

# The AI-Enabled Sustainable Smart Campus

A work in Progress as of January 2025

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## ABSTRACT

The concept of a 'smart campus' is becoming increasingly important at universities around the world. This trend is driven by the dynamic use of campus spaces and the growing pressure on resources, including energy, finances, and human resources. The university community is more mobile than ever, student enrollment numbers are unpredictable, and funding is uncertain. As a result, campus strategies are now focusing on resource efficiency and shared spaces, necessitating investments in management information systems to enhance decision-making. This document serves as a primer for executive leadership, providing insights into sustainable smart campus planning and execution, and encourages the use of its various parts and concepts to craft strategies for prompting and building sustainable smart campus. Five key domains for the sustainable smart campus form the foundational basis of the document: energy optimization, smart campus experiences, AI integration, infrastructure and security, and privacy and data management. These domains emphasize the importance of leveraging advanced technologies like digital twins, fostering collaboration among various stakeholders, and addressing challenges such as financial pressures and rapid technological advancements to create a sustainable and efficient campus environment. Finally, a call to action is identified for higher education leaders to take bold steps leading change towards a sustainable future and setting a powerful example for the world to follow.

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## Forward

When I interviewed for the CIO job at NAU in 2016, the main focus for the CIO was how to centralize IT services at a large regional university. When asked the inevitable question about the future technologies impacting higher education, had I responded, “Within the next year you will have robots delivering coffee to your office,” I would have heard in reply, “Thank you, next candidate please.” Turns out, 12 months later delivery robots were a thing. Moreover, we had begun to re-envision a comprehensive role for IT at NAU and we set out with a rough idea of how to create a smart campus.

We had some piece-meal successes throughout those early years with the implementation of technologies that would positively influence student recruitment and retention. ITS was also supporting sponsored research around smart campuses and deployed IoT sensors to collect some data about our campus environment. We also deployed occupancy sensors in classrooms as part of our smart classroom initiative. While we were dabbling with student-facing point-solutions we struggled to collect smart campus data in actionable ways.

Early collaborations between the CIO and the Chief Facilities Officer elicited improved cooperation about the planning of infrastructure to support construction projects. We shared a reading of “Advanced Technology for Smart Buildings” (Sinopoli, 2016) and began formulating plans and funding commitments to co-developing operational technologies to increase the effectiveness and efficiencies of managing NAU’s physical campuses. The projects we identified included enhancements and expansion to the infrastructure around surveillance and physical access controls, among others.

We were also endeavoring to create digital credentials and smart features on Google and Apple smartphones as a matter of creating meaningful experiences to help simplify and enhance student’s campus experiences.

We provided staff subject matter experts to participate as advisors in NAU’s sustainability program, and on building planning and facilities projects. Our engagement made an impression. We had instilled significant trust and confidence with the university community through our outward facing engagement and by offering outstanding IT services. This credibility allowed the CIO to influence the university executive team to create a 10-year master plan titled, *The Sustainable Smart Campus Master Plan*.

As we transitioned from planning to implementation, we recognized the complexity and broad scope of our intentions. In our early efforts we struggled to integrate proprietary systems and data into actionable sustainability systems. Some efforts to improve campus experiences were successful but remained unintegrated and lacked the cohesion of true strategy. Moreover, while there was a lot of discussion about Smart Campuses, few institutions were comprehensively implementing capabilities after which we could model.

We turned to smart-city and industry experts to leverage knowledge of applied and emerging technologies such as digital twins. Given the dearth of practicable knowledge specific to college campuses, we recognized the need to reach beyond our institution and partners to create a community of thinkers and contributors to the larger issue of creating sustainable smart campuses. We needed the wisdom of this community to help us understand and address the challenges and opportunities around achieving goals around carbon neutrality, energy conservation, creating rich campus experiences, and effective management of our built world.

So, in the summer of 2024, Northern Arizona University invited colleagues from around the world to participate in a summer camp to investigate the issues and opportunities around creating the sustainable smart campus. NAU had just completed two years of work to create a new campus master

plan that serves to guide our planning and investment in modernizing the university campuses. That plan is foundationally set around creating a sustainable smart campus.

Throughout this document, we call out some of the key conversations, ideas, and issues discussed in our summer camp. You will see these session notes and key ideas identified with our Base Camp logo.



This document is a “manifesto” of sorts and is inspired by the participants in our summer camp and the collegial exchange of ideas and perspectives. It is intended to provide insights into sustainable smart campuses planning and execution. The document is written for higher education leaders, stakeholders, and in particular Chief Information Officers (CIO), Chief Sustainability Officers (CSO), and Chief Facilities Officers (CFO) as a primer to discussion, collaboration, planning, and action. Moreover, it is for the IT/OT industry and academia to forge shared understanding and build closer relationships as the future of frontline workers shifts from an offline - analogue world to an AI enabled online digital world.

The content can serve as a primer for executive leadership to consider important aspects of sustainable smart campuses. It is based upon the current research, emerging technologies, and experiences of those pioneers who are conscious and intentional in finding new efficiencies and effective ways of applying digital capabilities to create the data, information, and capabilities for creating highly engaging, efficient, and effective campuses for our faculty, staff, students, visitors, and stakeholders.

The document is intended to be far-reaching and comprehensive to capture the nature of sustainable smart campus. Admittedly, the sheer scope of the topic can be overwhelming to consider. So, to the reader suggest using the manifesto’s various parts and concepts to craft your own version, highlighting the components and areas that are most meaningful to your efforts to promote the value of a sustainable smart campus at your institution.

This document represents the sum of my knowledge on the topic. Truly, the more I learn, the less I know. But I hope you find aspects of this work useful in your own sustainable smart campus journey and I look forward to learning about the great successes achieved among institutions throughout the world.

**S**

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# 1 Introduction

## The Pressures on Higher Education Institutions

Higher education institutions are currently facing a multitude of challenges. Financial pressures are a significant force, with many institutions struggling to maintain sustainability amidst rising operational costs and declining enrollment rates. Political interference has also become a major issue, as legislative actions in various states aim to reshape educational policies, often restricting academic freedom and undermining the autonomy of these institutions. Additionally, the rapid pace of technological advancements demands continuous adaptation, which can be resource-intensive and disruptive. These forces, combined with the ongoing need to address issues of access and equity, create a complex and often turbulent environment for higher education institutions (HEIs).

Creating sustainable smart campuses is increasingly a strategic issue for HEIs as they seek addressing these pressures. Improving the student experiences that support student retention and attainment of education goals are among the underlying drivers for adopting many technology initiatives on our campuses. Each division of an HEI contributes to the overall institutional outcomes. In many cases, these silos of excellence operate independently or perhaps even from college to college in large institutions. The process of planning and implementing sustainable smart campuses fosters increased collaboration between these silos, and extends to business partners, adjacent communities, and can inspire innovative research and development projects that benefit society as a whole.

Plans that drive integrate across HEI organizations can optimize resource utilization, reduce operational costs, and enhance the overall efficiency of campus operations This not only helps in managing financial pressures but also supports environmental sustainability through intelligent energy management and reduced carbon footprints. Moreover, smart campuses foster a more engaging and accessible learning environment, which can improve student retention and satisfaction. By leveraging these technologies, institutions can better navigate the uncertainty of political and economic challenges, ensuring they remain resilient and adaptable in an ever-changing landscape.

## Why build a Sustainable Smart Campus?

Building a sustainable smart campus is a transformative decision for higher education institutions. In this writing, we will explore two major facets: Creating outstanding campus experiences and deriving increased efficiencies in managing campus facilities. We feel like these perspectives on sustainable smart campus are two sides of the same coin. A smart campus initiative leverages innovative smart technology to create better educational experiences and outcomes for students, staff, and faculty. This includes improving the student experience, increasing student engagement and retention, boosting operational efficiency, and automating campus operations.

While measuring increased efficiencies is fairly straight forward, measuring the qualitative impacts on people can be more difficult as everyone has unique experiences and perspectives. One of my former colleagues who oversaw Facilities operations used to say, “How would you like the temperature in your office – too hot or too cold?”

Here are some key reasons why you might want to consider developing a smart campus:

### Enhanced Operational Efficiency

Smart campuses leverage advanced technologies like IoT, AI, and data analytics to streamline

operations. This can lead to more efficient energy management, optimized space utilization, and improved maintenance processes, ultimately reducing operational costs.

### **Improved Student and Faculty Experience**

By integrating smart technologies, campuses can offer a more personalized and engaging experience for students. This includes smart classrooms, digital signage, and mobile applications that provide real-time information and services, making campus life more convenient and enjoyable.

### **Data-Driven Decision Making**

Smart campuses collect and analyze data from various sources, enabling institutions to make informed decisions. This data-driven approach helps in identifying trends, predicting future needs, and implementing strategies that enhance the overall campus environment.

### **Sustainability and Environmental Responsibility**

Implementing smart technologies can significantly reduce the campus's carbon footprint. Smart energy management systems, efficient waste management, and eco-friendly practices contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally responsible campus.

### **Economic and Operational Efficiency**

Smart campuses can achieve significant cost savings through energy efficiency, resource management, and optimized operations. Modern tools like digital twins in combination with artificial intelligence can transform how work is performed, creating more efficient use of talent and front-line workers. These savings can accumulate over time, stave off budget cuts, and can be reinvested into other revenue-generating areas of the institution.

### **Educational Leadership and Innovation**

By adopting smart campus initiatives, institutions can position themselves as leaders in technological innovation and educational excellence. This can attract top talent, foster a culture of innovation, and set a benchmark for other institutions to follow. The smart campus provides a living-learning laboratory upon which researchers and scientist can use quality data to assess and evaluate SSC outcomes. Curriculums can take advantage of these capabilities sin the education of students and for ready placement in jobs.

### *Enhanced Campus Experiences*

The experiences of our faculty, staff, students, and visitors reflect the extent to which they engage a vibrant campus community that fosters safe, accessible, and comfortable living, learning, and working. Students today have high expectations for modern "smart" experiences on university campuses. These digital natives are raised in the era of ubiquitous Wi-Fi, Google Home, Amazon, and using smart phones for nearly everything.

**Personalized Learning:** Personalized learning is a transformative approach that leverages advanced technologies to tailor educational experiences to individual student needs. Students today expect technology to provide personalized education experiences, and AI-driven learning tools are at the forefront of this shift. These tools can adapt to individual learning styles and needs by analyzing data on student performance, preferences, and behaviors. For instance, AI can identify areas where a student may be struggling and provide targeted resources or alternative explanations to help them understand the material better. Additionally, personalized learning platforms can offer customized study plans, recommend relevant courses, and even suggest extracurricular activities that align with a student's interests and career goals. This level of personalization not only enhances the learning experience but also improves student engagement and outcomes by ensuring that each student receives the support and resources they need to succeed. By integrating AI-driven learning tools, smart campuses can create a more responsive and inclusive educational environment that caters to the diverse needs of their student population.

**Effective Communication:** One of the hardest tasks from our perspectives is creating effective communication with students and the university community. HEIs that leverage modern technologies to create omni-channel communication capabilities helps ensure that students are always informed and connected. This connectedness is essential for their academic success and overall well-being. Mobile apps and digital platforms play a crucial role in this by providing real-time updates on class schedules, campus events, and security alerts. These tools allow students to access important information and critical task workflows at their fingertips, making it easier for them to manage their time and stay engaged with campus activities. Additionally, seamless communication fosters a sense of community and belonging, as students can easily connect with their peers, faculty, and campus resources.

**Technology Enabled Classrooms:** Smart classrooms enhance engagement, facilitate interactive learning, and provide access to people and digital resources. Smart classrooms support diverse learning styles and make it easier to integrate multimedia content, fostering a more dynamic and effective educational experience. Examples of smart technologies used in modern university classrooms include Wi-Fi access, device charging, interactive whiteboards, lecture capture systems, lecture response systems, collaboration platforms integrated with learning management systems (LMS), and hybrid or Hyflex learning capabilities.

**Holistic Educational Experience:** Integrating advanced technology systems and learning content into the learning ecosystem offers students experiential learning opportunities beyond traditional classroom instruction. This approach helps develop critical soft skills, from problem-solving to effective communication in diverse settings.

**Enhanced Security:** Campus safety is paramount at all HEIs. Smart campuses enhance security by integrating advanced surveillance systems, including high-definition cameras, facial recognition, and motion sensors, to monitor activities in real-time and respond to threats promptly. Smart access control systems use biometric scanners, RFID cards, and mobile credentials to regulate entry to buildings and sensitive areas. Real-time incident reporting through mobile apps and digital platforms allows students and staff to quickly report suspicious activities or emergencies, triggering immediate responses and sending instant alerts to the campus community. These technologies create a safer environment, enabling the academic community to focus on learning and innovation without safety concerns.

**Smart Facilities:** Students today expect smart campus facilities. They are increasingly cognizant of their carbon footprint and the need for technologies for energy efficiency, security, and comfort. These smart housing solutions can include automated lighting, climate control, and security systems that adapt to individual preferences and usage patterns, creating a more comfortable and sustainable living environment. Another example, digital health services can provide students with easy access to healthcare through telemedicine, online appointment scheduling, and digital health records. This not only improves convenience but also ensures that students receive timely medical attention and support, contributing to their overall well-being. Also consider that smart transportation options are also highly valued by students. These can include real-time tracking of campus shuttles, bike-sharing programs, and electric vehicle charging stations. By offering efficient and eco-friendly transportation solutions, smart campuses can reduce traffic congestion, lower carbon emissions, and make it easier for students to navigate the campus. Finally, consider the idea that smart building signage can inform the campus in the context of individual facilities or campus-wide event. Finally, wayfinding can help students stay informed and navigate campuses to find the classrooms, events, resources, and services they need.

By embracing smart campus technologies, institutions can create a more connected, efficient, engaging, and future-ready environment that attracts and retains students through digitally enabled learning and campus experiences.

### *Efficient and Sustainable Campuses*

By integrating advanced technologies like IoT, real-time data, AI and digital twins, smart campuses can optimize resource utilization, reduce operational costs, and create a more engaging and accessible living and learning campuses



Smart technologies can significantly enhance the operational and management efficiency of university campus facilities by integrating advanced systems that streamline various processes. For instance, IoT devices and sensors can monitor and control energy usage in real-time, optimizing heating, cooling, and lighting systems to reduce costs and environmental impact. Digital twins can create virtual replicas of physical assets, allowing for predictive maintenance and better resource allocation. AI-driven analytics can provide insights into space utilization, helping to manage classroom and facility scheduling more effectively. Additionally, smart access control systems can enhance security by regulating entry to buildings and sensitive areas. By leveraging these technologies, universities can create a more sustainable, efficient, and responsive campus environment.

These technologies and programs support environmental sustainability through intelligent energy management and reduced carbon footprints, helping institutions manage financial pressures while fostering a more resilient and adaptable campus environment.

### **Leveraging Artificial Intelligence**

Faculty and staff play a crucial role in leveraging AI to enhance a sustainable smart campus. Here are some ways they contribute:

1. **Energy Efficiency:** Faculty and staff can use AI to monitor and manage energy consumption across campus buildings. AI systems can analyze usage patterns and optimize heating, cooling, and lighting to reduce energy waste.
2. **Sustainable Research:** Researchers can utilize AI to develop new sustainable technologies and practices. For example, AI can help in creating more efficient renewable energy systems or in studying environmental impacts.
3. **Smart Classrooms:** AI can be used to create smart classrooms that adjust lighting and temperature based on occupancy and time of day, enhancing comfort while saving energy.
4. **Predictive Maintenance:** Maintenance staff can use AI to predict when equipment will fail or need servicing, preventing breakdowns and extending the lifespan of campus infrastructure.
5. **Waste Management:** AI can help manage waste more efficiently by monitoring waste levels and optimizing collection routes and schedules.
6. **Transportation:** AI can optimize campus transportation systems, such as shuttle services, to reduce emissions and improve efficiency. This includes route optimization and real-time tracking.
7. **Data Analysis:** Faculty and staff can use AI to analyze data from various campus systems to identify areas for improvement and make data-driven decisions to enhance sustainability.
8. **Enhanced Learning:** AI can support personalized learning experiences, helping students learn more effectively and efficiently. This can reduce the need for physical resources and promote a more sustainable learning environment.

By integrating AI into their daily operations and research, faculty and staff can significantly contribute to creating a more sustainable and efficient campus.

### **Building Management Systems**

Modern building management systems (BMS) are pivotal in enhancing the efficiency of operating individual smart buildings on a campus. These systems integrate advanced technologies such as IoT

devices, sensors, and AI-driven analytics to monitor and control various building functions in real-time. For instance, IoT devices and sensors can optimize energy usage by adjusting heating, cooling, and lighting systems based on occupancy patterns and environmental conditions. This not only reduces operational costs but also minimizes the environmental impact of the buildings.

### **Digital Twins**

Digital twins are virtual replicas of physical assets and enable real-time monitoring, simulation, and optimization of campus operations. For instance, they can be used to predict and schedule maintenance for HVAC systems, reducing downtime and energy consumption. Digital twins also facilitate better space utilization by analyzing occupancy patterns and adjusting lighting and climate control systems accordingly. Digital twins can integrate proprietary building management systems to provide that “single pane of glass” for comprehensively managing facilities, lighting, irrigation, and other aspects of campus facilities management. Additionally, digital twins can simulate various scenarios to optimize resource allocation, such as energy usage during peak hours or emergency response plans. These capabilities not only enhance operational efficiency but also contribute to the sustainability goals of the campus by minimizing waste and reducing the overall carbon footprint.

### **Sustainability Responsibility Programs**

Sustainable smart campuses promote social responsibility and ethical stewardship, preparing institutions and their graduates to address global challenges. They serve as living laboratories for innovation and research, fostering the development of green technologies and new management practices. By leading by example, higher education institutions can demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of sustainability, inspiring students, and the broader community to adopt similar practices.

## **Challenges to Creating the Sustainable Smart Campus**

Our three C-suite leaders, the CIO, CDO, and CFO (CXOs) face a myriad of uncertainties and challenges for creating sustainable smart campuses. There are many competing priorities and issues, when taken on whole can be overwhelming. But the accomplished leaders will find workable entry points and use cases that can overcome these obstacles and impediments to create return on effort and investment.

Here a few of the major challenges identified in the literature and from summer camp discussions:

### **Leadership and Policy Implementation**

Effective leadership is critical for improving practices and implementing new educational policies. However, leadership is often unaware of the art of the possible with respect to smart campuses, which is necessary to facilitate environments and learning experiences that meet current demands and forge future plans. CXOs and institutional planners considering the efficient management and future-state of the built campus. Emphasize the urgency and importance of sustainability and management of the built world in higher education.

### **Access to Knowledge and Expertise**

There are few people who currently poses the comprehensive knowledge needed to create and operate a smart campus. Our understanding of how to build smart campuses has risen out of the proliferation of Internet of Things, the creation of sophisticated data sets, artificial intelligence, and other complex factors. There is a lack of professional conceptualization and implementation of smart campus universities. The prevailing practices on our campuses are often fragmented, siloed, and inconsistent, even among top universities.

### **Creating Smart People Knowledge and Skills Management**

The smart campus is first and foremost a network of smart people. The ability to develop shared

knowledge, skills and attitudes among trade workers, facility managers, executive leaders, and stakeholders. Each of our CXO domains of practice have their own acronyms, missions, and operational imperatives. Before we can plan, we need to first understand.

### **Integration of Smart People and Smart Technologies**

Universities face challenges in integrating physical, digital, and human systems effectively. This integration is essential, but it requires high-quality management, comfortable with change, and who exhibit professional expertise across the domains. Recruiting and retaining expertise on limited budget resources is increasingly a challenge, even for elite institutions.

### **The Low Quality of Data and dis-Integration of Systems**

Facilities teams have typically not updated static information or “as built” information when buildings are renovated or expanded. Facilities managers often have multiple systems to manage a quilt-work on unintegrated building and facilities systems. It is difficult to effectively control energy costs across so many disparate systems. There are challenges with measuring energy consumption on a per-building basis and substantial obstacles to aggregating data across the institution in ways that promote the use of modern tools like digital twins.

### **Sustainability Program Inclusivity**

Smart campus projects, aim to deliver sustainable and inclusive futures. However, achieving this requires collaboration among various internal and external organizations, which can be challenging to coordinate effectively.

### **Financial Performance**

Universities need to manage operational costs, productivity, competitiveness, and market position effectively. Competing with other educational institutions regionally adds to the complexity of achieving financial and market performance goals. Energy costs consume large aspects of our institution’s annual operating expenses. And with rising costs, are an area of increasing cost management.

### **Disaggregated and Scattered Data**

Scattered data storage, varied proprietary systems and hardware are big impediments to creating sustainable smart campuses. Rather than chasing the next ‘bright shiny thing, CXOs must take a purpose-driven approach to selecting and implementing technology.

### **Propriety Buildings and Systems**

The technology and facilities industries are full of proprietary vendors competing to lock in campuses to their standards. In general, facilities management systems like BMS do not promulgate open systems concepts. As such, there is a lack of interoperability, as proprietary systems often use unique protocols and standards. This can lead to difficulties in integrating various technologies and platforms, resulting in fragmented and inefficient operations. Additionally, reliance on a single vendor can create a dependency that limits flexibility and innovation, as institutions may find it challenging to adopt new technologies or switch to more cost-effective solutions. Furthermore, proprietary systems can be costly to maintain and upgrade, as they often require specialized knowledge and support from the vendor. This can strain the budget and resources of the institution, making it harder to achieve the desired level of automation and efficiency in managing campus facilities.

### **Institutional Planning, Outcomes and Quality Assurance**

Building trust among the CXOs and the university community can be challenging amidst the myriads of topics and priority issues facing higher education institutions. It can be exhausting to create engagement and participation. But CXOs have to take a patient and educative approach with each other and the institutions on whole. It can be challenging to solicit the involvement of campus community. There is a shift from judging quality by inputs to focusing on outputs. Ensuring the quality

of our facilities and operational capabilities for realizing our strategic outcomes requires evolving quality assurance methods that can adapt to the diversification of higher education.

## Breaking the Cycle of Reactive Maintenance

CFOs have a lot to manage and the tyranny of the urgent often reigns supreme when it comes to traditional facilities management. Traditional building management is evolving toward a new digital facilities management model, allowing building owners and operators to turn their portfolio data into actionable insights using technology. Without a central place to collect and analyze the vast amount of building data your portfolio produces; it is easy to get stuck in a cycle of reactive maintenance. Moreover, Risk management or CAPEX reduction are obvious goals for building operators, but this is impossible when they're buried by immediate, reactive tasks.

Using Maslow's Hierarchy as a reference, Rake (2024) developed a Building Management Hierarchy of Needs to guide owners and operators to digital facilities management actualization. This model outlines the operational stages one must ascend to move from reactive to proactive and finally to predictive maintenance.

**Diagram 1: Rake's Building Management Hierarchy of Needs**



## Introduction to The Five Smart Campus Domains

Our exploration of the sustainable smart campus is organized around five domains based on a framework identified by Polin, Yigitcanlar, Limb and Washington (2023).<sup>1</sup> This framework defines four areas of thought social, economy, environment, and governance of smart campuses, plus a central integrated domain of technology and data.

<sup>1</sup> Polin, K.; Yigitcanlar, T.; Limb, M.; Washington, T. The Making of Smart Campus: A Review and Conceptual Framework. *Buildings* 2023, 13, 89. <https://doi.org/10.3390/buildings1304089>.

## Domain 1 Social and Community Engagement

The Social and Community Engagement Domain of a smart campus addresses crosscutting issues that affect the life of people, including strategies for community engagement, quality of campus life, social responsibility, and versatile learning. It creates a digital campus using advanced information technologies like IoT, big data, and AI, fostering a connected and responsive environment. The focus is on enhancing the overall university experience by integrating new technologies to improve the quality of life for campus citizens. Smart campuses create a connected and responsive environment, integrating IoT and digital technologies to enhance the collective university experience.

### **Campus Living**

The integration of smart technologies improves the overall experience and quality of life for campus citizens, providing value-added services and smart living solutions.

### **Social Responsibility**

Smart campuses foster a dynamic ecosystem, promoting social responsibility through technological solutions that enhance services and stakeholder participation.

### **Transformational Learning**

The rapid advancement of technology transforms learning and teaching, making education more accessible and personalized through digital platforms and smart classrooms.

### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement is a benefit offered by smart campus where the university community becomes an IoT integrated environment, creating a digital campus using advanced information technologies in IoT, big data, network, and AI. The university campus becomes smarter by the inclusion and advancements of technology, increasing automation where technology is adapted creating a connected and responsive campus.

### **Environmentally Friendly Services**

Environmentally friendly services are created in smart campus through smart technology by integrating technologies into a centralized environment for generating a sustainable relationship between people and the natural environment.

### **Renewable Energy**

Renewable energy is created by incorporating green energy into smart system applications to minimize the environmental impact through a hybrid renewable energy system operated by an IoT-based architecture in a university campus. Green IT (information technology) assists in reducing electrical power consumption in a global move by universities towards energy-saving and carbon-emission mitigation thereby improving sustainability and stakeholders' participation.

### **Living Labs for Research**

HEIs have begun focusing on sustainability management throughout the globe facilitated effectively by advanced technology for sustainable development. Environmental specific factors were among the issues considered in the pursuit of IoT-based smart campus. Smart campuses provide living labs and a testbed to facilitate experimentation on sustainability solutions in energy production, water utilization and cleanliness, meeting the global SDGs.

**Summer Camp: Smart Campus Experiences**

- Networking and infrastructure are crucial for student success.
- Successful alumni enhance the university's reputation.
- Physical infrastructure impacts the educational experience.
- Technology, like audio-visual systems, is essential for effective learning.
- Sustainability is a focus, with discussions on passive cooling and heating and natural resource use.
- Challenges in campus experiences include traffic management and dining options.
- Leveraging technology can engage students and improve campus operations.

**Domain 2: Economy Domain of Smart Campus**

The Economy Domain of a Smart Campus focuses on business or capital investment activities that ensure the efficient provision of services for organizations and citizens. Universities are expected to promote entrepreneurial activities while fulfilling their role in academic research. The economic aspect of the smart campus focuses on its entrepreneurial potential, aiming to improve business opportunities, enhance efficiency, foster an innovation ecosystem, and achieve utility cost savings through four key areas: business opportunities, improved efficiency, innovation ecosystems, and utility cost savings.

**Business Services**

Smart campuses create business opportunities by modernizing programs, facilities, and infrastructure, fostering a knowledge economy and diverse business systems.

**Improved Efficiency**

Smart technologies enhance campus efficiency through better resource utilization, financial stability, and effective management of energy and other resources.

**Innovation Ecosystem**

Smart campuses serve as urban living labs, promoting sustainability and smart solutions through innovative technologies like smart grids and renewable energy systems.

**Utility Cost Savings**

The use of smart technologies in energy management and green energy production leads to significant cost savings and reduced environmental impact.

The overall goals are to reduce costs, enhance user experience, and maintain revenue levels. Despite limited efforts in developing smart technology for business services, smart campus solutions have revealed significant resource efficiency gains and better user experiences. These include innovations in smart grids that integrate power generation and infrastructure through digital technology networks. Utility cost savings are achieved by using smart technology to reduce electrical energy consumption through energy management systems, smart buildings, and smart parking. While the impact is

currently limited, there have been reductions in utility costs, and further savings are possible with the continued use of smart technologies.

### Domain 3: Environment

The Environment Domain of a Smart Campus focuses on managing the natural environment and sustaining resources through environmentally friendly services, renewable energy, and sustainable development. It aims to create a sustainable relationship between people and the natural environment by integrating smart technologies to reduce travel, minimize facility use, and curtail energy demand. Additionally, it incorporates green energy into smart systems and promotes sustainable development goals to address global issues.

#### Environmentally Friendly Services

Smart campuses integrate technologies to create sustainable relationships between people and the natural environment, reducing travel, energy demand, and waste.

#### Renewable Energy

Incorporating green energy into smart systems minimizes environmental impact and promotes sustainability through hybrid renewable energy systems and energy management.

#### Sustainable Development

Smart campuses support global sustainability goals by using digital technologies to enhance environmental sustainability and stakeholder participation.

#### Zero Waste Programs

Zero waste is about the reduction of waste in smart campus to improve the state of the natural environment addressed through waste management and green campus. Green campus development, on the other hand, is demonstrated by the reduction of carbon footprint of a university to save electrical energy and decrease the annual emissions from campus electricity use.

#### Summer Camp: Second Nature

- **About:** Second Nature is a nonprofit organization that helps colleges and universities achieve climate goals. Second Nature was founded in 2007 and has assisted more than 900 colleges and universities in making climate commitments. The network has produced over 3,500 stories, 525 action plans, and 55 campus-community assessments, and has reduced emissions by an average of 26%. Second Nature has also expanded its focus to include resilience, adaptation, and campus-community partnerships.
- **The current and future plans of Second Nature:** Second Nature is looking to diversify and unify its network by welcoming colleges and universities without a formal commitment from the president, and by addressing the different needs and goals of various institution types. Second Nature is also looking to collaborate with other sectors, such as local governments and businesses, to accelerate climate action. Second Nature is conducting an audience listening project to get feedback from the sector.
- **The speaker's personal perspective on climate action:** The speaker believes that climate action requires courage and love, and that love is the basis of why people do this work. The speaker encourages the audience to have a big and inspiring personal mission, to see the possibilities, and to collaborate with others. She says that love is needed to cope with the worst-case scenario, and to achieve the best-case scenario.



## Domain 4: Governance

The governance domain of a smart campus involves strategic decision-making and the implementation of policies with the engagement of stakeholders, ensuring that campus operations are inclusive and collaborative. It encompasses aspects such as cybersecurity, data governance, decision-making, and service management to facilitate effective governance. This domain is essential for enabling users to be actively involved in the management and use of public services within the campus environment.

The governance domain of the smart campus enables users to be involved in decision making and in the use of public services. This is elaborated further into cybersecurity, data governance, decision-making, and service management which facilitate the governance domain.

### Cybersecurity

Data governance emphasizes the notion that data is what makes a campus “smart.” The development of robust cybersecurity measures is essential to protect smart campus networks from attacks, using advanced technologies like deep learning algorithms and blockchain.

### Data Governance

Effective data governance is crucial for managing information and facilitating decision-making, using big data and intelligent computing models.

### Decision Making

Smart campuses improve decision-making processes through integrated management systems and smart platforms, enhancing governance and strategic planning.

### Service Management

Smart technologies enhance service management by improving resource utilization, information dissemination, and administrative efficiency.

### The Smart City within the City

The HEI smart campus is a smaller version of a smart city, and sustainable smart campus work can be transferable to communities. More specifically the making of smart campus emulates a smart city for improvement in administration, management, and decision-making. As such, innovations in decision-making adopted the approach in making university campuses like smart cities having more centralized body in smart governance for sustainability management and implementation through an integrated management system to facilitate decision making.

## Domain 5: Technology and Data

Smart campus technology integrates and facilitates the other domains by leveraging digital technologies such as sensors, IoT, AI, 5G, cloud computing, and blockchain to process and manage large amounts of data efficiently. Establishing a strong and enduring data estate across static (manuals, warranties, work tickets, utilities, other), spatial (3D, 2D line diagrams, GIS scans, photo geometry, video other), and live (weather, sensors of all kinds from BMS, occupancy, other) data unlocks transformative ways of managing opportunity as we are now beginning to see with Willow’s digital twin and Microsoft’s AI capabilities.

These technologies support the economy, societal, environmental, and governance domains by providing the means for strategic decision-making, enhancing safety and health, promoting sustainability, and ensuring equitable access to resources. Additionally, smart campus systems enable



seamless communication and interaction among stakeholders, thereby improving the overall campus experience and operational efficiency IoT.

### **Systems Integration**

Technologies like IoT, AI, cloud computing, and blockchain are integrated into smart campuses to facilitate data collection, analysis, and application, driving innovation and sustainability. By integrating technologies, a smart campus can create a more efficient, safe, and well-managed environment for all its users. But managing technological components as separate systems can be problematic and complex.

### **The Data Estate**

Smart campuses are “smart” because of the data that is generated, analyzed, and used to inform and operate the physical, cyber, and programmatic aspects of a college campus. Data enables effective management and control of educational data resources, which is essential for decision-making and development. They facilitate the integration of various systems such as teaching management, financial management, and library management, creating a unified platform that enhances communication and resource utilization. Additionally, data governance and big data technology help address challenges related to student privacy, complex data, and the digital gap, ensuring a secure and efficient campus environment.

### **The Digital Twin**

A digital twin of a college campus is a virtual representation of the campus's physical assets, systems, and infrastructure and enables the continuous monitoring and optimization of the built campus and adaptation to changing conditions and events. Modern digital twins help overcome the difficulties of integrating devices and organizing huge amounts of data. They can also overcome the complexities of integrating proprietary systems found throughout the built campus.

### **Cybersecurity**

Cybersecurity is a crucial element of a sustainable smart campus because it ensures the protection of sensitive data and the integrity of interconnected systems. With the increasing reliance on IoT devices and cloud-based services, robust cybersecurity measures are essential to prevent unauthorized access and cyberattacks that could disrupt campus operations. Additionally, maintaining strong cybersecurity practices fosters trust among students, faculty, and stakeholders, which is vital for the successful implementation and long-term sustainability of smart campus initiatives.

## **Precautions about the Smart Campus**

Campus constituents may have well-founded concerns about the impacts and implications of sustainable smart campus technologies with respect to security, privacy, job impact, governance, and other factors. Leaders need recognize and embrace these concerns and issues as they consider sustainable smart campus initiatives. Here is a list of some concerns and precautions you are likely to encounter on your campus.

### **Data Collection and Usage**

Smart campuses rely on collecting vast amounts of data through sensors, cameras, and other IoT devices. This data can include personal information about students, faculty, and staff, raising concerns about how this data is collected, stored, and used.

### **Data Security**

With the integration of advanced technologies, there is an increased risk of cyber-attacks and data breaches. Ensuring that the data collected is secure and protected from unauthorized access is a major concern.

### **Transparency and Consent**

Constituents may worry about the lack of transparency regarding what data is being collected and how it is being used. Ensuring that individuals are informed and have given consent for their data to be collected is crucial.

### **Automation and Job Displacement**

The implementation of smart campus technologies can lead to the automation of certain tasks, which may result in job displacement for some employees. For example, tasks that were previously done manually may now be handled by automated systems.

### **Changing Job Roles**

As new technologies are introduced; the roles and responsibilities of certain jobs may change. Employees may need to adapt to new ways of working and acquire new skills to remain relevant in their positions.

### **Need for Reskilling and Upskilling**

To address the potential impact on jobs, it is important to invest in reskilling and upskilling programs for employees. Providing training and development opportunities can help employees transition to new roles and take advantage of the opportunities created by smart campus technologies.

### **Balancing Efficiency and Employment**

While smart campus technologies can improve efficiency and reduce operational costs, it is important to balance these benefits with the need to maintain employment levels and support the workforce.

### **Rising Energy Consumption**

The increased use of digital technologies can lead to higher energy consumption, which may offset the benefits of energy-efficient practices and run contrary to sustainability plans.

### **Enhancing Services, Improving Care, Not Replacing Jobs**

Staff may be concerned that their value proposition of offering empathetic services can be undermined by technology. But smart technologies used in human services should not be about replacing jobs but improving care. Technologies like AI and Digital Twins can handle repetitive administrative tasks, allowing professionals to focus on high-value care that only humans can deliver. This can enhance the quality of care and reduce burnout among staff. These and other perceptions need to be addressed through education and dialogue.

## **Summary**

This section identifies the various opportunities and challenges faced by higher education institutions (HEIs) and the strategic importance of creating sustainable smart campuses to address these challenges. Financial pressures, political interference, and the rapid pace of technological advancements are highlighted as significant issues contributing to the unsettled nature of HEIs.

The section emphasizes that integrating advanced technologies such as IoT and cloud computing can help optimize resource utilization, reduce operational costs, and enhance campus operations' overall efficiency. This integration not only aids in managing financial pressures but also supports environmental sustainability through intelligent energy management and reduced carbon footprints. Additionally, smart campuses can foster a more engaging and accessible learning environment, improving student retention and satisfaction.

The document is organized around five domains based on a framework identified by Polin, Yigitcanlar, Limb, and Washington (2023). These domains are:

- 1. Social and Community Engagement**

This domain addresses issues affecting the life of people on campus, including community

engagement, quality of campus life, social responsibility, and versatile learning. It aims to create a connected and responsive environment using advanced information technologies like IoT, big data, and AI.

2. **Economy**

This domain focuses on business or capital investment activities that ensure efficient service provision for organizations and citizens. It aims to improve business opportunities, enhance efficiency, foster an innovation ecosystem, and achieve utility cost savings.

3. **Environment**

This domain focuses on managing the natural environment and sustaining resources through environmentally friendly services, renewable energy, and sustainable development. It aims to create a sustainable relationship between people and the natural environment by integrating smart technologies.

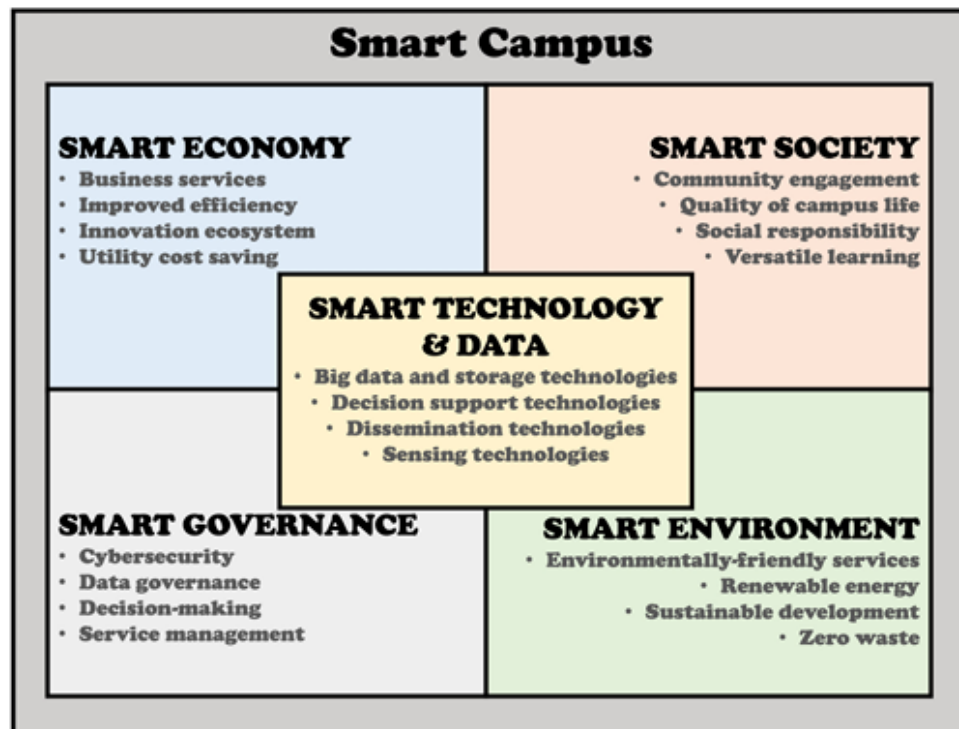
4. **Governance**

This domain involves strategic decision-making and policy implementation with stakeholder engagement, ensuring inclusive and collaborative campus operations. It encompasses aspects such as cybersecurity, data governance, decision-making, and service management.

