

## **INTRODUCTION**

This Manual of Design and Specification Standards is the result of a charter initiated by the Deputy Vice President for Facilities, Robert W. Hatch, in November 1993. A task force was then created to establish a process to develop, implement and maintain the use of new University of Arizona Design and Specification Standards in the design, renovation and maintenance of all facility related projects. The task force completed this mission in June 1994 and established a Standing Oversight Committee to oversee the development and implementation of this new Manual.

The primary function of the Oversight Committee is to establish the authority under which the new Manual of Design and Specification Standards (DSS Manual) will operate. The Oversight Committee is to maintain a consistent decision making and operating philosophy that integrates the best interests of the UA Facilities Group and the current design and construction industries. The Oversight Committee performs this critical function by supervising the Technical Sub-Committees, approving all drafts of the DSS Manual and entertains all revision requests submitted.

The technical content of this manual represents the culmination of input from many Technical Sub-Committees who reviewed previous UA Standard Guidelines and integrated current needs and practices. Although it is felt that this effort produced a more up to date listing of UA Design and Specification Standards, it is realized that improvements are always possible and that many iterations may be required to achieve perfection. To pursue this goal a procedure has been formalized to continuously receive input an issue revisions to the Manual on a regular basis.

The most important aspect of this DSS Manual is the process to evaluate and implement revisions. Consequently your attention is directed to the Request for Revision Forms included in this manual. Without your continued and valued input the content of the Manual would stagnate.

Appreciation should be given to the following individuals for their participation as the Oversight Committee and their efforts in the development and compilation of this Manual.

Brian Dolan	Facilities Design and Construction
Carl Gajdorus	Facilities Design and Construction
Bob Herman	Facilities Management
Lionel Jacobs	Facilities Management
George McFerron	Facilities Design and Construction

Acknowledgments should also be given to all those who participated in the Technical Sub-Committees for without their efforts this Manual would not be possible.

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