Fences, Walls, and Barriers

The purpose of this section is to provide a design standard in regards to fences, walls, and barriers on campus that is consistent with the overall goals and intent of the 2003 Campus Master Plan which seeks to create a people-friendly environment while at the same time promotes the public health, safety, and the general welfare of the user. To further this goal, the use of fences, walls, and barriers is strongly discouraged and shall only be considered in the following circumstances:

- To contain livestock, maintain animal habitats, and/or to maintain other agricultural needs.
- To provide a visual buffer of dumpsters, mechanical, and other unsightly structures or equipment.
- To prevent unauthorized access to high voltage and/or other dangerous areas.
- For security purposes as required by federal, state, or university safety officials.
- To enhance the quality of a pedestrian oriented courtyard or space in public and residential areas.
- To secure athletic and academic functions.

1. Design of proposed Fences, walls, and barriers is encouraged to reflect the existing heritage and gracious quality exemplified in the historical part of campus through the use of similar materials, color, proportion, and scale. If the use of arches and/or arcades is proposed, then consideration should be given to the character of the arcades surrounding the main quadrangle. The color palette of materials to be used should be within the range of warm earth tones as seen in the historical part of campus which are generally light in color (i.e., colors found in the sandstone, buff, and terra-cotta families).

2. Any fence, wall, or barrier shall be constructed in a durable fashion with a finished surface of brick, stone, decorative masonry material, cast stone, painted metal, approved synthetic material, landscape material, and/or a combination of said materials. The use of wood and/or chain link fence shall not be acceptable except in extenuating circumstances which will be reviewed by the Campus Facility Development and Design Committee on a case by case basis. When the use of chain link fences is approved, they shall be vinyl coated heavy gauge material. Fencing materials shall match surrounding architecture and site character as closely as possible to maintain visual harmony on campus. All designs shall be reviewed by the Office of Facility Development for design integrity prior to presentation to the Facility Development and Design Committee.

3. The finished side of all walls or fences shall face the common property line boundary.

4. Fences, walls, and barriers shall be designed to be climb resistant, and shall be reviewed by campus security officials.
5. All fences, walls, and barriers shall allow access by university maintenance and security officials.
6. When gates are required, they shall be lockable only from the outside and shall conform to all fire and safety codes. Fences, walls, and barriers shall not restrict egress from a confined pedestrian area and Campus Police and Facility Services personnel shall be allowed access at all times.
7. When landscape material is used as a fence, wall, or barrier this material shall not exceed 5’ in height and shall not be used on more than 2 contiguous sides. The use of climbing vines on fences, walls, and barriers is encouraged. All designs which utilize landscape materials shall be reviewed by the Campus Landscape Architect prior to presentation to the Facility Development and Design Committee.
8. When a fence is to be constructed directly adjacent to a pedestrian corridor, the fence height shall be proportionate to the width of the space directly adjacent in order to maintain a comfortable pedestrian atmosphere.

The following guidelines shall govern the design of fences, walls, and barriers when used in their respective campus zone:

**Livestock and Agricultural**
1. Fences shall be constructed with no more than 25% solid materials and should be mostly transparent in nature.
2. Decorative materials shall be utilized when these fences front a main pedestrian or vehicular corridor.

**Dumpster and Mechanical Equipment Screening**
1. The height of the fencing material used shall be relative to the equipment being screened; however, the height of this fence shall not exceed 8’.
2. These fences should not be transparent in nature.
3. This fence shall remain open on one (1) side, and this opening shall not be visible from a main pedestrian and/or vehicular corridor.

**High Voltage and Other Dangerous Areas**
1. The height of the fencing shall be 8’-12’ in height.
2. These fences should not be transparent in nature.
3. These fences shall not be constructed of a material that is conductive in nature.

**Public and/or Residential Courtyards**
1. Fence shall not extend more than 5’ in height and shall not extend beyond the building perimeter lines in any direction.
2. Fences shall be constructed with no more than 25% solid materials and should be mostly transparent in nature.

**Athletic Functions**

1. Fence shall extend no more than 8’ in height.
2. Opacity of fence structure shall be relative to the function of the athletic area being confined.