5. **Technology and Data**

This domain integrates and facilitates various domains by leveraging digital technologies such as sensors, IoT, AI, 5G, cloud computing, and blockchain to process and manage large amounts of data efficiently. These technologies support strategic decision-making, enhance safety and health, promote sustainability, and ensure equitable access to resources.

**Diagram 2: Conceptual Framework of Knowledge Domains for Smart Campus (Polen et.al., 2023)**



These domains collectively aim to create a sustainable and smart campus that addresses the needs of higher education institutions, ensuring they achieve their strategic goals and missions while promoting economic prosperity and resilience.

## Summer Camp: The Alliance to Save Energy

- **The keynote speaker introduces the topic of smart sustainable campuses and the goals of NYU:** The speaker, is the president of the Alliance to Save Energy, a nonprofit organization that advocates for energy efficiency policy and programs. She spoke about the challenges and opportunities of creating smart sustainable campuses, which leverage data and technology to optimize the use of space, energy, and resources. She also shared the ambitious goal of NYU to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030, and how the university's leadership is committed to making that happen.
- **The speaker draws an analogy between track and field and sustainability:** The speaker uses her personal experience as a runner to illustrate the importance of having a strategy, a vision, and a sense of timing for achieving sustainability goals. She compares the sprint and the marathon to different types of actions and solutions that are needed to address climate change and energy efficiency. She emphasizes that both require effort, discipline, and flexibility, and that the best outcomes are achieved when one runs their own race, following a plan that is tailored to their context and needs.
- **The speaker outlines the questions of who, what, where, when, why, and how for building a smart sustainable campus:** The speaker provides a framework for thinking about the key aspects of building a smart sustainable campus, based on the questions of who, what, where, when, why, and how. She urges the audience to consider the diverse stakeholders, the multiple dimensions of sustainability, the specific location and environment, the timeline and urgency, the communication and engagement strategies, and the implementation and evaluation methods. She also highlights the importance of understanding the priorities, preferences, and perspectives of the different groups involved, and finding ways to align them around a common vision.<sup>1</sup>
- **The speaker discusses the role of the Alliance to Save Energy and the opportunities for collaboration:** The speaker explains the mission and the impact of the Alliance to Save Energy, which is a bipartisan coalition of business, government, environmental, and academic leaders that works to advance federal energy efficiency policy and programs. She mentions some of the recent achievements of the Alliance, such as securing funding for energy efficiency initiatives and promoting energy justice. She also expresses her interest in learning from and collaborating with the audience and invites them to contact her for potential partnerships and projects.

## Questions

1. What components of sustainable smart campus do we already have?
2. Who among us have knowledge about sustainable smart campus? How can we best incorporate these subject matter experts into our thinking, planning, and doing?
3. What are some specific reasons why our institution might seek to comprehensive address sustainability and smart campus initiatives?
4. How can we support worker productivity if we are tied up with more urgent tasks like responding to hot / cold calls each day?
5. What if we could consolidate solving base-level challenges like spiking energy costs and deferred maintenance with greater intelligence?
6. With so many technology solutions available, how do we select the right ones that are interoperable and can be architected to work together towards meeting our institution's unique needs and goals?
7. How can we leverage digital technologies such as sensors, AI, and cloud computing to create a more efficient, safe, and well-managed campus environment?
8. How can we effectively integrate advanced information technologies like IoT, big data, and AI to enhance the overall university experience and improve the quality of life for campus citizens?
9. How can we incorporate green energy and sustainable development goals into our smart campus initiatives to minimize environmental impact and promote sustainability?
10. What measures should we take to ensure sustainable smart campus elements are part of robust cybersecurity, effective governance, and policy management programs?
11. What are the opportunities and benefits of creating a smart campus that is informed and connected to and through community engagement?
12. In what ways can smart campuses promote social responsibility and stakeholder participation through technological solutions?
13. How does the rapid advancement of technology transform learning and teaching, making education more accessible and personalized in a smart campus environment?
14. How can environmentally friendly services be created in a smart campus to foster a sustainable relationship between people and the natural environment?
15. What role does renewable energy play in minimizing the environmental impact of a smart campus, and how can it be integrated into campus operations?
16. How do "living labs" and research testbeds on a smart campus facilitate experimentation on sustainability solutions in energy production, water utilization, and cleanliness?

17. What are the key challenges your institution faces in integrating physical, digital, and human systems effectively on a smart campus?
18. How can your institution address the issue of fragmented, siloed, or inconsistent practices in planning, building, and operating smart campus?
19. What strategies can be employed to overcome the challenges of proprietary systems and lack of interoperability in facilities management on a smart campus?

## 2 Developing Transformational Leadership Roles

The roles of the Chief information Officer (CIO), Chief Facilities Officer (CFO), and Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) are crucial in planning, building, operating, and assessing the realized outcomes of a sustainable smart campus. These three pivotal roles are collectively expressed as CXOs in the context of this manifesto. Each has a specific and distinct role in planning, implementing, and operating the sustainable smart campus.

### **The CIO – Overseer of The Cyber World.**

The Chief Information and Technology Officer (CIO) or sometimes referred to as the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) is responsible for integrating advanced technologies and ensuring that the campus is equipped with the necessary digital infrastructure and support services. This includes implementing smart technologies such as IoT devices, estate data warehouses, and cybersecurity measures to enhance the efficiency and security of campus operations. The CIO also plays a key role in fostering a smart learning environment by providing digital learning resources and supporting innovative pedagogies.

While the extent of oversight the CIO varies based on the size and type of institution, their responsibilities include:

#### **Strategic Planning**

Developing and implementing a strategic plan for the adoption of smart technologies, ensuring alignment with the institution's goals and objectives.

#### **Infrastructure Management**

Overseeing the deployment and maintenance of the campus's IT infrastructure, including networks, servers, and cloud services, to support smart campus initiatives.

#### **Data Management**

Ensuring the effective collection, storage, and analysis of data generated by smart campus systems, such as IoT devices and cloud computing platforms, to improve decision-making and operational efficiency.

#### **Security and Privacy**

Implementing robust cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive information and ensure compliance with data privacy regulations.

#### **Collaboration and Integration**

Facilitating the integration of various systems, such as educational management, financial management, and library systems, to create a unified smart campus platform that enhances communication and collaboration among students, faculty, and staff.

#### **Innovation and Adaptation**

Promoting innovative solutions and staying updated with the latest technological trends to continuously improve the smart campus environment.

#### **Stakeholder Engagement**

Engaging with various stakeholders, including students, faculty, and external partners, to understand their needs and ensure the smart campus initiatives meet their expectations.



The role of Chief Information Officers (CIOs) in higher education institutions is evolving rapidly, presenting both challenges and opportunities.

### *Challenges*

#### **Balancing Tactical Operations with Strategic Leadership**

CIOs must manage day-to-day IT operations while also driving strategic initiatives that align with the institution's goals. This dual role can be demanding, especially in an environment of frequent leadership transitions and resource limitations.

#### **Cybersecurity Threats**

With the increasing reliance on digital platforms, higher education institutions are prime targets for cyberattacks. CIOs must ensure robust cybersecurity measures are in place to protect sensitive data.

#### **Talent Acquisition and Retention**

Attracting and retaining skilled IT professionals is a significant challenge. CIOs need to create a work environment that is open, authentic, empathetic, and respectful to retain top talent.

#### **Financial Constraints**

Budget limitations often restrict the ability to invest in new technologies and infrastructure. CIOs must find innovative ways to do more with less.

#### **Institutional Instability**

Changes within the institution, such as shifts in leadership or policy, can create instability. CIOs need to navigate these changes while maintaining a stable IT environment.

#### **Complexity of Technology Integration and Data Management**

The complexity of technology and data management poses a significant challenge to CIOs, as they must keep up with the fast-paced evolution of technologies while orchestrating sound IT architectures and integration of expanding, diverse and often proprietary systems while ensuring seamless operation and data security across the entire campus.

### *CIO Opportunities*

#### **Driving Digital Transformation**

CIOs have the opportunity to lead digital transformation initiatives that enhance the institution's digital presence and improve operational efficiency. This includes implementing new technologies like AI and cloud computing.

#### **Enhancing Student Experience**

By leveraging technology, CIOs can improve the student experience through better access to resources, personalized learning, and enhanced communication channels.

#### **Collaboration and Partnership**

CIOs can act as force multipliers by fostering collaboration across different departments. This can lead to integrated strategies and solutions that benefit the entire institution.

#### **Data-Driven Decision Making**

With the increasing availability of data, CIOs can drive data-driven decision-making processes that improve institutional outcomes. This includes using data to enhance campus safety, privacy, and business model innovation.



### **Innovative Learning Solutions**

The fusion of education and technology allows CIOs to explore innovative learning solutions that meet the needs of modern students. This includes online learning platforms and digital literacy initiatives.

In summary, while CIOs in higher education face significant challenges, they also have numerous opportunities to drive innovation and improve institutional outcomes. By balancing tactical operations with strategic leadership, enhancing cybersecurity, and fostering collaboration, CIOs can navigate the complexities of their role and make a positive impact on their institutions.

## **The Chief Facilities Officer – Overseer of the Built World**

The Chief Facilities Officer (CFO) oversees the physical infrastructure of the campus. The role of the CFO involves managing the development and maintenance of smart buildings, smart street lighting, and smart waste management systems. The Chief Facilities Officer ensures that the campus facilities are designed and operated in a way that maximizes safety, comfort, energy efficiency and sustainability. This often includes oversight of alternative energy sources like solar panels or geo-thermal plants and the implementation of smart mechanisms to measure and control utility resources.

Among the many areas of oversight and influence the CFO performs or strongly influences the following:

### **Campus Master Planning**

CFOs engage in the strategic decision-making process for smart campus development. They ensure that the campus infrastructure aligns with the long-term goals of the institution, including sustainability, efficiency, and technological advancement.

### **Collaboration and Coordination**

CFOs collaborate closely with various stakeholders, including university administrators, faculty, students, and external partners such as technology providers and city planners. CFOs should also reexamine how supplier relationships support the smart campus agenda. It is key for them to think more like a CIO, and consider the university's "Data Estate," how it is managed, and how third parties provide and access data. In this context, CFOs should be seeking to apply best practices from the IT world over to their Operation Technology (OT) world.

### **Building Services**

CFOs are often responsible for the services that clean and maintain facilities for use.

### **Infrastructure Development**

CFOs oversee the development and maintenance of campus infrastructure. This includes implementing smart systems for energy management, security, transportation, and building automation. They ensure that these systems are interconnected and can be managed efficiently.

### **Quality Management**

CFOs ensure that all smart campus projects adhere to high-quality standards. They implement quality management principles and practices to achieve excellence in the university's operations and services.

### **Sustainability Initiatives**

CFOs prioritize sustainability in all aspects of campus development. They implement green technologies and practices to reduce the campus's environmental footprint and promote a sustainable future.

### **Student and Staff Engagement**

CFOs work to create an engaging and supportive environment for students and staff. They often oversee the physical elements of a campus that enhance learning, teaching, and campus life.

### *CFO Challenges*

The role of a Chief Facilities Officer in higher education is evolving rapidly due to the emerging challenges and opportunities of managing college campuses today. Note that many of these challenges and opportunities are similar to the CIO:

### **Talent Management**

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the talent crisis in facilities management and the effects continue today. Challenges include shrinking recruitment pipelines, an aging workforce, and equity issues between in-person and remote workforces. The competition for this talent is driving costs up as the labor forces seek to make big moves for incremental gains in income.

### **Funding Limitations and Deferred Maintenance**

Facilities divisions often face tight budgets and a need to "do more with less." Many institutions rely heavily on central funding allocations, which can limit their ability to manage space utilization effectively. Moreover, many of our campus facilities need repairs and restoration. These repairs are often deferred creating a backlog of projects and needed capital funding to keep facilities in efficient and effective operating order. As campus facilities age, the rate of accrued deferred maintenance is increasing while capital funding sources are restricted.

### **Forging Collaborations Across the Institution**

The Chief Facilities Officer is challenged to meet rising expectations of campus stakeholders and oversight committees to address health and safety issues, attain carbon-neutrality goals.

### **Technology Fluency and Adoption**

Typically, CFO's have struggled to keep pace with the technological shifts that have transformed other industries and often go back to what they know rather than embrace new ways of doing things. This can be seen in the persistence of major building systems firms that have dominated the industry for the past 50+ years. CFOs are increasingly responsible for incorporating Internet of Things (IoT) and other OT into the campus infrastructure, yet they may lack the expertise in themselves and their staff to break free of old methods and traditional ways of managing their built world.

### *Opportunities*

#### **Smart Campus Initiatives**

Implementing smart campus technologies such as IoT, AI, digital twins, smart lighting, and smart buildings can significantly enhance operational efficiency. These technologies help in optimizing space utilization, improving maintenance processes, and reducing operational costs.

#### **Creating the Data Estate**

A data estate is the data infrastructure that helps organizations systematically manage all their enterprise data and traditionally includes various components such as analytics data, business applications, social data, customer relationship systems, functional business, and departmental data. Building and Internet of Things (IoT) data is a relatively new elements of the Data Estate. CFOs need to think of the Data Estate as representations of both fixed data and performance data. The Data Estate supports the CFOs ability to make well-informed decisions through the identification of performance trends, predicting future needs, and implementing strategies that enhance the overall campus environment.

#### **Digital Twins**

The data estate can be facilitated and leveraged through Digital Twin technology where relationships

between traditionally siloed, fragmented, and incomplete data sets can be established. Digital Twins Definition Language (DTDLE) and Knowledge Graphs (over hierarchical data structure) are considered a best practice among leading facilities management circles. This integration allows for real-time data collection and management, and is the foundation of a digital twin system, enhancing the overall functionality and user experience of the smart campus.

### **Artificial Intelligence**

Facilities management executives in higher education can leverage AI to enhance planning and management. AI-driven systems automate climate control, lighting, and energy consumption, improving operational efficiency. Generative AI transforms complex building data into clear visualizations and recommendations, automating tasks and generating insights. AI optimizes energy use, cutting costs and carbon footprints by adjusting to building behavior, utility data, occupancy rates, and environmental conditions. AI-based systems can improve energy efficiency by up to 30%, turn data into predictive alerts to minimize maintenance costs, and reduce downtime. AI-enhanced predictive maintenance can reduce breakdowns by 70% and increase equipment uptime by 10-20%. Additionally, AI optimizes space utilization, boosting productivity and occupant satisfaction by enabling informed building operations decisions.

### **Enhanced Student and Faculty Experiences**

Integrating smart technologies can offer a more personalized and engaging experience for students and faculty. This includes smart classrooms, digital signage, and mobile applications that provide real-time information and services.

### **Improving Sustainability and Energy Efficiency**

There is a significant push towards making campus facilities more sustainable and energy efficient. This includes adopting green building practices, investing in renewable energy sources, and implementing energy management systems.

### **Health and Safety Improvements**

Ensuring the health and safety of students and staff has become a top priority. This includes improving air quality, sanitation, and overall campus safety measures.

### **Digital Transformation**

As we have discussed, the built world is increasingly defined by digital assets. The integration of smart building technologies and digital twins concomitant with enhancements in facilities staff digital literacy is transforming how facilities are managed. The combination of all these new digital capabilities creates the opportunity to transform how CFOs fulfill their obligations to the campus community and address the increase expectations our campus constituents have with respect to maximizing their experiences with the built world.

In summary, the world of the CFO is changing from traditional well practiced trades in an analog environment to an AI. These opportunities not only help in improving campus facilities and operations but also contribute to creating a more sustainable and efficient campus environment.

## **The Chief Sustainability Officer – Overseer of the Lived World**

The Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) is a relatively newcomer to the administrative leadership in our organizations. The CSO focuses on the environmental and social aspects of the smart campus. This role involves developing and implementing policies that promote sustainability and reduce the campus's carbon footprint. The Chief Sustainability Officer works to ensure that the campus adopts sustainable practices in all areas, from energy use to waste management. This role also involves engaging with the campus community to promote sustainable behaviors and practices.

The CSO in higher education manages the environmental impact of the institution and ensures that it is sustainable. The CSO intersects with four main areas: operations, climate planning, student life, and collaborating on curriculum and environmental justice.

- Environmental Responsibility – Reducing carbon footprint and promoting eco-friendly practices.
- Economic Efficiency – Cost savings through energy efficiency and resource management.
- Educational Leadership – Setting an example for students and the community.
- Technological Innovation – Leveraging technology to enhance campus operations and student experience.
- Campus experiences – Creating memorable and frictionless campus experiences that support the institutions strategic plans and attract and retain students.

### **Sustainability and Carbon Neutrality Planning**

The CSO is responsible for developing and implementing sustainability policies and strategies that align sustainability and carbon neutrality goals with the university's mission and strategies. This includes a leading role in creating campus master plans for the built world. CSOs are typically leading efforts around compliance with government sustainability standards; research on sustainability method; oversight of volunteers and staff working on sustainability goals; and evaluating and monitoring the effectiveness of sustainability program.

### **Energy Management**

Overseeing the implementation of energy-efficient technologies and alternative energy sources, such as solar panels, to reduce the campus's carbon footprint. This includes managing energy consumption through smart sensors and systems.

### **Water Conservation**

Implementing smart measures to control and reduce water consumption on campus. This involves using technology to monitor and manage water usage efficiently.

### **Waste Management**

Developing and overseeing programs for smart waste management, including recycling and composting initiatives. The CSO ensures that waste is minimized and managed sustainably.

### **Transportation and Mobility**

Promoting sustainable transportation options such as electric vehicles, bike-sharing programs, and improved public transportation to reduce traffic congestion and carbon emissions.

### **Building and Infrastructure**

Working closely with the CFO to ensure good planning and that campus buildings and infrastructure are designed and operated sustainably. This includes the use of smart building technologies for energy efficiency, smart lighting systems, and sustainable construction practices.

### **Collaboration and Partnerships**

Working with other universities, public organizations, and private companies on smart city projects. This collaboration aims to leverage expertise and resources to achieve sustainability goals.

### **Education and Engagement**

Promoting sustainability education and awareness among students, faculty, and staff. The CSO is responsible for integrating sustainability into the curriculum and encouraging participation in sustainability initiatives.

### **Quality Management**

Ensuring that all sustainability efforts are aligned with quality management principles and practices. This includes continuous improvement and benchmarking against best practices in sustainability.

### **Monitoring and Reporting**

Tracking the progress of sustainability initiatives and reporting on key performance indicators. The CSO is responsible for transparent communication of sustainability achievements and challenges to stakeholders.

### **Climate planning**

This includes setting long-term sustainability targets and ensuring that all campus operations adhere to these policies.

### **Program implementation**

Overseeing the implementation of sustainability programs, such as recycling initiatives, energy-saving projects, and sustainable dining services.

### **Curriculum and Environmental Justice**

Collaborating on curriculum and environmental justice program development.

### **Student life Program Development**

Intersecting sustainability and lifestyles with student life, campus transportation, and residential living, among others.

## **Other Higher Education Leaders**

In addition to the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Chief Facilities Officer (CFO), and Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO), several other campus leaders play crucial roles in creating sustainable smart campuses. Here are some key positions and their roles:

### **President/Chief Executive Officer**

The President or CEO plays a crucial role in shaping and communicating a compelling vision for the sustainable smart campus. As the chief advocate, the President must clearly articulate the importance of sustainability stewardship and smart technology within the context of the institution's mission and strategies. This call for innovative thinking and novel approaches is essential to overcoming historical inertia and outdated methods of managing the built environment, which, if not revolutionized, will hinder institutions in the decades ahead. For America to maintain its global leadership, its academic institutions must lead the way. The CEO should also emphasize the significant impact AI will have on the physical world, transforming how humans collaborate, create, consume knowledge, and interact with places, devices, and energy. The status quo is an untenable future for our institutions, communities, regions, and the planet.

### **Provost or Chief Academic Officer (CAO)**

Ensures that academic programs and research initiatives align with sustainability goals and integrate smart technologies into the curriculum.

### **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**

Manages the financial planning and budgeting for sustainability projects, ensuring that investments in smart technologies and sustainable practices are financially viable.

**Director of Campus Planning and Development**

Oversees the physical development of the campus, including the integration of smart infrastructure and sustainable design principles.

**Chief Technology Officer (CTO)**

Focuses on the implementation of advanced technologies, such as IoT devices, data analytics, and smart systems, to enhance campus operations and sustainability.

**Director of Energy Management**

Manages energy consumption and efficiency projects, including the adoption of renewable energy sources and smart energy management systems.

**Director of Environmental Health and Safety**

Ensures that all sustainability initiatives comply with environmental regulations and promote a safe and healthy campus environment.

**Director of Transportation and Parking**

Develops sustainable transportation solutions, such as electric vehicle charging stations, bike-sharing programs, and efficient public transit options.

**Director of Student Affairs**

Engages students in sustainability initiatives and promotes a culture of sustainability through programs, events, and student organizations.

**Director of Communications**

Manages the communication strategy for sustainability initiatives, ensuring that the campus community is informed and engaged with the institution's sustainability goals.

**Chief Diversity Officer**

Ensures that sustainability efforts are inclusive and equitable, addressing the needs of all campus community members and promoting social sustainability.

These leaders, working collaboratively with the CIO, CFO, and CSO can be significant contributors to and drivers of planning and implementation for sustainable smart campus.

## Activities to Foster Relationship Building and Collaboration

Higher education executive leaders can engage in various activities to shape culture and foster relationships among key leaders and promote greater collaboration around the understanding and realization of a sustainable smart campus.

It is imperative that the CIO, CFO, and CSO work together and widen the circle of collaboration to their peers and institutional leadership. Together, these roles ensure that the smart campus is not only technologically advanced but also operating efficiently, environmentally sustainable, and socially responsible. Their collaboration is essential for creating a smart campus that enhances the quality of life for students, staff, and the broader community.

Here are some effective strategies:

**Summer Camps and Retreats**

Hosting events like the "Sustainable Smart Campus Summer Camp" event recently held in Flagstaff, Arizona, can bring together university leaders, technology partners, and thought-leading experts to explore opportunities and ideas around creating a modern sustainable smart campus. These events provide a platform for networking, sharing best practices, and collaborative ideation.

### **Workshops and Training Sessions**

Organizing workshops and training sessions focused on smart campus technologies and sustainability practices can help leaders stay informed about the latest trends and innovations. These sessions can also facilitate knowledge sharing and skill development.

### **Collaborative Projects**

Initiating collaborative projects that involve multiple departments and stakeholders can foster a sense of shared purpose and teamwork. For example, working together on smart campus initiatives such as IoT integration, energy management systems, and digital transformation projects.

### **Regular Meetings and Forums**

Holding regular meetings and forums where leaders can discuss progress, challenges, and opportunities related to smart campus initiatives can help maintain momentum and ensure alignment across the institution.

### **Cross-Departmental Collaboration**

Encouraging collaboration across different departments, such as IT, facilities management, and sustainability offices, can help break down silos and promote a holistic approach to smart campus development.

### **Community Engagement**

Engaging with the broader community, including students, faculty, and external partners, can provide valuable insights and foster a sense of ownership and commitment to sustainability goals.

### **Leadership Development Programs**

Implementing leadership development programs that focus on sustainability and smart campus strategies can help build a cadre of informed and motivated leaders who are equipped to drive change.

These activities not only help in building strong relationships among key leaders but also contribute to the successful realization of a sustainable smart campus.

## **Summary**

The section emphasizes the crucial roles of the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Chief Facilities Officer (CFO), and Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) in the planning, building, operating, and assessing the outcomes of a sustainable smart campus. Each role has specific responsibilities:

The Chief Information/Technology officer (**CIO**) is responsible for integrating advanced technologies and ensuring the campus is equipped with the necessary digital infrastructure. This includes implementing smart technologies like IoT devices, data analytics, and cybersecurity measures to enhance campus operations' efficiency and security. The CIO also fosters a smart learning environment by providing digital learning resources and supporting innovative pedagogies.

The Chief Facilities Officer (**CFO**) oversees the physical infrastructure of the campus, managing the development and maintenance of smart buildings, smart street lighting, and smart waste management systems. The CFO ensures that campus facilities maximize energy efficiency and sustainability, incorporating alternative energy sources and smart measures to control water consumption. They also collaborate with various stakeholders to integrate smart technologies across different campus systems.

The Chief Sustainability Officer (**CSO**) focuses on the environmental and social aspects of the smart campus, developing and implementing policies that promote sustainability and reduce the campus's

carbon footprint. The CSO engages with the campus community to promote sustainable behaviors and practices.

These campus leaders' issues are overlapping and integrated with each other in the context of realizing the sustainable smart campus. Hence, there is an increasing need for these leaders to work closely and collaboratively to solve the many problems and seize opportunities that advance our campuses ability to offer superior experiences and outcomes. This collaboration may not be obvious to some leaders, and it is certainly not serendipitous. Campus executives must take intentional and mindful steps to foster greater understanding and collaboration among CFO, CIOs, CSOs and other leaders to achieve all that is important and possible with sustainable smart campuses towards the advancement of institutional missions.

## Questions

1. What knowledge skills and attitudes do to the current people in these key leadership positions bring to the planning and operation of sustainable smart campus functions?
2. To whom do these positions report? Do these executive supervisors understand the concepts of a sustainable smart campus? Are they able to support these leaders as they develop their knowledge and skills and foster needed collaboration among them and stakeholders?
3. What concepts or priorities are the CXO positions dealing with and how do they advance or detract from the realization of a sustainable smart campus?
4. How can higher education leaders collectively build trust and collaboration among various stakeholders to support the development of a sustainable smart campus?
5. What conferences or learning opportunities should the CXOs participate in?
6. How can universities address the issue of fragmented and inconsistent practices in creating and operating smart campuses?



## 3 Laying the Groundwork

The sustainable smart campus starts with institutional leaders and stakeholders who share a vision and value proposition and work collaboratively to elicit good plans, execution of projects and assessment of results. This human relationship element is critical because nobody independently builds a sustainable smart campus. It involves building shared knowledge, trust, and consensus as a foundation to defining scope, scale, and priorities associated with a sustainable smart campus. Building strong relationships among the CIO, Capital Planners, Business Officers, Sustainability Officers, and Facilities Management leaders is crucial for the successful planning and execution of a sustainable smart campus master plan. So, even before we begin planning, we must nurture the relationships among CXOs.

### Relationship Building to and through the C-Suite

CXOs have a lot to learn from each other. At most institutions, the planning circles of CIO, CFOs traditionally intersect around building plans such as where to installed low-voltage cabling, where to locate structured wiring closets, where to install audio visual equipment. CSOs may be more closely aligned with CFOs due to the high-stakes issues around energy and carbon neutrality, but they also need the robust data management tools to measure data and outcomes in support of sustainability goals.

These three CXOs have other important relationships within the institutions. Each needs to introduce their CXO counterparts to the nature of these relationships, the conversations, the issues they are facing, and the ideas and aspirations they have for creating new efficiencies and capabilities in our modern college campuses. They also will report up to various executive leaders where they can share a collective vision and discuss broad outcomes that drive transformation, alignment with institutional strategies and priorities that drive fiscal stewardship, curriculum development, and student outcomes tied to capabilities of the sustainable smart campus.

Independently, these leaders can hold competing ideas that collectively create transformational opportunities for HEIs. Collaboration ensures that technology, infrastructure, and financial planning are aligned, leading to a cohesive and comprehensive master plan.

To build these power relationships, CXOs can foster the following activities:

#### Regular Interactions and Communication

Establishing regular meetings and joint discussion and planning sessions helps all CXO participants understand each other's perspectives, strengths, and expertise. Exercising communication and collaboration channels reduce misunderstandings and fosters shared vision and alignment of goals.

#### Create Cross-Functional Teams

Creating cross-functional teams that include members from IT, facilities, sustainability offices, and others can help break down silos and encourage collaboration. These teams can work on specific projects, ensuring that both technical and operational needs are met.

#### Define Shared Objectives

Aligning goals and objectives among the CXOs ensures that investments of time, talent, and money deliver tangible value. This requires close collaboration to identify and prioritize initiatives that support the facility's mission.

**Leverage Modern Collaboration Technology**

Utilizing collaboration and video conferencing tools can facilitate idea sharing and communication between departments, especially in large or geographically dispersed organizations. Collaborative tools like Microsoft Teams can be utilized for project management, communication, and data sharing across departments.

**Shaping Culture and Promoting Diversity**

Promoting a culture of learning, sharing, opportunity, and adaptation helps CXOs drive collaborative processes in a “glass half full” environment. Leaders should encourage open communication and knowledge sharing among their teams to foster creativity, innovation, and mutual support. Bringing together diverse points of view, skills, and lived experiences fosters innovation and creative problem-solving, essential for overcoming the complex challenges of a smart campus. Foster a culture of mutual respect and trust, recognizing the expertise and contributions of each department. Our institutional rituals reinforce culture. So, to change culture, consider what activities, recognitions, or other “rituals” need to change to signal a new way of thinking, doing, and being.

**Participating in Governance Frameworks**

Participating in governance frameworks contributes to building shared understanding and ensures that smart campus initiatives are well-managed and aligned with business goals. This includes setting clear roles and responsibilities, as well as establishing processes for decision-making and accountability. Good governance enables quicker and more informed decision-making, essential given the dynamic nature of smart campus projects. Governance creates opportunities for continuous feedback and improvement, allowing for adjustments and enhancements to the plan.

**Participating in Workshops and Conferences**

When the CXOs attend seminars, workshops, and conferences together, they share social learning experiences and relationship building. These experiences can help forge productive dialog.

**Celebrating Success**

Nothing bonds people together like success! Recognize and celebrate collaborative successes to build morale and encourage ongoing cooperation.

If your institution is about to undertake a comprehensive master plan, it is likely that the guiding firm will begin with developing relationships and fostering opportunities like the ones identified above. This can be a useful source of ideas for building relationships around sustainable smart campus topics.

**External Relationships**

Building a sustainable smart campus requires collaboration with various external partners to leverage their expertise, technology, and resources. Here are some key partnerships that are important for a university aiming to achieve this goal:

**Technology Companies**

Partnerships with technology giants like Microsoft and Willow are crucial. For instance, Northern Arizona University (NAU) collaborates with these companies to develop a state-of-the-art digital replica of the Flagstaff Mountain Campus. This partnership enhances oversight, insight, and foresight across all systems and activities within buildings, optimizing factors such as costs, energy consumption, building health and wellness, and student satisfaction.

**Consulting Firms**

Collaborating with consulting firms like Deloitte can provide strategic guidance and frameworks for implementing smart campus initiatives. Deloitte’s smart campus capability framework helps universities

stay competitive by embracing smart campus strategies that ensure sustainability, relevance, and enhanced life-work-learn experiences.

#### **Energy Management Solutions Providers**

Companies specializing in energy management solutions can help universities optimize energy consumption and integrate renewable energy sources.

#### **Local Government and Community Organizations**

Engaging with local government and community organizations is essential for aligning campus sustainability goals with broader community objectives. This includes partnerships with city and county authorities, as well as organizations focused on environmental stewardship and sustainability.

#### **Green Technology Providers**

Universities can partner with providers of green technology solutions to implement data-driven energy management, optimize space usage, and reduce carbon emissions. For example, the University of Birmingham collaborates with QNEX Solutions to transform its campus into a smart and sustainable environment.

**Funding Organizations:** Securing funding from various sources is critical for implementing smart campus initiatives. Creative funding solutions can help campus leaders install connected suites of solutions that maximize limited budgets and offer a greater return on investment.

**International Collaborations:** Engaging in international collaborations can provide valuable insights and best practices from other institutions that have successfully implemented smart campus initiatives. This can include partnerships with universities and research institutions worldwide.

**Corporate Collaborations:** Engaging with corporations that have implemented smart campuses such as Walmart and Dallas Fort Worth Airport provide valuable insights into sustainable smart campus programs. HEI's can learn much from the approaches of such companies who are often embracing cutting-edge technology and innovative programs to solve similar problems.

By fostering these external partnerships, universities can effectively build and maintain sustainable smart campuses that benefit students, staff, faculty, and the larger community.

## **Evidence of Effective Relationships**

Developed relationships among CXOs can produce tangible outcomes that are important to forging SSC plans. Evidence of effective relationships might be found in the following areas:

#### **Shared Vision and Strategy**

Both CIOs and facility leaders should work together to develop a shared vision and strategy for digital infrastructure. This ensures that the infrastructure supports both IT and operational needs.

#### **Integrated Planning and Resourcing**

Collaborative planning sessions can help identify the specific requirements of both IT and facilities. This includes understanding the physical space, power, cooling needs, and network requirements. Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each department to avoid overlap and ensure accountability.

#### **Resource Allocation**

Effective collaboration ensures that resources, including budget, personnel, and time, are allocated efficiently. This helps avoid conflicts and ensures that projects stay on track. Shared insights and resources can lead to more efficient use of funds, time, and technology. Joint planning helps in aligning

budgets and financial strategies, ensuring that funds are allocated effectively and in accordance with shared priorities.

### **Risk Management**

Jointly identified risks and development of mitigation strategies can help prevent issues during the implementation phase. This includes cybersecurity risks, compliance issues, budget fluctuations, changes in strategic priorities, and operational disruptions.

### **Continuous Feedback Loops**

Establishing a continuous feedback loop allows for real-time adjustments and improvements. Regular check-ins and progress reviews help ensure that the project stays aligned with the overall goals.

### **Training and Support**

Providing training and support for staff ensures that they are equipped to use the new infrastructure effectively. This can help smooth the transition and maximize the benefits of the modern technology.

## **Adopting and Leveraging a Change Management Methodology**

Change management on university campuses can be challenging work. Overcoming inertia, identifying risks as well as benefits, communicating change and executing plans require intentionality and energy.

### **The Prosci ADKAR Approach**

The Prosci ADKAR change management methodology is particularly helpful in fostering transformational changes in a university environment because it focuses on guiding individuals through the change process, ensuring that each person is equipped to adapt and thrive. The ADKAR model consists of five stages: Awareness, Desire, Knowledge, Ability, and Reinforcement.

#### *Awareness*

This stage involves making individuals aware of the need for change. Typical activities include communication campaigns, town hall meetings, and informational sessions. The outcome is a shared understanding of why the change is necessary.

#### *Desire*

In this stage, the goal is to foster a desire to participate and support the change. Activities might include engaging stakeholders through workshops, addressing concerns, and highlighting benefits. The desired outcome is a motivated and committed campus community.

#### *Knowledge*

This stage focuses on providing the knowledge required to implement the change. Training programs, educational resources, and hands-on workshops are common activities. The outcome is a well-informed community that knows how to execute the change.

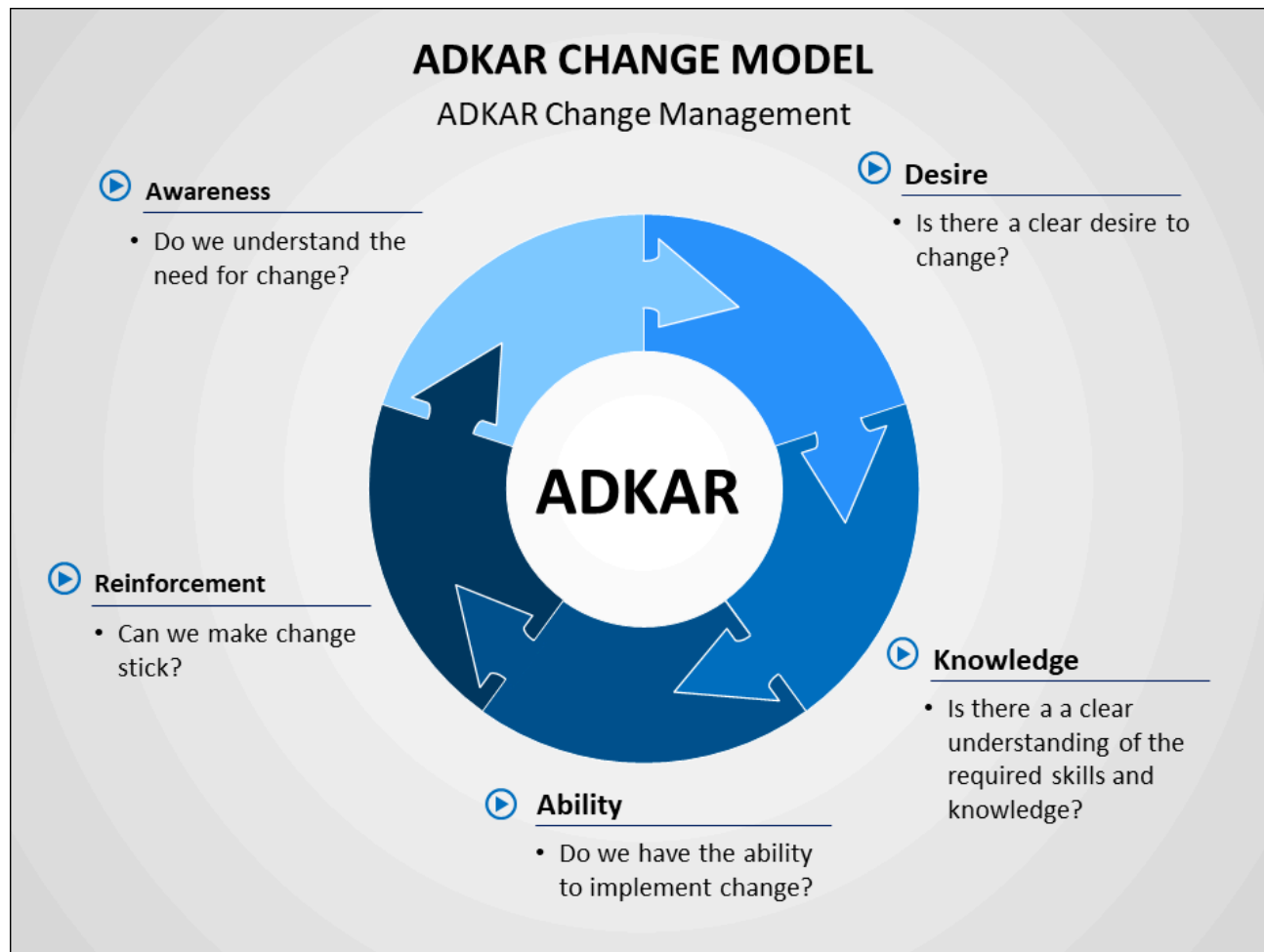
#### *Ability*

Here, the focus is on developing the ability to implement new skills and behaviors. Activities include practical training sessions, mentoring, and support systems. The outcome is a campus community capable of applying new skills effectively.

#### *Reinforcement*

The final stage ensures that the changes are sustained over time. Activities might include regular feedback sessions, recognition programs, and continuous improvement initiatives. The outcome is the

long-term adoption and reinforcement of the change.



By addressing each of these stages, the ADKAR model helps universities manage change effectively, ensuring that both individuals and the organization as a whole can successfully navigate and sustain transformational changes.

## Building Awareness and Desire Across Campus

Ensuring that everyone is aware of and understands the benefits and challenges of a sustainable smart campus is a common concern. Therefore, educating the campus community about digital transformation efforts around sustainable smart campus strategies involves ongoing and proactive management of change, clarifying of tactics, managing change, and increasing institutional agility to meet rapidly changing needs. CIOs must establish an educative posture to bring institutional functions and technology closer together.

There are several effective ways that Chief Information Officers (CIOs) can educate the campus community about technological transformations:

### Create your Definition of a Sustainable Smart Campus

They say, “if you have seen one college campus, you’ve seen one college campus.” Definitions about sustainability and smart campuses vary as do the perceptions and levels of understanding of key contributors and stakeholders. Having a clear, custom and consensus driven definition of what your

version of a sustainable smart campus is can help the community understand the specific scope and context of your institution's unique strategies and plans.

### **Engagement through Technology**

Leveraging technology to engage the campus community is important. This can include using audio-visual systems for effective learning, implementing smart classroom initiatives, and deploying IoT sensors to collect data about the campus environment. You might consider creating some data/project dashboards and digital signage to educate the campus on various aspects and outcomes of your sustainable smart campus goals.

### **Collaborative Planning**

Early collaborations between the CIO, CFO, and CSO among other campus leaders, can improve cooperation and planning for infrastructure projects. This includes sharing knowledge and resources to co-develop operational technologies that increase the effectiveness and efficiency of managing the campus. The more diversity you can include in planning also serves to create a plan that incorporates strategic themes from other divisions and articulates the impact on retention and energy savings that are typical outcomes expected with these transformational changes.

### **Engage Campus Governance**

The implications of sustainable smart campuses are particularly important to campus governance bodies. Informing these bodies is foundational to gaining their support. Nobody wants to be surprised by initiatives, and placing topics on governance discussion agendas related to sustainable smart campus initiatives is a great way to build early support and 'grease the skids' for when you have substantive requests or action items. You can usually identify key advocates and detractors during these sessions providing leadership with greater emotional intelligence about the disposition of governance participants.

### **Sustainability Initiatives**

Participating in sustainability programs and building planning projects can instill trust and confidence within the university community. This engagement allows the CIO to influence the university executive team to create long-term master plans focused on sustainability and smart campus initiatives<sup>5</sup>.

### **Community Involvement and Lectures**

Hosting community events and inviting subject matter experts to give talks on sustainability and smart cities initiatives can inspire more engagement, foster relationships, and promote the value proposition of such endeavors. Foster a community of thinkers and contributors to strategies and plans can drive buy-in and pooling of time-effort around key initiatives. It might even help overcome some of the socio-political barriers by building greater understanding and addressing challenges related to carbon neutrality, energy conservation, while creating rich campus experiences.

### **Curriculum Development and Research**

Some majors and areas of instruction are directly related to sustainable smart campus capabilities. To involve faculty, consider how you might make data available to these programs for capstone projects or as examples of modern tools like Digital Twins to expose students to state-of-the-art tools they may encounter in their careers. Engaging researchers who often crave good data sets about buildings and other energy resources can drive deeper engagement around sustainable practices and smart building design.

### **Strategic Communication**

Successful HEI executives understand the complexities of the evolving higher education environment and partner with executives and functional area leaders to educate them on the potential of digital transformation and innovation. They foster systemic change and create new value and experiences across the enterprise<sup>7</sup>.

### Demonstration Labs

A lab or building where sustainable smart technology capabilities can be demonstrated are great for educating both campus and community. Students can be toured through such facilities and staff can provide contextual demonstrations of how IoT, Data Estate Dashboards, Digital Twins and other technologies are shaping smart campuses.

## Defining Roles, Knowledge, and Abilities

The adoption of smart technologies often requires new roles and new skills among staff. Facilities staff need to learn more about IoT, BMS, and Digital Twins among other digital literacy and sustainability topics. IT staff need to better understand the proprietary nature of existing building control systems both digital and analog and rapidly emerging sustainability technologies. Sustainability staff can benefit from learning both digital infrastructure and Facilities management aspects as they craft carbon neutral plans and investigate energy programs.

### *Top Leadership and Executive Sponsors*

University presidents, provosts, and vice presidents need to understand the strategic vision and long-term benefits of smart campus initiatives. They should be aware of how these initiatives align with the university's mission and goals, as well as the potential return on investment and impact on student success.

**Responsibilities:** They are executive sponsors of strategic plans.

**Skills:** Ability to ask questions that lead to greater understanding. Top leadership needs to be able to articulate a compelling vision for sustainable smart campuses.

### *IT and Facilities Management*

These departments are crucial for the technical implementation and maintenance of smart campus technologies. They need good training and retraining. They need detailed information on how the IoT works in conjunction with building management systems, and digital twins. Much of the transformational changes will be initiated and support by management level. As such, they need to understand the impact of smart technologies on jobs.

**Responsibilities:** They have a responsibility to actively engaged leadership and to educating staff on sustainable smart campus initiatives, systems and desired outcomes while ensuring ongoing support for smooth campus operations during the transition from analog to smart systems.

**Skills:** They are often subject matter experts. Their primary skills are to interpret strategic intent, help prioritize and formulate projects and manage the talent assets to perform needed work. They can help inform on the impact of changes on front-line workers and identify issues and problems that are based in pragmatism and offer paths to resolution.

### *Trades Workers – Sharing their Experiences and Knowledge*

When an institution is undergoing digital transformation to create a smart campus, trades workers need to learn about IoT, work order systems, digital twins, and other related extrapolations on familiar analog structures. Increased digital literacy among trades workers can super-charge your smart campus transformation

**Responsibilities:** Trade workers need to share their knowledge of how facilities plants work so that this tacit knowledge can be incorporated into systems or otherwise incorporated as valuable base knowledge to how the digital twins, building management systems, lighting controls, Irrigation, and other assets are programmed to perform their smart role.

**Skills:** They are subject matter experts about the built world and are primarily responsible for providing services that keep the institution running. They have a lot to offer when it comes to understanding how our campuses infrastructure operates. However, they can be resistant to sharing their knowledge, fearing exposure of unattended issues, change in general, and the perceived potential



of job loss to automation.

#### *Faculty and Staff –*

Faculty and staff should be informed about how smart campus technologies can enhance teaching, learning, and administrative processes. This includes training on new tools and systems, as well as understanding how these technologies can improve efficiency and student engagement, and desired student outcomes. Much of the training on systems is obtained during implementation phases, but smart campus leaders should plan for re-training and continuous incremental improvements to using smart technologies to realize better student experiences, outcomes, and operational efficiencies.

Faculty and staff should be engaged in a way that promotes their good experiences, uses and outcomes associated with sustainable smart campus initiatives.

**Responsibilities:** Faculty and staff have lived experiences and should share those in contextually relevant ways and through appropriate vehicles of engagement.

**Skills:** Faculty and staff should be comfortable sharing their lived experiences in verbal and written forms and able to ask relevant questions about sustainable smart campuses and its many impacts on the institution.

#### *Students – Contribute and Share Experiences*

Students are the primary beneficiaries of smart campus initiatives. They need to know how these technologies will improve their campus experience, from smart classrooms and digital resources to enhanced safety and convenience features. Many HEIs have student committees around green initiatives. Involving students in the planning, prioritization and implementation of smart sustainable technologies ensures they are engaged and have a voice in shaping desired and meaningful campus experiences. Like faculty and staff, students should be engaged ways that capture and promotes their good experiences, uses and outcomes associated with sustainable smart campus initiatives.

**Responsibilities:** Engage in opportunities presented by the administration. Particularly in the context of student government.

**Skills:** Students should be able and comfortable to share their lived experiences on campus and ask questions about sustainable smart campus initiatives and how they impact students.

#### *External Partners – Advise and Promote*

Collaborations with technology providers, consulting firms, and local government are essential for the successful implementation of smart campus initiatives. These partners need to be kept informed about the university's goals, progress, and any challenges that arise during the implementation process. These partners can often be great sources of knowledge and training on sustainable smart campus capabilities.

**Responsibilities:** Advise and promote. External partners can help connect smart campus leaders with others who have implemented various solutions and help the university adapt or adopt solutions that further its strategic intent.

**Skills:** Subject matter experts and architects of solutions.

#### *Facilities Manager*

**Responsibilities:** Oversee the integration and management of smart technologies within campus buildings, ensuring everything runs smoothly. This includes property strategy, space management, building maintenance, and compliance with health and safety standards.

**Skills:** Strong organizational and leadership skills, knowledge of building systems, and the ability to manage budgets and resources effectively.

#### *Energy and Sustainability Specialist*

**Responsibilities:** Implement and monitor energy efficiency and sustainability initiatives, promote environmental stewardship, and provide technical support for sustainability programs.



**Skills:** Analytical skills, knowledge of green building practices, and experience with energy management systems.

### *Smart Campus Coordinator*

**Responsibilities:** Manage the deployment and operation of smart systems across the campus, coordinate with various departments, and ensure the smooth functioning of smart technologies.

**Skills:** Strong coordination and project management skills, familiarity with smart technologies, and excellent communication abilities.

### *Director of Integration*

*Responsibilities:* This role involves customer relations, training, and program implementation, working closely with project stakeholders from site teams to the C-suite.

*Skills:* Ability to understand how separate systems work and communicate implications of integration among those systems with sustainable smart campus stakeholders.

### *IoT Systems Engineer*

**Responsibilities:** Design and maintain the Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructure, ensuring seamless integration and functionality of IoT devices and networks.

**Skills:** Technical expertise in IoT systems, networking, and data analysis, along with problem-solving skills.

### *Data Analyst*

**Responsibilities:** Analyze data from smart systems to optimize campus operations, improve sustainability, and provide actionable insights.

**Skills:** Proficiency in data analysis tools, statistical knowledge, and the ability to interpret complex data sets.

### *Security Manager*

**Responsibilities:** Ensure the security of smart systems and data, implement cybersecurity measures, and manage physical security on campus.

**Skills:** Knowledge of security technologies, risk assessment, and crisis management skills.

### *Sustainability Program Coordinator*

**Responsibilities:** Develop and implement sustainability programs, coordinate campus-wide sustainability efforts, and promote sustainable practices.

**Skills:** Strong organizational and communication skills, experience with sustainability initiatives, and the ability to work collaboratively.

### *Building Automation Specialist*

**Responsibilities:** Manage automated systems for lighting, HVAC, and other building functions, ensuring energy efficiency and user comfort.

**Skills:** Technical expertise in building automation systems, programming skills, and the ability to troubleshoot and optimize systems.

### *Renewable Energy Consultant*

**Responsibilities:** Advise on the integration of renewable energy sources, conduct energy audits, and develop strategies for energy optimization.

**Skills:** Knowledge of renewable energy technologies, analytical skills, and experience with energy management.

### *Environmental Health and Safety Officer*

**Responsibilities:** Ensure compliance with environmental and safety regulations, develop, and implement health and safety programs, and conduct regular inspections.

**Skills:** Knowledge of EH&S regulations, strong organizational skills, and the ability to conduct training and investigations.

#### *Strategic Planning and Coordination*

**Responsibilities:** Many HEIs will have someone in a strategic planning role. These individuals are responsible for developing and executing strategic plans that align with the university's overarching mission and goals. Working with strategic planners to incorporate smart plans into institutional strategies and priorities will help your projects get visibility, support, and traction.

**Skills:** These individuals should have some understanding of sustainable smart campus capabilities, technologies, and plans. Communication and facilitation skills are also typical associated with this position.

## Roles of Participants, Benefactors, and Stakeholders

Implementing smart campus initiatives on a college campus involves various stakeholders, each with specific information needs and roles. Here is a breakdown of who needs to know what and their role in educating the campus community.

### **Learning Materials**

Increasingly there are publications and research that can be consumed that describe the latest issues and technologies in support of sustainable smart campuses.

**5 Smart Campus Solutions You Must Know for Sustainable Campus** explores smart campus solutions with a focus on sustainability, including data-driven energy management, optimizing space, and integrating IoT ecosystems.<sup>2</sup>

**The University Campus as a Living Lab for Sustainability:** This handbook provides material on developing sustainable campuses and implementing scientific findings, aimed at university managerial, strategic, or support staff.<sup>3</sup>

**Smart Campus | Sustainable Stanford:** Stanford University's initiatives on smart campus solutions, supported by advanced IT infrastructure and security networks, offer valuable insights into managing campus infrastructure sustainably.<sup>4</sup>

**Advanced Technology for Smart Buildings:** A book by James Sinopoli covers in great detail the various aspects of a smart building.

**Blog on Smart Campuses:** EAB has a blog discussing the concept of smart campuses, the challenges institutions face in implementing them, and the benefits they can bring. The blog highlights the importance of integrating various technologies to create a cohesive smart campus environment.<sup>5</sup>

Readers can incorporate aspects of these publications, parts of this document, and others referenced in the bibliograph to expand one's knowledge of sustainable smart campuses.

### **Awareness and Planning Events**

Organizing events where examples of smart campuses and related issues can be socialized and shared are important to building deeper understanding of sustainable smart technologies and strategies. Moreover, getting participants to make evaluations and contribute to planning invests them in strategies and outcomes. Firms that conduct master planning have a full repertoire of tools and activities that can help forge engagement.

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<sup>2</sup> [5 Smart Campus Solutions You Must Know for Sustainable Campus – O-NEX Smart Campus](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Campus as a Living Lab Handbook.pdf](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Smart Campus | Sustainable Stanford](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Campuses are getting smarter. But is your institution ready for a "smart campus"? | EAB](#)

### Site Visits

Visiting other institutions and corporate campuses can provide insights into how others have deployed smart technologies and programs. Actually, seeing these capabilities and program in action have power in helping your campus see and conceptualize the art of the possible. These visits also elicit relationships that can be leveraged over years to bring diverse viewpoints, lived experiences and insights to your planning and execution.

### Technical Briefings

CXOs described in this document can **call upon experts to provide technical briefings to executive leadership teams, groups of stakeholders and benefactors. Short videos of these briefings can be placed on the web in the context of other materials to share information about sustainable smart campus plans and capabilities.**

### Professional Organizations

**Smart Cities Council:** Focuses on advancing the livability, workability, and sustainability of cities through technology and data-driven solutions. They provide resources, advocacy, and networking opportunities for smart city projects<sup>6</sup>.

**International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP):** A global association of experienced professionals that promotes sustainable urban and regional development. They offer conferences, workshops, and publications on smart city planning.

**Higher Education Smart Campus Association (HESCA):** Dedicated to promoting smart campus technologies and solutions in higher education. They organize conferences, provide resources, and facilitate collaboration among institutions.

**IEEE Smart Cities Initiative:** Part of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), this initiative focuses on fostering innovation and collaboration in smart city technologies. They offer conferences, publications, and standards development.

**Smart Cities Association:** Aims to support the development and implementation of smart city projects worldwide. They provide resources, networking opportunities, and advocacy for smart city initiatives.

### Conferences

The professional organizations often hold conferences to gather subject matter experts together around emerging issues. These professional organizations attract a diverse group of practitioners and executives. Sustainable smart campus capabilities are emerging topics of discussion among other professional conferences like EDUCAUSE, CUPA, and NACUBO so look closely at the agendas for your professional organization. As additional institutions and organizations recognize the need to for sustainable smart campus strategies, we will see an increase in events and sessions with smart themes. Any opportunity for the three CXOs to participate in conferences together is likely to help forge shared insights. Hosting a campus conference and attracting subject matter experts is another approach. Bringing people together with diverse backgrounds can be energizing and illuminating of others' approaches to building sustainable smart campuses. The more diverse points of view leaders can incorporate into their planning, the better the plan.

#### Smart Cities Council:

- **Event:** Smart Cities Connect Fall Conference and Expo
- **Dates:** November 18–20, 2025
- **Location:** National Harbor, MD

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<sup>6</sup> [How universities' smart campuses resemble mini smart cities](#)

- **Themes:** Smart infrastructure, data-driven solutions, urban innovation.
- **Web:** [Events – Smart Cities Council](#)

**International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP):**

- **Event:** World Planning Congress
- **Dates:** October 8-12, 2024
- **Location:** Siena, Italy
- **Themes:** Reinventing the (In)Visible Cities, heritage to innovation, resilience.
- **Web:** [New Ideas. Big Ideas. Smart Ideas Emerge at ... – Smart Cities Council](#).

**Higher Education Smart Campus Association (HESCA):**

- **Event:** HESCA Annual Conference & Exhibition
- **Dates:** March 26-27, 2025
- **Location:** Downing College, University of Cambridge, UK
- **Themes:** Smart technology for future campuses, cost-effective smart campus solutions, sustainable ID card production, digital identity, and access control.
- **Web:** [Smart Cities MIAMI Conference – Bringing relevant trending topics to ...](#).

**IEEE Smart Cities Initiative:**

- **Event:** IEEE International Smart Cities Conference (ISC2)
- **Dates:** September 24-27, 2023
- **Location:** University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest, Romania
- **Themes:** Smart Cities: A Holistic Approach.
- **Web:** [2023 Engagement Program | Smart Cities Council](#).

**Smart Cities Association:**

- **Event:** Smart City Expo USA
- **Dates:** April 2-3, 2025
- **Location:** Javits Center, New York City
- **Themes:** Equitable Urban Futures, collaborative innovation, social and spatial equity.
- **Web:** [Higher Education Smart Campus Association – Smartex](#)

These conferences provide excellent opportunities to learn about the latest advancements, network with professionals, and explore innovative solutions in the smart campus and smart city domains. Are you considering attending any of these events?

## Project Management

Project management is a practice beyond ADKAR definition but needs to be considered in the change management context. Formal project management is instrumental in executing projects and advancing strategic plans in a university environment because it provides a structured approach to planning, scoping, organizing, resourcing, and overseeing projects. This ensures that projects are completed on time, within budget, and to the expected quality standards. Here are some key aspects of formal project management tasks:

**Project Planning:** This involves defining the project scope, objectives, and deliverables. It includes creating a detailed project plan that outlines tasks, timelines, resources, and milestones. Effective planning helps in setting clear expectations and provides a roadmap for project execution.

**Resource Management:** Allocating and managing resources, including personnel, budget, and materials, is crucial. This ensures that the necessary resources are available when needed and are used efficiently. Proper resource management helps in avoiding delays and cost overruns.

**Risk Management:** Identifying potential risks and developing mitigation strategies is a key aspect of project management. This involves assessing risks, prioritizing them, and implementing measures to minimize their impact. Effective risk management helps in ensuring project stability and success.

**Communication Management:** Establishing clear communication channels and protocols is essential for keeping all stakeholders informed and engaged. This includes regular status updates, meetings, and reports. Effective communication helps in aligning objectives and addressing issues promptly.

**Quality Management:** Ensuring that the project meets the required quality standards involves setting quality criteria, conducting regular inspections, and implementing corrective actions when necessary. Quality management helps in delivering a high-quality final product.

**Stakeholder Management:** Engaging and managing stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and external partners, is vital. This involves understanding their needs, expectations, and concerns, and ensuring their active participation throughout the project.

**Monitoring and Control:** Continuously tracking project progress against the plan and making necessary adjustments is crucial. This includes monitoring key performance indicators (KPIs), conducting regular reviews, and implementing corrective actions to keep the project on track.

**Project Closure:** Completing all project activities, obtaining stakeholder approval, and documenting lessons learned are important steps in project closure. This ensures that the project is formally closed and provides valuable insights for future projects.

By incorporating these aspects, formal project management helps universities execute projects effectively, align them with strategic goals, and achieve desired outcomes.

## Reinforcing and Sustaining Change

To support the Reinforcement stage in the ADKAR model on a university campus, leaders can engage in several activities to ensure that changes are sustained and become part of the organizational culture:

### Celebrations and Recognition

Organize events to celebrate milestones and recognize individuals or teams who have successfully adopted the change. This can include awards, public acknowledgments, and appreciation events.

### Feedback Mechanisms

Implement regular feedback sessions where faculty, staff, and students can share their experiences and provide input on the change. This helps in identifying areas for improvement and reinforcing positive behaviors.

### Visible Performance Measurement

Use dashboards, scorecards, or other visual tools to track and display progress. Publicly sharing these metrics can motivate the campus community to maintain their efforts and stay aligned with the change objectives.

### Continuous Training and Support

Offer ongoing training sessions and resources to ensure that everyone remains proficient in the new

processes or technologies. Providing continuous support helps in reinforcing the change and addressing any challenges that arise.

### **Accountability Mechanisms**

Establish clear accountability structures to ensure that individuals and teams are responsible for maintaining the change. This can include setting performance goals, conducting regular reviews, and integrating change-related metrics into performance appraisals.

### **Corrective Actions**

When deviations from the desired behaviors or outcomes are identified, implement corrective actions to address them promptly. This can involve additional training, coaching, or adjustments to the change implementation plan, or reconfiguring software.

### **Communication and Engagement**

Maintain open lines of communication to keep the campus community informed about the progress and benefits of the change. Regular updates, newsletters, and town hall meetings can help in reinforcing the importance of the change.

By engaging in these activities, a CIO can effectively support the reinforcement stage of the ADKAR model, ensuring that transformational changes are sustained and integrated into the university's culture.

## **Summary**

This section emphasizes the importance of collaboration among the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Chief Facilities Officer (CFO), and Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) in creating a sustainable smart campus. It highlights that these roles, while distinct, must work together to achieve common goals. The CIO focuses on technological integration, the CFO on physical infrastructure, and the CSO on sustainability initiatives.

The section also discusses the challenges and strategies for fostering strong relationships, such as regular communication, shared vision, and mutual respect. By fostering strong relationships among key leaders, higher education institutions can create a more effective, efficient, and innovative approach to developing and maintaining a sustainable smart campus. The collaboration among the CXOs not only enhances the planning and execution process but also ensures that the campus remains at the forefront of sustainability and technological advancement.

## **Questions**

1. What elements of our culture foster or detract from achieving digital transformation in the context of smart sustainable campuses? What can we do bend culture to our strategic intent in achieving a sustainable smart campus?
2. How do you see the current state of the critical relationships in support of institutional strategies at your institution? Are there any specific roles or people at your institution where you think relationships could be improved?
3. How can we foster improved cooperation between the Chief Information Officer and the Chief Facilities Officer and Chief Sustainability Officer to support the planning of infrastructure for construction projects?

4. What are the shared goals and vision for the sustainable smart campus? Are there gaps?
5. What is the prevailing culture and what needs to change about it? What “rituals” can you remove, change, or introduce to more clearly reinforce the desired cultural state needed to build a sustainable smart campus?
6. What tools or forums are you using to drive collaboration and communication? Do you need to standardize on a platform like MS Teams to foster sharing and engagement?
7. What strategies can we use to build trust and confidence in sustainable smart campus plans with the university community?
8. How can we leverage the knowledge of smart-city and industry experts to address the challenges of creating a sustainable smart campus?
9. What role can a community of thinkers and contributors play in helping us understand and address the challenges of achieving a sustainable smart campus?
10. How can we ensure that our smart campus initiatives are inclusive and involve various internal and external organizations effectively?

## 4 Planning the Smart Campus

HEI's are accustomed to creating campus master plans. These plans are defined as a comprehensive, long-term, documented plan that outlines the vision for the physical development of a university or college campus. It serves as a roadmap for future growth and development, ensuring that the campus evolves in a way that supports the institution's strategic goals and enhances the overall campus environment.

The planning of a sustainable smart campus can take years or even decades to accomplish. The plan may span changes in institutional Presidencies and CXO leaders. Progress will likely be marked by a series of smaller projects – each a building block towards the larger vision. Adjustments in priority and sequencing of projects will need to be adjusted as campus conditions and economic changes occur.

Creating a sustainable smart campus plan will likely require the folding of smaller plans together like the sustainability plan, technology plan, or institutional master facilities plan. If your institution is considering a master planning engagement, leverage the energy and funding associated with these mega planning efforts if possible.

Whether you are leveraging a master plan or starting a separate smart campus plan, it will certainly involve a comprehensive process that involves several key steps to ensure it aligns with the institution's strategic goals and supports its long-term vision.

Here is a general outline of a typical planning process:

1. **Create a compelling vision**  
Leadership should start by defining a clear vision and strategic plan for the smart campus. This includes setting goals, identifying key areas for improvement, and outlining the desired outcomes.



2. **Establish a Planning Committee**  
Form a diverse committee that includes representatives from administration, faculty, staff, students, and the local community to ensure broad input and buy-in.
3. **Define Goals and Objectives**  
Clearly articulate the goals and objectives of the master plan, aligning them with the institution's mission, vision, and strategic plan.
4. **Conduct a Needs Assessment**  
Evaluate the current state of the campus, including facilities, infrastructure, and space utilization. Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT analysis).
5. **Engage Stakeholders**  
Engaging stakeholders, including students, faculty, staff, and the broader community, is crucial. This ensures that the smart campus initiatives align with the needs and expectations of all stakeholders. Creating effective governance structures that engage the campus community broadly is an essential construct for planning and building the SSC. Conduct workshops, surveys, and meetings to gather input from all stakeholders. This helps ensure the plan reflects the needs and aspirations of the entire campus community.
6. **Develop a Vision and Guiding Principles**  
Create a vision statement and set of guiding principles that will steer the planning process and decision-making.
7. **Analyze Data and Trends**  
Review demographic, academic, and financial data, as well as trends in higher education, to inform the planning process.
8. **Create Conceptual Plans**  
Develop multiple conceptual plans that explore different scenarios and options for campus development. These should include considerations for land use, building placement, transportation, and green spaces.
9. **Evaluate and Select a Preferred Plan**  
Assess the conceptual plans based on criteria such as feasibility, cost, and alignment with strategic goals. Select the preferred plan through a consensus-building process.
10. **Develop Detailed Plans**  
Once a preferred plan is selected, develop detailed plans for specific projects, including timelines, budgets, and phasing strategies.
11. **Seek Approvals and Funding**  
The planning process will have time, energy, and money costs associated with it. Ensure that you have identified the resources you need ahead of initiating any planning. Leverage existing governance to get traction. Obtain necessary approvals from governing bodies and secure funding for the development of the plan. Funding for the execution of the plan will have to come later once the plan scope and priorities are defined.
12. **Implement the Plan**  
Begin the phased implementation of the master plan, ensuring continuous communication and engagement with stakeholders throughout the process.
13. **Monitor, Report and Update**  
Regularly review and update the master plan to reflect changes in circumstances, new opportunities, and lessons learned from implementation.



## Perspectives on Planning

When planning a sustainable smart campus, institutional leaders should consider the following general information and advice:

### **Leverage Trusted Partnerships and Vendors**

Identify existing vendor relationships that can be leveraged and determine where new technologies and products need to be sourced to realize the smart campus vision.

### **Adopt Standards and Ensure Interoperability**

Plan for the integration of and adopt standards for smart technologies in upcoming renovations and new construction projects. This includes ensuring data integration and open architecture principles are in place.

### **Invest in Data Infrastructure**

Prioritize investments in data infrastructure to optimize new technologies and data sources as smart campus facilities come online.

### **Focus on Sustainability**

Implement technologies that reduce carbon emissions and improve energy efficiency, such as digital twins and smart lighting systems. For example, the University of Birmingham's digital twin effort led to a five percent reduction in carbon emissions.

### **Adopt a Holistic Vision**

Embrace a coordinated and comprehensive approach to smart campus transformation, considering the needs of all stakeholders and ensuring that all initiatives are interconnected and scalable.

### **Conduct Tabletop Exercises**

Tabletop exercises which work with campus maps and drawings provide tactile engagement and can help identify aspects or areas of campus that lack the necessary infrastructure or present good opportunities for smart campus features. These exercises can be recorded, or artifacts preserved to engage others with ideas and issues.

### **Solicit Student Feedback through Engaged Activities**

We sometimes overlook the input that students need to bring to defining and prioritizing sustainable smart campus elements. It can be hard to engage students meaningfully. Companies who conduct comprehensive studies for master planning know how to engage student in hands on activities to get meaningful input. Consider partnering with student government to elicit student participation in defining the smart campus.

### **Promote Safety and Security**

Utilize smart technologies like sensors and cameras to enhance campus safety and security. This can include simulating emergency scenarios and designing effective evacuation plans. Be sensitive to privacy issues and be transparent in addressing concerns with safety, surveillance, and other sensitive issues.

### **Encourage Innovation and Flexibility**

Use a modular, adaptive, and flexible architecture to allow the smart campus to evolve over time and meet the ever-changing needs of end-users. Involve participants who have a positive disposition and entrepreneurial spirit when developing smart campuses. There are one hundred reasons not to do something, and really good one, so do not let the nay-sayers assuage you from seeking the art of the possible.

### **Engage the Community Subject Matter Experts**

Involve faculty, researchers, and staff whose knowledge and skills can provide good consultative input. In doing so, you will get free advice and begin to build support around key concepts of a sustainable smart campus.

### **Publish the Plan and Promote Your Progress**

Let's face it, a lot of plans go on the shelf, and we simply dust them off every so often to inform another plan. Make your smart campus plan a living plan, subject to frequent updates and accessible for the college community to review and gauge progress. Doing so offers a transparent look into priorities and helps advertise new capabilities to be excited about.

By following these guidelines, institutional leaders can create a sustainable smart campus that enhances the student experience, improves operational efficiency, and supports long-term strategic goals.

## **Revisiting Strong Leadership and Relationships**

Key success factors for initiating and sustaining transformational initiatives in higher education include strong leadership, clear vision, and effective communication. We have already discussed the need for strong leadership and effective communication among the CXOs. That leadership, communication, engagement, and trust-building must also be extended to other C-suite leaders and stakeholders through the development of high-functioning relationships.

### **Involve Key Stakeholders Early**

Engage university leadership and other key stakeholders early in the planning process. Their input can help shape the strategy and ensure that it addresses their specific needs and concerns.

### **Focus on Building Trust and Relationships.**

When everyone is committed to the same vision, it builds trust and fosters a collaborative environment. Team members are more likely to support and help each other. This involves regular communication, understanding their concerns, and demonstrating empathy towards their challenges.

### **Foster a Culture of Innovation**

Encourage a culture that embraces change and innovation. Recognize and reward employees who contribute to digital initiatives and create an environment where experimentation and learning are valued.

## **The Purpose and Power of a Shared Vision**

One of the first steps in planning a sustainable smart campus is to establish a clear vision and set of objectives. This vision should focus on creating a modern, technology-enabled workspace that fosters collaboration, community connections, and sustainability. So, it is important for C-Suite Trio to work together to create a shared vision and build consensus among campus stakeholders. This vision is a guiding light, uniting individual aspirations under a collective identity and providing the framework to inspire teams and forge common actionable objectives.

### **Alignment and Unity**

A shared vision aligns everyone towards common goals, ensuring that all team members are working in the same direction. This unity helps eliminate silos and fosters cross-functional collaboration.

### **Motivation and Engagement**

When team members understand and believe in the vision, they are more motivated and engaged. They see their work as meaningful and contributing to a larger purpose.

### **Guidance and Direction**

A clear vision provides a roadmap for decision-making and prioritization. It helps teams navigate challenges and uncertainties by keeping the end goal in sight.

### **Enhanced Communication**

A shared vision promotes transparency and open communication. It ensures that everyone is on the same page, which is crucial for effective teamwork and problem-solving.

### **Inspiration and Innovation**

A compelling vision can inspire creativity and innovation. It encourages team members to think outside the box and come up with new ideas to achieve the vision.

### **Highlight Tangible Benefits**

Clearly articulate the benefits of sustainable smart campuses. Use case studies and examples from similar organizations to illustrate these benefits.

## **Identify Existing Partners or Gaps**

Identify and document existing vendor relationships that can be leveraged and determine where new technologies and products need to be sourced to realize the smart campus vision. This includes technology providers, training staff, and funding mechanisms.

## **Conduct an Inventory of Assets and Activities**

CXOs should take stock of current technological, talent, and programmatic assets to identify potential gaps in technology. For example:

- are the Facilities BACNET and campus backbone networks connected and secured properly?
- What current IoT devices are deployed. What data is being collected? How is it being used?
- What Building Management Systems exists?
- What talents exist among CXO staff who are ready, or need to be ready for deploying and operating sustainable smart campus systems?
- What data do we have on our built world? Do we have BIM data? Accurate static data?
- What elements of the strategic plan inform and/or align with our vision of a sustainable smart campus? Where are there gaps?

### **Ensure Interoperability / Compatibility of Current Projects with Vision**

If there are current projects, quickly ascertain if aspects of those projects need aligning with future-state. Make sure that all upcoming renovations and new construction projects include smart technology data integration and open architecture principles essential to smart campus efforts.

### **Data Infrastructure**

Invest in data infrastructure to ensure that new technologies and data sources are optimized as smart campus facilities come online. This includes big data handling, cloud computing, and IoT integration.

## Conduct a SWOT Analysis

After you have an inventory of supporting technology, talent, and programs, it can be useful to conduct a SWOT analysis for smart campus planning. A SWOT analysis facilitates a comprehensive understanding of the internal and external factors that can impact the smart campus project, enabling informed decision-making and strategic planning.

**Strengths:** Identifying the existing strengths of the campus, such as advanced technological infrastructure, strong academic programs, and a supportive administrative framework, can help leverage these assets in the smart campus initiative.

**Weaknesses:** Recognizing weaknesses, such as outdated systems, lack of technical expertise, or limited financial resources, allows for targeted improvements and resource allocation to address these gaps.

**Opportunities:** Highlighting opportunities, such as the integration of IoT and cloud computing, potential partnerships with tech companies, and the adoption of sustainable practices, can guide strategic planning and innovation.

**Threats:** Understanding potential threats, such as cybersecurity risks, resistance to change from stakeholders, and budget constraints, helps in developing mitigation strategies to ensure the successful implementation of the smart campus.

## Defining Governance

We have previously discussed the importance and nature of how good governance structures advanced sustainable smart campuses. Establishing a new or adjusting an existing governance framework that includes strategic decision-making, and operational oversight should come early in the planning and exist prior to the execution of supporting projects. Governance should facilitate the involvement of stakeholders and subject matter experts. Create transparency and provide updates and reporting both up to the executive cabinet and down to functional areas so everyone is aware of governance processes and outcomes.

## Collaborate to Create the Plan

Leveraging the relationships that have been formed, identify a planning / steering committee for creating a smart campus plan would be responsible for identifying the specific strategies and tactics that support the vision, set priorities, identify funding and assets, oversee the implementation, and ensuring the alignment of the smart campus initiatives with the institution's strategic goals. The committee would address critical questions such as the goals of the smart campus investments, the resources and oversight required, and the partnerships and vendors needed to realize the smart campus vision.

Participants in the steering committee would typically include university administrators, industry partners, policymakers, IT and facilities management staff, and representatives from the student body. This diverse group ensures that all aspects of the smart campus, from technology integration to student engagement, are considered and addressed. The steering committee could also initiate campus-wide activities and crowd sourcing to gather ideas and perspectives around sustainable smart campuses and desired experiences. The committee might also focus on ensuring interoperability, scaling data infrastructure, and integrating smart technologies into upcoming renovations and new construction projects.

## The ADKAR Framework for Guiding Change

Change is hard. Using the PROSCI ADKAR framework can offer advantages for planning and oversight committees involved in transformational change and the creation of a sustainable smart campus.

ADKAR is an acronym that stands for:

- Awareness of the need for change
- Desire to participate and support the change.
- Knowledge on how to change.
- Ability to implement required skills and behaviors.
- Reinforcement to sustain the change.

Each element represents a stage in the change process, helping to guide individuals and organizations through successful transformations.

### Structured Approach

The ADKAR model provides a clear, step-by-step process that helps ensure all aspects of change are addressed. This includes creating awareness, fostering desire, imparting knowledge, developing ability, and reinforcing the change.

### Focus on Individuals

Unlike some other models, ADKAR emphasizes the human side of change. It recognizes that successful organizational change depends on individual change, making it easier to manage resistance and ensure that everyone is on board.

### Scalability

The model can be scaled to fit projects of any size, from small initiatives to large-scale transformations. This flexibility is particularly useful in a complex environment like a smart campus.

### Common Language

ADKAR provides a common language and framework for change, which can help align all stakeholders and ensure that everyone understands the process and their role in it.

### Sustained Effort

By focusing on reinforcement, the ADKAR model helps ensure that changes are not only implemented but also sustained over time. This is crucial for the long-term success of a smart campus.

**Targeted Strategies:** The model allows for the development of targeted strategies at each stage of the change process, addressing specific needs and challenges as they arise.

Implementing the ADKAR framework can help your institution navigate the complexities of transformational change, ensuring a smoother transition and more sustainable outcomes.

## Staff Roles and Readiness

The roles of staff may change significantly as the institution engages in transformative changes around sustainable smart campus initiatives. Simply, staff roles will certainly need to evolve to support the integration of technologies and create a dynamic digital ecosystem. This includes using digital twins and artificial intelligence to enhance educational processes and improve resource utilization, information dissemination, and space utilization.

Implementing and operating a sustainable smart campus involves integrating advanced technologies to create an interconnected and efficient educational environment. Here are some key skills that people might need:

### *Technical Proficiency*

**IoT Management** – Understanding how to manage and maintain Internet of Things (IoT) devices, such as sensors and connected systems.

**Data Analytics** – Skills in collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data to make informed decisions and improve campus operations.

**Cybersecurity** – Ensuring the security of digital infrastructure and protecting sensitive information from cyber threats.

### *Digital Literacy*

**AI and Machine Learning** – Familiarity with AI-driven tools and machine learning algorithms to enhance learning experiences and administrative tasks.

**Software and App Development** – Ability to develop and manage applications that support smart campus functionalities.

### *Sustainability Practices:*

**Energy Management** – Knowledge of energy-efficient systems and sustainable practices to reduce the campus's carbon footprint.

**Smart Building / Digital Twin Management** – Skills in managing smart buildings or digital twins requires users to be proficient in their use. Trades people – using data tools to inform their work. Managing valves and sensors remotely.

### *Communication and Collaboration*

**Interdisciplinary Collaboration** – Working effectively with various departments to discuss difficult topics related to change and the integration of new technology across different aspects of campus life.

### *Problem-Solving and Adaptability*

**Innovation and Creativity** – Developing innovative solutions to enhance the smart campus experience.

### *Project Management*

Project Managers need to develop or hone their skills while coming up to speed on specific technologies and desired capabilities.

## **Consider Phased Approach with Early Visible Wins**

Taken on whole, the sustainable smart campus is a big undertaking with inherent risks often associated with cultural change and the introduction of new technologies. While forming a comprehensive compelling vision is important, leaders should consider a phased approach to implementation that aligns with the vision.

Labeling sustainable smart campus projects as pilots may seem like soft entry points of experimentation for larger initiatives and potentially provide graceful paths for retreat if actions do not go well. But the connotation with pilots is that they lack commitment, are underfunded, and often fail to involve key participants who should contribute and can lead to a weak series of incoherent actions. Therefore, we posit

that “piloting” should be avoided in our experience in favor well defined projects organized in a phased approach.

Taking a phased approach to creating a sustainable smart campus creates better alignment within the institution, and to the chosen partners that signals strong strategic intent and elicits alignment and commitment out of all involved. A phased approach allows for a structured and systematic implementation of the smart campus vision, ensuring that each phase builds upon the previous one and aligns with the overall strategic goals. This method provides a clear roadmap, enabling better resource allocation, risk management, and stakeholder engagement. Phased implementation ensures that the integration of advanced technologies, such as IoT, AI, and Digital Twins is done thoughtfully and intentionally, optimizing resource utilization, and reducing operational costs.

Strategic phasing fosters collaboration among key stakeholders, including Chief Information Officers (CIOs), Chief Sustainability Officers (CSOs), and Chief Facilities Officers (CFOs), to achieve the goals of carbon neutrality, energy conservation, and enhanced campus experiences. Ultimately, a phased approach provides a more reliable and scalable pathway to achieving a sustainable smart campus, ensuring that each step is deliberate and contributes to the broader vision.

This phased approach should thoughtfully consider initial projects that create visibility into the possibilities of attaining the strategic vision. By starting with smaller “low hanging fruit” projects, the campus can execute on new ideas and technologies in a controlled environment before scaling them up. Right-sizing projects and providing good project management over them allows for the identification and mitigation of potential risks and issues, monitoring progress, and measuring outcomes. Fully managed projects also provide the scaffolding for broad engagement and foster formal collaboration between functional areas, partners, and communities, leading to increased support, and generating innovative ideas for projects with clear benefit and evidence of desired outcomes.

On the heels of success, these initial projects are ready to be scaled up to extend their impact or provide a catalyst to bigger initiatives. While the implicit connotations of “piloting” undermine broad inclusivity around the shared vision, and the collective engagement and collaboration between silos. As such projects should be formed that:

### **Properly Funded and Resourced**

Properly funding and resourcing sustainable smart campus projects is crucial to ensure the successful implementation and sustainability of innovative technologies that enhance campus efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and improve the overall student and faculty experience.

**Create a Clear Roadmap:** Develop a clear, phased roadmap for digital transformation. This should include short-term wins and long-term goals aligned with strategy, helping to manage expectations and demonstrate progress over time.

**Project Management:** Providing formal project management over smart campus projects is essential to ensure that these initiatives are executed efficiently, stay within budget, identify, and mitigate key risks, drive inclusivity and engagement, and achieve their intended goals of enhancing campus sustainability and technological innovation.

**Provide Training and Support:** Offer training programs to help facilities management staff understand and use new technologies. Providing ongoing support can ease the transition and reduce resistance.

**Address Security, Privacy and Compliance Concerns:** Ensure that all digital initiatives comply with relevant regulations and have robust security measures in place. This can alleviate fears about data breaches and regulatory issues.

## Document and Track the Plan

Document the plan using planning tools to aid in capturing and tracking the plan. Beyond the simple use of Excel spreadsheets or Word documents, planning tools help organize participants and the work, and can automate many aspects of project management and in particular track the progress and impact of activities and outcomes towards a defined strategic intent. These tools facilitate timely updates and accuracy in reporting as the single source of truth about activities and outcomes of the plan.

## Managing Risks

Implementing a sustainable smart campus involves several risks. One major risk is the challenge of managing student privacy and complex data, which requires effective systems to handle these issues. Another risk is the digital gap, which can create disparities among students and staff in accessing and utilizing smart technologies. Additionally, the integration of various technologies such as AI, IoT, and blockchain can be complex and may face resistance from end-users if not effectively managed. There is also the risk of environmental impact, as the implementation of smart technologies must be balanced with sustainable practices to avoid negative effects on the natural environment. Finally, the financial cost and resource allocation for developing and maintaining a smart campus can be significant, posing a risk to the institution's budget and long-term sustainability.

### Privacy and Security

Ensuring the privacy and security of data is crucial. This includes how data is released and used, protecting against misuse, and addressing concerns about surveillance and cyber security 1.

### Financial Risks

Large upfront costs for unfamiliar technologies can be challenging, especially in tight financial environments. Institutions need to balance short-term wins with long-term needs to avoid unscalable investments 2.

### Vendor Partnerships

Managing partnerships with external vendors can be complex due to internal and external regulations around vendor selection, lock-in, and resource sharing.

### Data Management

Disconnected and outdated information systems can produce data inaccuracies that can severely hinder the integrated nature of smart campus. The metaphor that the chain is only as strong as the weakest link applies in this context. It is therefore necessary to manage any risk around data validity.

### Technological Failures

Risks include the failure of technology, inconsistent delivery, and the need for continuous updates and maintenance.

### User Misunderstanding and Perceptions

Managing user perceptions of how their data is used is important to mitigate reputational risks. Clear communication and adherence to data protection regulations are necessary.



### **Environmental and Social Risks**

Ensuring that smart campus initiatives contribute positively to sustainability goals and do not inadvertently cause harm to the environment or social structures.

## **Measuring Success**

Measuring the outcomes and progress of a sustainable smart campus initiative is crucial for several reasons. Firstly, it ensures that the investments in smart technologies and sustainability efforts are yielding the desired results, such as reduced carbon emissions and improved resource efficiency. For example, the University of Birmingham's digital twin effort led to a five percent reduction in their carbon emissions almost overnight. Secondly, it helps in identifying areas that need improvement or adjustment, ensuring that the campus continues to evolve and adapt to new challenges and opportunities. Thirdly, it provides accountability and transparency, allowing stakeholders to see the tangible benefits of the initiatives and fostering trust and support. Lastly, it enables the institution to share best practices and successes with other universities, contributing to the broader goal of sustainability in higher education.

### **Optimization of Resources**

By measuring the impact, institutions can optimize the use of resources such as energy, water, and materials, leading to cost savings and reduced environmental footprint.

### **Continuous Improvement**

Regular assessment helps in identifying areas for improvement and making necessary adjustments to enhance the campus's sustainability efforts.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

Demonstrating the success of sustainability initiatives can engage and motivate students, faculty, and staff to participate actively in these efforts.

### **Compliance and Reporting**

Measurement ensures compliance with environmental regulations and helps in reporting progress to stakeholders and funding bodies.

## **Metrics**

To assess the outcomes achieved from a sustainable smart campus initiative, consider the following metrics:

### ***Campus Experiences***

University leadership can measure the impacts of sustainable smart campus initiatives on campus experiences through various methods. Here are some key approaches:

#### **Student and Faculty Feedback**

Regular surveys and feedback mechanisms can provide insights into how smart campus initiatives are affecting the experiences of students and faculty. This qualitative data can highlight areas of success and opportunities for improvement.

#### **Engagement and Retention Rates**

Higher engagement and retention rates often correlate with improved campus experiences. Tracking student engagement with various campus services and monitoring overall retention rates can indicate the impact of smart campus initiatives on student satisfaction and success.

### **Environmental Impact Assessments**

Measuring the reduction in carbon footprint, energy consumption, and waste generation can provide tangible evidence of the environmental benefits of smart campus initiatives.

### **Campus Incidents**

The effectiveness of advanced surveillance systems, smart access control, and real-time incident reporting can be measured through security incident reports and feedback from the campus community.

### **Service Desk Requests**

Analyzing the nature and frequency of service or help desk requests can provide some insights into the impact of specific smart campus technologies.

## *Facilities Management*

### **Operational Efficiency**

Metrics such as equipment uptime, maintenance response time, and work order completion rates can help assess improvements in operational efficiency. Digital twins can provide real-time data on operations that signal the efficiencies of facilities and operational processes.

### **Space Utilization**

Tracking how effectively space is used, including occupancy rates and space per employee, can provide insights into optimizing facility layouts.

### **Cost Savings**

Monitoring reductions in operational costs, such as energy consumption and maintenance expenses, can demonstrate the financial benefits of digital transformation.

## *Sustainability and Energy Management*

### **Sustainability Goals**

Track progress towards specific sustainability goals, such as reducing carbon emissions, increasing renewable energy use, and achieving zero waste targets. Regularly review and update these goals based on the data collected.

### **Energy Consumption and Efficiency**

Monitor and analyze energy consumption to identify reductions and improvements in efficiency. For example, the use of solar panels and smart energy management systems can lead to significant energy savings and reduced carbon emissions.

### **Waste Reduction**

Evaluate the effectiveness of waste management systems, such as smart waste bins and recycling programs. Metrics could include the amount of waste diverted from landfills and the reduction in single use plastics.

### **Carbon Footprint**

Measure the campus's carbon footprint before and after implementing smart technologies. Look for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, which can be achieved through energy-efficient buildings and transportation options.

### **Water Usage**

Assess water consumption and the efficiency of water management systems. Smart measures to control water usage, such as sensors and IoT devices, can help reduce water waste.

### **Student and Staff Engagement**

Gauge the level of engagement and satisfaction among students and staff with the smart campus initiatives. Surveys and feedback mechanisms can provide insights into how well the initiatives are received and their impact on the campus community.

### **Energy Efficiency**

Metrics such as energy use intensity (EUI) and energy savings from implemented projects can help evaluate energy efficiency improvements.

### **Renewable Energy Usage**

Monitoring the percentage of energy sourced from renewable resources can demonstrate a commitment to sustainable energy practices.

### **Peak Demand Reduction**

Tracking reductions in peak energy demand can help manage energy costs and improve grid stability.

## *Results of Digital Transformation*

### **User Adoption Rates**

Measuring how quickly and widely new technologies are adopted by staff can indicate the success of digital initiatives.

### **Return on Investment (ROI)**

Calculating the financial return from digital transformation projects can help justify further investments.

### **Customer Satisfaction**

Gathering feedback from building occupants and users can provide insights into the perceived benefits of digital transformation efforts.

### **Economic Impact**

Analyze the cost savings achieved through smart campus initiatives. This can include reduced energy costs, lower maintenance expenses, and other financial benefits resulting from increased efficiency.

## **Summary**

In this section, we focused on the strategic planning and construction of a sustainable smart campus. Implementing the sustainable smart campus is transformational for HEIs. Approaching transformation in higher education requires a strategic and holistic mindset. Institutions must first identify the core areas that need change, such as curriculum design, teaching methodologies, and administrative processes. Engaging stakeholders, including faculty, students, and administrative staff, is crucial to ensure that the transformation aligns with the needs and expectations of the entire academic community. Leveraging technology, such as AI and digital twins, can streamline administrative tasks, making education more accessible and efficient. Additionally, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and adaptability is essential, as the landscape of higher education is constantly evolving.

We placed great emphasis on the importance of collaboration among Chief Information Officers (CIOs), Chief Sustainability Officers (CSOs), and Chief Facilities Officers (CFOs) in creating sustainable smart campuses. It highlights the need for these leaders to learn from each other and work together to develop innovative solutions and programs. The section also discusses the different timeframes and paradigms each role operates within, such as technological cycles for CIOs, infrastructure management for CFOs, and urgent carbon reduction strategies for CSOs. The ultimate goal is to integrate their efforts to realize the benefits of sustainable smart campuses.

While many people have important roles to play, it is the campus leaders who must articulate a compelling vision for the future and inspire others to embrace change. Establishing measurable goals and regularly assessing progress helps maintain momentum and ensures that the initiatives are on track. Collaboration across departments and with external partners can provide valuable insights and resources. Moreover, investing in professional development for faculty and staff ensures they have the skills and knowledge to support the transformation. Finally, creating an inclusive environment where all voices are heard and valued fosters a sense of ownership and commitment to the transformational journey.

The planning of a sustainable smart campus involves a comprehensive strategy that integrates technology, sustainability, and user-centric design. The primary goal is to create an environment that enhances the educational experience while promoting operational efficiency and environmental responsibility. A sustainable smart campus leverages advanced technologies such as IoT, cloud computing, and AI to create interconnected systems that support various campus functions.

## Questions

1. What are the primary financial pressures that your higher education institution faces, and how can creating a sustainable smart campus help alleviate these pressures?
2. What is the state of the institution's current master plan?
3. What are the institutions current sustainability or carbon neutrality plan?
4. What is the institution's current IT plan and where does it overlap with elements of a sustainable smart campus plan?
5. What other plans might exist across the institution and how can these three plans be merged or articulated to inform sustainable smart campus strategies, tactics, and activities?
6. How can fostering collaboration between different divisions within your institution contribute to planning and the successful implementation of a sustainable smart campus?
7. What partnerships, consultant experts, or collaborations can we pursue to enhance our planning efforts?
8. What are the key benefits of creating a sustainable smart campus in terms of improving student retention, satisfaction, and overall campus experiences?
9. What obstacles exist in the advancement of planning and executing a sustainable smart campus master plan? How might these obstacles be overcome or worked around?
10. How can progress on the plan and realized outcomes best be shared with executive leaders, stakeholders, and the campus community at large?
11. How can we integrate sustainability into the curriculum and research activities?
12. How do our smart campus initiatives align with the institution's strategic goals?
13. What is the current or available budget allocation for sustainability and smart campus projects?
14. How can we engage the campus community in our sustainability efforts?
15. What are the expected short-term and long-term benefits of our smart campus initiatives?

16. How will we communicate the progress and impact of our initiatives to stakeholders?
17. How can we ensure compliance with relevant regulations and standards?
18. What experience and acumen do you we have on staff related to sustainable smart campus technologies?
19. How do we manage data security and privacy concerns today? What might we need to do more or different with respect to smart campus data.
20. What support and training programs do we need? What do we currently have access to?

## Summer Camp: Measuring Impact

Discussion revolved around several topics, including the management of facilities, the importance of measuring impact and value, performance reviews, and the implementation of a new waste management system. Here's a summary of the key points:

- There was a debate about the perception of facilities management and the efficiency of their time usage. The need for quantitative measures to assess the impact of actions, especially in relation to customer feedback, was emphasized. Other conversations centered around creating a new index around personal impacts and satisfaction of the campus community with sustainable smart campus capabilities.
- There was a debate about the perception of facilities management and whether the staff are overwhelmed, with some questioning the efficiency of their time usage.
- The conversation touched on the need for quantitative measures to assess the impact of actions, especially in relation to customer feedback.
- The importance of understanding the value of work and its relevance to the company's goals was emphasized, particularly in the context of performance reviews.
- A new performance management system was discussed, with opinions on its frequent changes and the need for a system that allows for mutual feedback between employees and managers.
- The topic of waste management was brought up, with discussions on the removal of individual trash cans to encourage employees to be more responsible for their waste.
- There were suggestions for using technology, such as sensors and apps, to optimize waste management and increase sustainability awareness.



## 5 Developing The AI-Enabled Sustainable Smart Campus

The Education Advisory Board defines smart campuses as, “[...] a smart campus is a space where virtual and physical experiences can interact to serve a broad range of academic and operational priorities. It exists to provide a high-caliber service, driving positive outcomes for students, staff, faculty, and the larger community.”<sup>7</sup> As such, smart campuses are complex tapestry of systems, weaved together and integrated to provide new experiences for campus communities, increased operational efficiencies, and even new forms of revenue. Further, smart campuses are comprised of smart people who are well informed and engaged.

We previously described the five domains that define a sustainable smart campus: social, economy, environment, and governance, with technology and data as fifth and central domain element. In this context, a sustainable smart campus is the intersection of both human and technological elements.

### Domain 1: Social and Community Engagement

Smart campuses represent a transformative approach to higher education, leveraging advanced technologies to create engaging and convenient experiences for students. By integrating next-generation technologies such as artificial intelligence, IoT, and smart sensors, these campuses offer personalized, digital, and immersive experiences that enhance learning, engagement, and well-being. This holistic approach not only improves student satisfaction but also fosters a sense of belonging, which is crucial for student retention. Moreover, smart campuses prioritize sustainability by optimizing resource use and reducing operational costs, ensuring that the benefits of these innovations are both environmentally and economically sustainable.

### Quality of Campus Life

The integration of smart technologies significantly enhances the overall experience and quality of life for campus citizens by creating a more connected and responsive environment. Smart campuses utilize advanced information technologies such as IoT, big data, and AI to develop a digital ecosystem that supports various aspects of campus life. For instance, energy management systems and smart buildings contribute to utility cost savings by reducing electrical energy consumption and operational costs. Additionally, smart parking systems and intelligent lighting solutions further optimize resource usage and improve convenience for students and staff. These technological advancements not only promote sustainability but also create a more efficient and comfortable living and learning environment.

Moreover, smart campuses foster community engagement and social responsibility by integrating digital systems that enhance communication and collaboration among campus citizens. The development of robust communication networks and mobile applications facilitates the formation of social circles and workgroups, promoting a sense of community and belonging. Smart technologies also support versatile learning opportunities, allowing education to be delivered anytime and anywhere through distance learning and smart classrooms. This accessibility to high-quality resources and information empowers students to become more active and participative learners. Overall, the

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<sup>7</sup> EAB (Aug 29, 2023).

<https://eab.com/resources/blog/data-analytics-blog/campuses-are-getting-smarter-but-is-your-institution-ready-for-a-smart-campus/>

integration of smart technologies in campus environments leads to a more dynamic, inclusive, and enriching experience for all members of the university community.

## Enhanced Student Experiences

Smart campuses can provide personalized, digital, and immersive experiences that support learning, engagement, and well-being. This includes smart classrooms, digital signage, and mobile applications that offer real-time information and services, making campus life more convenient and enjoyable.

Smart campus planners must first understand that underpinning these services is ubiquitous access to wireless network services and that systems should be compatible with major smart phone platforms. Meeting students where they are at with digital experiences is a pervasive underlying tactic of smart campuses.

## Student and Staff Services

Implementing smart campus technologies can lead to innovative ways of delivering student services, enhancing the overall student experience. Here are some ideas:

### Mobile Apps

Comprehensive campus apps can provide real-time information on class schedules, campus events, navigation, and even dining options. Students should be able to use their smart phones for all necessary actions (e.g., course registration, paying for services, timeclock for work schedule) and convenience activities (food delivery).

### Collaboration Tools

MS Teams deployed across the institution facilitates integration and unified platform virtual meeting rooms and collaborative software enhance communication and teamwork among students, faculty, and staff.

### Voice-Activated Assistance

Implementing text and voice-activated assistants across campus can help students with various tasks such as finding information, navigating the campus, and accessing services.

### Virtual Health Services

Offering virtual health services can provide students with easy access to medical consultations, mental health support, and wellness programs.

### Delivery Robots

Automated delivery robots create conveniences for delivery food, medicine, and other materials to students creating convenience.

### Smart Laundry Machines

Implementing smart laundry machines that notify students when their laundry is done or when machines are available can save time and reduce waiting.

### Mobile Digital Identity

Identity management deployed on smart phones provides the ability to access buildings and services based on your digital identity. This capability practically eliminates the need to issue student ID cards.

### Mobile and Contactless Payment Options

Offering mobile and contactless payment options for various campus services, including dining, vending machines, and bookstores, can enhance convenience and security.



**Real-Time Occupancy Systems**

Using real-time occupancy systems to monitor and manage the usage of campus facilities such as libraries, gyms, and study rooms can help students find available spaces and avoid overcrowding. Tools like Waitwhile.com allow students to “skip the line” and show up for services when it is their turn.

**Wayfinding and Location-Based Services**

Providing location-based services to help students find their lost items, navigate the campus, and receive notifications about nearby events and special deals.

**Visitor Management Systems**

This is a broad category of systems intended to make campus visit more enjoyable from campus tours, orientation, to game day and graduation. These systems can provide relevant information and access to campus facilities, buildings, events, and services.

**Digital Signage**

Interactive digital displays provide up-to-date information throughout the campus providing place-sensitive news, events, and emergency alerts. Content can be syndicated from central source with local contributors providing college, department, or venue specific information.

These innovative ideas can create a more engaging, efficient, and supportive campus environment, enriching the college student's experience.

## Social Responsibility

Promoting social responsibility is a key aspect of smart campuses, achieved through the active participation of stakeholders in the development and implementation of technological solutions. For instance, the creation of a dynamic ecosystem allows for the involvement of external stakeholders in defining higher education institutions' external interests, ensuring that the needs and concerns of the broader community are addressed. Moreover, smart campuses employ robust systems technologies, such as disaster management systems and surveillance systems, to ensure the safety and well-being of campus citizens. These initiatives not only enhance the quality of life on campus but also demonstrate a commitment to social responsibility by leveraging technology to create a safer, more inclusive, and supportive environment.

Smart campuses foster a dynamic ecosystem by integrating advanced technologies such as IoT, big data, and AI to create a connected and responsive environment. This integration allows for the development of digital systems, data, and information that enhance university services, such as smart transport, smart canteens, and smart navigation, which improve the overall quality of campus life. Additionally, smart campuses facilitate the formation of social circles based on interests, promoting a sense of community among campus citizens. The use of Wi-Fi hotspot-based mobile applications helps construct friendship networks, further enhancing social interactions and engagement within the campus community.

Smart campuses incorporate various programs, systems, and services to promote social responsibility:

**Communication networks**

Development of digital systems to enhance university services, creating a dynamic ecosystem for campus citizens and forming robust communication networks. Implementation of a Wi-Fi hotspot-based mobile application to construct friendship networks, fostering community engagement and social circles based on interests.

**Management Information Systems**

Introduction of a new management system to replace obsolete ones, ensuring efficient and responsible campus operations. A Digital Twin system is an example of MIS for facilities.

### **Health and Safety Monitoring**

IoT sensors and AI-driven analytics can monitor air quality, occupancy levels, and other factors to ensure a safe and healthy campus environment.

### **Sustainable Services**

These include initiatives like recycling programs, pollution control measures, and the use of sustainable materials and practices in campus operations.

### **Sustainability Dashboards**

Digital signage can be leveraged to show the status of sustainability efforts and outcomes on the college campus. This information can be influential in changing student and employee behaviors when it comes to the consumption of resources or awareness of our carbon footprint. Sharing information also encourages external stakeholders to participate in defining higher education institutions' community impact and research interests, promoting transparency and accountability.

These initiatives are among others that enhance the social responsibility of a smart campus by improving connectivity, sharing of information, safety, and community engagement.

## **Smart Learning Ecosystem**

The rapid advancement of technology transforms learning and teaching, making education more accessible and personalized through digital platforms and smart classrooms.

### **Automated Attendance and Access Control**

Facial recognition and RFID technologies streamline attendance tracking and secure access to buildings and facilities.

### **Digital Enabled Classrooms**

Leveraging technology to create flexible, interactive, and energy-efficient learning spaces. Equipped with IoT devices, smart classrooms can automatically adjust lighting, temperature, and power on/off AV equipment based on occupancy and scheduled activities.

### **Sustainability Education**

Integrating sustainability into the curriculum to educate and empower students to be future leaders in sustainability.

### **Libraries**

Centers for information and services and can also include collaboration space, 3D printing and “maker spaces”, and Virtual Reality facilities among other technologies designed to supplement instruction.

## **Smart Classrooms**

A smart classroom is an innovative learning environment that incorporates technology and digital tools to enhance the teaching and learning experience. Here are some key features that make a classroom “smart”:

### **Ubiquitous Wireless Connectivity**

This ensures that students, staff, visitors, and devices are connected anywhere on campus, facilitating seamless access to digital resources.

### **Interactive Whiteboards**

These allow teachers to display and interact with digital content, making lessons more engaging and interactive.

### **Smart Projectors**

These projectors can connect to various devices and display high-quality visuals, enhancing the learning experience.

### **Lecture Capture**

Lecture capture allows students to access recorded lectures at any time, providing flexibility for those who may have missed a class or need to review the material. This is particularly beneficial for learners who may have a learning disability.

### **Collaboration Stations**

Small collaboration stations that support 4–6 students and allow them to connect their devices to a shared. These stations foster a collaborative learning environment by enabling students to work together on projects, share ideas, and solve problems collectively.

### **Educational Software Applications**

These applications enable personalized learning, allowing students to learn at their own pace and according to their individual needs.

### **Smart Lighting**

This improves energy efficiency and campus safety by sensing the presence of students and staff and lighting their path during night classes.

### **Interactive Displays**

These displays allow students to interact with the content, the teacher, and each other, making learning more collaborative and engaging.

### **Wireless Connectivity for Devices**

This enables students to connect their devices to the classroom network, facilitating access to online resources and collaborative tools.

### **Multimedia Content Delivery Systems**

These systems allow teachers to deliver lessons using various multimedia formats, catering to different learning styles.

### **Real-Time Feedback Mechanisms**

These mechanisms provide immediate feedback to students, helping them understand their progress and areas for improvement.

### **Remote Access to Educational Resources**

This allows students to access learning materials and participate in classes from anywhere, enhancing flexibility and convenience.

### **Personalized Learning Environments**

Adaptive learning platforms use AI to tailor educational content to individual student needs, providing a more personalized and effective learning experiences.

### **Virtual and Augmented Reality**

VR and AR can be used for immersive learning experiences, virtual campus tours, and interactive simulations.

### **Collaborative Stations and Tools**

Tools that engage students in interaction-based learning activities and university-licensed

applications that address students' needs efficiently. This includes collaborative software tools like Microsoft 365 and Teams. Also, spaces like maker labs – collaborative workspaces equipped with tools and resources where individuals can create, experiment, and innovate on various projects.

These features collectively create a dynamic and interactive learning environment that enhances student engagement, retention, and outcomes.

## Domain 2: Smart Campus Economies

The integration of advanced technologies and innovative business models drive the economies of a sustainable smart campus to create a knowledge-based economy. These campuses leverage smart technology to modernize programs, facilities, and infrastructure, aligning with the global agenda of Industry version 5.0. This transformation fosters rich and diverse business systems, promoting entrepreneurial activities and creating new organizational models. The implementation of smart systems, such as Blockchain Business Models for Higher Education, energy management systems, and smart waste management, enhances economic benefits by maximizing funds and providing efficient services to campus stakeholders. These efforts contribute to financial stability, resource optimization, and the overall economic sustainability of the campus.

### Financial Planning and Investment

Planners of a sustainable smart campus should consider several economic factors to ensure the successful implementation and long-term viability of smart technologies.

#### Energy Management Systems

Implementing energy management systems can significantly reduce electrical energy consumption and costs. This includes the use of smart buildings and smart parking systems that minimize grid electricity costs and operational expenses.

#### Renewable Energy Production

Investing in green energy production, such as solar panels, can help campuses become self-sufficient and reduce reliance on external energy sources. This not only lowers energy costs but also promotes sustainability.

#### Smart Waste Management

Developing smart waste management systems can create a circular economy by recycling solid wastes, which can reduce waste disposal costs and generate revenue from recycled materials.

#### Blockchain Business Models

Utilizing blockchain technology for business models in higher education can optimize resource allocation and create new revenue streams through tokenized education and energy trading platforms.

#### Infrastructure Modernization

Upgrading existing programs, facilities, and infrastructure to meet the requirements of Industry can create a knowledge economy and spur new organizational and business models, connecting universities with industry for economic benefits.

#### Management of Long-Term Deferred Maintenance

Digital twins and data collected from facilities can aid in the planning and prioritization of long-term maintenance and facilities operational costs.

#### Cost Savings and Efficiency

Smart technologies can improve campus efficiency by enhancing resource utilization, reducing

production costs, and providing better experiences for campus stakeholders. This includes the use of AI, IoT, and community-based digital technologies.

### **Financial Stability and Leadership**

Ensuring financial stability through entrepreneurial leadership and effective management of resources is crucial. This involves developing trading platforms for optimizing resource allocation and fostering efficient production at low costs.

## **Business Services**

Smart campuses create business opportunities by modernizing programs, facilities, and infrastructure, which aligns with the global agenda of Industry .0. This modernization helps universities meet contemporary requirements and fosters a knowledge economy through the growing global smart education market. By integrating smart technology, universities can generate income and develop rich and diverse business systems. This transformation connects universities with industry, maximizing funds and providing the best services to campus stakeholders.

For example, dedicated smart systems such as the "Blockchain Business Model for Higher Education" (BBM-HE) have been created to transform business models for tokenized education. Additionally, smart campuses can implement control and energy management systems to boost and sell energy to the grid, smart waste management systems to recycle solid wastes for a circular economy, and BIM-based smart systems to save building stock for investment. Furthermore, smart parking platforms can provide profits for participants through electric vehicles, lowering costs, improving user experience, and maintaining revenue.

## **Improved Efficiency**

Smart technologies significantly enhance campus efficiency by optimizing resource utilization. Advanced education systems using AI and IoT technologies facilitate better management of resources, ensuring that they are used effectively and efficiently. For instance, smart waste management systems recycle solid wastes, contributing to a circular economy, while smart parking platforms improve user experience and reduce costs. These technologies not only streamline operations but also create a more sustainable and resource-efficient campus environment.

Financial stability is another critical benefit of implementing smart technologies on campuses. By integrating smart systems, universities can reduce production costs and improve financial management. For example, the development of a trading platform for optimizing resource allocation and Blockchain-based applications fosters efficient production at low costs. Additionally, smart campuses can generate income through innovative business models like the Blockchain Business Model for Higher Education (BBM-HE), which transforms traditional business approaches and maximizes funds.

Effective management of energy and other resources is a cornerstone of smart campus initiatives. Smart energy management systems, such as hybrid renewable energy systems and smart grids, help in reducing electrical energy consumption and minimizing grid electricity costs. These systems enable campuses to produce green energy, manage energy distribution efficiently, and reduce operational costs. Furthermore, smart buildings and automated distribution systems contribute to significant utility cost savings, making campuses more sustainable and economically viable.

## Innovation Ecosystem

Smart campuses serve as urban living labs by integrating advanced technologies to create sustainable and efficient environments. These campuses utilize smart grids to manage and distribute energy more effectively, reducing waste and optimizing resource use. By incorporating renewable energy systems, such as solar panels and wind turbines, smart campuses can generate clean energy, thereby minimizing their carbon footprint and promoting environmental sustainability. The integration of these technologies not only supports the campus's energy needs but also serves as a model for sustainable practices that can be replicated in urban settings 12.

In addition to energy management, smart campuses employ various innovative solutions to enhance sustainability. For instance, smart waste management systems help in recycling and reducing waste, contributing to a circular economy. The use of IoT-based systems allows for real-time monitoring and control of resources, ensuring efficient utilization and minimizing environmental impact. These campuses also implement smart water management systems to conserve water and reduce consumption. By adopting these technologies, smart campuses create a living laboratory where sustainable practices are tested and refined, providing valuable insights for broader urban applications.

Furthermore, smart campuses foster an innovation ecosystem that encourages the development and implementation of modern technologies. They provide a platform for research and experimentation, enabling students, faculty, and industry partners to collaborate on projects that address global sustainability challenges. This collaborative environment promotes the exchange of ideas and the creation of innovative solutions that can be scaled to larger urban areas. By serving as a testbed for smart technologies, smart campuses play a crucial role in advancing sustainable development goals and demonstrating the potential of smart solutions to create more resilient and sustainable cities.

## Utility Cost Savings

The use of smart technologies in energy management and green energy production has shown significant potential in achieving cost savings and reducing environmental impact. By integrating smart systems such as IoT-based architectures and energy management systems, universities and other institutions can optimize their energy consumption. For instance, the University of Genoa's Savona Campus successfully implemented a smart grid and microgrid project that optimized the management of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, leading to substantial energy savings. These smart systems enable real-time monitoring and control of energy usage, ensuring that resources are used efficiently, and waste is minimized.

Moreover, the incorporation of renewable energy sources into smart campus applications further enhances sustainability efforts. Green IT initiatives, such as those seen in various universities, focus on reducing electrical power consumption and mitigating carbon emissions through the use of hybrid renewable energy systems 1. These systems not only provide a cleaner energy alternative but also contribute to the overall reduction of operational costs. By leveraging technologies like solar panels and wind turbines, campuses can generate their own green energy, decreasing reliance on traditional power sources and lowering utility expenses.

In addition to direct cost savings, the environmental benefits of smart energy management are substantial. The reduction in carbon emissions and other pollutants contributes to a healthier environment and aligns with global sustainability goals. Smart campuses that adopt these technologies also promote a culture of environmental responsibility among students and staff, fostering a community that values and practices sustainability. The integration of smart technologies in energy management and green energy production is a forward-thinking approach that not only addresses current environmental challenges but also sets a precedent for future innovations in sustainable living.

## Exploring Use Cases

The notion of applying operational technologies and in particular, the use of digital twins on college campuses is a relatively new initiative. With few comprehensive examples to model after, we can look to other industries and use cases to glean important insights and outcomes of digital twins and sustainability programs.

### *Willow and Proctor and Gamble, Walmart, and DFW*

P&G has a vast network of facilities globally, including manufacturing plants, distribution and fulfillment centers, R&D hubs, and corporate offices totaling over 300M square feet. The Dallas Fort Worth Airport is akin to a city, larger than the land mass of Rhode Island with 500,000 customers a day. Walmart corporate campus encompasses 350 acres, 2.5m square feet across 10 buildings, and 12,000 parking spaces.

These three companies realize an immediate business value of the Microsoft/Willow Digital Twin solution that reduce spend and waste:

#### Immediate Cost Savings in Energy Management

- **Real-time Optimization:** Willow's digital twin technology allows companies to optimize energy consumption in real-time by analyzing usage patterns and identifying inefficiencies. For instance, Walmart implemented Willow's platform to reduce energy consumption and achieved substantial savings. On average, Willow customers report a **7% reduction** in energy costs.
- **Projected Savings for P&G:** \*Based on the U.S. Energy Information Administration's Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS), P&G's estimated annual utility spend is \$629 million. By deploying Willow, P&G could potentially save **-\$44 million annually**, directly benefiting their bottom line while advancing sustainability efforts.

#### Enhance Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) and Unplanned Downtime

- **Reducing Downtime and Increasing Efficiency:** Willow's platform improves OEE by continuously monitoring and analyzing equipment performance, identifying potential failures before they occur. At Walmart, for example, Willow identified insights that reduced downtime costs by **20%** for critical systems like refrigeration, where equipment failure directly impacts product quality and can have a significant downstream cost impact. Over 20 stores in 6 months, Willow identified 842 opportunities to proactively address issues and prevent failures, resulting in \$1.4M in downtime cost savings.
- **Customization for P&G:** Willow can generate actionable insights regarding equipment performance, optimizing maintenance schedules, and reducing disruptions in production. A detailed analysis would assess the impacts on product loss, maintenance costs, and supply chain efficiency, leading to cost reductions and better equipment utilization.

#### Reduce Maintenance Costs (In-House and Third-Party)

- **Proactive and Predictive Maintenance:** Willow shifts maintenance from a reactive to a proactive and predictive model. **DFW International Airport**, for example, forecasts **20-25% reductions** in maintenance costs by leveraging Willow to predict and prevent failures in aging infrastructure.
- **Advanced Guidance & AI Tools:** Willow's **CoPilot** offers real-time guidance to maintenance teams, ensuring timely interventions and better contractor management. For P&G, this could help optimize maintenance operations across their corporate, R&D, and manufacturing facilities, significantly reducing unplanned downtime, and improving operational efficiency.

#### Driving Sustainability and Meeting Corporate ESG Goals

- **Long-term Sustainability Impact:** Beyond immediate cost savings, Willow's platform supports P&G's sustainability objectives. **Walmart used Willow to target a 7% reduction in carbon emissions**, and P&G can adopt similar strategies to reduce its carbon footprint and align with global ESG goals. Willow's data-driven insights help P&G improve sustainability reporting and track progress toward net-zero emissions. P&G has committed to long-term sustainability goals, including using 100% renewable electricity, and Willow has significant capabilities in enabling grid-interactive efficient buildings leverageable by **P&G**.



Given the fundamental similarities of our aspirations to improve our management of the built world, HeD institutions should not hesitate to delve into the experiences of corporate property owners for insights into how we can collectively learn and contribute to a more sustainable world. HeD Institutions have an amazing opportunity to forge ties with industry in these areas to better serve, innovate, learn and be better together as we usher in the next generation of people and capabilities.

## Domain 3: The Sustainable Smart Campus and the Environment

A Sustainable Smart Campus significantly contributes to improving the environment by integrating advanced technologies to create an eco-friendly and efficient educational setting. By utilizing IoT and ICT, smart campuses can reduce waste, manage resources more effectively, and minimize carbon footprints. For instance, smart waste management systems and the elimination of single-use plastics through smart bottle ecosystems help mitigate environmental pollution. Additionally, the incorporation of renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, and the implementation of energy management systems reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. These efforts not only enhance the sustainability of the campus but also promote a healthier and more sustainable environment for future generations.

### Environmentally Friendly Services

Smart campuses leverage advanced technologies to foster sustainable relationships between people and the natural environment. By integrating smart technologies into a centralized environment, these campuses can significantly reduce the need for travel to and from the campus. This is achieved through the promotion of remote learning and online education platforms, which not only minimize the carbon footprint associated with commuting but also reduce the overall use of campus facilities. This shift towards digital learning environments helps in conserving energy and resources that would otherwise be expended in maintaining physical classrooms and infrastructure.

In addition to reducing travel, smart campuses are designed to curtail energy demand through the implementation of energy-efficient systems and renewable energy sources. For instance, the use of IoT-based architectures and smart grids allows for the optimal management of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, thereby reducing energy consumption. Universities like the University of Genoa's Savona Campus have successfully integrated renewable energy resources with campus microgrids to achieve cost reduction and improve sustainability. These energy management systems not only lower the environmental impact but also engage stakeholders in the pursuit of energy-saving and carbon-emission mitigation strategies.

Furthermore, smart campuses aim to minimize waste through various environmentally friendly services. By reducing paper waste and tree harvests, these campuses contribute to the preservation of natural resources. The development of wireless sensor networks and IoT cyber-physical systems, such as those implemented at the University of Malaga in Spain, helps in mitigating environmental pollution, including noise. These systems assist campus managers in scheduling classes to avoid peaks and clusters, thereby promoting a more sustainable and efficient use of campus resources. Overall, the integration of smart technologies in campuses not only enhances environmental sustainability but also creates a harmonious relationship between the campus community and the natural environment.

### Renewable Energy

Incorporating green energy into smart systems is a crucial step towards minimizing environmental impact and promoting sustainability. By integrating renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power into the infrastructure of smart campuses, institutions can significantly reduce their reliance on fossil fuels. This transition not only decreases greenhouse gas emissions but also fosters a cleaner and

healthier environment. For instance, the University of Genoa's Savona Campus has successfully implemented an energy management system that integrates renewable energy resources with campus microgrids, optimizing the management of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems.

