



# 2025

## Town Gown Report

**Lesley**  
UNIVERSITY

Planning Board

February 03, 2026



# 2025 Town Gown

- Context & Campus Overview
- Key Partnerships
- Strategic Framework
- Sustainability
- Transportation
- Community Engagement
- Launched new website





# Campus Overview

## Lesley Profile – 2025

Students	
Undergraduate	1,528
Graduate	2,196
Non-degree	657
Dormitory Beds	514

Faculty & Staff	
Faculty	248
Staff	259





# Campus Overview

## Lesley Profile – 2025

- 41 buildings on 3 campuses
- 10.61 acres
- 817,966 GSF total space
  - 78,209 GSF = Commercial
  - 37415 GSF = Taxable Residential
- 12 off-site locations
  - 11 within MA
  - 1 outside MA







# Cambridge properties sold

- 27 Mellen Street
- 29 Mellen Street
- 28 Wendell Street
- 16/18 Wendell Street
- 20/22 Wendell Street
- 30 Wendell Street
- 34 Wendell Street
- 37\_41 Wendell Street
- 3 Phillips Place
- 6 Sacramento Street
- 1826 and 1840 Massachusetts Avenue



# Campus Projects

- Reopening of Sherrill Hall with new student lounges, collaboration spaces, gaming areas, and an esports hub that supports both learning and residential life.
- Continued restoration and modernization of core academic and gathering spaces
- Campus-wide landscaping upgrades using sustainable, native plantings to create inviting green spaces, outdoor study areas, and pockets of public art.
- Accessibility improvements across buildings and pathways





# An Active Campus

## All Year Round

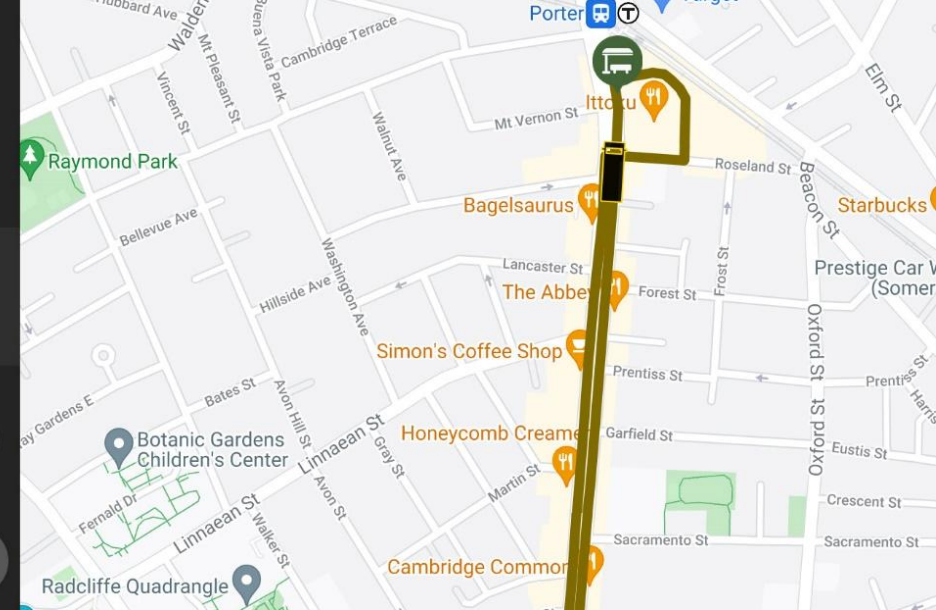
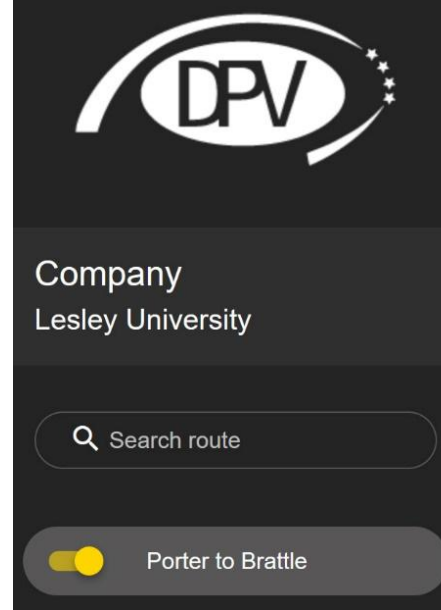
- Walking
- Gathering
- Outdoor Games and Classes
- Three Architecturally District Campuses





# Transportation

- Recent real estate sales reduced parking inventory; currently have 471 in Cambridge
- Shuttle buses run between each campus at 10-15-min. intervals
- Real-time tracking via app
- 358 bicycle racks, repair stand, and tire pumps on each campus
- Coordinating with city on potential new locations for BlueBikes





# Sustainability

- Hybrid equipment to position for full electrification
- Divested from direct holdings in fossil fuels in 2015
- 100% green energy purchased
- Native plantings
- Continued composting, recycling and waste diversion
- Partnership with Sojourn Colleagues Ministries
- Continued alignment with stretch code





An aerial photograph of the Lesley University campus in Boston, showing various academic buildings, green spaces, and surrounding city buildings. The text is overlaid on the image.

# Connecting to Our Future

*Transforming physical space to  
enhance Lesley University student  
learning and experience*

Three Campuses  
**ONE VISION**



# About Lesley – Who We Are

- Lesley University is a creative and caring community of educators, mental health counselors, artists and designers, social workers, expressive therapists, and more. Lesley is operating as one university with four core areas of focus:
  - Education (from undergraduate through Ph.D.)
  - Mental Health and Well-Being (from undergraduate through Ph.D.)
  - Art and Design (which remains a college)
  - Liberal Arts and Business
- Threshold Program: a residential program for students with learning differences
- Threshold Lifelong Support Program: a program to provide neurodiverse individuals with support they need to live and work independently.



# University Vision & Strategic Growth

- Develop and nurture strategic partnerships
- Expand our reach & impact
- Leverage our unique strengths in education, counseling and expressive arts therapies
- Broaden access to all Lesley degrees and certifications
- Raise visibility & reach of our programs
- Invest to create state-of-the-art facilities



# Partnerships

## On Campus:

- Riverside Community Care
- Urban Scholars
- Public Art

## Off Campus:

- Athletics
- Cambridge Public Schools
- Perkins School for The Blind
- Dimock Center
- Home for Little Wanderers
- Vinfen
- City Sprouts
- <https://lesley.edu/about-lesley/scholar-partner-program> for complete list





# Riverside Outpatient Center at Cambridge

## A historic partnership

- Housed in 23 Mellen St.
- Professional therapeutic setting
- Suicide prevention training
- Student field placement / training opportunities
- Serving the Cambridge community and students







# Riverside Scholars@Lesley

- Exemplar of a novel university-employer collaboration
- Helping to bridge the mental health crisis
- Riverside Scholars@Lesley receive significant support to complete their masters, and then train at Riverside Community Care, offering services to both the campus and Greater Cambridge community





## Professional licensure partnerships Increasing opportunity while diversifying the teaching field

- Paraprofessionals earn master's of education
- Second cohort from Cambridge Rindge & Latin
- Launched in Framingham Public Schools
- Discounted tuition
- Increased access to teaching field for BIPOC





The **Lynx** have captured **47** conference championships, most recently the program's NAC title during the Fall 2025 season.

- **14 NCAA Varsity Athletic Programs**
  - Member of the North Atlantic Conference (NAC)
    - M/W Soccer, Cross Country, Tennis, Basketball, Outdoor Track & Field
    - M Baseball, Golf
    - W Softball, Volleyball
- **Launched Varsity eSports program**
  - Five Titles (GamFive Titles (Games) sponsored
    - Valorant, League of Legends, Overwatch, Marvel Rivals, Rocket League
  - es) sponsored
- **#321LU - Our Athletics Philosophy**
  - 3.0 GPA in the classroom
  - Top 2 finish in the NAC
  - 1 Lesley, unite the community as one team
  - Leadership – Serve as leaders on campus
  - Understanding – Embrace our unique differences as a community





# Strategic Framework Approach

- Continue to invest significantly in capital improvements
- Improve facilities to align and connect all 3 campuses to meet student and community needs
- Continue to redesign footprint to yield space aligned with Lesley's future





# *A Connected Campus to foster human connections*



## South

Connecting with Each Other  
Welcoming  
Academic Grounding



## Doble

Connecting with Partners  
Learning by Doing  
Career Labs



## Porter

Connecting with the Community  
Academic Intensity  
Close Collaboration



PROPOSED AND ONGOING ACTION: Identify Locations for Active Social Activities





# University Wide Projects

- Connective fabric- ongoing
  - Indoor and outdoor art
  - Landscaping
  - Wayfinding
- Campus Improvements Completed
  - Sherrill Hall renovations
  - St John's chapel – 3/5 opening





