Master Plan for Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Architectural Research Consultants, Incorporated (ARC) worked as a teammate to David Sloan & Associates to prepare a long-range master plan for this two-year Indian community college located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The plan is intended to serve as a flexible guide for implementing the school’s educational and facilities goals. Estimated long-range implementation costs are approximately $40 million.

The majority of the school’s buildings were constructed in 1971. Facility improvements were recommended to upgrade their condition. New construction was recommended to accommodate expansion of existing programs and the new curricula the school intends to implement. Planning concepts were developed to provide the framework for the master plan and its implementation including:

- Rerouted vehicular circulation to make the entrance more obvious, a strengthened perimeter loop system linked to primary and secondary connections, parking areas, and an emergency and building service system
- Establishment of functional zones with instructional facilities located along an academic “spine” and existing and future building sites connected to utility corridors tied to the central utility plant
- Pedestrian circulation linked to major activity areas
- Landscape focused on high visibility and activity areas, and landscaped buffer areas provided between SIPI and surrounding uses. Other areas will be preserved as open space or for limited recreational uses.
- Designated locations for directional signage and “entry statements”
- Use of Native American design concepts

Client: David N. Sloan & Associates for Southwestern Polytechnic Institute

Completion: 1996