Hybrid renewable energy systems, which combine multiple sources of green energy, further enhance the efficiency and reliability of energy supply on smart campuses. These systems can balance the variability of renewable energy sources, ensuring a consistent and stable energy flow. The use of IoT-based architecture in these systems allows for real-time monitoring and management, leading to more efficient energy use and reduced wastage. For example, the development of ICT-centered methodologies and software toolchains in major universities has demonstrated significant improvements in energy management and efficiency.

Energy management systems play a pivotal role in promoting sustainability on smart campuses. By leveraging advanced technologies such as smart grids and IoT, these systems can optimize energy consumption and reduce costs. They enable the integration of renewable energy resources, facilitating a shift towards more sustainable energy practices. Additionally, smart energy management systems can support sustainable transport initiatives, such as electric vehicle charging stations, further reducing the campus's carbon footprint. The aspiration to integrate renewable energy resources using smart technology is still in its infancy, but the potential for significant environmental benefits is immense.

## Sustainable and Environmental Impact

Incorporating green energy into smart systems is a crucial step towards minimizing environmental impact and promoting sustainability. By integrating renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power into the infrastructure of smart campuses, institutions can significantly reduce their carbon footprint. For instance, the University of Genoa's Savona Campus has successfully implemented an energy management system that integrates smart grid and microgrid projects, optimizing the management of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems. This not only reduces energy consumption but also lowers greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to a more sustainable environment.

Hybrid renewable energy systems, which combine multiple sources of green energy, further enhance the efficiency and reliability of energy supply on smart campuses. These systems are often supported by IoT-based architectures that enable real-time monitoring and management of energy resources. For example, the use of IoT technology in energy management systems allows for the seamless integration of renewable energy resources with campus microgrids, leading to cost reductions and improved energy efficiency. This approach not only ensures a steady supply of clean energy but also promotes the active participation of stakeholders in sustainability initiatives.

Moreover, the adoption of energy management systems in smart campuses fosters a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, and staff. By leveraging advanced technologies such as smart grids and ICT-centered methodologies, campuses can create an environment that encourages energy-saving behaviors and sustainable practices. The development of smart transport solutions, such as electric vehicles and intelligent parking systems, further supports this goal by reducing reliance on fossil fuels and minimizing traffic congestion. Overall, the integration of green energy into smart systems not only mitigates environmental impact but also sets a precedent for sustainable development in higher education institutions.

### Energy Efficiency

Use energy-efficient technologies and renewable energy sources to reduce the campus's carbon footprint.

### Resource Management

Implement systems for efficient water usage, waste management, and recycling to promote sustainability.

### Green Building Standards

Design and construct buildings that meet green building standards, such as LEED certification, to ensure environmental responsibility.

## Zero Waste

Smart campuses aim to reduce waste through innovative waste management systems by integrating advanced technologies such as IoT and 5G. These systems include smart waste bins that enhance the efficiency of waste collection and management. For instance, the **Smart bottle Ecosystem** eliminates single-use plastic water bottles by using IoT and ICT to communicate with smart refilling stations, thereby reducing plastic waste significantly. Additionally, smart waste management systems on university campuses operate using 5G technology to mitigate health and environmental problems by promoting recycling and reducing emissions from landfills and industrial sites.

Green campus initiatives are another critical aspect of smart campuses, focusing on reducing the carbon footprint and promoting sustainable practices. One example is the use of solar photovoltaic systems to save electrical energy and decrease annual emissions from campus electricity use. Smart agriculture through IoT is also being implemented to improve soil quality, water management, and overall environmental sustainability. These initiatives demonstrate the commitment of smart campuses to not only reduce waste but also to create a more sustainable and eco-friendlier environment.

The promotion of environmental sustainability on smart campuses is further supported by the development of environmentally friendly services. These services include minimizing facility use, curtailing energy demand, and reducing paper waste. The integration of wireless sensor networks and IoT cyber-physical systems helps in monitoring and managing resources efficiently. By incorporating green energy solutions and sustainable development goals, smart campuses are transforming into models of environmental stewardship, showcasing how technology can be leveraged to create a sustainable future.

## Transportation

### *Electric and Autonomous Vehicles*

Encouraging the use of electric vehicles (EVs) on campus is a significant step towards sustainability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. As transportation is a major contributor to carbon emissions, transitioning to EVs can substantially lower the campus's carbon footprint. The adoption of EVs is supported by the declining cost of lithium-ion batteries and improvements in charging infrastructure, making them more accessible and affordable for students and staff. By promoting the use of EVs, campuses can lead by example in the fight against climate change and inspire the broader community to adopt greener transportation options <sup>1</sup>.

Providing charging stations is crucial to support the growing number of EVs on campus. These stations should be strategically placed in convenient locations such as parking lots, near dormitories, and academic buildings to ensure easy access for all users. The presence of charging stations not only encourages the use of EVs but also demonstrates the campus's commitment to sustainability and innovation. Additionally, integrating these stations with renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, can further enhance their environmental benefits and reduce the campus's reliance on fossil fuels.

Incorporating autonomous shuttles into campus transportation systems can significantly improve efficiency and reduce traffic congestion. These shuttles can operate on fixed routes, providing reliable and frequent transportation for students and staff. Autonomous shuttles can also enhance safety by reducing the risk of human error and accidents. Moreover, they can be programmed to optimize routes and schedules based on real-time data, ensuring timely and efficient service. By adopting autonomous shuttles, campuses can create a more connected and seamless transportation network, ultimately enhancing the overall campus experience for everyone.

#### Leveraging Off-Peak Energy Storage to Power the Fleet

Innovative battery storage of off-peak energy can significantly enhance the economic efficiency of operating an electric vehicle (EV) fleet by leveraging lower energy costs during off-peak hours. By storing energy when demand and prices are low, typically during nighttime or other periods of reduced consumption, EV fleets can be charged at a fraction of the cost compared to peak hours. This approach not only reduces the overall energy expenditure but also alleviates the strain on the grid during high-demand periods, contributing to a more balanced and efficient energy distribution system. Additionally, the declining cost of lithium-ion batteries, which has already decreased by 80 percent since 2010, further amplifies the economic benefits by making the initial investment in battery storage more affordable. The ability to store and utilize off-peak energy also provides a buffer against energy price volatility, ensuring more predictable and stable operational costs for fleet managers. Moreover, integrating battery storage with renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power, can enhance sustainability and reduce reliance on fossil fuels, aligning with broader environmental goals. This combination of cost savings, grid efficiency, and environmental benefits makes innovative battery storage a compelling solution for economically enhancing the operational costs of an electric vehicle fleet.

#### *Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure:*

Creating safe and accessible pathways for walking and cycling.

Creating safe and accessible pathways for walking, cycling, scootering, and skateboarding is essential for fostering a sustainable smart campus. These pathways encourage the use of non-motorized transportation, which significantly reduces the carbon footprint associated with commuting. By prioritizing pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure, campuses can decrease reliance on fossil fuels, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and promote a healthier environment. Additionally, these pathways can be integrated with smart technologies such as smart lampposts and benches that provide useful information, Wi-Fi hotspots, and environmental monitoring, further enhancing the sustainability and efficiency of the campus.

Moreover, safe, and accessible pathways contribute to the overall well-being and engagement of the campus community. They provide students, staff, and visitors with convenient and enjoyable means of transportation, promoting physical activity and reducing traffic congestion. The design of these pathways can also include features like autonomous delivery robots and smart parking systems, which optimize space and improve the flow of movement on campus. By creating a network of interconnected, user-friendly pathways, campuses can ensure that all members of the community, including those with disabilities, have equal access to campus facilities and services, thereby fostering an inclusive and supportive environment.

## Domain 4: Smart Campus Governance

Governance is a crucial component of a sustainable smart campus as it facilitates strategic decision-making and the implementation of inclusive public policies. Effective governance ensures that all stakeholders,

including students, faculty, and administrative staff, are actively engaged in the management and operation of the smart campus. This collaborative approach promotes transparency, accountability, and the efficient use of resources, which are essential for long-term sustainability. By integrating digital technologies and data management systems, governance frameworks can enhance cybersecurity, data governance, and service management, thereby creating a secure and efficient environment for all campus users.

At the core of a smart campus is data and technology systems. Many institutions already have governance structures from which policy, procedures and strategies are put into play. If possible, leverage existing governance and find a way to integrate their new perspectives.

This involves ensuring that universities are not only aware of their actions but also sensitive to any potential harmful impacts. Universities need to work closely with the government to ensure that revenue considerations do not hinder the promotion of an inclusive atmosphere.

Additionally, universities should focus on efficient use of resources, which includes minimizing waste and managing costs effectively. Regular discussions on how lean the university is, setting and monitoring goals, and reviewing accomplishments with stakeholders are important practices. For example, the University of St Andrews in Scotland has embedded lean principles into their culture, which includes real-time monitoring of student absence data and efficient student debt management.

By adopting these practices, universities can ensure that they are not only smart in terms of technology but also in governance and resource management, contributing to a more sustainable and inclusive educational environment.

## Standards and Policy Making

Governance plays a crucial role in developing policies for a sustainable smart campus by facilitating strategic decision-making and ensuring the engagement of all stakeholders. Effective governance involves collaborative efforts that shift from traditional public administration to inclusive public policymaking, which is essential for the successful implementation of smart campus initiatives. This collaborative governance approach allows universities to adopt specific public policies that address the needs of the campus community, ensuring that decisions are made transparently and inclusively. By involving various stakeholders, including students, faculty, and external partners, governance ensures that the policies developed are well-rounded and cater to the diverse needs of the campus population.

Moreover, governance in a smart campus context emphasizes the importance of data governance and cybersecurity. With the increasing reliance on digital technologies such as IoT, AI, and big data, it is essential to have robust policies in place to manage and protect the vast amounts of data generated. Effective data governance ensures that information is collected, stored, and used responsibly, while cybersecurity measures protect against potential threats and vulnerabilities. This dual focus on data governance and cybersecurity not only enhances the operational efficiency of the campus but also builds trust among campus users, making them more likely to engage with and support smart campus initiatives.

When considering policies for a sustainable smart campus, several key areas should be addressed to ensure the campus is efficient, environmentally responsible, and socially inclusive. Here are some important policies to consider:

### Energy Management

Implement policies that promote the use of renewable energy sources and energy-efficient

technologies. This includes setting targets for reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions, as well as investing in smart grid technologies and energy storage solutions.

### **Sustainable Transportation**

Encourage the use of sustainable transportation options such as electric vehicles, bicycles, and public transit. Policies could include providing charging stations for electric vehicles, creating bike-friendly infrastructure, and offering incentives for using public transportation.

### **Waste Management**

Develop comprehensive waste management policies that focus on reducing, reusing, and recycling waste. This can include initiatives like composting programs, reducing single-use plastics, and promoting the use of recycled materials.

### **Water Conservation**

Implement policies that promote water conservation and efficient water use. This can include installing low-flow fixtures, using drought-resistant landscaping, and implementing water recycling and rainwater harvesting systems.

### **Green Building Standards**

Adopt green building standards for new construction and renovations. This can include using sustainable materials, improving indoor air quality, and ensuring buildings are energy-efficient and environmentally friendly.

Good policies can create a more efficient, environmentally responsible, and socially inclusive environment that benefits students, faculty, staff, and the broader community.

## **Cybersecurity Governance**

The development of robust cybersecurity measures is essential to protect smart campus networks from attacks, using advanced technologies like deep learning algorithms and blockchain.

The development of robust cybersecurity measures and policies are essential to protect smart campus networks from attacks, as these environments are increasingly reliant on interconnected systems and IoT devices. With the surge in informatization, smart campuses face significant vulnerabilities that can be exploited by cybercriminals. Traditional intrusion detection systems (IDS) are becoming inadequate due to their shallow learning capabilities, which cannot effectively counter new and sophisticated attacks. Therefore, the integration of deep learning algorithms is crucial. These algorithms can process large volumes of data and identify patterns indicative of potential threats, providing a more dynamic and responsive approach to cybersecurity.

A cybersecurity policy for a sustainable smart campus should address several key issues:

### **Cybersecurity Measures**

Emphasize the need for effective cybersecurity measures due to the informatization of campus development. This includes the use of machine learning (ML) and deep learning (DL) to detect attacks, as traditional intrusion detection systems (IDS) are becoming less effective.

### **Data Governance**

Implement a scientific information system framework to manage information for data detection through IoT technology and intelligent computing models. This ensures the integrity and security of data within the campus.



### **Blockchain Technology**

Utilize blockchain frameworks to provide robust security systems needed to protect data governance functions and counter advanced cyber-attacks.

### **IoT Security**

Address the vulnerabilities of IoT devices, which are often targeted by cybercriminals due to poor design. Ensure that IoT devices are secure to protect user data and prevent unauthorized access.

### **Network Security**

Secure networks to prevent intrusions, such as "Man in the Middle" or "Deny of Service" attacks. This includes implementing secure authentication practices and protecting the network from unsafe connections.

### **Energy Management**

Consider the impact of IoT on energy consumption and implement measures to regulate energy use responsibly. This includes using centralized systems to monitor and control energy usage, which can also contribute to cybersecurity by ensuring that energy management systems are not compromised.

In addition to deep learning, blockchain technology offers a promising solution for enhancing cybersecurity in smart campuses. Blockchain frameworks provide a decentralized and secure method for data management, ensuring that information is protected from unauthorized access and tampering. This technology is particularly effective in creating cryptographic mechanisms that safeguard data integrity and confidentiality. By leveraging blockchain, smart campuses can establish a robust security infrastructure that mitigates the risks associated with cyber-attacks and ensures the safe transmission and storage of sensitive information.

Furthermore, the implementation of these advanced technologies not only enhances security but also supports the overall governance of smart campuses. Effective data governance is critical for managing the vast amounts of information generated by IoT devices and other smart systems. A scientific information system framework, supported by deep learning and blockchain, can facilitate efficient data detection, analysis, and decision-making processes. This comprehensive approach to cybersecurity and data governance ensures that smart campuses can operate smoothly, providing a safe and secure environment for students, faculty, and staff.

## **Governance**

Effective governance over IT, OT and the Data Estate is crucial for managing information and facilitating decision-making, using big data and intelligent computing models.

Effective data governance is crucial for managing information and facilitating decision-making, especially in the context of a smart campus. Data governance platforms are essential for managing and controlling education data resources objectively. These platforms help address challenges such as student privacy, complex data, and the digital gap through smart campus innovation and social data governance. Universities are encouraged to implement measures to manage large amounts of information through big data technology, which aids in decision-making and development.

Big data technology plays a significant role in the development of student management systems on smart campuses. By leveraging big data, universities can make informed decisions that enhance the educational experience and operational efficiency. Blockchain technology is also vital for managing big data effectively, providing a robust solution for data governance. This technology ensures the integrity and security of data, which is crucial for creating advanced solutions and facilitating good governance in university strategic planning.

Intelligent computing models further enhance data governance by integrating IoT technology and intelligent computing frameworks. These models create systems for managing information and detecting data through the integration of IoT technology. The use of intelligent computing models allows for the efficient processing and analysis of large volumes of data, enabling universities to make data-driven decisions. This approach not only improves the management of information but also supports the overall governance domain of smart campuses, ensuring that decision-making is based on objective principles and accurate data.

Data governance for sustainable smart campuses should cover several key issues:

#### **Student Privacy**

Ensuring the protection of student data from unauthorized access and breaches is crucial. This involves implementing robust cybersecurity measures and compliance with privacy regulations.

#### **Summer Camp: Privacy Issues can be Sensitive**

The importance of privacy while investigating people counting cameras was emphasized.

Alternatives like heat mapping instead of facial recognition and the use of sensors in dining halls to count people were considered

#### **Complex Data Management**

Managing the vast and complex data generated by smart campus technologies requires effective systems. This includes the integration of IoT technology and intelligent computing models to handle data efficiently.

#### **Digital Gap**

Addressing the digital divide among students and staff is essential. This involves ensuring equitable access to digital resources and technologies to prevent disparities in educational opportunities.

#### **Big Data Technology**

Utilizing big data technology for decision-making and development is important. This includes creating systems for managing large amounts of information and using data analytics to inform campus operations and strategies.

#### **Blockchain Technology**

Implementing blockchain technology can enhance data governance by providing secure and transparent data management solutions. This is vital for creating advanced solutions and ensuring data integrity.

#### **Information System Framework**

Developing a scientific information system framework is necessary for managing education data resources objectively. This framework should support data detection and integration with smart campus technologies.

### **Decision-Making**

Smart campuses improve decision-making processes through integrated management systems and smart platforms, enhancing governance and strategic planning.

Smart campuses significantly enhance decision-making processes by utilizing integrated management systems and smart platforms. These systems allow for the seamless integration of various technologies and data sources, providing a comprehensive view of campus operations. For instance, smart campuses employ centralized bodies for smart governance, which facilitate the coordination and management of resources and services. This centralized approach ensures that decision-makers



have access to accurate and real-time data, enabling them to make informed decisions that improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of campus operations.

Moreover, smart platforms play a crucial role in enhancing governance and strategic planning on smart campuses. These platforms, such as the "On Campus" mobile platform, provide accurate context awareness and resource allocation, which are essential for effective decision-making. By leveraging big data and artificial intelligence, smart campuses can analyze vast amounts of information to identify trends, predict future needs, and optimize resource utilization. This data-driven approach not only improves the quality of decisions but also ensures that they are aligned with the strategic goals of the institution.

In addition to improving decision-making and governance, smart campuses also foster a culture of innovation and continuous improvement. The integration of smart technologies, such as IoT and cloud computing, enables campuses to develop and implement new solutions that address emerging challenges and opportunities. For example, smart campuses can enhance security through smart parking systems and improve energy management with ICT-centered methodologies. These innovations not only contribute to the sustainability and efficiency of campus operations but also support the institution's mission of providing a high-quality educational experience for students.

## Service Management

Smart technologies significantly enhance service management by improving resource utilization. For instance, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in educational processes helps optimize the use of resources such as classrooms, laboratories, and other facilities. AI can predict peak usage times and allocate resources, accordingly, ensuring that they are used efficiently and effectively. Additionally, smart parking systems can manage campus parking spaces by identifying unauthorized vehicles and optimizing space allocation, which not only improves security but also generates revenue through the use of electric vehicles.

Information dissemination is another area where smart technologies make a substantial impact. Technology-enabled universities can leverage various digital platforms to share information quickly and accurately with students, faculty, and staff. This includes the use of mobile applications, websites, and instant messaging systems to keep everyone informed about campus events, schedules, and important announcements. The development of a mobile platform like "On Campus" enhances context awareness and resource allocation, ensuring that information is accessible and up-to-date.

Administrative efficiency is improved through the adoption of smart technologies. An architectural framework that integrates various technologies can streamline both administrative and academic management processes. This includes the use of ICT-centered methodologies and software tools for monitoring and controlling campus infrastructure, such as energy management systems. By automating routine tasks and providing real-time data, smart technologies enable university administrators to make informed decisions quickly and efficiently, leading to a more responsive and well-managed campus environment.

When creating smart campuses that maximize resources, higher education leaders should consider implementing a range of policies to ensure sustainability, efficiency, and innovation.

## Sustainability and Environmental Policies

Creating sustainability and environmental policies is crucial in the context of a sustainable smart campus as it ensures the long-term viability and health of both the natural and built environments. These policies help maintain species and habitats, promote the integration of green energy, and reduce waste through

innovative technologies such as IoT and AI. By focusing on sustainability, campuses can minimize their environmental impact, reduce energy demand, and promote remote learning, which decreases the need for travel and facility use. Additionally, these policies foster an inclusive and equitable environment, addressing social issues and empowering campus citizens to participate in the management and operation of the campus. This holistic approach not only enhances the quality of campus life but also aligns with global sustainability goals, making campuses more resilient and future ready.

Policy areas include:

- **Green Building Standards**  
Adopt policies that require new buildings and renovations to meet green building standards, such as LEED certification.
- **Renewable Energy Mandates**  
Implement policies to increase the use of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind, across the campus.
- **Waste Reduction and Recycling**  
Establish comprehensive waste reduction and recycling programs to minimize environmental impact.

## Energy Management Policies

Energy management policies are crucial in the context of a sustainable smart campus because they significantly reduce energy costs and environmental impact. Implementing energy management systems can lead to an 11% reduction in energy costs, as demonstrated by the NCTU Smart Campus case study, and further savings are expected with additional phases. These policies promote the integration of renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, and the use of smart technologies to optimize energy consumption. Additionally, energy trading systems between electric vehicles can maximize efficiency and profits, contributing to a more sustainable and economically viable campus environment. By focusing on energy management, smart campuses can minimize their carbon footprint, enhance resource efficiency, and create a more sustainable and resilient infrastructure for future generations.

Governance policies for creating sustainable smart campuses should cover several key areas in energy management:

### Energy Control and Efficiency

Implement smart technology for energy control to optimize energy usage and reduce waste. This includes using sensors and automated systems to manage lighting, heating, and cooling based on occupancy and environmental conditions.

### Renewable Energy Integration

Promote the use of renewable energy sources such as solar panels to reduce reliance on non-renewable energy. This can help decrease the carbon footprint and promote sustainability on campus.

### Sustainable Services

Develop and maintain sustainable services that support energy efficiency, such as smart waste management systems and green campus initiatives. These services should aim to reduce emissions and improve the overall environmental impact of the campus.

### Cybersecurity and Data Governance

Ensure robust cybersecurity measures to protect the data and systems used in energy

management. This includes using advanced technologies like deep learning algorithms and blockchain frameworks to secure IoT networks and data governance systems.

#### **Decision-Making and Service Management**

Utilize smart decision-making processes to prioritize energy management improvements. This involves integrating smart technology into administrative and academic management to enhance resource utilization and information dissemination.

#### **Community and Social Responsibility**

Engage the campus community in energy management initiatives. This can include educational programs to raise awareness about energy conservation and sustainability practices among students and staff.

#### **Energy Efficiency Standards**

Set point standards for energy efficiency in all campus buildings and facilities.

#### **Smart Metering and Monitoring**

Require the installation of smart meters and energy monitoring systems to track and optimize energy usage.

#### **Incentives for Energy Savings**

Create incentive programs for departments and individuals who achieve significant energy savings.

By addressing these areas, governance can create a comprehensive policy framework that supports sustainable energy management and contributes to the development of a smart campus.

## **Technology and Innovation Policies**

Policies in Technology and Innovation are crucial for sustainable smart campus planning and implementation because they provide a structured framework that guides the adoption and integration of advanced technologies. These policies ensure that the deployment of smart technologies, such as IoT and AI, is aligned with the campus's sustainability goals, enhancing resource efficiency, and reducing environmental impact. They also promote the development of innovative solutions for energy management, waste reduction, and improved mobility, which are essential for creating a smart and sustainable campus environment. Furthermore, these policies facilitate the involvement of various stakeholders, including university administrators, industry partners, and policymakers, fostering a collaborative approach to address the unique challenges of smart campus development. By prioritizing sustainability and innovation, these policies help create a dynamic digital ecosystem that supports educational excellence and operational efficiency.

Some policies in this area might include:

#### **IoT Integration**

Policies to integrate Internet of Things (IoT) devices for real-time monitoring and management of campus operations.

#### **Data Privacy and Security**

Establish robust data privacy and security policies to protect sensitive information collected by smart campus technologies.

#### **Open Data Initiatives**

Promote open data initiatives that allow for the sharing of non-sensitive data to foster innovation and collaboration.

## Financial and Investment Policies

Financial and investment policies play a crucial role in the planning and implementation of a sustainable smart campus by ensuring transparency, accountability, and strategic allocation of resources. For instance, universities like California State University San Bernardino and Clemson University have set up web-based financial transparency tools that provide financial information to the public, fostering trust and informed decision-making <sup>1</sup>. Additionally, the State of Michigan mandates that all public universities maintain publicly accessible internet sites with comprehensive financial reports, which helps in meticulous planning and efficient use of funds <sup>1</sup>. By adopting such transparent financial practices, universities can better plan and implement sustainable initiatives, ensuring that investments are directed towards technologies and practices that enhance sustainability, inclusivity, and overall campus well-being.

Some policies to consider in this area are:

### **Budget Allocation for Smart Technologies**

Allocate specific budget lines for the development and maintenance of smart campus technologies.

### **Performance-Based Contracting**

Use performance-based contracts to finance energy efficiency projects, where savings are used to pay for the improvements.

### **Public-Private Partnerships**

Encourage partnerships with private companies to leverage their expertise and resources in developing smart campus solutions.

## Transportation, Fleet and Mobility Policies

Transportation and fleet management are crucial components of a sustainable smart campus as they enhance mobility, reduce environmental impact, and improve overall efficiency. Smart transportation systems, such as intelligent signage, smart parking, and fleet tracking, optimize logistics and provide quick notifications, ensuring better mobility and reduced congestion on campus. The integration of electric vehicles and autonomous transportation further contributes to sustainability by lowering greenhouse gas emissions and promoting the use of renewable energy sources. Additionally, these systems facilitate better resource utilization, cost savings, and a more connected and responsive campus environment, leading to a higher quality of campus life and a more sustainable future.

Policies for transportation and fleet management in sustainable smart campuses should cover these areas:

### **Smart Parking Systems**

Implement smart parking systems to manage parking spaces efficiently and reduce congestion. This includes using technology for vehicle identification and coordination to enhance security and optimize space utilization.

### **Electric Vehicle Integration**

Develop frameworks for the optimal allocation of parking spaces for electric vehicles to promote sustainable transportation and generate revenue.

#### **Public Transport Management**

Incorporate smart bus management systems to improve the efficiency and reliability of public transportation on campus.

#### **Sustainable Infrastructure**

Ensure the integration of smart street lighting and other infrastructure that supports sustainable practices and reduces energy consumption.

#### **Citizen Engagement**

Engage campus users in the planning and implementation of transportation policies to ensure they meet the needs and expectations of the community.

#### **Environmental Impact**

Focus on reducing the environmental impact of transportation by promoting the use of electric vehicles, bicycles, and other eco-friendly modes of transport.

#### **Data-Driven Decision Making**

Utilize big data and digital technologies to monitor and manage transportation systems effectively, ensuring that decisions are based on accurate and comprehensive data.

#### **Sustainable Transportation Options**

Promote the use of public transportation, cycling, and electric vehicles on campus.

#### **Smart Parking Solutions**

Implement smart parking systems to optimize parking space usage and reduce congestion.

#### **Real-Time Traffic Management**

Use real-time traffic monitoring and management systems to improve campus mobility.

These policies will help create a sustainable and efficient transportation system on smart campuses, enhancing the overall campus experience for all users.

## Summary

The "Smart Campus Governance" domain focuses on the essential aspects of managing and overseeing a smart campus. It emphasizes the importance of robust cybersecurity measures to protect campus networks from attacks, utilizing advanced technologies like deep learning algorithms and blockchain. Effective data governance is crucial for managing information and facilitating decision-making, using big data and intelligent computing models. The section also highlights the need for improved decision-making processes through integrated management systems and smart platforms, enhancing governance and strategic planning. Additionally, smart technologies enhance service management by improving resource utilization, information dissemination, and administrative efficiency. Overall, this domain underscores the significance of governance in ensuring the successful implementation and operation of a sustainable smart campus.

## Questions

1. **How can we ensure robust cybersecurity measures?** It is crucial to protect smart campus networks from attacks using advanced technologies like deep learning algorithms and blockchain.
2. **What data governance frameworks should we implement?** Effective data governance is essential for managing information and facilitating decision-making. Leaders should consider using big data and intelligent computing models.

3. **How can we improve decision-making processes?** Integrated management systems and smart platforms can enhance governance and strategic planning. Leaders should explore how these technologies can be utilized to improve decision-making.
4. **What strategies can we use to enhance service management?** Smart technologies can improve resource utilization, information dissemination, and administrative efficiency. Leaders should identify the best practices for implementing these technologies.
5. **How can we address data privacy and security challenges?** Ensuring the protection of student and staff data privacy and securing campus networks is critical in a smart campus setting.
6. **What are the financial implications of implementing smart campus technologies?** Understanding the cost savings, resource management, and funding opportunities is essential for the long-term sustainability of the smart campus.
7. **How can we leverage AI for campus management and operations?** Exploring the use of artificial intelligence in managing campus operations, from facilities management to student services and security, can enhance efficiency and effectiveness.
8. **How can we engage the campus community and promote a culture of collaboration?** Encouraging open communication, knowledge sharing, and participation from the campus community helps build a culture of mutual respect and trust, which is vital for the success of the smart campus.

## Domain 5: Technology and the Data Estate for Smart Campuses

Technology and data informatics are at the core of a sustainable smart campus because they enable the efficient management of resources, enhance the learning experience, and promote environmental sustainability. By integrating Internet of Things (IoT) technology and cloud computing, smart campuses can collect and analyze vast amounts of data to optimize energy consumption, improve waste management, and ensure the safety and security of the campus environment. These technologies facilitate real-time monitoring and decision-making, allowing for proactive maintenance and resource allocation. Additionally, smart systems support innovative educational practices, such as virtual classrooms and digital twins, which enhance student engagement and operational efficiency.

### Digital Networks

Digital Networks and IT infrastructure are the backbone of a smart campus, providing the necessary connectivity and computational power to support various smart technologies. They enable seamless communication between devices, systems, and users, ensuring efficient management of campus resources and services.

### Internet of Things (IoT)

The Internet of Things (IoT) refers to the network of interconnected devices that collect and exchange data. In a smart campus, IoT can be used for various applications such as smart lighting, intelligent parking, and real-time monitoring of environmental conditions. These applications help in optimizing resource usage, reducing energy consumption, and enhancing the overall campus experience.

### Campus High-Speed Networks

CIOs are responsible for the creation of campus networks and connectivity of the campus to the Internet. The importance of a robust network campus backbone lies in its ability to support the seamless integration of smart technologies, which enhance the overall campus experience. It enables efficient data transmission, supports high-demand applications, and ensures reliable

connectivity, all of which are essential for creating a smart, responsive, and sustainable campus environment.

### **Network Security**

A secure campus network is essential to operating a smart campus as it ensures the reliability, safety, and efficiency of various interconnected systems. Here are the key components and their importance:

#### **Resilient Data Networks**

These networks provide the backbone for all smart campus initiatives, ensuring that data can be transmitted reliably and securely across the campus. This includes conduits, fiber optic cabling, Wi-Fi, LoraWan, LTE 5G, and CBRS wireless technologies.

#### **Cybersecurity Measures**

Implementing robust cybersecurity protocols is essential to protect sensitive data and prevent unauthorized access. This includes the use of firewalls, encryption, and intrusion detection systems to safeguard the network.

#### **IoT Integration**

The Internet of Things (IoT) devices play a significant role in monitoring and controlling various systems within the campus, such as HVAC, lighting, and security. These devices must be securely integrated into the network to ensure they function correctly and do not become points of vulnerability.

#### **Cloud Computing**

Utilizing cloud computing allows for the efficient storage and management of data, enabling real-time access and analysis. This supports various smart campus applications, such as automated scheduling and resource management.

#### **Operational Technology (OT) Management**

OT systems, such as programmable logic controllers (PLCs) and human-machine interfaces (HMIs), must be integrated and managed securely to ensure the smooth operation of industrial and utility systems on campus.

#### **Data Privacy and Compliance**

Ensuring that the network complies with data privacy regulations and standards is essential to protect the personal information of students, staff, and visitors. This includes implementing policies for data access, storage, and sharing.

#### **Network Monitoring and Maintenance**

Continuous monitoring and regular maintenance of the network are necessary to identify and address potential issues before they become significant problems. This includes monitoring network traffic, performance, and security threats.

By focusing on these components, a secure campus network can effectively support the various smart technologies and applications that make up a smart campus, leading to improved efficiency, sustainability, and user experience.

## **Campus BACNET**

BACnet is a communication protocol for building automation and control (BAC) networks that use the ASHRAE, ANSI, and ISO 16484-5 standards protocol. It is used to standardize the communication between building automation devices from different manufacturers, ensuring interoperability. BACnet allows for the integration and control of various building systems such as HVAC, lighting, fire detection, and security systems. The protocol supports different types of networks, including Ethernet and serial communication, making it versatile for various applications.



## Wireless Networks

Wireless networks are an important infrastructure component of any SSC initiative. From the more public uses of Wi-Fi to lower bandwidth Lora networks, CIOs must take ownership of the full spectrum of wireless services to provide the type of services necessary to connect systems, things, and people.

### Lora WAN

A LoRaWAN (Long Range Wide Area Network) network is a type of low-power, wide-area network designed to wirelessly connect battery-operated devices to the internet in regional, national, or global networks. It is particularly relevant to a smart campus or IoT (Internet of Things) because it supports long-range communication with low power consumption, making it ideal for connecting various smart devices and sensors across a large campus.

In a smart campus, LoRaWAN can be used to monitor and control different systems such as lighting, heating, and security, as well as to track the usage of resources like water and electricity. This network enables real-time data collection and analysis, which can improve operational efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance the overall campus experience.

#### Advantages:

- **Lower Frequencies:** Lora networks operate at lower frequencies (and lower bandwidth) which allows signals to pass through materials and buildings to connect devices that might otherwise be difficult to extend the wired campus network or Wi-Fi.
- **Long Range:** LoRaWAN can cover distances of up to 15 km in rural areas and 5 km in urban settings.
- **Low Power Consumption:** Devices can operate for years on small batteries, making it ideal for IoT applications.
- **Scalability:** A single LoRa gateway can handle thousands of devices, supporting large-scale deployments.
- **Cost-Effective:** The technology uses unlicensed ISM bands, reducing the cost of deployment.
- **Robustness:** LoRa uses Chirp Spread Spectrum (CSS) modulation, which is resistant to interference and provides reliable communication.

#### Disadvantages:

- **Limited Bandwidth:** LoRaWAN supports low data rates, typically up to 27 kbps, which is not suitable for high-bandwidth applications.
- **Latency:** It is not ideal for real-time applications due to higher latency and variable delays.
- **Interference:** Operating in unlicensed frequency bands can lead to interference from other devices.
- **Duty Cycle Limitations:** Regulatory constraints on duty cycles can limit the amount of data that can be transmitted.
- **Complex Network Management:** Managing a large number of devices and gateways can be challenging.

These factors make LoRa networks particularly well-suited for specific IoT applications, such as environmental monitoring and smart agriculture, where long-range, low-power communication is essential. However, they may not be the best choice for applications requiring high data rates or real-time communication.



### 802.11ax

Wi-Fi 6, also known as 802.11ax, is the latest generation of Wi-Fi technology. It operates in the 4 GHz and 5 GHz bands, with an extended version, Wi-Fi 6E, that adds the 6 GHz band. It offers several advantages in a smart campus environment:

Advantages:

- **Higher Speed and Capacity**  
Wi-Fi 6 provides faster data transfer rates and can handle more devices simultaneously, which is essential for a smart campus with numerous connected devices.
- **Improved Efficiency**  
It uses technologies like Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access (OFDMA) and Target Wake Time (TWT) to improve network efficiency and reduce latency, making it ideal for applications requiring real-time data.
- **Better Performance in Crowded Areas**  
Wi-Fi 6 performs better in high-density environments, such as lecture halls and stadiums, by reducing interference and managing multiple connections more effectively.
- **Enhanced Security**  
It supports the latest security protocols, such as WPA3, providing stronger protection against cyber threats.

Disadvantages:

- **Cost of Implementation**  
Upgrading to Wi-Fi 6 can be expensive due to the need for new hardware and infrastructure.
- **Compatibility Issues**  
Older devices may not support Wi-Fi 6, requiring additional investment in compatible devices or adapters.
- **Complexity in Deployment**  
Implementing Wi-Fi 6 in a large campus environment can be complex and may require specialized knowledge and planning.
- **Poor Penetration**  
The higher frequencies of Wi-Fi often prevent signals from penetrating into areas where IoT devices are present.
- **Wi-Fi 4 band is popular**  
WiFi network that uses the 802.11n standard, also commonly called "Wi-Fi 4" - meaning it's an older generation of WiFi technology with slower speeds compared to newer versions like Wi-Fi 5 (802.11ac) and Wi-Fi 6 (802.11ax).

Overall, Wi-Fi 6 offers significant benefits for a smart campus, enhancing connectivity, efficiency, and security, but it also comes with challenges related to cost and deployment.

### Citizen Broadband Radios Service (CBRS)

A CBRS network is a wireless communication service that operates in the .5 GHz band. It is designed to provide high-speed internet access and improve connectivity in various environments, including campuses. There are licensed and unlicensed sub-spectrums.

In the context of a sustainable smart campus, a CBRS network have several advantages:

- **Enhanced Connectivity**  
CBRS networks provide reliable and high-speed internet access across the campus, ensuring

that students, faculty, and staff can stay connected at all times. This is crucial for supporting digital learning, research, and administrative functions.

- **Efficient Resource Management**  
By integrating with IoT devices, CBRS networks enable real-time monitoring and management of campus resources such as energy, water, and waste. This helps in optimizing resource usage and reducing wastage, contributing to sustainability.
- **Support for Smart Technologies**  
CBRS networks facilitate the deployment of various smart technologies, such as smart lighting, smart parking, and smart security systems. These technologies improve the overall efficiency and safety of the campus while reducing energy consumption and operational costs.
- **Scalability and Flexibility**  
CBRS networks are scalable and can be easily expanded to accommodate the growing needs of the campus. This flexibility ensures that the network can support future technological advancements and increased demand for connectivity.

#### Disadvantages of CBRS

1. **Limited Coverage Range:** CBRS operates in the mid-band spectrum (.5 GHz), which has a shorter range compared to lower frequency bands. This means more infrastructure, such as base stations, is needed to cover the same area.
2. **Interference and Congestion:** Since CBRS is a shared spectrum, it can experience interference from other users, especially in densely populated urban areas. This can lead to performance issues and reduced reliability.
3. **Complex Spectrum Management:** CBRS requires dynamic spectrum management through a Spectrum Access System (SAS), which can be complex to implement and manage. This system must constantly coordinate access among different priority levels of users.
4. **Power Limitations:** The power levels for CBRS are lower compared to other bands like C-band, which can affect signal strength and coverage, particularly in areas far from base stations.
5. **Deployment Costs:** While CBRS can be cost-effective in some scenarios, the initial deployment costs can be high due to the need for additional infrastructure and the complexity of managing the spectrum.

These factors can make CBRS networks challenging to deploy and manage, particularly in environments requiring extensive coverage and high reliability.

Overall, a CBRS network can play an important role in creating a sustainable smart campus by enhancing connectivity, enabling efficient resource management, supporting smart technologies, and providing scalability and flexibility.

#### 4G/5G Long-Term Evolution LTE

An LTE (Long-Term Evolution) cellular network is a standard for wireless broadband communication. They can be operated commercially or privately. LTE networks are designed to provide high-speed data and voice services to mobile and wireless devices. LTE networks offer several advantages, including high data transfer rates, low latency, and improved spectral efficiency, making them suitable for various applications, including smart campuses.