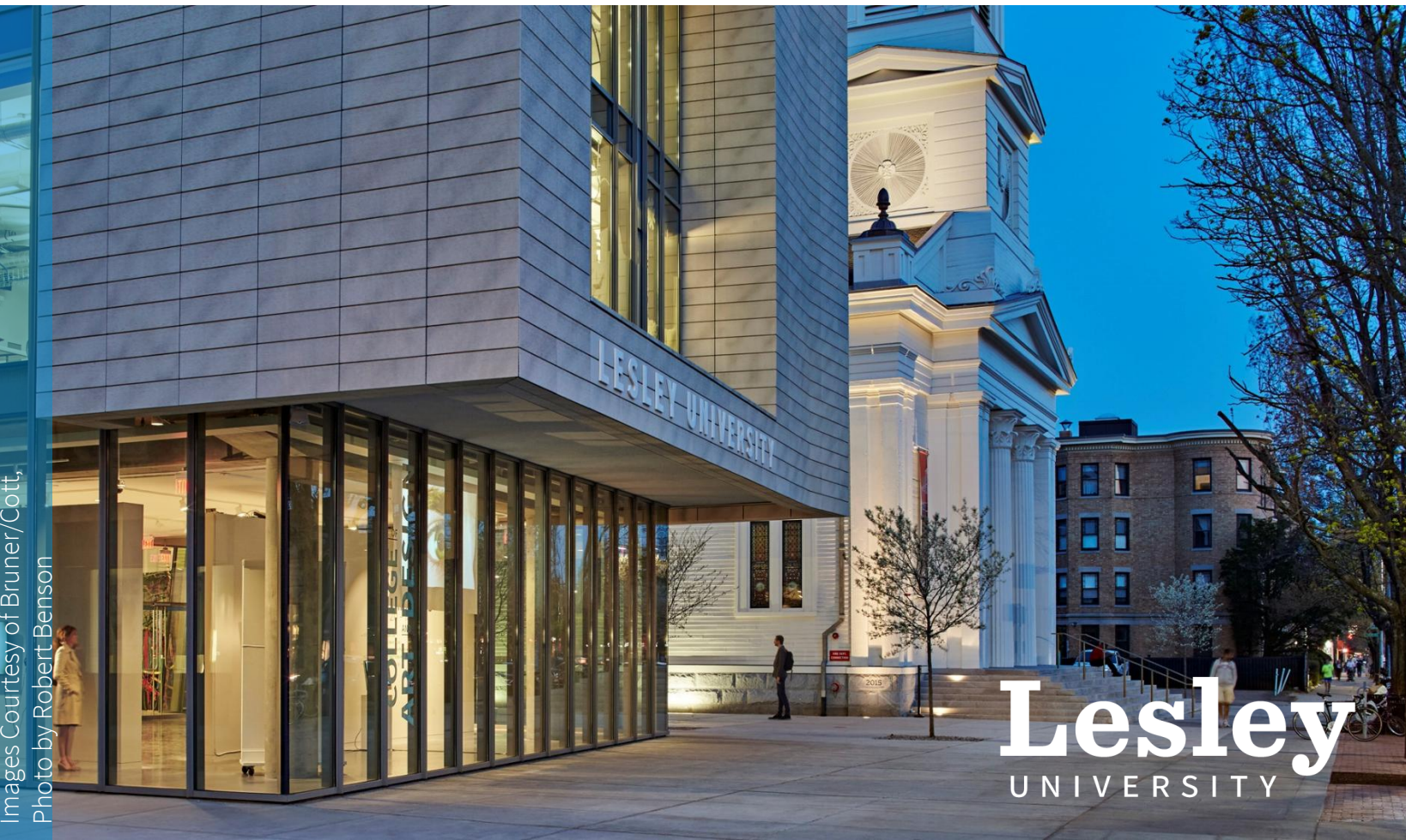
# • Community Engagement

- Partner with multiple school districts, including Cambridge, enriching student experiences and classrooms
- Working with Cambridge students to offer a pathways to higher education
- Lesley A+D's Community Animation Studio created a short to celebrate Community Arts Center
- Community art opportunities through events at Lunder Art Center
- Focusing on local tenants when it comes to retail, enriching our vibrant neighborhood





# Thank You!



**2025 Town Gown  
Planning Board  
February 3, 2026**

**Lesley**  
UNIVERSITY