1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

Dalhousie University Design Guidelines are intended to provide assistance during the planning, and design phases of the University’s facilities. The Guidelines will aid to establish guidelines for Consultants, Facility Managers and users who provide services for the University. The Guidelines do not relieve in any manner whatsoever a Consultant from any professional responsibility, duty or due diligence required towards the work.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for new facilities, for renovation projects and for ongoing maintenance of Dalhousie’s facilities.

The Guidelines are written as a performance document to allow designers and consultants appreciate and understand Dalhousie’s unique needs and requirements during the design process. If the Guidelines or part of cannot be attained or fulfilled during the design process, the Consultant should provide reason(s) why such Guidelines are NOT met. Any modifications or alterations to the design guidelines will need to be agreed/accepted by Facilities Management prior to inclusion in the design.

Innovative/green design approaches are encouraged. However, a thorough study shall be presented to Dalhousie with regards to the potential benefits and risks of such an innovative approach. In addition, value analysis and life cycle cost analysis will be expected.

The Guidelines are intended to be read in conjunction with the local codes and regulations, and in no way are to be considered as a replacement. The codes and regulations represent the minimum acceptable standard. Where the technical design requirements differ from the building codes and other applicable codes and standards, the more stringent of the codes shall be applied.

1.3 Maintaining the Standards/Guidelines

The Design Guidelines are created and maintained by Dalhousie’s Facilities Management Department.

Any enquiries about the Guidelines should be directed to Facilities Management, 4th Floor of the Central Services Building.

Dalhousie encourages design specialists and other interested parties to provide their input and suggestions based on their experience.

The Guidelines are available online at the University website at http://fm.dal.ca/Dal_Design_Guide.htm