LTE networks are relevant for several reasons:

- **High-Speed Connectivity**  
LTE provides fast internet access, which is essential for supporting the numerous connected devices and applications on a smart campus. This includes IoT devices, smart sensors, and mobile applications used by students and staff.
- **Reliability and Coverage**  
LTE networks offer reliable connectivity with extensive coverage, ensuring that all areas of the campus, including remote or outdoor locations, have consistent access to the network. This is crucial for maintaining seamless communication and data transfer across the campus.
- **Support for IoT Devices**  
LTE networks can efficiently handle the data traffic generated by IoT devices, which are integral to a smart campus. These devices include smart lighting, environmental sensors, security cameras, and other connected systems that enhance campus operations and safety.
- **Scalability**  
LTE networks can be scaled to accommodate the growing number of devices and users on a smart campus. As the campus expands and more smart technologies are implemented, the LTE network can be upgraded to meet the increased demand.
- **Integration with Other Technologies**  
LTE can be integrated with other wireless technologies such as Wi-Fi and 5G to create a robust and versatile network infrastructure. This integration ensures that the smart campus can leverage the strengths of different technologies to optimize performance and efficiency.

While LTE networks offer many benefits, they also come with several disadvantages, especially when applied to a smart campus environment:

- **High Deployment Costs:** Setting up an LTE network requires significant investment in infrastructure, including base stations, antennas, and backhaul facilities. This can be a substantial financial burden for educational institutions.
- **Limited Coverage Range:** LTE cells have a small coverage area compared to other technologies like Wi-Fi or LoRa. This means more base stations are needed to cover the entire campus, which can increase costs and complexity.
- **Interference and Congestion:** In densely populated areas, LTE networks can experience interference and congestion, which can degrade performance and reliability. This is particularly problematic in urban campuses with high device density.
- **Variable Data Rates:** The data rates in LTE networks can decrease significantly with distance from the base station. This means that users at the edge of the coverage area may experience slower speeds and reduced performance.
- **Power Consumption:** LTE devices typically consume more power than those using other wireless technologies like LoRa or Wi-Fi. This can be a concern for battery-operated devices and sensors deployed across the campus.
- **Complex Network Management:** Managing an LTE network, especially one with a large number of connected devices, can be complex and require specialized skills and resources.

### 5G Network Partnerships

Collaborations with major telecom providers like Verizon and AT&T to deploy 5G networks on campus enhance connectivity and support the high data demands of smart technologies.

Overall, LTE cellular networks play a critical role in networking a smart campus by providing the necessary infrastructure for high-speed, dependable, and scalable connectivity, which supports the various smart technologies and applications used to enhance campus life and operations.

## The Data Estate

Data is the fuel that drives a smart campus. For the built world we refer to the comprehensive data infrastructure as the "data estate." A data estate encompasses various data sources, including analytics data, business applications, social data, customer relationship systems, functional business and departmental data, activity logs, and Internet of Things (IoT) data.

By all measures, the data estate is big data and involves the collection, processing, and analysis of large volumes of data generated by many campus functions and activities. The well-formed data estate provides valuable insights into patterns and trends, which can be used to improve decision-making, enhance operational efficiency, and provide personalized services to students and staff. So, CXOs need to establish a sound data estate strategy and capabilities. But aggregating data from disparate and proprietary systems can be a huge challenge. Moreover, governance and policy issues around privacy may restrict the collection of some elements of data or require de-identification.

By effectively managing the data estate, institutions can consolidate their data, ensure data quality, enhance data security, and leverage data for better decision-making and business insights. The data estate is fundamental to institutions unlocking the full potential of their sustainable smart campus, driving a single source of truth, fostering knowing, stimulating innovation, and leveraged to create returns on investment and improvements in campus experiences:

1. **Operational Efficiency**

Data analytics helps in monitoring and optimizing the use of resources such as energy, water, and space. By analyzing data from various sensors and systems, campuses can identify inefficiencies and implement measures to reduce waste and improve resource management.

2. **Predictive Maintenance**

With data analytics, campuses can predict when maintenance is needed for various systems and infrastructure. This proactive approach helps in preventing breakdowns and extending the lifespan of equipment, thereby saving costs, and reducing downtime.

3. **Enhanced Decision-Making**

Data-driven insights enable university administrators to make informed decisions regarding campus operations, resource allocation, and strategic planning. This leads to better governance and more effective management of campus resources.

4. **Sustainability Goals**

By monitoring and analyzing environmental parameters such as energy consumption and waste production, campuses can devise strategies to become more sustainable. Data analytics helps in tracking progress towards sustainability goals and identifying areas for improvement.

5. **Student Engagement and Experience**

Data analytics can enhance the student experience by providing personalized learning opportunities and improving campus services. For example, real-time data can be used to manage dining facilities, optimize class schedules, and enhance campus safety.

6. **Research and Innovation**

A smart campus with robust data analytics capabilities can serve as a living lab for research in fields like urban planning, environmental science, and technology. Researchers can use data to simulate various scenarios and study their impacts without making physical changes.

Overall, robust data analytics capabilities are essential for creating a sustainable, efficient, and engaging smart campus environment. Combining the many diverse data types powers digital twins

towards a holistic view of the asset, enabling better decision-making, predictive maintenance, and optimized performance.

### *Data Governance*

Data governance is crucial in the context of a sustainable smart campus for several reasons:

#### **Enhanced Planning and Decision-making**

A well-structured data governance framework allows for better visualization and modeling of the campus, aiding in infrastructure development, facility management, and urban planning. This ensures optimal use of space and resources.

#### **Predictive Maintenance and Resource Optimization**

By integrating sensors and real-time data, facility managers can proactively address maintenance issues, optimize energy consumption, and ensure efficient use of infrastructure.

#### **Safety and Security**

Data governance helps in simulating emergency scenarios, designing evacuation plans, and assessing potential vulnerabilities, thereby enhancing safety protocols.

#### **Improved Student and Staff Experience**

Proper data governance enables virtual navigation, augmented reality tours, and integration with university apps, enhancing the overall experience for students, staff, and visitors.

#### **Sustainability**

Effective data governance supports the implementation of sustainable practices, such as energy-saving technologies and alternative energy sources, contributing to the overall sustainability goals of the campus.

#### **Interoperability and Scalability**

Ensuring that data governance principles are in place helps in integrating new technologies and data sources, making the smart campus adaptable and scalable for future needs.

By focusing on these aspects, data governance plays a pivotal role in creating a sustainable, efficient, and engaging smart campus environment.

### *Data Privacy*

Privacy management in the context of a sustainable smart campus involves several key areas. It includes a human focus on privacy management, an organizational focus on information security management, and a societal focus on cybersecurity management. These competences are essential for all partners involved in the development and operation of smart campuses.

Universities and other institutions must ensure that privacy and information security are integrated into their smart campus initiatives. This involves creating secure systems for data collection, storage, and sharing, and ensuring that all stakeholders, including students, faculty, and staff, are aware of privacy policies and practices. Additionally, the use of technologies such as IoT and cloud computing must be carefully managed to prevent unauthorized access and data breaches.

Furthermore, the involvement of universities in smart city projects often includes collaboration with local and international professional quality organizations to strive for quality and security in smart campus projects. This collaboration helps in addressing the challenges related to information security and privacy, ensuring that the digital environment does not negatively impact human identity, privacy, and behavior.

## Digital Twins

A digital twin of a college campus is a virtual representation of the campus's physical assets, systems, and infrastructure. Digital twin technology is central to the development of sustainable smart campuses because it creates a virtual replica of physical assets, systems, and processes. They play a pivotal role in achieving environmental goals, improving operational efficiency, and fostering innovative approaches to sustainability.

Digital twins can perform real-time monitoring, analysis, and optimization of campus operations. By simulating different scenarios, digital twins help in identifying inefficiencies, predicting maintenance needs, and reducing energy consumption. This technology enables better resource management, enhances the user experience, and supports data-driven decision-making.

Digital twins are built upon spatial, static, and live estate data. All manner of spatial data should be catered for including lidar (laser scanning), photo geometry, 3D – from BIM, as-built information, 2D scans PDF, video, and ESRI, among others. The digital twin is continuously updated with new data, modifications, and improvements to ensure its accuracy and relevance. This enables continuous monitoring and optimization of campus performance, adaptation to changing conditions, and staying ahead of industry trends.

### Estate Data and Systems Integration

Robust spatial, static, and real-time data integration and analytics capabilities enable the digital twin to aggregate, process, and analyze data from various sources, including sensors, building systems, and external databases. They often use standardized data formats and protocols, which help in overcoming compatibility issues between different systems. Digital twins aggregate data from multiple sources, such as Building Management Systems (BMS), Building Information Modeling (BIM), Internet of Things (IoT) sensors, and Facilities Management (FM) systems. This integration provides a comprehensive view of all building operations and energy usage. Digital twins facilitate seamless communication among different and proprietary technologies and systems, integrating estate data and proprietary systems, normalizing it, and storing it in ways that support digital twin capabilities and making it accessible to research and other related activities.

### *Types of Digital Twins*

Digital twins can vary significantly in their levels of sophistication and capabilities. Here are the five levels of digital twins, as defined by the Digital Twin Consortium<sup>8</sup>:

#### **Descriptive Digital Twin**

This is the most basic level, providing a visual replica of a physical asset. It includes essential information about the asset's geometry and materials, often created using CAD or BIM software. These twins are primarily used for visualization, planning, and communication purposes.

#### **Informative Digital Twin**

Building on the descriptive level, informative digital twins incorporate real-time data from sensors and other sources. This allows for continuous monitoring of the asset's condition and performance, enabling predictive maintenance and optimization.

#### **Predictive Digital Twin**

At this level, digital twins use machine learning and artificial intelligence to analyze historical data and predict future behavior and performance. This capability is useful for risk mitigation, capacity planning, and supply chain optimization.

<sup>8</sup> <https://digital-twin-atlas.com/knowledge-hub/article/6>  
<https://www.akila3d.com/blog/insights/five-dimensions-digital-twins/>

### **Comprehensive Digital Twin**

These twins are deeply integrated with other systems, such as ERP and CRM systems. They not only predict but also optimize entire business processes, playing a crucial role in digital transformation and innovation.

### **Autonomous Digital Twin**

The most advanced level, autonomous digital twins can make real-time decisions and take actions independently based on the data they receive. They are capable of driving closed-loop control functions and can significantly enhance operational efficiency and responsiveness.

These levels illustrate the progression from simple visualization to complex, autonomous systems, each adding more value and capabilities to the digital twin technology.

### *Estate Data fuels the Digital Twin*

Regardless of the level of a digital twin, they depend on various types of data. Data is collected from various sources and integrated to create a comprehensive and dynamic virtual representation of physical assets. This collection and organization of data is not insignificant and requires a sophisticated architecture and normalization. Given the frequency of IoT devices reporting, the amount of data collected can also be very substantial.

Here are some key types of data used by Digital Twins:

#### **Spatial Estate Data**

Spatial estate data refers to the detailed information about the physical layout and characteristics of a property or campus, including buildings, infrastructure, land use, and environmental features. In the context of a digital twin, spatial estate data is used to map and visualize the physical space in a digital format. This includes Building Information Modeling (BIM) Data, detailed 3D models of buildings, including geometry, spatial relationships, and geographic information. Digital twins leverage BIM data to create layers in 3D models of buildings, mapping out utilities and infrastructure.

#### **Static Estate Data**

Static estate data refers to the fixed, unchanging information about a property or campus, such as architectural designs, floor plans, structural details, component specifications, and historical records. In a digital twin, static estate data is used to build knowledge for AI applications and characteristic information about buildings and infrastructure. This data includes past performance records, maintenance logs, and historical sensor data. It helps in analyzing trends and predicting future performance. Static estate data also includes geographic information system (GIS) data that provides context about the location and spatial relationships of the asset. By combining static estate data with real-time information, digital twins can simulate various scenarios, optimize operations, and support decision-making processes.

#### **Real-time Data Monitoring and Optimization**

Real-time IoT data plays a crucial role in informing a digital twin of a campus, enabling it to monitor and optimize campus operations and energy management effectively. By integrating data from various sensors and IoT devices, the digital twin can provide a comprehensive and up-to-date representation of the campus's operational state. This real-time data allows for continuous monitoring of energy consumption, HVAC systems, lighting, and other critical infrastructure components. With this information, the digital twin can identify inefficiencies, predict potential issues, and suggest optimizations to improve energy efficiency and reduce operational costs. For instance, it can detect anomalies in energy usage patterns, enabling timely interventions to prevent energy wastage.



### **Environmental Data**

Environmental data is also real-time data about external conditions like weather, air quality, and surrounding environmental factors are used by Digital Twins to inform performance, operational setpoints, and even automatic controls.

### **Simulation Data**

Results from simulations that predict how the asset will behave under various conditions. This can include stress tests, energy efficiency simulations, and more.

### **Maintenance Data**

Information about scheduled and completed maintenance activities, including parts replaced, service history, and maintenance schedules.

### **User and Behavioral Data**

Data on how users interact with the asset, including usage patterns, preferences, and feedback.

### *The People Component*

Driving the transformation and adoption of a Digital Twin on a university campus requires a combination of specialized roles and skills. The CFO and CIO will typically lead the development of talent assets. Developing new skills in staff must be intentional as it can be a particularly onerous task given limited staffing, budgets, and competing priorities for time.

### **Digital Twin Program Manager**

The Program Manager oversees the entire Digital Twin initiative, ensuring alignment with the university's strategic goals. Skills needed include project management, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement.

### **Data Scientists and Analysts**

This position is responsible for collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data from various campus systems. They need strong skills in data analytics, machine learning, and statistical analysis.

### **IoT Specialists**

This person implements and manages the Internet of Things (IoT) devices that feed data into the Digital Twin. Skills include IoT architecture, sensor integration, and network management.

### **Software Developers and Engineers**

These staff develop and maintain the software platforms that support the Digital Twin. Key skills include programming, software development, and systems integration.

### **Cybersecurity Experts**

These experts ensure the security and privacy of data within the Digital Twin. They need expertise in cybersecurity protocols, risk management, and data protection.

### **Facilities Managers**

Facilities Managers work closely with the Digital Twin to optimize campus operations and maintenance. Skills include facilities management, operational efficiency, and sustainability practices.

### **Academic and Research Leaders**

These leaders seek to integrate the Digital Twin into academic programs and research initiatives. They need skills in curriculum development, research methodologies, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

### **Change Management Specialists**

These specialists facilitate the cultural and organizational changes required for successful adoption. Skills include change management, communication, and training.

### User Experience (UX) Designers

UX designers ensure that the Digital Twin interfaces are user-friendly and meet the needs of various stakeholders. Skills include UX design, human-computer interaction, and usability testing.

### Sustainability Coordinators

These Coordinators focus on leveraging the Digital Twin to enhance campus sustainability efforts. Skills include environmental science, sustainability planning, and resource management.

This may not be a comprehensive list but are typical roles that must work collaboratively, to drive the successful creation, adoption, and use of a Digital Twin on a university campus towards enhancing operational efficiency, sustainability, improved experiences, and innovation.

### *The Willow Digital Twin*

Willow and Microsoft are collaborating to enhance sustainability and smart campus capabilities through innovative technologies and solutions. Microsoft has set ambitious goals, such as becoming carbon negative by 2030, water positive by 2030, and achieving zero waste across its direct waste footprint by 2030.<sup>9</sup>

The Willow Digital Twin is a level 5 twin, capable of the most sophisticated controls automations and incorporating artificial intelligence. Willow is implemented in various modules, each building upon each other:



**Sustainability at Scale** Willow helps organizations meet ambitious ESG goals by reducing carbon footprints, improving sustainability reporting, and enabling grid-interactive efficient buildings. Get the whole picture on energy, electricity, gas, and water use to future-proof your operations and meet ESG goals.



**Active Efficiency** Extend beyond well-established energy efficiency approaches with new intelligent digital load management capabilities, demand flexibility, and activation of new distributed energy resources.



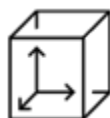
**Asset Condition Monitoring** Maximize asset performance, minimize downtime, and supercharge operational efficiency.



**Building Energy & Operations Know** exactly how your energy and assets are being used. Understand, respond to, and anticipate complex facility conditions in real time and over time.



**Occupancy** Occupant counting, and space utilization data sets are key to creating more efficient, adaptive, and responsive environments.



**Building Spatial & Static Data Transform** the way you manage your space through visualization and exploration of static data.



**Conveyance Increase** uptime and prevent costly interruptions when you take greater control of your conveyance systems.

<sup>9</sup> [Environmental Sustainability | Microsoft CSR](#)



**Onsite Food Preparation Improve** the sustainability profile of commercial kitchens while reducing costs.

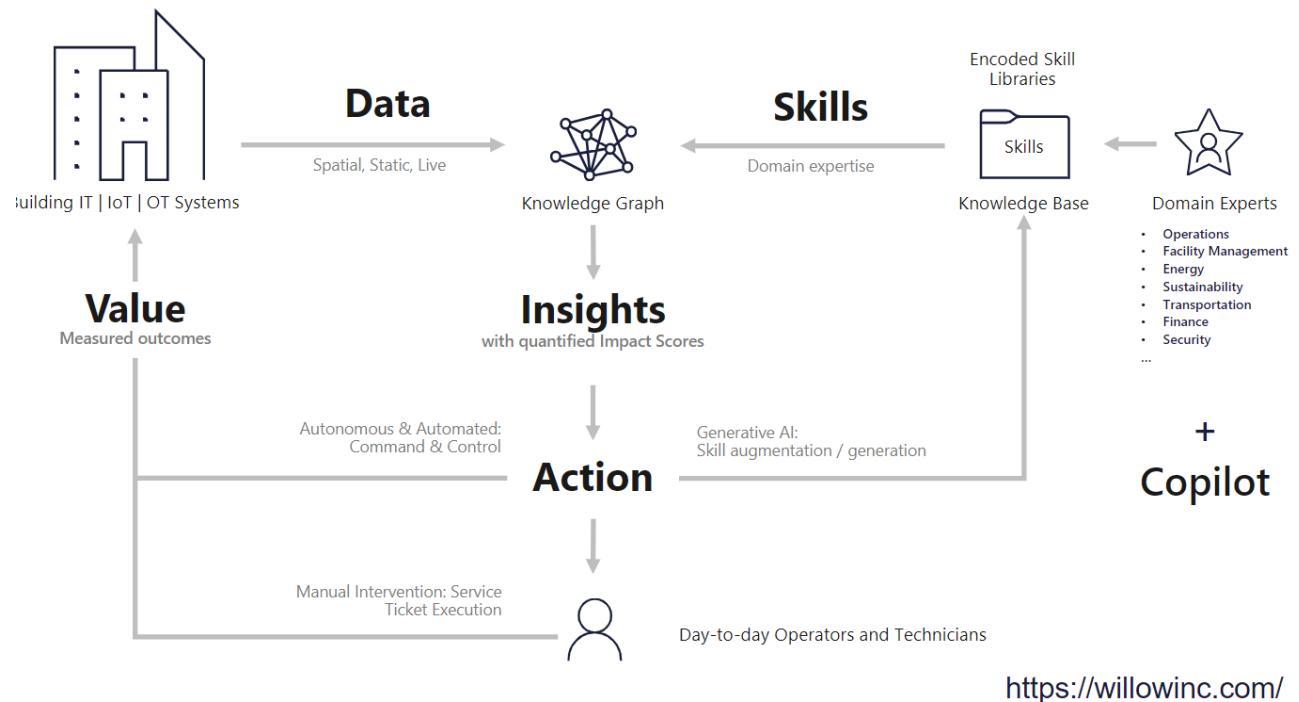


**Retail** Gain full oversight of retail facility systems worldwide, from stores to distribution centers, enabling informed decisions.



**Healthcare** Handle healthcare's unique challenges like high energy consumption, cold storage, medical waste, and air quality.

The Willow Digital Twin creates values by leveraging domain experts and incorporating “skill” into the model which provide insights. Designed to work well with every-day tasks and workflows, Willow identifies actions based on data integrated across IoT devices, building management systems, and Estate data to analyze performance and illuminate situations that have traditionally alluded Facilities subject matter experts. Greater understanding of facilities performance is created which in turn allows tradespeople to take prioritized and prudent actions to improve facilities performance efficiently and effectively.



Together, Microsoft and Willow are making an impact in sustainability, capabilities, and

### Sustainability

**Energy Efficiency:** By leveraging IoT and AI, they optimize energy usage in buildings, reducing waste and lowering carbon footprints.

**Resource Management:** Smart systems monitor and manage water usage, waste, and other resources to ensure efficient and sustainable practices.

**Carbon Emission Reduction:** Implementing smart grids and renewable energy sources helps in reducing overall carbon emissions.

### Smart Campus Capabilities

**Connected Infrastructure:** Using digital twins, they create virtual replicas of physical spaces to monitor and manage campus operations in real-time.

**Enhanced Security:** AI-driven security systems provide real-time surveillance and threat detection, ensuring a safer campus environment.

**Improved User Experience:** Smart systems enhance the experience for students, faculty, and visitors by providing personalized services and seamless connectivity.

These initiatives not only contribute to a more sustainable future but also create smarter, more efficient, and user-friendly campus environments. If you have any specific questions or need more details, feel free to ask!

### AI-Powered Tools for Frontline Workers

#### **Real-time insights**

Twins can provide predictive maintenance and workflow automation, enable teams to make better decisions faster. With Willow's Digital Twin technology, powered by Azure, workers gain access to data that simplifies complex tasks and reduces downtime.

#### **Learning and Upskilling**

By integrating Microsoft Copilot and AI-powered training modules, we help workers develop the skills to thrive in the AI era, transforming their career trajectories.

### Measurable Outcomes

#### 10% OEE Improvements

Proactive insights reduce unplanned downtime, driving efficiency.

#### 25% Reduction in Maintenance Costs

AI-driven predictive maintenance lowers cost and improves reliability.

#### 7% Energy Savings

Real-time optimization delivers millions in utility savings while advancing sustainability goals.

## Summer Camp: About Willow

- **The scope and features of Willow:** Willow is a platform that connects various data sources and systems in the built world, such as BMS, BIM, lighting, security, weather, and utilities. It uses a knowledge graph to create a digital twin of the physical world, and applies AI skills to generate insights, diagnostics, and actions. It also has a copilot feature that assists users with natural language queries and instructions.
- **The market segments and value propositions of Willow:** Willow targets various industry verticals that have an intersection with the built world, such as healthcare, education, retail, manufacturing, and logistics. It offers different thematic value bundles, such as sustainability, building energy and operations, food preparation, and occupancy sensing. It also enables customers to create their own solutions using the solution builder tool.
- **The challenges and opportunities in the energy landscape:** The speaker discusses some of the trends and issues in the energy sector, such as renewable energy, distributed energy resources, policy and regulation, operational challenges, and electrification. He also highlights the potential of demand flexibility and virtual power plants, which can leverage the distributed energy resources in the built world to optimize the grid and reduce costs. He cites a study by LBNL and the Brattle Group that estimates the untapped potential of demand flexibility in the US to be 387 GW.
- **The examples and benefits of smart buildings in different domains:** The speaker gives some examples of how Willow can help customers in different domains, such as healthcare, education, retail, and transportation. He mentions how Willow can encode the domain expertise of operators and technicians, improve the comfort and productivity of occupants, reduce the energy and carbon footprint of buildings, and enhance the operational efficiency and resilience of systems. He also mentions some of the customers that use Willow, such as Sofi Stadium, DFW Airport, Brookfield, and M Health.

## Artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) are technologies that enable systems to learn from data and make intelligent decisions. In a smart campus, AI and ML can be used for predictive maintenance of infrastructure, personalized learning experiences, and efficient management of campus resources. These technologies contribute to sustainability by optimizing operations, reducing waste, and improving the overall quality of life on campus.

However, institutions frequently struggle to obtain the essential data needed to train or deploy AI models. Facility-related data—such as spatial, static, and live data encompassing utilities, equipment, maintenance, warranties, manuals, IoT devices, and sensor data—tends to be siloed, fragmented, and incomplete. At NAU, we struggle with this vary issue.

But, migrating this data into Azure and Willow, and creating relationships utilizing automated ontology-based knowledge extraction from various sources using Azure OpenAI and Semantic Kernel, institutions will have a highly powerful AI-enabled Digital Twin—serving as a single source of truth for their enterprise data across all locations. Levering the data we have in this context is a good base for a multi-phase digital transformation journey where institutions can unlock significant immediate business value while laying the foundation for realizing the full potential of AI/ML and IoT across the enterprise.

AI intersects with and facilitates sustainability in these environments:

**Energy Management**

AI-driven systems optimize energy consumption by monitoring usage patterns and environmental conditions. Intelligent lighting, heating, and cooling systems adjust dynamically to reduce waste and conserve energy.

**Water Management**

AI helps manage water resources efficiently by monitoring usage and detecting leaks. Smart irrigation systems ensure that landscaping receives the right amount of water, reducing waste.

**Predictive Maintenance**

AI algorithms analyze data from sensors to predict when equipment will need maintenance. This proactive approach prevents breakdowns, extends the lifespan of equipment, and reduces resource consumption.

**Waste Management**

AI can optimize waste collection routes and schedules, ensuring that waste is collected efficiently, and recycling rates are maximized.

**Smart Buildings**

AI integrates with building management systems to control HVAC, lighting, and other systems, ensuring they operate at peak efficiency. This reduces energy consumption and enhances occupant comfort.

**Transportation**

AI supports sustainable transportation options by optimizing routes for campus shuttles, promoting carpooling, and managing electric vehicle charging stations.

**Resource Allocation**

AI helps allocate resources like classrooms, labs, and study spaces based on real-time demand, ensuring efficient use of space, and reducing energy consumption.

**Environmental Monitoring**

AI systems monitor air quality, noise levels, and other environmental factors to ensure a healthy and sustainable campus environment.

**Personalized Learning**

AI tailors educational experiences to individual students, improving learning outcomes and reducing the need for physical resources like textbooks.

**Data-Driven Decision Making**

AI analyzes vast amounts of data to provide insights that help campus administrators make informed decisions about sustainability initiatives.



### **Predictive Maintenance**

Using AI to predict equipment failures and schedule maintenance proactively, reducing downtime and costs.

### **Energy Usage Analytics**

Analyzing energy consumption patterns to identify inefficiencies and optimize usage.

### **Predictive Maintenance**

Using AI to predict equipment failures and schedule maintenance proactively, reducing downtime and costs.

By integrating these AI-driven solutions, smart campuses can significantly enhance their sustainability, reduce their environmental footprint, and create a more efficient and comfortable environment for students and staff.

#### **Summer Camp: Artificial Intelligence**

- **ASU is using AI to transform education and support learning.**  
AI can help students and faculty in various disciplines, such as composition, history, architecture, biology, and medicine. He also explains how AI can foster creativity, personalization, and inclusivity in education.<sup>1</sup>
- **Challenges and opportunities of AI in education.**  
AI is not a magic solution and that it requires a clear strategy and ethical considerations to be effective. He also points out some of the potential pitfalls of AI, such as bias, hallucination, and digital equity. He emphasizes the need to collaborate with partners and communities to design and develop AI solutions that are impactful and aligned with ASU's charter.
- **Join the exploration of AI in education.**  
AI is still in its early stages and that there is a lot of room for experimentation and innovation. He encourages the audience to visit the ASU website and learn more about the projects and initiatives that are using AI to advance education. ASU is open to new ideas and partnerships that can help shape the future of learning with AI.

## **Edge Computing**

Edge computing is revolutionizing the way data is processed by bringing computation and storage closer to the data source, reducing latency, and improving real-time decision-making. Unlike traditional on-premises and cloud computing, edge computing offers enhanced speed, efficiency, and reliability, making it appropriate for applications that require immediate data processing and response.

Edge computing significantly enhances the sustainable smart campus by enabling real-time data processing and reducing the need for extensive data transmission to centralized cloud servers. This localized data processing minimizes latency, allowing for quicker responses to environmental changes and more efficient

management of campus resources. For instance, edge computing can optimize energy usage by processing data from IoT sensors in real-time to adjust lighting, heating, and cooling systems based on occupancy and weather conditions. This not only reduces energy consumption but also lowers the carbon footprint of the campus, contributing to overall sustainability efforts.

Furthermore, edge computing supports the integration of renewable energy sources into the campus's energy management system. By processing data locally, edge devices can efficiently manage the distribution and storage of energy generated from solar panels or wind turbines. This ensures that renewable energy is utilized effectively, reducing reliance on non-renewable energy sources. Additionally, edge computing facilitates the development of smart waste management systems, which can monitor waste levels and optimize collection routes, thereby reducing fuel consumption and emissions from waste collection vehicles.

Edge computing significantly enhances the capabilities of a sustainable smart campus in several ways:

1. **Real-time Data Processing:** By processing data locally on edge devices, smart campuses can quickly respond to environmental changes, such as adjusting lighting and HVAC systems based on occupancy and weather conditions, leading to more efficient energy use.
2. **Reduced Latency:** Edge computing minimizes the delay in data transmission, which is crucial for applications like security monitoring and emergency response systems. This ensures that any issues are detected and addressed promptly.
3. **Energy Efficiency:** Edge devices can optimize energy consumption by analyzing usage patterns and making real-time adjustments. For example, they can turn off lights and equipment in unoccupied areas, reducing overall energy consumption.
4. **Sustainability Initiatives:** Edge computing supports sustainability efforts by enabling precise monitoring and control of resources. This includes water management systems that detect leaks and optimize irrigation, and waste management systems that improve recycling processes.
5. **Enhanced Connectivity:** With edge computing, smart campuses can maintain robust connectivity even in areas with limited internet access. This ensures continuous operation of critical systems and enhances the overall reliability of campus infrastructure.

Edge computing capabilities are rapidly developing. Microsoft's edge computing program for Azure and AI focuses on bringing computing power closer to where data is generated, which helps in processing data more quickly and efficiently. Here are some key components:

1. **Azure IoT Edge:** This service allows you to run AI, analytics, and other services directly on IoT devices, reducing the need to send data back to the cloud for processing.
2. **Azure Percept:** A platform that simplifies the development of edge AI solutions, making it accessible even for those with limited AI expertise.
3. **Intelligent Cloud and Intelligent Edge:** This concept integrates cloud computing with edge devices, enabling real-time insights and immersive experiences by processing data locally and only sending essential information to the cloud.

## Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is paramount in a smart campus environment due to the extensive integration of advanced technologies such as IoT, AI, and cloud computing. These technologies, while enhancing operational efficiency and user experience, also introduce numerous vulnerabilities that can be exploited by malicious actors. Protecting the smart campus network from cyber threats is essential to ensure the safety and privacy of students, faculty, and staff. Robust cybersecurity measures, including the use of deep learning algorithms and blockchain technology, are necessary to safeguard sensitive data and maintain the integrity of campus operations. Effective data governance and cybersecurity not only protect against potential breaches but also facilitate better decision-making and service management, contributing to the overall resilience and sustainability of the smart campus.

### **Integration of Systems**

CXOs should focus on integrating various systems such as educational management, financial management, office systems, and library management into a unified platform using IoT and cloud computing technologies. This integration allows for seamless communication and data sharing among teachers, students, parents, enterprises, and researchers.

### **Infrastructure Development**

They need to ensure the development of robust infrastructure that supports smart management, including network and hardware resources, communication systems, and portal architecture. This infrastructure is essential for the efficient operation of a smart campus.

### **Smart Learning and Management**

Implementing smart learning and management systems that utilize RFID labels and mobile technology for real-time tracking and management of student information. This includes attendance, access control, and other administrative functions.

### **Sustainability and Efficiency**

Emphasize the importance of sustainable practices such as intelligent lighting and parking systems. These systems can automatically control lights and guide cars to parking spaces, reducing energy consumption, and improving efficiency.

### **Library Management**

Innovate library management by using IoT to integrate electronic tags with mobile phones and library cards. This allows users to access resources from anywhere and facilitates better communication between users and the library.

### **Data Standards and Security**

Address issues related to data standards and security. Establishing uniform data formats and ensuring the compatibility of RFID labels and sensors is crucial for effective management and control of the smart campus.

### **User Engagement and Support**

Focus on creating a user-friendly environment that supports mobile office, mobile teaching, and overall campus life. This includes providing the best services to meet the demands of education users.

## **Summary**

Digital twins are virtual representations of a campus's physical assets, systems, and infrastructure. They enable continuous monitoring and optimization of the built environment, adapting to changing conditions and events. Modern digital twins help overcome the complexities of integrating devices and organizing vast amounts of data. They also address the challenges of integrating proprietary systems found throughout the campus.

By leveraging digital twins, smart campuses can achieve significant improvements in operational efficiency, resource management, and decision-making. These virtual models provide real-time insights into the campus's performance, allowing for proactive maintenance, energy optimization, and enhanced user experiences. Digital twins also support sustainability efforts by enabling precise monitoring and control of energy consumption, reducing the campus's carbon footprint.

## Questions

Before embarking on a digital twin creation project, a Chief Information Officer (CIO) should consider asking the following key questions to ensure a successful implementation:

1. **What are the specific goals and objectives of the digital twin project?**  
Understanding the primary purposes, such as improving operational efficiency, enhancing sustainability, or supporting academic research, helps in defining the scope and direction of the project.
2. **How will the digital twin integrate with existing systems?**  
Assessing compatibility with current IT infrastructure and identifying necessary upgrades or integrations is crucial for seamless operation.
3. **What data sources will be required, and how will data be collected and managed?**  
Identifying the types of data needed, such as IoT sensor data, building information models (BIM), and operational data, and planning for data management and storage.
4. **What are the anticipated financial and non-financial benefits?**  
Evaluating both the immediate and long-term benefits, including cost savings, improved decision-making, and enhanced user experiences.
5. **What are the potential risks and challenges, and how will they be mitigated?**  
Identifying risks such as data security, privacy concerns, and technical challenges, and developing strategies to address them.
6. **Who are the key stakeholders, and how will they be engaged?**  
Ensuring involvement from all relevant parties, including faculty, students, facilities management, and IT staff, to gather diverse perspectives and foster buy-in.
7. **What is the timeline for implementation, and what are the key milestones?**  
Setting realistic timelines and milestones to track progress and ensure timely completion.
8. **How will the digital twin be maintained and updated over time?**  
Planning for ongoing maintenance, updates, and scalability to ensure the digital twin remains relevant and effective.
9. **What training and support will be needed for users?**  
Identifying training needs and developing support resources to ensure users can effectively utilize the digital twin.
10. **How will success be measured?**  
Defining key performance indicators (KPIs) and metrics to evaluate the success of the digital twin project and make data-driven improvements.

## Tying it All Together

Combine isolated systems like educational management, financial management, office systems, and library management into a unified platform using IoT and cloud computing technologies. This integration allows for seamless communication and data sharing among teachers, students, parents, and researchers.

Technologies like IoT, AI, cloud computing, and blockchain are integrated into smart campuses to facilitate data collection, analysis, and application, driving innovation and sustainability. By integrating technologies, a smart campus can create a more efficient, safe, and well-managed environment for all its users. But managing technological components as separate systems can be problematic and complex.

### Smart Management

Implement smart management systems for various campus operations, including teaching management, logistics management, and library management. For example, use RFID labels for student check-ins, intelligent lighting systems, and smart parking solutions .

### Sustainability

Focus on sustainable practices such as using renewable energy sources like solar power. Many universities are making strides in this area by installing solar panels and creating energy-efficient buildings.

### Student and Staff Engagement

Encourage active participation from students and staff in the development and use of smart campus technologies. This can include projects that involve real-time data analysis, smart grid technologies, and other innovative solutions.

### Security and Privacy

Ensure that all smart campus technologies comply with security and privacy standards to protect sensitive information and maintain a safe environment for all users.

### Top-Level Design and Data Standards

Address issues related to top-level design and data standards to ensure compatibility and effective management of smart campus technologies. This includes creating standardized protocols for RFID labels and sensors.

By considering these components, leadership can effectively plan and implement a smart campus that enhances efficiency, sustainability, and engagement for all stakeholders.

### Interoperability

Ensure that different systems and technologies can work together seamlessly. This includes integrating IoT devices, data management systems, and campus management software.

**Summer Camp: Integrations, Issues and Trends**

- **Facilities and System Integration:** The discussion highlighted the role of facilities in hosting systems and ensuring network and security for system communication.
- **Occupancy and Wi-Fi Utilization:** There was talk about using Wi-Fi to determine building occupancy, acknowledging that it's not entirely accurate since some students, especially those focused on computer science and IT, may not use Wi-Fi. The use of simple PIR occupancy sensors in classrooms to indicate if they are occupied was also discussed.
- **Privacy and People Counting:** The group discussed the importance of privacy while investigating people counting cameras, considering options like heat mapping instead of facial recognition, and the use of sensors in dining halls to count people.
- **Space Utilization and Efficiency:** Conversations revolved around the efficient use of space, such as the idea of touch kiosks around campus for wayfinding and the potential for energy savings by adjusting HVAC settings based on occupancy.
- **Digital Signage and Content Management:** There was a discussion about the challenges of managing digital signage content, the need for standardization, and the role of marketing in distributing content to various signs around campus.
- **Computer Labs and Virtual Desktops:** The group talked about the declining use of computer labs, the potential to close some labs permanently, and the shift towards virtual desktops and docking stations to allow students to use their own devices.
- **Office Space and Remote Work:** The conversation touched on the utilization of office space post-COVID, with some employees preferring to work remotely and the challenge of managing hoteling spaces for those who do come to campus.
- **Cultural Differences in Space Management:** There was a mention of the cultural differences between institutions like ASU and NAU in terms of space management and faculty engagement in centralized processes.

## Smart Buildings

A smart building is an advanced structure that integrates various information and communication technologies (ICT) and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions to manage and optimize its assets and operations. These technologies include sensors for monitoring and controlling heating, air conditioning, lighting, and security systems, which help in achieving more efficient energy usage and enhancing the overall comfort and safety of the occupants. Smart buildings aim to improve the quality of life by making the environment more adaptable, sustainable, and efficient. They also facilitate better resource management and provide value-added services to users by analyzing and utilizing data from various sources.

A smart building is a modern structure that uses advanced technologies to connect, analyze, and optimize its performance. It integrates various building-wide systems such as HVAC, lighting, alarms, and security into a single IT-managed network infrastructure. This convergence allows the building to collect actionable data from user devices, sensors, systems, and services on the premises. By applying this data using artificial intelligence and machine learning, the building becomes programmable and responsive to the needs of its users and managers.

Smart buildings offer numerous benefits, including lower operational and energy costs, greater flexibility, and enhanced occupant comfort and security. They can automatically adjust temperature, lighting, and other environmental factors based on occupancy and external conditions, leading to improved efficiency and sustainability.

### Smart Warehouses

These facilities manage and control inventories more effectively, improving labor and space efficiency, centralizing receiving, and reducing campus traffic. They also enhance security and lower operational costs.

### Holistic Health and Wellness Centers

These centers co-locate various health and wellness services, such as counseling, emergency medical services, and recreation, under one roof to reduce stigma and improve service access.

### Modern Student Housing

On-campus living spaces reflect modern expectations with features like tech access, private bathrooms, and community engagement areas. They also include gender-inclusive housing and options for housing-insecure students.

