Building the Hospital of Tomorrow: Rehabilitate, Renovate or Replace

Length: 1.5 hours

Target Audience: Mid-level to senior healthcare leaders
Healthcare architects, planners and board members

Description: In today’s competitive marketplace, significant capital expenditure decisions can make or break a healthcare organization and the career of the executive(s) tasked with such decisions. No capital decision may be greater than the construction of a new facility or the substantial renovation of an existing one.

After years of relative dormancy, the healthcare construction boom continues throughout the U.S. for a variety of reasons, many of which impact both small community hospitals and large urban health systems alike. The most common reasons for the renovations, expansions, and replacements include aging facilities, population growth, market demand, and the need to improve operational efficiencies.

Additionally, competition moves organizations to incorporate the latest advances in care delivery, medical technology, new building codes and healing design elements to enhance the patient experience through the surrounding environment. Changes in building codes and patient safety standards also drive the need for construction and modification.

Faculty: Moderator and two to three panelists.
The moderator should be a senior healthcare executive who routinely makes or is involved with organization-wide initiatives requiring large capital purchase decisions.

Panelists could be other healthcare leaders or Board professionals with experience in the planning and execution of a healthcare construction or rehabilitation project. Health care architects and/or urban planners could also be considered as panelists.
Topics for Discussion:

• What factors influence the executive’s decision to utilize limited financial resources for their organization’s physical plant?
• How would a new or updated facility enhance (or hinder) current operations or market share?
• Would renovating and expanding the current facility be easier, take less time and cost less than new construction?
• How will the “Green Movement” impact future facility planning?

Questions for Discussion:

1. What are the key issues facing healthcare organizations when it comes to their physical facilities?
2. How do you prioritize capital resources when it comes to new construction/facility modernization versus other organizational needs?
3. Who are the key stakeholders – both internal and external - who need to weigh in on design and construction decisions? Whose approval is most important and why?
4. What will be the return on investment of your improvements? How soon will they be realized?
5. To what degree do environmental factors impact your decisions and design choices?
6. How can you design facilities that improve the patient experience without appearing wasteful?
7. Where do patient safety concerns enter into your plans?
8. Are there bond rating or community perception implications of new hospital improvements?

Material for Distribution:


Additional Resources:
