

COLLEGE OF BUILT ENVIRONMENTS STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



CBE IMAGINES

a just and beautiful world where we teach, research, and engage to influence the trajectories of climate change, social justice, and human health, by defining built environments as complex interconnections between constructed and natural worlds and their impacts on society.

CBE BELIEVES IN

Education that expands students' knowledge by tapping into professional expertise to ground in disciplinary strength while confidently crossing boundaries to tackle broad social and personal concerns.

Research that accelerates knowledge that drives action, and cultivates bold thought leadership grounded in historical perspectives, evidence-based approaches, technological innovation, and creative design thinking across the disciplines of the built environment.

Engagement that co-creates processes for planning, designing, building, and investing in environments by welcoming expertise of citizens/community members and others with diverse backgrounds and a wide range of lived experiences.

CBE IS GUIDED BY THREE PILLARS

COLLABORATION AND IMPACT

Today's grand challenges require our full range of disciplinary skills and expertise including the core ability to work with others. Our students, faculty, and staff bridge, complement, and integrate effectively across disciplinary boundaries within CBE and with our academic, industry, regulatory, governmental, and community partners.

BOLD THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

The built environment is one of the most powerful levers - as both the cause of and the solution for - influencing the planet's most urgent social and environmental problems. Through our fluency in collaborative and interdisciplinary processes, we lead decisions about the built environment which are critically important to positive change.

EQUITABLE AND JUST PRACTICES

As the built environment powerfully affects individual and community well-being and prosperity, we are changing the patterns that have resulted in underrepresentation and exclusion of people based on their identities. To achieve justice, diversity, and inclusion, we continue to model and foster equitable practices within the College and in our partnerships with others.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PILLARS AND STRATEGIES

COLLABORATION AND IMPACT

Build College Reputation for Collaboration

Become nationally and internationally known for graduates who have excellent collaborative and interdisciplinary skills and build the College's reputation as a good partner for academic, industry, government, and community groups at the local and global scales.

Integrate Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary Pedagogy

Be known for providing a student experience that emphasizes collaborative skills to bridge between disciplines and for translating academic research to relevant practice applications. Integrate interdisciplinary expertise into teaching, curriculum, and pedagogy to advance the reach of our college and body of work, especially around climate solutions and EDI.

Expand CBE Capacity

Expand CBE research capacity and culture for interdisciplinary, applied, and community-engaged work that can be sustained over time.

Know and Celebrate CBE

Know, foster, and celebrate our strengths, identify weaknesses and gaps, and build an affinity with faculty, students, staff, alumni, and industry, professional and community partners to advance a more just and beautiful world.

BOLD THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Grow CBE Reputation as a Trusted Thought Leader

Increase the quality and relevance of CBE's work to tell the story of how we use sophisticated skills and nuanced concepts about systems and patterns to inspire bold thinking about the so-called "wicked" problems. Invite synergies and co-creative energy with partners, inside and outside academia.

Advance Climate Solutions

Advance teaching and research on climate solutions that advance prosperity, health, equity, ecosystems, and community resilience and their relationships in service of a just and beautiful world. Capitalize and accelerate the momentum created by abundant scientific knowledge and emerging policy changes on the role of built environments (and their interconnection to natural worlds and society) in causing and solving climate problems.

Foster Innovative Use of Technology

Foster a culture of accessible, explorative, ubiquitous use of technology within and outside the College in service to the urgent issues facing humanity, including climate change. Establish CBE as a leader located in a region and city known for technological innovation.

Leverage CBE Humanities Expertise

Leverage CBE's unique strengths in humanities to contextualize, articulate, and challenge concepts of what constitutes just, responsible, and resilient built environments.

EQUITABLE AND JUST PRACTICES

Cultivate an Inclusive CBE Culture

Cultivate and ensure an inclusive College identity, climate, and culture to welcome people from every identity regardless of age, race, gender identity, ability/disability, and ethnicity.

Model and Embody Equity and Inclusion

Continue to improve, model, and embody values of equity and inclusion in College culture – internally and externally.

Establish Inclusive Pedagogy

Establish teaching and curriculum guidelines to support multiple and diverse topics and voices in all CBE courses. Center and honor voices of historically underrepresented communities, examine topics through a lens of justice.

Use Equity and Justice as a Research Lens

Consider equity and justice in defining research outcomes, processes, and approaches.