### Hybrid and Flexible Office Spaces

These spaces accommodate remote or hybrid work arrangements with dynamic space arrangements, including quiet, collaborative, and social spaces.

### Tech-Enabled Classrooms

Smart classrooms are equipped with varying sizes, layouts, and tech integrations to meet the needs of multi-modal learners. Features include monitors at each table, wireless sharing capabilities, and video/audio integration.

### Libraries and Learning Commons

These spaces focus on convenience, collaboration, and connectivity, with features like collaborative study spaces, cafes, academic support services, and easy Wi-Fi access.

### Interdisciplinary Research Facilities

These facilities house research teams from multiple departments to increase collaboration, with features like open and shared labs, flexible features, and modern amenities.



### **Smart Parking Structures and Systems**

These structures and systems assist in guiding drivers to vacant parking spaces, reducing management costs, increasing revenue, and saving energy consumption.

### *Smart Building Systems*

#### **Building Management System (BMS)**

This centralized system controls and monitors various building functions such as heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), lighting, and security.

#### **IOT/Environmental Monitoring Systems**

IoT devices include sensors and actuators that collect data on occupancy, temperature, humidity, air quality, and energy usage. They enable real-time monitoring and control of building systems.

#### **Energy Management Systems**

These systems optimize energy consumption by adjusting lighting, HVAC, and other systems based on real-time data and predictive analytics.

#### **Lighting Systems**

These systems adjust lighting based on occupancy and natural light levels to enhance comfort and reduce energy usage.

#### **Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems**

These systems use sensors and automation to maintain optimal indoor climate conditions while minimizing energy consumption

### *Smart Building Materials and Construction*

Materials science plays a crucial role in the development of smart campuses by providing innovative building materials that enhance energy efficiency and sustainability. Advanced materials such as Shape Memory Alloys, Magnetostrictive Materials, and Piezoelectric Materials offer new opportunities for creating adaptable and intelligent buildings. These materials can improve insulation, reduce energy consumption, and support dynamic control of building environments. Additionally, the design of heating and cooling plants on a smart campus leverages IoT and AI technologies to optimize energy use, ensuring comfortable and efficient climate control. By integrating these advanced materials and smart systems, campuses can achieve significant operational cost savings and create a more sustainable and responsive environment for students and staff.

Using modern "smart" materials in constructing buildings on a smart campus can significantly improve energy efficiency and sustainability by integrating advanced materials:

#### **Fiber Reinforced Aerogel Blankets and Vacuum Insulated Panels**

Fiber Reinforced Aerogel Blankets and Vacuum Insulated Panels are advanced insulating materials developed through nanotechnology. These materials are very thin compared to traditional insulation technologies. They allow for the integration of architecture with minimal burden, reduce thermal bridges, and are useful in piping applications. These insulating materials contribute to significant improvements in the energy efficiency levels of buildings.

#### **Transparent wood**

Transparent wood offers better insulating properties than glass and biodegrade more effectively than plastic, contributing to a more environmentally friendly campus infrastructure.

#### **Smart Paint**

Created by Ohio State University, it can be detected with a sensor-equipped cane to provide real-time

location assistance to the visually impaired and is used to mark dangerous areas.

### **Self-Cleaning and Anti-Reflecting Glazing**

These technologies maximize luminous transparency and allow for dynamic control of glass surfaces, including energy reflection/absorption and dynamic privacy.

### **Green Building Standards**

Design and construct buildings that meet green building standards, such as LEED certification, to ensure environmental responsibility.

### *IoT, Sensing and Control Devices*

SSCs leverage Internet of Things (IoT) devices to create interconnected systems for efficient management of resources such as energy, water, and waste. Smart campuses utilize sensors and data analytics to optimize building operations, reduce energy consumption, and improve safety and security. They also support sustainable transportation options, such as electric vehicles and improved public transit, to reduce carbon emissions.

### *Sensing Devices*

#### **Energy Meters**

Can report in real time current energy consumption.

#### **Water Detection**

Detect the presence of water for leaks or spills.

#### **Environmental Sensors**

Measure temperature, humidity, air quality, and noise levels.

#### **Motion Sensors**

Detect movement to control lighting and security systems.

#### **Occupancy Sensors**

Track the presence of people in rooms to optimize space usage and energy consumption.

### *Control and Actuator Devices*

#### **Smart Thermostats**

Control heating and cooling systems for energy efficiency.

#### **Smart Lighting Systems**

Automated lighting that adjusts based on occupancy and natural light levels.

#### **Automated Temperature Control**

Smart thermostats adjust heating and cooling based on occupancy and user preferences, reducing energy waste.

#### **Connected Appliances**

Devices like smart coffee machines and vending machines that can be monitored and controlled remotely.

#### **Access Control Systems**

Use RFID cards or biometric scanners to manage entry to buildings and rooms.

#### **Surveillance Cameras**

Monitor campus security with real-time video feeds.

#### **Valve Controls**

Can open and close water or steam valves or air ducts based on signals from a BMS or Digital Twin system.

#### **Automated Shading**

Adjusts window shades based on sunlight and occupancy to reduce heating and cooling loads.

#### **Electrochromic Tinted Windows**

These are windows that can change their tint based on external conditions to control heat gain and glare.

#### **Remote Controls**

Users can control and monitor temperature settings remotely via smartphones or other devices. Smart thermostats adjust heating and cooling based on occupancy and user preferences, reducing energy waste.

### *Building Management Systems (BMS)*

A building management system (BMS) is an advanced technological solution designed to oversee and control various functions within a building, ensuring optimal performance and efficiency. It integrates multiple systems such as heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC), lighting, security, and energy management into a unified platform. By utilizing sensors, controllers, and software, a BMS enables real-time monitoring and automation of building operations, leading to enhanced comfort, safety, and energy savings. This centralized approach not only simplifies maintenance and management but also provides valuable insights through data analytics, helping facility managers make informed decisions to improve the building's overall functionality and sustainability.

#### **Integrated Control Systems**

BMS integrate various building systems (HVAC, lighting, security) to provide centralized control and monitoring, typically on a building-by-building basis.

#### **Automated Controls**

Automated systems adjust lighting, heating, and cooling based on occupancy and environmental conditions, enhancing energy efficiency.

#### **Building Analytics**

Provide detailed insights into energy usage patterns, enabling better energy management and cost savings.

### *Smart Lighting Systems*

Lighting control systems play a crucial role in enhancing the sustainability of a smart campus by significantly reducing energy consumption. These systems utilize adaptive LED and induction luminaires with occupancy sensors, which ensure that lights are only on when needed, thereby conserving energy. For instance, in parking structures and lots, adaptive lighting can adjust based on the presence of vehicles or pedestrians, reducing unnecessary energy use. Additionally, smart lighting systems in corridors and stairwells can automatically dim or brighten based on occupancy, further contributing to energy efficiency. By integrating daylight sensors, these systems can also maximize the use of natural light, reducing the reliance on electric lighting during daytime hours.

Moreover, smart lighting systems contribute to the overall safety and functionality of the campus. Wireless lighting controls with personal controls and LED task lights inside buildings provide a customizable and efficient lighting environment for students and staff. In residence halls, hybrid bathroom luminaires combine LED night-lights with conventional lamps and occupancy sensors,

ensuring that lights are only on when the space is in use. This not only saves energy but also enhances the user experience by providing appropriate lighting levels at all times.

Additionally, smart lampposts equipped with Wi-Fi, surveillance, and IoT devices can improve campus security and provide valuable information to users, such as directions or nearby amenities, thereby creating a safer and more connected campus environment.

### **LED Lighting**

Energy-efficient LED lights reduce energy consumption compared to traditional lighting.

### **Occupancy Sensors**

Automatically adjust lighting based on room occupancy, reducing unnecessary energy use.

### **Daylight Harvesting**

Adjusting indoor lighting based on the amount of natural light available.

### *Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Management*

HVAC management involves the use of smart technologies to monitor and control heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, optimizing energy efficiency, and ensuring a comfortable indoor environment.

### **Variable Air Volume (VAV) Systems**

Adjust airflow based on the specific needs of different areas, improving energy efficiency.

### **Demand-Controlled Ventilation**

Adjusts ventilation rates based on occupancy levels to maintain air quality while saving energy.

### *Water Management Systems*

Water management systems on a smart campus utilize smart technologies to monitor and optimize water usage, ensuring efficient distribution, conservation, and sustainability.

### **Smart Irrigation**

Using sensors and weather data to optimize watering schedules, reducing water waste.

### **Water Recycling Systems**

Treating and reusing wastewater for non-potable purposes, such as irrigation and cooling.

## *Sustainability Technologies*

Sustainability technologies for a sustainable smart campus focus on integrating environmentally friendly services, renewable energy, and sustainable development. These technologies include the use of IoT-based systems to reduce travel, minimize facility use, and curtail energy demand, thereby reducing paper waste and tree harvests. Renewable energy is incorporated through green energy systems like hybrid renewable energy systems and smart grids, which help in energy management and efficiency. Sustainable development is promoted through digital technologies for water treatment, waste management, and mobility solutions, all aimed at reducing carbon emissions and enhancing resource utilization.

### *Renewable Energy*

Using renewable energy on a smart campus involves integrating green energy sources into the campus's infrastructure to minimize environmental impact and promote sustainability. Smart campuses can incorporate a hybrid renewable energy system operated by an IoT-based architecture,

which helps in reducing electrical power consumption and carbon emissions. Examples of renewable energy sources that can be utilized include:

- solar power
- wind energy
- geothermal energy plants
- biomass energy plants.

These sources not only contribute to a greener campus but also support the institution's goals of energy efficiency and environmental responsibility.

### *Smart Grids*

Smart grids are advanced electrical grids that use digital communication technology to detect and react to local changes in usage, improving the efficiency, reliability, and sustainability of electricity distribution. They integrate renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind, into the grid, allowing for more sustainable energy production. Smart grids also employ advanced metering infrastructure and sensors to monitor and manage energy consumption in real-time, reducing energy waste and optimizing resource allocation. Additionally, they support the development of microgrids and energy storage solutions, enhancing the resilience of the power supply system. These innovations contribute to the overall goal of creating a more efficient and environmentally friendly energy infrastructure.

### *Energy Storage Systems*

Battery technology plays a crucial role in creating a sustainable smart campus by efficiently managing energy costs. By integrating advanced battery storage systems, campuses can store excess energy generated from renewable sources like solar panels during peak production times. This stored energy can then be used during periods of high demand or when renewable generation is low, reducing reliance on the grid and lowering energy costs. Additionally, smart energy management systems can optimize the use of stored energy, ensuring that it is deployed when it is most cost-effective. This not only helps in balancing energy loads but also contributes to a more resilient and sustainable energy infrastructure on campus.:

#### **Lithium-Ion Batteries**

Lithium-ion batteries are widely used due to their high energy density, making them suitable for various applications, from portable electronics to large-scale energy storage. They offer high efficiency and long cycle life, which are crucial for sustainable energy management.

#### **Solid-State Batteries**

Solid-state batteries use solid electrolytes instead of liquid ones, reducing the risk of leaks and fires and offering greater stability. They can potentially offer higher energy densities than traditional lithium-ion batteries, making them a promising option for future energy storage needs.

#### **Flow Batteries**

Flow batteries, such as vanadium redox flow batteries, are highly scalable and can store large amounts of energy, making them ideal for campus-wide energy storage. They have a long operational lifespan and can handle frequent charge and discharge cycles without significant degradation.

#### **Thermal Energy Storage**

Thermal energy storage systems store excess energy in the form of heat or cold, which can be used for heating, cooling, or power generation. These systems can significantly improve the efficiency of energy use, especially in climates with high heating or cooling demands.

### *Energy Management Systems (EMS)*

An energy management system (EMS) in the context of a smart campus is a sophisticated platform designed to optimize energy usage across various buildings and facilities. It is also the essential brain

behind the management of energy storage systems. By integrating advanced technologies such as IoT sensors, data analytics, and automation, an EMS enables real-time monitoring and control of energy consumption. This system can manage heating, cooling, lighting, and other energy-intensive operations, ensuring they run efficiently and sustainably. Additionally, it provides valuable insights through detailed reports and predictive analytics, helping campus administrators make informed decisions to reduce energy costs and carbon footprint. Overall, an EMS enhances the sustainability and operational efficiency of a smart campus, contributing to a greener and more cost-effective environment.

### **Real-Time Energy Monitoring**

EMS provides real-time data on energy consumption, helping to identify inefficiencies and areas for improvement.

### **Predictive Analytics**

Using historical data and machine learning, EMS can predict energy needs and optimize energy usage accordingly.

### *Thermal Wells and Bio Plants*

Institutions can leverage thermal wells and bio plants to generate energy, significantly reducing costs and promoting sustainability on a smart campus. Thermal wells, also known as geothermal wells, tap into the Earth's natural heat to produce energy. By drilling into the ground, these wells can access geothermal reservoirs, which provide a consistent and reliable source of heat. This heat can be used directly for heating buildings or converted into electricity through geothermal power plants. The use of thermal wells reduces dependency on fossil fuels, lowers greenhouse gas emissions, and provides a stable energy supply, which can lead to substantial cost savings over time.

Bio plants, on the other hand, utilize organic materials such as agricultural waste, food scraps, and other biomass to produce energy. Through processes like anaerobic digestion or gasification, these materials are broken down to generate biogas, which can be used for heating, electricity, or even as a vehicle fuel. By converting waste into energy, bio plants help in managing waste more effectively while providing a renewable energy source. This not only reduces the carbon footprint of the institution but also cuts down on waste disposal costs.

Integrating these technologies into a smart campus infrastructure can enhance energy efficiency and sustainability. Smart energy management systems can monitor and optimize the use of energy generated from thermal wells and bio plants, ensuring that energy is used when it is most needed and stored when it is abundant. This dynamic approach to energy management helps in balancing supply and demand, reducing peak energy loads, and minimizing energy costs. Additionally, the use of renewable energy sources like geothermal and biomass aligns with the goals of sustainability, making the campus a model for environmental stewardship.

Overall, the adoption of thermal wells and bio plants not only supports the financial health of institutions by lowering energy costs but also contributes to a greener, more sustainable future. By investing in these technologies, institutions can demonstrate their commitment to sustainability, attract environmentally conscious students and staff, and set an example for other organizations to follow.

### *Green Spaces, Biodiversity and Waste Management*

Green spaces and biodiversity play a crucial role in creating a sustainable smart campus by enhancing the ecological balance and providing numerous environmental benefits. These areas, such as vertical gardens and wildlife corridors, help in reducing carbon footprints by absorbing CO<sub>2</sub> and other pollutants, thus improving air quality. They also support diverse plant and animal life, creating habitats for various species and promoting biodiversity. Additionally, green spaces offer recreational areas for

students and staff, contributing to their well-being and fostering a connection with nature. Integrating these elements into a smart campus design not only supports sustainability goals but also enhances the overall quality of life for the campus community by providing a healthier and more engaging environment.

### **Urban Greenery**

Increasing green spaces, rooftop gardens, and vertical gardens to enhance biodiversity and improve air quality.

### **Waste Management**

Comprehensive recycling and waste reduction programs.

### **Sustainable Landscaping**

Using native plants and sustainable landscaping practices to support local ecosystems.

### **Irrigation Systems**

Utilizing weather data and soil moisture sensors to optimize water usage in landscaping.

### **Water Recycling**

Implementing greywater recycling systems and rainwater harvesting to reduce water waste.

### **Zero Waste Initiatives**

Promoting recycling, composting, and waste reduction programs to achieve zero waste.

### **Smart Waste Bins**

Using bins equipped with sensors to monitor waste levels and optimize collection routes.

### **Recycling Stations**

Automated sorting systems to improve recycling efficiency and reduce landfill waste.

## **Surveillance and Safety**

Building surveillance technologies enhance security and operational efficiency on a smart campus. Many campus police departments consider good surveillance systems as “force multipliers” that help deter crimes and enhance officers’ ability to police the campus for improved presence and safety.

Here are some key technologies used:

### **High-Definition Security Cameras**

Modern security cameras provide high-resolution video, enabling clear identification of individuals and activities. They are often equipped with features like night vision and wide dynamic range (WDR) for better performance in various lighting conditions.

### **Video Content Analytics (VCA)**

VCA uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to analyze video footage in real-time. It can detect and alert security personnel to unusual activities, such as unauthorized access or suspicious behavior.

### **Network Video Recorders (NVRs)**

These devices store video footage from security cameras and allow for easy retrieval and playback. NVRs can be integrated with VCA systems for enhanced functionality.



### **Cloud-Based Surveillance**

Cloud storage solutions enable remote access to video footage and analytics, providing flexibility and scalability. This allows security teams to monitor the campus from anywhere and ensures data is securely backed up.

### **Facial Recognition Systems**

These systems can identify individuals by comparing live video feeds to a database of known faces. They enhance security by quickly identifying unauthorized persons.

### **License Plate Recognition (LPR)**

LPR systems capture and analyze license plate information, which is useful for monitoring vehicle access and managing parking facilities.

### **Integrated Security Systems**

Combining surveillance with other security measures, such as access control and alarm systems, creates a comprehensive security network. This integration allows for coordinated responses to security incidents.

### **Drones and Aerial Surveillance**

Drones equipped with cameras can provide aerial views of the campus, useful for large events or monitoring hard-to-reach areas

### **Environmental Sensors**

These sensors can detect environmental changes, such as smoke, gas leaks, or temperature fluctuations, and trigger alerts to prevent potential hazards.

### **Smart Lighting**

Integrated with surveillance systems, smart lighting can enhance visibility in critical areas and respond to detected motion, improving both security and energy efficiency.

These technologies work together to create a secure and responsive environment on a smart campus, ensuring the safety and well-being of all campus members.

## **Access Control**

Access controls are an important component of a smart campus, enhancing security and operational efficiency. By integrating IoT technology, campuses can manage facility access through smart cards, e-cards, or smart phones for controlled entry to buildings and rooms, and logging entrance and departure times to prevent unauthorized access. Access control systems not only protect high-value assets but also ensures that only authorized individuals can access specific areas, thereby boosting overall campus security.

### **Security and Access Control**

Smart buildings use advanced security systems, including surveillance cameras, biometric access controls, and alarm systems, to ensure the safety of occupants. Access technologies are crucial components of a smart campus, enhancing security, convenience, and operational efficiency. Here are some key technologies used:

#### **Smart Card Access Systems**

These systems use RFID or NFC-enabled cards that students, faculty, and staff can use to access buildings and rooms. They can also be integrated with other campus services like libraries and dining.

### **Biometric Access Control**

Technologies such as fingerprint scanners, facial recognition, and iris scanners provide secure and convenient access by verifying individuals' unique biological traits.

### **Mobile Access Solutions**

Mobile apps allow users to access buildings using their smartphones. These apps can use Bluetooth, NFC, or QR codes to authenticate users.

### **Cloud-Based Access Control**

These systems allow for remote management of access permissions and real-time monitoring. They can be easily scaled and integrated with other campus systems.

### **Touchless Access Control**

Especially important in the post-pandemic era, touchless systems use technologies like wave-to-open sensors and voice recognition to minimize physical contact.

### **Integrated Security Systems**

Combining access control with video surveillance and alarm systems enhances security by providing a comprehensive view of access events and potential security breaches.

### **Visitor Management Systems**

These systems streamline the process of registering and managing campus visitors, often using digital kiosks or mobile apps to issue temporary access credentials.

### **Smart Locks**

Electronic locks that can be controlled remotely or programmed to operate on schedules, providing flexibility and enhanced security.

These technologies not only improve security but also contribute to a more efficient and user-friendly campus environment.

## **Next Generation 911 Services**

Leveraging the latest technology in digital 911 services, known as Next Generation 911 (NG911), significantly enhances emergency response capabilities. NG911 replaces the outdated analog infrastructure with a digital, IP-based system that allows seamless integration of voice, text, photos, and videos from the public to emergency services. This advancement improves the speed and reliability of emergency responses, enabling better management of call overloads and natural disasters. Additionally, NG911 utilizes geospatial call routing to accurately locate callers, ensuring that help arrives precisely where it is needed.

On a smart campus, several technologies support police services to maintain safety and security. These include:

### **Video Content Analytics**

Utilizes AI to analyze surveillance footage, identify potential threats, and provide real-time alerts.

### **Smart Security Systems**

Integrate access control, surveillance, and emergency response into a unified platform.

### **Geofencing and Location Intelligence Tools**

Enhance situational awareness and enable precise tracking of individuals and assets.

### **Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) Systems**

Improve the efficiency of emergency response by providing dispatchers with real-time data and communication tools.

### **IoT and Wireless Sensors**

Monitor environmental conditions and detect anomalies that could indicate security breaches.

### **Emergency Notification Systems**

Many campuses have used various mass notification systems for emergency situations on campus. While not formally part of NC911, these systems operated by campuses can be used for a variety of safety and urgent communications use cases.

These technologies collectively create a safer and more responsive environment on modern campuses.

## **Summary**

This section discussed how smart campuses leverage digital technologies such as sensors, IoT, AI, 5G, cloud computing, and blockchain to manage and handle large amounts of data efficiently. These technologies support various domains, including the economy, society, environment, and governance, by enabling strategic decision-making, enhancing safety and health, promoting sustainability, and ensuring equitable access to resources. The integration of these technologies facilitates seamless communication and interaction among stakeholders, improving the overall campus experience and operational efficiency. Additionally, the section highlights the importance of systems integration and data governance in creating a unified platform that enhances communication and resource utilization. Digital twins are also mentioned as virtual representations of the campus's physical assets, systems, and infrastructure, enabling continuous monitoring and optimization.

## **Questions**

1. What technological infrastructure is ready to support a smart campus? What infrastructure components are weak or missing altogether?
2. Is our IT organization(s) ready to tackle the challenges of a sustainable smart campus? What people, skills, services, or capabilities do we need to invest in?
3. How can we ensure that our technology platform is intuitive and simple to use for all campus constituents, including students, faculty, and staff, to enhance their interaction with the system?
4. What design thinking and persona-centric principles can we incorporate to address the specific needs and user journeys of our campus community?
5. How can we implement a standards-based, modular, adaptive, flexible, and intelligent architecture that allows our smart campus to evolve over time and meet the ever-changing needs of end-users?
6. What strategies can we adopt to ensure our smart campus solution is scalable and can support both local and global reach, providing seamless data-driven experiences for both physical and virtual classrooms?
7. How can we leverage digital twins to enhance planning, decision-making, predictive maintenance, resource optimization, safety, security, and overall student and staff experience on campus?

### **Summer Camp**

The conversation included discussions on software and technology, focusing on success in physical structures, AB systems, digital signage, and video conferencing.

- A participant discussed the journey of DFW Airport towards becoming a smart campus,



## 6 Future Trends and Innovations

Future trends in higher education institutions are increasingly focused on the integration of smart technologies to create sustainable and efficient campuses. The concept of a smart campus involves the use of next-generation technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, blockchain, facial recognition, smart sensors, and beacons. These technologies are strategically placed to automate processes, monitor, and initiate workflows, and enhance the overall campus experience. For instance, ubiquitous wireless connectivity ensures that students, staff, visitors, and devices remain connected anywhere on campus, while intelligent classrooms improve student engagement, retention, and outcomes.

One of the significant issues facing higher education institutions in the planning and implementation of sustainable smart campuses is the challenge of integrating dispersed systems and large ERP/SIS systems that do not communicate seamlessly. Many universities still operate with siloed infrastructures that fail to serve or communicate effectively outside their associated stakeholders. To address this, institutions need to develop a more integrated and intelligent infrastructure that facilitates efficient practices and eliminates outdated transactional processes. This includes the adoption of smart waste management systems, smart lighting for energy efficiency, and integrated building management solutions to reduce utility resource utilization.

Innovative developments that may extend the smart campus include the use of digital twins, which combine physical and digital representations of the campus to create a virtual-reality space for users to interact with. Digital twins provide enhanced planning and decision-making capabilities, predictive maintenance, and resource optimization. They also improve safety and security by simulating emergency scenarios and assessing potential vulnerabilities. Additionally, the integration of sensors and real-time data allows for better infrastructure management and urban planning, ensuring optimal use of space and resources.

To ensure the successful implementation of smart campuses, higher education institutions must focus on creating an intuitive and simple-to-use platform that delivers an amazing user experience. This involves incorporating design thinking and persona-centric principles to address the needs of students and other higher education constituents. The platform should be modular, adaptive, flexible, and intelligent, allowing it to evolve over time and meet the ever-changing needs of end-users. By leveraging digital tools and technologies, institutions can provide seamless data-driven experiences and enable access and scale, whether students are in a physical classroom or participating remotely from anywhere in the world.

### Emerging Priority Issues

#### Digital Twins

The use of digital twins is becoming increasingly important. These virtual replicas of physical assets allow for real-time monitoring and management, leading to more efficient and sustainable campus operations.

#### AI and Machine Learning

Leveraging AI and machine learning for campus management and operations can lead to more efficient resource allocation and predictive maintenance. These technologies can also enhance student services and security.

#### 5G and Connectivity

The implementation of 5G networks and other advanced connectivity solutions will be crucial for supporting the increasing demand for digital services and hybrid learning environments. Enhanced connectivity will enable seamless communication and access to resources across the campus.

#### The Data Estate

Data is the fuel that drives the sustainable smart campus. The ability to leverage utility meter data, occupancy data, environmental data and other data derived from IoT and lived experiences all serve to

inform the OT ecosystem. Moreover, these sources of estate data essentially inform digital twins and AI agents to automate and accentuate improvements in OT and human efficiencies. By harnessing the vast amounts of data generated by IoT devices, such as sensors and smart systems, data scientists can gain valuable insights into campus operations and student behaviors. These insights enable the development of AI agents that can optimize resource utilization, enhance campus safety, and improve the overall student experience. For instance, AI agents can predict energy consumption patterns, identify maintenance needs, and personalize learning experiences based on real-time data. This integration of data science and IoT not only drives efficiency and sustainability but also fosters a more connected and responsive campus environment.

### **Data Privacy and Security**

As campuses become more connected, ensuring the privacy and security of student and staff data will be a major concern. Institutions will need to adopt robust cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive information. Alternatively, **Synthetic data** is artificially generated data that mimics real-world data but is created using algorithms and simulations rather than being collected from actual events.

### **Sustainability Initiatives**

There is a growing emphasis on sustainability, with institutions implementing smart transportation solutions, energy-efficient systems, and sustainable building practices. These initiatives not only reduce the environmental impact but also promote a culture of sustainability on campus.

### **Inclusive Design**

Ensuring that smart campus technologies are accessible to all students and staff, regardless of their physical or learning abilities, is essential. Inclusive design principles should be integrated into the planning and implementation of smart campus projects.

### **Hybrid-First Operations**

Higher education institutions are increasingly adopting hybrid-first approaches to operations and service delivery. This trend is driven by the demand for flexible learning options and the need to ensure digital and institutional resiliency.

### **Ethical AI Practices**

The integration of AI in higher education must be accompanied by ethical considerations, inclusivity, and privacy protections. Institutions need to address these issues to ensure the responsible use of AI technologies.

### **Student-Centric Campus Environments**

Future campus designs will focus on creating inclusive and engaging environments that cater to the evolving needs of students. This includes the use of technology-driven solutions to enhance the overall student experience.

### **Operational Efficiency and Safety**

Smart campuses will prioritize operational efficiency and safety, leveraging technology to create secure and resilient environments for students,

A sustainable campus offers long-term benefits that extend beyond immediate environmental impacts, creating a lasting legacy for future generations. By integrating energy-efficient systems, renewable energy sources, and sustainable practices, such campuses significantly reduce their carbon footprint and operational costs. This not only fosters a healthier environment but also promotes a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, and staff. Additionally, sustainable campuses often serve as living laboratories for innovative research and education, preparing students to tackle global environmental challenges. The legacy of a sustainable campus is one of resilience, responsibility, and

forward-thinking, ensuring that the institution remains a leader in sustainability and environmental stewardship for years to come.

## Emerging Technologies

### Smart Glass

Also known as electrochromic or photochromic glass, smart glass can change its transparency in response to light or heat. This helps regulate indoor temperatures by controlling the amount of sunlight entering the building, reducing the need for artificial heating and cooling.

### Phase Change Materials (PCMs)

PCMs absorb and release thermal energy during the process of melting and freezing. They can be integrated into building materials to stabilize indoor temperatures, reducing the reliance on HVAC systems and enhancing energy efficiency.

### Aerogels

Known for their excellent insulating properties, aerogels are lightweight materials that provide superior thermal insulation. They can be used in walls, roofs, and windows to minimize heat loss and improve energy efficiency.

### Self-Healing Concrete

This innovative material can repair its own cracks, extending the lifespan of buildings and reducing maintenance costs. Self-healing concrete contains bacteria or chemical agents that activate when cracks form, sealing them and preventing further damage.

### Smart Roofs

These roofs are equipped with materials that can reflect or absorb heat depending on the season. For example, cool roofs are designed to reflect more sunlight and absorb less heat, keeping buildings cooler in the summer and reducing air conditioning costs.

### Nanomaterials

Nanotechnology is being used to create materials with enhanced properties, such as increased strength, durability, and thermal performance. Nanomaterials can improve the efficiency of solar panels, enhance insulation, and even purify air and water within buildings.

### Synthetic data

Synthetic data enhances the development, testing, and deployment of AI systems in smart campuses, contributing to a more efficient, secure, and innovative educational environment. This type of data is artificially generated rather than collected from real-world events, allowing for the creation of diverse and comprehensive datasets without the privacy concerns associated with real data. In a smart campus setting, synthetic data can simulate various scenarios, such as energy consumption patterns, student behaviors, and campus traffic flows, enabling AI systems to learn and adapt more effectively. The value of synthetic data lies in its ability to enhance the accuracy and robustness of AI models, leading to more efficient resource management, improved campus safety, and a better overall experience for students and faculty. By leveraging synthetic data, institutions can accelerate the development and deployment of AI-driven solutions, contribute to a more sustainable and intelligent campus environment.

### Internet of Things 2.0

IoT capabilities significantly enhance the sustainability of a smart campus by enabling more efficient resource management. Advanced sensors and connectivity allow for real-time monitoring and control of energy usage, water consumption, and waste management. This technology can optimize lighting, heating, and cooling systems based on occupancy and environmental conditions, reducing energy waste, and lowering the campus's carbon footprint. Additionally, IoT 2.0 facilitates predictive maintenance, preventing costly and resource-intensive repairs.



### **Synthetic biology**

Synthetic biology offers innovative solutions for creating a sustainable smart campus by engineering biological systems to perform specific functions. This includes developing bio-based materials for construction that are more sustainable and biodegradable. Synthetic biology can also contribute to waste management through microorganisms that break down pollutants and recycle waste products. Furthermore, it can enhance food sustainability on campus by enabling the production of lab-grown food, reducing reliance on traditional agriculture.

### **Artificial General Intelligence (AGI)**

AGI has the potential to revolutionize campus sustainability by providing advanced decision-making capabilities. AGI can analyze vast amounts of data from various campus systems to optimize resource allocation and identify areas for improvement. It can also facilitate the development of personalized learning environments that adapt to individual student needs, reducing the need for physical resources and promoting digital learning. Moreover, AGI can support research initiatives aimed at developing new sustainable technologies and practices.

### **Virtual Reality (VR)**

VR can contribute to a sustainable smart campus by offering immersive learning experiences that reduce the need for physical resources. VR can simulate real-world environments for educational purposes, allowing students to conduct experiments and explore scenarios without the need for physical materials. This not only conserves resources but also provides a safer and more controlled learning environment. Additionally, VR can be used for virtual campus tours and events, reducing the need for travel and its associated environmental impact.

### **Embodied AI and Quantum Computing**

Quantum computing driven AI may not be as far off as we might imagine. These technologies together can further enhance the sustainability of smart campuses. Embodied AI, which integrates AI into physical systems, can automate tasks such as waste sorting and recycling, improving efficiency and reducing human labor. Quantum computing can solve complex problems related to energy optimization and climate modeling, providing insights that can lead to more sustainable practices. Together, these technologies can create a more efficient, sustainable, and intelligent campus environment.

### **Robotics**

Robotics can play a crucial role in advancing a sustainable smart campus by automating various tasks that contribute to efficiency and sustainability. Robots can handle repetitive and labor-intensive tasks such as cleaning, maintenance, and waste management, freeing up human resources for more complex activities. They can also be used in precision agriculture on campus farms, ensuring optimal use of resources and reducing waste. Certainly, robotics will someday be commonplace, providing services and capabilities that enhance operational efficiency and sustainability.

### **Emerging nanotechnologies**

Nanotech holds great promise for the development of advanced materials with superior properties, such as increased durability and reduced environmental impact. Nanotechnology can lead to the creation of more efficient solar panels, better energy storage systems, and materials that are stronger yet lighter. These advancements can significantly reduce the environmental footprint of campus infrastructure and operations, contributing to a more sustainable and resilient smart campus.

## 7 Conclusion and a Call to Action

This "Manifesto for the Sustainable Smart Campus" outlines elements of a comprehensive vision and strategic framework for transforming higher education institutions into sustainable smart campuses. The manifesto emphasizes the urgency of adopting sustainable practices in higher education, highlighting the significant environmental impact of campuses and the economic benefits of sustainability. It underscores the role of higher education institutions as leaders in promoting sustainability, social responsibility, and innovation. The document also discusses the integration of smart technologies, such as IoT and cloud computing, to create connected and intelligent environments that enhance operational efficiency, improve student engagement, and optimize resource management.

The manifesto further explores the challenges and benefits of implementing sustainable smart campuses. It identifies key areas of focus, including community engagement, quality of campus life, social responsibility, and versatile learning. The document highlights the importance of collaboration among CIOs, CSOs, and CFOs in achieving the goals of a sustainable smart campus. It also addresses the need for effective leadership, data governance, and cybersecurity measures to support the smart campus initiatives.

Overall, the manifesto provides a roadmap for higher education leaders to navigate the complexities of creating sustainable and smart campuses, fostering a culture of innovation, and ensuring long-term environmental and economic sustainability.

### **Foster Collaboration**

Engage with stakeholders across the campus community, including students, faculty, staff, and external partners. Collaboration is essential for identifying needs, sharing best practices, and driving innovation. Establishing partnerships with technology providers and other institutions can also accelerate the development of smart campus initiatives.

### **Prioritize Sustainability**

Integrate sustainability into all aspects of campus planning and operations. This includes adopting renewable energy sources, reducing carbon emissions, and promoting sustainable practices among the campus community. Developing a comprehensive sustainability plan with clear goals and metrics is crucial for tracking progress and achieving long-term success.

### **Enhance Student Experience**

Focus on creating a student-centric environment that supports learning, well-being, and engagement. This can be achieved by providing flexible learning spaces, enhancing digital access, and offering personalized services through smart technologies. Ensuring that the campus is inclusive and accessible to all students is also vital.

### **Invest in Infrastructure**

Modernize campus infrastructure to support the deployment of smart technologies. This includes upgrading network connectivity, implementing robust cybersecurity measures, and ensuring that physical spaces are adaptable to future technological advancements.

### **Engage with the Community Beyond Your Campus**

Extend the benefits of smart campus initiatives to the broader community and learn from other industries that are leading the adoption of sustainable smart campuses. This can involve collaborating

with industry leaders, local governments, businesses, and organizations to address shared challenges and create a positive impact beyond the campus boundaries.

### **Summer Camp: Seeking Wisdom Beyond Higher Education**

Other industries are out ahead of higher education institutions. There are numerous smart city initiatives underway that HEIs can learn from. At the summer camp, we invited the Dallas Fort Worth Airport Authority and Walmart to share with us that they have learned and plan to do:

#### **Dallas Fort Worth Airport Authority**

- DFW is committed to sustainability, with goals such as net-zero carbon by 2030 and planning for massive growth.
- They started their digital twin journey to better understand how their assets were performing and to create a single source of truth.
- They faced challenges such as other parties not being ready to relinquish data, the maturity of the market, and the need to revamp contracts with service providers.
- They have six use cases, including energy optimization, water management, and the correlation of people moving around the airport with the skyline.
- They are working on training and communication to help with the adoption of the digital twin technology.

#### **Walmart:**

- Walmart is committed to sustainability, with initiatives such as restoring forest green space and transitioning their campus fleet to EVs.
- They are building a new campus with smart and sustainable features, including 100% renewable energy.
- They faced challenges such as integrating multiple systems and vendors and addressing security and data concerns.
- They worked with their operations team to understand their priorities and objectives and to improve their operational processes.
- They are using digital twin technology to drive insights and

**Invest in People to Build Talent and Digital Dexterity**

Extend training and discovery opportunities to executive leaders and stakeholders for greater understanding about the potential for sustainable smart campuses to drive institutional strategies and operational imperatives.

**Promote Innovation and Research**

Encourage innovation and research by providing opportunities for students and faculty to experiment with new technologies and solutions. Establishing living labs and pilot projects can help test and refine smart campus initiatives before scaling them up.

**Embrace Digital Transformation**

Leverage digital technologies such as IoT, AI, and machine learning to optimize campus operations, enhance energy efficiency, and improve resource management. This includes implementing smart building systems, digital twins, and advanced data analytics to monitor and manage campus infrastructure.

## **Summer Camp: Conclusions**

The camp concluded with reflections on the perceived value of future conferences, the potential for continued collaboration, and the importance of feedback for improving future events.

### **Student Feedback**

The discussion emphasized the need for more contextual student feedback to improve higher education planning and curriculum development.

### **AI and Technology Integration**

Participants found value in discussions about AI's role in education, especially in terms of perspectives on funding, implementation, and the challenges associated with new technologies.

### **Funding and Resource Allocation**

The conference highlighted the complexities of funding within universities, including the allocation of resources and the importance of transparency in how funds are utilized.

### **Cross-Departmental Collaboration**

There was a strong emphasis on breaking down silos between departments such as IT, facilities, sustainability, and marketing to create more integrated and effective strategies.

### **Sustainability Initiatives**

The importance of sustainability was discussed, including innovative ideas for energy efficiency, the role of AI in promoting sustainable practices, and the challenges of decarbonization.

### **Infrastructure and Security**

Infrastructure discussions covered the need for updated metering systems, the role of IT in driving change, and the balance between automation and security risks.

### **Cybersecurity Concerns**

The conference addressed cybersecurity, particularly the need for vigilance in the face of increasing automation and the potential for AI to both aid in and pose risks to security.

### **Privacy and Data Management**

Privacy concerns related to data collection and the use of sensors were discussed, emphasizing the need for clear communication and trust-building with stakeholders.

## A Call-to-Action Statement

**"The best way to predict the future is to create it." - Peter Drucker**

It is time for higher education institutions to take bold steps and lead the charge towards a smarter, more sustainable future. By creating AI-enabled smart campuses, we not only reduce our environmental footprint but also set a powerful example for the world to follow. We must work together to seize this opportunity to inspire our students, faculty, and communities to embrace the power of our collective knowledge and emerging technological capabilities. Together we can create sustainable smart campuses that inspire the next generation by leaving a legacy of learning and discovery, environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and ethical uses of technology. Our collective efforts will pave the way towards greater sustainability, economic prosperity, and equitable social impact.

