces aligned with recent and planned growth in faculty, non-residential students, alumni, and executive education participants in Charlottesville.
- Improving connectivity of North Grounds to Central Grounds.
- Maintaining UVA-consistent architecture and an overall responsible financial business model.

Project Background

In support of the 2022 master plan, the Darden School of Business proposes three new capital projects:

1. **Darden Faculty Office Building Renovation** - renovate and modernize existing facility (14K GSF renovation and 6K GSF new construction) to include a new central atrium, 20 new faculty offices, innovative collaborative spaces (faculty lounge and library), dynamic meeting rooms, new seminar room, more natural lighting, and connection with the exterior gardens and amenities.
2. **Darden Faculty Research Building Renovation** – renovate and modernize existing facility (14K GSF renovation and 6.5K GSF new construction) to provide improved entryway and building flow; additional collaboration spaces; and new or renovated spaces for the library reference desk, the Office of Research Services, the Data Research Lab, Centers for Excellence, and the Dean’s Suite.
3. **Darden Global Innovation Nexus** – create a new central hub to connect Saunders Hall, Abbott Center, and the Darden Classroom Building through the renovation of 58K GSF and new construction of 15K GSF; provide spaces for a new Commons, Student Success Center, Office of Transformational Learning, café, and renovated dining facility; and enhance ADA accessibility through connections across the top floors of the facilities.

Financial Information

Estimated planning/design costs:

- \$1.5M for the Darden Faculty Office Building Renovation
- \$1.5M for the Darden Faculty Research Building Renovation
- \$5.0M for the Darden Global Innovation Nexus

Fund Source: Gifts