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## Appendix: Glossary of Terms

<b>Adaptive Capacity</b>	The ability of systems, institutions, humans, and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, take advantage of opportunities, or respond to consequences.
<b>Alternative Energy</b>	Energy sources that are alternatives to fossil fuels, such as wind, solar, and biofuels.
<b>Analog Control Systems</b>	Traditional systems that use analog signals to control building functions such as HVAC, lighting, and security. These systems often require manual adjustments and are less precise than digital systems.
<b>Application Programming Interface (API)</b>	A set of rules and protocols for building and interacting with software applications, enabling different systems to communicate and share data.
<b>Artificial Intelligence (AI)</b>	The simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems, used for tasks like learning, reasoning, and self-correction.
<b>Augmented Reality (AR)</b>	An interactive experience where real-world environments are enhanced by computer-generated perceptual information.
<b>BACnet</b>	A communication protocol for building automation and control networks, enabling interoperability among different systems.
<b>Big Data</b>	Large and complex data sets that require advanced methods and technologies for storage, processing, and analysis.
<b>Biodiversity</b>	The variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem.
<b>Building Automation System (BAS)</b>	A centralized system that monitors and controls a building's mechanical and electrical equipment, such as HVAC, lighting, and security systems. BAS is often used interchangeably with Building Management System (BMS).
<b>Building Information Modeling (BIM)</b>	A digital representation of the physical and functional characteristics of a facility, used for design, construction, and operation.
<b>Building Management System (BMS)</b>	A computer-based control system installed in buildings to monitor and manage mechanical and electrical systems, including HVAC, lighting, power, and security. BMS helps improve energy efficiency and occupant comfort.
<b>Carbon Footprint</b>	The total amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted by an individual, organization, event, or product, expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent.
<b>Carbon Neutral</b>	Achieving net-zero carbon emissions by balancing emitted carbon with an equivalent amount sequestered or offset.
<b>Carbon Offset</b>	A reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide or other GHGs made to compensate for emissions produced elsewhere.
<b>Carbon Sequestration</b>	The process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide.
<b>Central Plant</b>	The central facility in a building or campus that houses major mechanical equipment such as boilers, chillers, and cooling towers, providing heating and cooling to the entire building or campus.
<b>Chiller</b>	A machine that removes heat from a liquid via a vapor-compression or absorption refrigeration cycle. Chillers are commonly used in HVAC systems to cool buildings.

<b>Cloud Computing</b>	Delivery of computing services over the internet, including storage, processing, and software, allowing for scalable and flexible resource management.
<b>Cybersecurity</b>	Measures and practices designed to protect networks, devices, programs, and data from attack, damage, or unauthorized access.
<b>Data Acquisition</b>	The process of collecting and measuring information from various sources, such as sensors and IoT devices, to be used in digital twins.
<b>Data Analytics</b>	Techniques and processes used to examine datasets to draw conclusions and support decision-making, often involving statistical and machine learning methods.
<b>Data Estate</b>	A "data estate" refers to the comprehensive infrastructure that organizations use to systematically manage all their corporate data. A data estate encompasses various data sources, including analytics data, business applications, social data, customer relationship systems, functional business and departmental data, and Internet of Things (IoT) data.
<b>Data Integration</b>	The process of combining data from different sources to provide a unified view, essential for creating accurate and comprehensive digital twins.
<b>Data Lake</b>	A centralized repository that allows for the storage of structured and unstructured data at any scale, facilitating advanced analytics and machine learning.
<b>Digital Thread</b>	A communication framework that integrates data across the lifecycle of a product or system, providing a holistic view from design through to operation.
<b>Digital Twin</b>	A virtual replica of a physical asset, system, or process, enriched with real-time data for monitoring, analysis, and optimization.
<b>Digital Twins Definition Language (DTDL)</b>	The Digital Twins Definition Language (DTDL) is a language for describing models and interfaces for IoT digital twins. Digital twins are models of entities in the physical environment such as shipping containers, rooms, factory floors, or logical entities that participate in IoT solutions. Using DTDL to describe a digital twin's capabilities enables the IoT solutions to leverage the semantics of the entity.
<b>Ecosystem Services</b>	The benefits humans receive from ecosystems, including provisioning, regulating, cultural, and supporting services.
<b>Edge AI</b>	Edge artificial intelligence refers to the deployment of AI algorithms and AI models directly on local edge devices such as sensors or Internet of Things (IoT) devices, which enables real-time data processing and analysis without constant reliance on cloud infrastructure.
<b>Edge Computing</b>	Processing data near the source of data generation rather than in a centralized data-processing warehouse, reducing latency and bandwidth use.
<b>Edge Devices</b>	Hardware that processes data at the edge of the network, close to the source of data generation, reducing latency and bandwidth usage.
<b>Energy Management System (EMS)</b>	A system used to monitor, control, and optimize the performance of energy generation and consumption within a building or campus. EMS helps reduce energy costs and improve efficiency.

<b>Energy Management System (EMS)</b>	A system used to monitor, control, and optimize the performance of the generation and/or transmission system.
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	A process of evaluating the environmental impacts of a proposed project or development.
<b>Geographic Information System (GIS)</b>	A system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present spatial or geographic data.
<b>Geospatial Data</b>	Information that describes objects, events, or other features with a location on or near the surface of the Earth, used in mapping and spatial analysis.
<b>Greenhouse Effect</b>	The warming of Earth's surface due to the trapping of heat by greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.
<b>Greenwashing</b>	Misleading claims by an organization about the environmental benefits of a product, service, or practice.
<b>Habitat Fragmentation</b>	The process by which a large, continuous area of habitat is broken into smaller, isolated patches.
<b>Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)</b>	The systems used to provide heating, ventilation, and air conditioning to buildings. HVAC systems are essential for maintaining indoor air quality and comfort.
<b>High-Performance Computing (HPC)</b>	The use of supercomputers and parallel processing techniques to solve complex computational problems, often used in simulations and data analysis for digital twins.
<b>Internet of Things (IoT)</b>	A network of physical objects embedded with sensors, software, and other technologies to connect and exchange data with other devices and systems over the internet.
<b>Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)</b>	A technique to assess environmental impacts associated with all the stages of a product's life from cradle to grave.
<b>Lighting Control System</b>	A system that provides the ability to control the lighting in a building, often including features such as dimming, scheduling, and occupancy sensing to improve energy efficiency and occupant comfort.
<b>Machine Learning (ML)</b>	A subset of AI that involves the use of algorithms and statistical models to enable computers to improve their performance on tasks through experience.
<b>Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP)</b>	The systems in a building that include mechanical (HVAC), electrical (power and lighting), and plumbing (water supply and drainage) components. MEP systems are critical for the functionality and safety of buildings.
<b>Middleware</b>	Software that acts as a bridge between different applications or systems, enabling them to communicate and share data effectively.
<b>Mitigation</b>	Efforts to reduce or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases.
<b>Net Zero</b>	Balancing the amount of emitted greenhouse gases with an equivalent amount removed from the atmosphere.
<b>Network Infrastructure</b>	The hardware and software resources that enable network connectivity, communication, operations, and management of an enterprise network.
<b>Operational Technology (OT)</b>	Operational technology (OT) is the hardware and software that monitors and controls devices, processes, and infrastructure, and is used in industrial settings. IT combines technologies for networking, information processing, enterprise data centers, and cloud systems. OT devices control the physical world, while IT systems manage data and applications.
<b>Pneumatic Control Systems</b>	Traditional control systems that use compressed air to operate HVAC and other building systems. Pneumatic controls are often



	found in older buildings and are being replaced by digital controls for greater precision and efficiency.
<b>Point Cloud</b>	A set of data points in space, typically produced by 3D scanners, representing the external surface of an object or environment, used in creating 3D models.
<b>Power Monitoring System</b>	A system that tracks and analyzes the electrical consumption of a building, providing data to help manage energy use and identify opportunities for efficiency improvements.
<b>Predictive Analytics</b>	Techniques that use historical data, machine learning, and statistical algorithms to predict future outcomes and trends.
<b>Predictive Maintenance</b>	Techniques designed to help determine the condition of in-service equipment to estimate when maintenance should be performed, minimizing downtime.
<b>Real-Time Data Processing</b>	The immediate processing of data as it is generated, enabling instant analysis and response, crucial for the functioning of digital twins.
<b>Renewable Energy</b>	Energy from sources that are naturally replenishing, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power.
<b>Resilience</b>	The capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change to retain the same function, structure, and feedback.
<b>Security System</b>	Systems designed to protect a building and its occupants, including access control, surveillance cameras, and alarm systems. Security systems are often integrated with BMS for centralized monitoring and control.
<b>Sensor Fusion</b>	The process of integrating data from multiple sensors to produce more accurate, reliable, and comprehensive information.
<b>Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA)</b>	A design pattern where services are provided to other components by application components, through a communication protocol over a network.
<b>Simulation</b>	The imitation of the operation of a real-world process or system over time, used in digital twins to test scenarios and predict outcomes.
<b>Smart Building</b>	A building equipped with advanced automation systems to control and optimize building operations, including heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting, security, and other systems.
<b>Smart Campus</b>	An educational campus that uses digital technologies and IoT to enhance the learning environment, improve operational efficiency, and provide better services to students, faculty, and staff.
<b>Smart Grid</b>	An electricity supply network that uses digital communications technology to detect and react to local changes in usage, improving efficiency and reliability.
<b>Spatial Computing</b>	The use of digital technology to interact with the physical world, combining elements of AR, VR, and IoT to enhance the interaction with digital twins.
<b>Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)</b>	A system used for remote monitoring and control of industrial processes, including building systems. SCADA systems collect data from sensors and provide real-time control and monitoring.
<b>Sustainability</b>	The ability to maintain or improve standards of living without damaging or depleting natural resources for the future.

<b>Sustainability</b>	Practices and strategies that meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, often focusing on environmental, social, and economic dimensions.
<b>Sustainable Development</b>	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
<b>Thermostat</b>	A device that regulates the temperature of a building by controlling the HVAC system. Traditional thermostats are often analog, while modern versions are digital and can be programmed or controlled remotely.
<b>Triple Bottom Line</b>	An accounting framework that incorporates three dimensions of performance
<b>Unified Modeling Language (UML)</b>	A standardized modeling language used to specify, visualize, construct, and document the artifacts of a software system.
<b>Variable Air Volume (VAV) System</b>	An HVAC system that varies the airflow at a constant temperature to control the temperature in different zones of a building. VAV systems are more energy-efficient than constant air volume systems.
<b>Virtual Reality (VR)</b>	A simulated experience that can be similar to or completely different from the real world, often used for training, education, and entertainment.
<b>Waste Management</b>	The collection, transport, processing, recycling, or disposal of waste materials.
<b>Wi-Fi 6</b>	The latest generation of Wi-Fi technology, offering faster speeds, increased capacity, and improved performance in dense environments.
<b>Zero Trust Security</b>	A security model that assumes no implicit trust and requires continuous verification of every user and device attempting to access resources on a network.
<b>Zero Waste</b>	A philosophy that encourages the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused, and no trash is sent to landfills or incinerators.

## Appendix: How this Document was Constructed

The Microsoft Word transcribe feature was used to record and transcribe sessions from the Smart Campus Summer Camp. Subsequently Microsoft CoPilot was used to create summaries of these sessions. These session summaries were reviewed by the author and edited for clarity and accuracy.

The author conducted an extensive review of the current primary and secondary literature relating to sustainable smart campuses.

The session notes, authors notes, and a subset of the reviewed literature were incorporated into an LLM retrieval augmented generation (RAG) to minimize generative AI hallucinations using Microsoft CoPilot Studio. The RAG was subsequently used to answer the authors' questions and prompted to write sections of text on specific subjects. These writings were then augmented with the author's edits.

The document was reviewed by sustainability and smart campus subject matter experts for additional input and edits.

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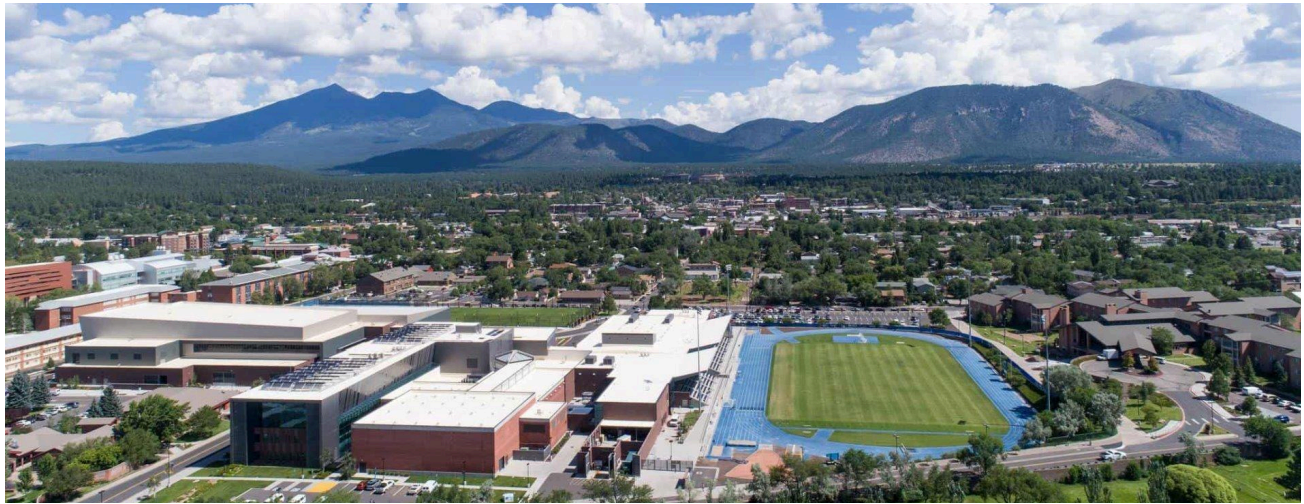
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## Appendix: Rubric: Smart Campus Domains vs. Applications

Domain	Increased Efficiencies	Improved Experiences
<b>Energy Optimization</b>	<b>Examples:</b> Implementing IoT sensors for real-time energy monitoring and management. Using digital twins to predict and schedule maintenance for HVAC systems. <b>Key Issues:</b> Integration of various systems, data privacy concerns, and initial setup costs.	<b>Examples:</b> Providing students with real-time data on energy usage to promote sustainability. Offering personalized energy-saving tips through mobile passkey <b>Issues:</b> Ensuring user engagement, maintaining data accuracy, and addressing privacy concerns.
<b>Smart Campus Experiences</b>	<b>Examples:</b> Utilizing AI to optimize classroom and facility scheduling. Implementing smart access control systems for efficient building management. <b>Key Issues:</b> System interoperability, user adoption, and cybersecurity risks.	<b>Examples:</b> Offering personalized learning experiences through AI-driven tools. Providing seamless communication platforms for students. <b>Key Issues:</b> Ensuring accessibility, maintaining user privacy, and addressing digital equity.
<b>AI Integration</b>	<b>Examples:</b> Using predictive analytics for maintenance and resource allocation. Implementing AI-driven chatbots for administrative tasks. <b>Key Issues:</b> Data quality, algorithm bias, and ethical considerations.	<b>Examples:</b> Enhancing student engagement with AI-powered virtual assistants. Providing AI-driven personalized study plans. <b>Key Issues:</b> Ensuring inclusivity, addressing algorithm bias, and maintaining user trust.
<b>Infrastructure and Security</b>	<b>Examples:</b> Implementing smart access control systems for efficient building management. Using advanced surveillance systems for real-time monitoring <sup>8</sup> . <b>Key Issues:</b> Balancing security and privacy, managing system complexity, and ensuring data protection.	<b>Examples:</b> Ensuring campus safety with advanced surveillance and real-time incident reporting <sup>8</sup> . Providing secure and convenient access to campus facilities. <b>Key Issues:</b> Addressing privacy concerns, ensuring system reliability, and maintaining user trust.
<b>Privacy and Data Management</b>	<b>Examples:</b> Utilizing digital twins for efficient space utilization and planning. Implementing robust data management practices to ensure data integrity <sup>9</sup> . <b>Key Issues:</b> Data privacy, regulatory compliance, and system interoperability.	<b>Examples:</b> Providing transparent data management practices to build trust with students <sup>9</sup> . Offering personalized services based on data insights <sup>10</sup> . <b>Key Issues:</b> Ensuring data security, maintaining user privacy, and addressing ethical concerns.



## Appendix: NAU's Sustainable Smart Campus Story



Northern Arizona University (NAU) has a unique vision among public research institutions: to be the nation's preeminent engine of opportunity, vehicle of economic mobility, and driver of social impact. Based in Flagstaff, NAU's 600-acre campus sprawls over 20 locations throughout Arizona. On any given day, around 35,000 people use the institutions 200+ buildings across campuses to live, study, and work.

NAU's journey to a sustainable smart campus began in 2016 with the appointment of CIO, Steven Burrell. Burrell was given the task of centralizing all IT services at NAU under one organization. This was also an opportunity to introduce new smart campus concepts that would drive student engagement and operational efficiencies under the new Information Technology Services.

As with many large universities, there was a chasm between Technology Services and Facilities and there was no designated *Sustainability Officer*. Burrell walked into a situation where planning building renovations to include IT infrastructure was an awkward and disconnected conversation. Planning for IT infrastructure lacked a systematic review, priority, and a standard based coordinated approach. Over the years and many projects, the relationship between Facilities and ITS improved. Today, there is a coordinated approach, and Facilities project managers pro-actively advocate for the prioritization and inclusion of IT infrastructure along with other utilities and building infrastructure.

This sort of siloing between IT and OT (operational technology) in Facilities is typical in higher education. Facilities operate traditional analog systems, managing change over decades. While IT operates in much shorter cycles of change and has relatively little knowledge of how facilities and plants are managed. Forging relationships with Facilities leaders was an early and key priority for Burrell as he was considering the future state of NAU as a sustainable smart campus.

Investments made towards smart campus capabilities began in 2017 with the creation of an IT Strategic Plan to guide the consolidated IT division. The plan called for not only developing OT to support facilities efficiencies, but for technology, services, and projects that would improve NAU's ability to recruit and retain students and faculty. So began the concerted collaboration between IT and Facilities.

Concomitantly, IT Services was beginning to take steps to improve student experiences through investments in services, infrastructure, and smart campus technologies:

- Food Delivery Robots – NAU was the second institution in the US (3 weeks behind James Madison University) to deploy Starship Robots.
- Classrooms – Upscaling tired classrooms with modern furniture make-overs and the implementation of smart AV standards in classrooms with the ability to remotely access and support classroom components, and sense when the classroom was in use, managing power and extending the life of components.
- NAUGo – our smart phone application that hold the student’s digital identity (e.g., Id card) and is the portal to physical access, payments, and services.
- Expansion of Wifi 6, Lora, and CBRS throughout campuses, and fostering partnerships with LTE wireless service providers for 5G services on the Flagstaff campus.
- Resilient and fast Internet services through the Sun Corridor Network and deployment of EDUROAM for ubiquitous network services.
- Automated parking management services – to readily enforce parking regulations through real-time imaging process.
- Deploying IoT sensors and actuators within the OT environment.
- Improve Internet services for greater bandwidth and resiliency
- Improve campus networking infrastructure including wireless services
- Revitalize classrooms and standardize classroom technology
- Reset building standards for low-voltage systems
- Adopt cloud-based technologies and SaaS applications
- Reform IT Services as an “outward facing” organization
- Modernize communication and collaboration systems (S4B and then Teams)
- implement IT and Data Governance
- Intranet portal
- Smart phone applications and NAUGo
- Louie’s Leftovers
- Grow the cybersecurity program
- Enhance computational research
- Enhance data warehouse capabilities (MS BI, Fabric)
- Standardized and deployed federated messaging via digital signage
- Created AI Chatbot for comprehensive support
- Created an instructional technology ecosystem around Canvas LMS.
- Salesforce student funnel management
- Service Now to improve core business processes
- Improved parking services enforcement – license plate imaging
- Updated and expanded surveillance and building security and access services (Lenel)
- Deployed digital identities (Touchnet)
- Deployed service robots (Sodexo/Starship)
- Maker labs
- Collaboration spaces
- Virtual computer labs and access
- Discovery centers (AML, Engineering)
- Student computer repair services

While NAU was very successful with many smart-campus experience projects, collecting data from across the facilities operational technology (OT) world proved difficult. Collecting data was an important part of the NAU strategy as Burrell explains, “Data defines the smart campus.” NAU was dedicated to the idea of building their own digital model aggregating and visualizing the data from all campus buildings.



### **“Data defines the smart campus”**

Previous in-house data warehouse projects were successful and used frequently for managing NAU and executive decision-making. But collecting, storing, and organizing data from among many proprietary facilities OT systems, organizing it, and making it actionable data proved an insurmountable challenge for NAU. As such NAU sought solutions from existing partners. ITS tried leveraging several partner solutions that seemed promising but, in the end, neither current partners nor NAU could execute to satisfaction.

Historically, NAU was like other institutions in that the OT emphasis was focused on analyzing data as it relates to HVAC and energy metering within isolated systems on a building-by-building basis. NAU had outsourced areas of facilities oversight to third parties who held our own information as proprietary to their craft and difficult to extract. In effect, NAU was being held hostage by the partners, limited by their proprietary nature.

***“One of our early difficulties was the sheer overhead of interacting with all those building devices. There is a lot of proprietary in that area and aggregating the data in a way we could actually use and act upon it was extraordinarily difficult.”*** – Steve Burrell, NAU CIO

Accurate and timely data collection presented a major challenge to NAU’s Climate Action Plan goal of being carbon-neutral by 2030. Moreover, getting data to the newly appointed Sustainability Officer was tedious, requiring many hours of work, extrapolating, and sometimes estimating key data points. NAU struggled to get actionable insights into how sustainability initiatives were impacting energy and resource consumption.

[NAU Climate Action Plan Main Page | Green NAU](#)

The tradespeople who are the frontline workers of building management had an equally hard time accessing information. No two university buildings are alike. Some NAU buildings are 75 years old and some only 75 days. How does a person new to their facilities trades job familiarize themselves with the particularities of each? It takes years to learn the idiosyncrasies of facilities. OT and AI allow for the immediate de-mystification of hundreds of one-off system components.

Moreover, simply tweaking NAU’s existing business processes would not create the efficiencies needed to get them over the carbon-neutral finish line. But overhauling the university’s entire consumption model required giving Facilities Management the tools to get proactive. It was not just technological silos that needed breaking down, but also institutional ones. More than a strong relationship among the executives, NAU needed a shared vision and strategic framework to guide IT Services, Facilities Management, and the Sustainability Office towards their collaborative work with one another.

## **The Sustainable Smart Campus Master Plan**

On the foundation of NAU’s early IT success with smart campus projects, the university eventually adopted the mantra “Sustainable Smart Campus” for their 10-year master plan. In 2020 NAU began a comprehensive master planning process with The DLR Group.

During NAU’s planning for the Sustainable Smart Campus Master plan, the CIO held a two-day retreat to bring together partners and subject matter experts from across the institution to explore the art of the possible for a transformative comprehensive plan. It was at this retreat that Microsoft introduced NAU to Willow. It was clear they understood the challenges and the complexity of our endeavors and demonstrated the ability to overcome similar challenges in commercial real estate.

The master planning process brought about a comprehensive look at NAU's digital and built campus and with consideration of our sustainability goals identified key areas of challenges, needs, and possible actions. The planning challenge had three facets: technology, process, and people. Looking a decade into the future, the master plan considered the need for using IoT and smart devices to track and manage university facilities to get real traction toward NAU's sustainability goals.

All these converging plans and strategic outcomes associated with the master plan made a strong case for digital twin technology. A digital twin would not only illuminate collected data in a single pane of glass, but it would enable active management tasks from that same pane. It would live in the cloud, integrate with nearly everything, and take NAU further by using emerging AI technologies to empower facilities managers, engineers, and tradespeople with the knowledge to take the right and practical steps to efficiently resolve issues.

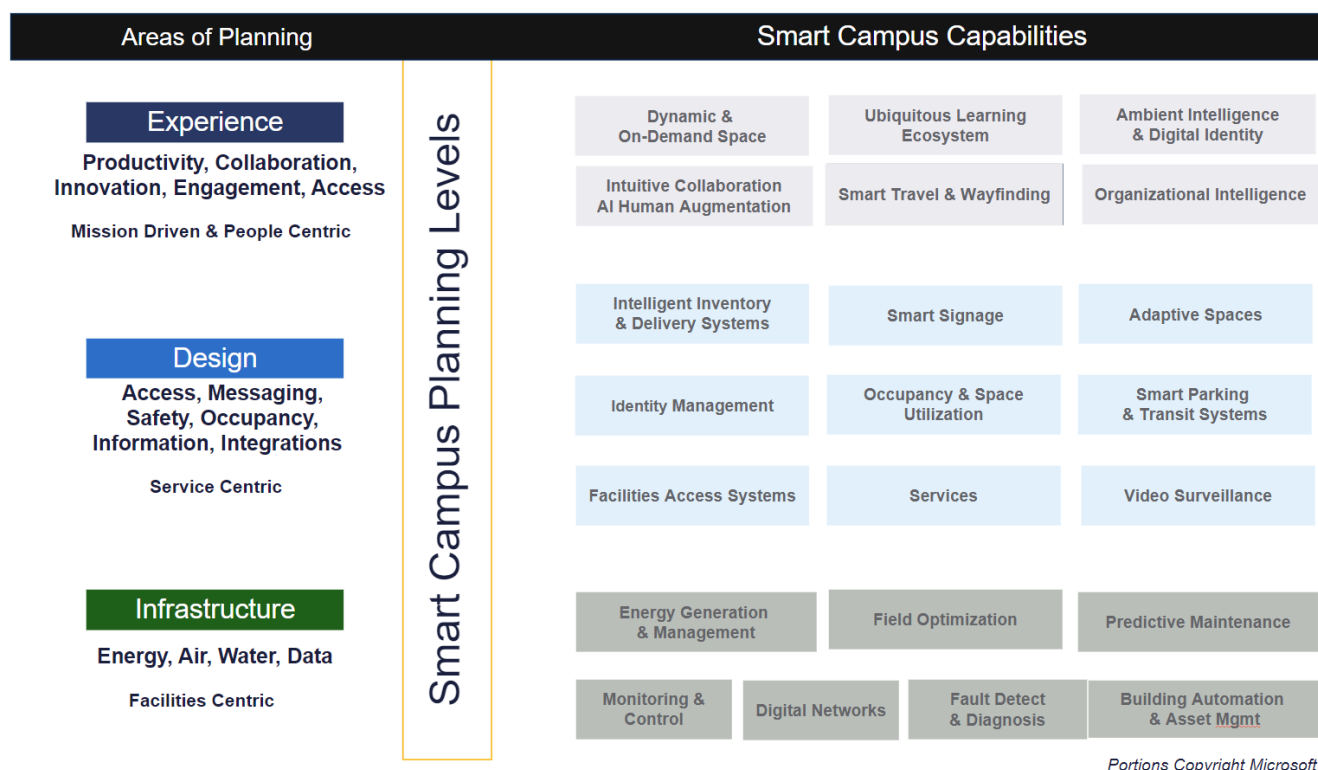
So, NAU shifted from a self-built approach and invested in a ready-made solution by adopting [Willow's AI-driven platform for the built world](#). Willow's digital twin platform gave NAU a comprehensive view of its campus buildings, empowering the facilities and sustainability staff with the information needed to take prudent action. The choice was made easier by Willow's [relationship with Microsoft](#), especially as NAU was already heavily invested in Microsoft Azure. The Microsoft partnership also meant significant cost savings for NAU by leveraging the [Microsoft Azure Marketplace](#).

To date NAU has integrated at least eight proprietary systems and converged 11 data silos across static, spatial, and live data sets at campus scale. Many of these data sets are traditionally "IT" and provide occupancy proxies that could drive energy efficiency. For example, wireless access point user proxies, in-room AV systems, or even the scheduling systems managed by the registrar. In addition, NAU is ingesting real-time grid emissions data that allows the Willow digital twin to provide insights that enable energy load shift and shed opportunities proactively. Early wins surfaced through Insights related to energy and cost reduction, occupant comfort, operational oversight, and preventative maintenance. In the first year, Willow helped NAU identify more than **\$200k of estimated avoidable cost** from digital twin insights derived from deployed modules.

### [Northern Arizona University Puts "Action" in Their Climate Action Plan with Willow](#)

NAU's earliest wins with Willow were in getting on track to meet the university's sustainability goals. Willow's ability to connect multiple data sets—like utility billing, metering, BMS, and occupancy patterns—into a single platform and serve them up as actionable insights automated data ingestion and reporting has made teams more efficient:

We are continuing on our journey to realize the comprehensive sustainable smart campus. From the CIOs perspective we consider three areas of planning: Experience, Design, and Infrastructure.



## Results and Outcomes

NAU has fundamentally shifted how we spend their time supporting the campus. From managing the arduous task of collecting, manipulating, and reporting data, to actually taking actions on that data to positively impact sustainability goals and programs.

For example, NAU's investment in Crestron Fusion™ has enabled the IT staff to remotely assist faculty with AV component issues and proactively identify and address emerging problems in classrooms. This approach enhances the experience for both faculty and students by providing immediate support and performing repairs before failures occur, all outside of normal classroom hours.

NAUgo has significantly enhanced the student experience at Northern Arizona University (NAU) by providing a comprehensive and user-friendly mobile application tailored to meet the needs of students. The app has been instrumental in increasing student engagement and retention by offering a variety of features that cater to different aspects of student life. For instance, the Message Center within NAUgo has become the most popular module, with over 3 million views in 2022 alone. This module keeps students informed about campus happenings, academic tips, and other essential information, ensuring they stay connected and engaged with the university community.

Additionally, the Campus Dining module provides detailed information about dining locations, menus, and personal dining balances, making it easier for students to manage their meal plans and dining option.

Moreover, NAUgo has continuously evolved to incorporate new features and improvements based on student feedback. The app's development team, which includes student designers and developers, has worked diligently to deliver critical updates and enhancements. For example, the introduction of the JacksCard ID card on mobile devices has been a significant improvement, allowing students to access their campus ID on their smartphones and smartwatches.

The app also includes a Campus Map with new categories such as gender-neutral restrooms and device charging stations, further enhancing the convenience and accessibility of campus resources. These efforts have not only improved the overall user experience but also demonstrated NAU's commitment to leveraging technology to support student success and well-being.

The Willow digital twin has also sparked a shift away from the university's previous reactive stance. NAU can easily identify anomalous events in real time and get that information into the hands of engineers and tradespeople. Tradespeople can be proactive because they are armed with the information they need.

#### 2024 Willow Digital Twin Achievements:

- 8+ Integrations and 11+ Data Silos Converged across static, spatial, and live datasets, including:
- Building automation/HVAC
- Energy metering
- Campus utility billing
- CO2 grid emissions
- Occupancy, building, and space-level insights (In Progress)
- Event management
- Work ticket/asset and maintenance management (In Progress)
- 3D building spatial models
- Static asset documentation
- 128 Buildings across academic, administrative, student life, and mixed-use spaces:
- 87K Digital Twins Created
- 55K Live Data Points

Moreover, engineering design or equipment flaws are more readily identified. For example, air handlers and other equipment that operate outside of normal design parameters signal a shorter than expected life cycle and can lead to excessive downtime or persistent poor experiences. NAU can be proactive in upgrading or replacing these systems rather than constantly investing in costly and disruptive repairs.

## Planning Ahead

NAU is working with faculty and researchers to repurpose campus data derived from AI bots, the LMS, NAUgo and other smart applications along with data from the Willow platform. The NAU as a living lab presents a unique worked into curricula across various departments of the university. Exposing students to these technologies is part of NAU's push to prepare career-ready graduates.

The Willow digital twin has allowed us to be more efficient and think about how we spend our time and how we can move our sustainability goals forward across multiple fronts. As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond we plan to:

- Conduct periodic reviews of the value we have created together and refine our approach.
- Rectify any subscription adjustments to better align with current needs – we can't do it all, all at once.
- Continue onboarding efforts to ensure seamless adoption across NAU's CIO, CFO, and CSO teams.
- We are considering the additional talent and skills we need to manage our campus facilities and sustainability programs using modern digital tools.

- We are actively seeking collaborators and partners in Higher Education who will further inform our efforts, create community among us, and ensure even greater collaboration moving forward.
- Expand metrics and active controls, prudently, to the 129 buildings across Academic, Administrative, Student Life, Athletics, and other mixed-use spaces leveraging various Willow Activate Packs:
  - [Sustainability](#)
  - [Building Spatial Geometry and Static Data](#)
  - [Building Energy and Operations](#)
  - [Occupancy](#)

We know we need to shed a lot of energy load and manage the consumption of resources like water which are precious to us here. The real value of Willow helps NAU overcome proprietary systems and to create a data model that we could bring data to from thousands of sensors and multiple BMS. Willow has been good about asking us the right questions and then listening to us and helping us realize how we can solve some of our problems. Willow is very colleagues, and the kind of partner we are looking for.

We are also thinking about how we can measure the “experience” impact of our sustainable smart campus efforts. It is exciting to see students interacting with our smart technologies. be moving from reactive to proactive and planful approach.

## NAU's Smart Campus Journey

### 2016

- Adoption of Salesforce for CRM
- Adoption of ServiceNow for ITSM
- Crestron established as AV Standard
- Dual 10g Internet Connections
- Skype Telephony
- Work from Anywhere

### 2017

- Adoption of MS Azure
- Migration to SAAS Applications
- Crestron Standards Adoption
- Expanding Lenel Digital Door Access

### 2018

- Brightsign™ Digital Signage
- Smart Buses

### 2019

- NAUgo Mobile App / Louie's Leftovers
- Creation of the IoT Lab
- Verizon LTE Partnership
- Starship Delivery Robots
- NAU Chatbot
- Advanced Shared Office Space Design

### 2020

- Dual 100g Internet Connection
- Lora Wan Deployed
- Electric Car Charging Stations
- Elevating Excellence Strategic Plan

### 2021

- Network Backbone & WiFi6
- Digital Credentials / Wallet

### 2022

- 375 of 400 standardized AV classrooms
- Climate Action Plan and Green Fund

### 2023

- Smart Campus Master Plan\*
- Willow Digital Twin
- MS Teams Telephony
- Cisco Spaces
- Self-Checkout Prototypes

### 2024

- Microsoft CoPilot / Custom AI Navigator
- Restructure Facilities networks (BACNET)
- Campus Digital Planning "What If" tool
- Hybrid Office Reservations
- Personal AI Assistant

## Infrastructure

## Design

## Experience

### 2025

- Next Gen Surveillance
- Student Auto attendance
- Willow Active Efficiency / Occupancy / Food
- Standard BMS and BIM
- Smart Lighting
- Electric vehicles and buses
- Indoor/outdoor wayfinding
- Next Gen Classrooms and Decision Theaters
- Asset Condition & Environmental Monitoring
- Hybrid/Shared Space Optimization

### 2026-2030

- Advanced Identity Management
- Next Gen Surveillance and Monitoring
- Robotic Assistants
- Smart Warehouse and Delivery
- Geo or Bio Thermal Plant
- Carbon Neutrality





## Epilogue

### Campus Leadership Must Come Together to Work from a Single Paradigm

To create the sustainable smart campus, Chief information Officers (CIOs), Chief Sustainability Officers (CSOs), and Chief Facilities Officers (CFOs) have much to learn from each other. The traditional silos inherent to these leadership roles is common among higher education institutions today. It might appear to an outsider that we have been living on different planets. They certainly have been working from different paradigms.

For example, CIOs manage technological cycles in years, while CFO's manage campus infrastructure over decades, and CSOs are looking for effective carbon reducing strategies with a heightened sense of urgency to address accelerating climate change. Further, CIOs are accustomed to architecting and driving standards across the enterprise, while CFOs typically inherit standards brought forth by architects and contractors based on the then-present designs and low-bid projects. And CSOs are caught in the in-between, handed the arduous task of changing culture and behaviors of campus constituents while seeking technology solutions and facilities tactics for energy and carbon reduction.

More than just learning from each other, these three key roles in our HEIs must effectively work together, collaborating on strategic and tactical plans, driving innovative solutions and programs from a single shared compelling vision to position our institutions and communities to illuminate pragmatic implementation pathways, and realize the benefits of sustainable smart campuses.

### Urgency and Importance of Sustainability in Higher Education

The urgency of adopting sustainable practices in higher education cannot be overstated. Universities and colleges are not only centers of learning and discovery but also significant consumers of resources and generators of waste. Here's why sustainability is crucial:

#### Social Responsibility

Promoting sustainability aligns with the values of social responsibility and ethical stewardship, preparing institutions and its graduates to address global challenges.

#### Environmental Impact

Campuses have a substantial carbon footprint. Transitioning to sustainable practices can significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change.

#### Economic Benefits

Sustainable practices often lead to cost savings in the long run through reduced energy and water consumption, waste management, and operational efficiencies.

#### Educational Leadership

Higher education institutions have the responsibility to lead by example, demonstrating the feasibility and benefits of sustainability to students and the broader community. HEIs also have the opportunity to develop building construction, engineering, AI, and data science curriculum that address the transformational skills needed to drive Industry 5.0.

#### Summer Camp Big Idea:

*"Energy demand is the new supply!"*

## **Innovation and Research**

Campuses can serve as living laboratories for sustainability, fostering innovation and research in green technologies and the coming paradigm shift in management practices for the built world.

Building a smart campus offers numerous benefits, including enhanced efficiency, improved student engagement, and better resource management. Smart campuses integrate innovative IoT technology and cloud computing to create a data estate that fuels smart campus systems. It opens up new ways for effective and efficient management of our campuses, improve decision-making, and enhance service management while creating experiences that foster engagement and resilience towards individual and institutional goals.

This document serves to provide insights into the challenges, opportunities, issues, and approaches to creating the future campus that is sustainable and smart in addressing the needs that allow HEIs to achieve their strategic goals and missions, and pave the way for our communities, states and regions to become more resilient and create opportunities for economic prosperity in turbulent times.

Smart campuses are the foundation for sustainability programs by optimizing resource utilization, such as intelligent lighting and smart parking systems, which reduce energy consumption and improve space management. Smart campuses can also enhance the overall educational experience by providing versatile learning opportunities through digital and remote learning platforms, making education more accessible and campus experiences more engaging for students. Smart campus components can also significantly improve the management of facilities, enhance campus safety, and increase operational efficiency through the integration of various technologies.

A sustainable smart campus describes the convergence of technology, environmental sustainability, and the built world in an environment that is not only efficient and innovative but also environmentally responsible and socially inclusive. Implementing a smart campus offers numerous benefits that can significantly enhance the overall experience for students, faculty, and staff.