A major focus of the Comprehensive Master Plan was to enhancing the safety and security of the University’s assets that include people, information, and facilities against security threats such as crime (traditional and non-traditional) and other hazards. The design team conducted an in-depth survey and analysis of the existing Security Program that provided recommendations on how best to improve ECU’s security posture.

Overall, ECU has made a great deal of headway towards improving the safety and security of the University’s facilities in large part due to the individual efforts of staff members and departments. Many areas have implemented new procedures and equipment to mitigate potential threats, unfortunately this has not been coordinated as an overall campus effort. This has caused a duplication of effort and created a piece-meal security system with various levels of protection creating areas where security is considered insufficient. There is a significant lack of University level policies and procedures, minimal criteria for the selection and implementation of services or equipment, no University wide budget or procurement process for security related equipment or services, and the University has implemented multiple electronic security systems that are not integrated to function as a single system.

Using this information the design aided ECU in developing a comprehensive University’s Strategic Security Plan and Security Master Plan as well as integrated security into the overall Campus Master Plan. The overarching concept was to establish a centralized security program that is committed to the development of a cohesive and consistent level of safety and security the University.

This Strategic Security Plan has six strategic goals to facilitate progress toward meeting the vision and mission of ECU’s security program.

Strategic Goal #1: Institute University Security Policies
Strategic Goal #2: Establish a Centralized Security Organization
Strategic Goal #3: Develop Security Plans
Strategic Goal #4: Develop Security Operating Procedures and Programs
Strategic Goal #5: Implement Physical Security Improvement Projects
Strategic Goal #6: Establish New Police Facility

The Security Design Criteria provides architectural and engineering (A/E) design teams, security consultants, and all ECU staff guidance for the designing and construction of ECU facilities. This document defines performance standards for physical security systems with information in key areas to ensure compliance with the goals and objectives stipulated in the University Strategic Security Plan and Master Plan for the University. This document defines the minimum security criteria required for ECU owned and leased facilities and the spaces and assets within those facilities. This document applies security measures consistently throughout ECU all spaces and is an integral part of the planning, design, and construction of all projects. An objective of this manual is to provide cost effective design criteria that provides an appropriate level of protection to each facility.
The most efficient way to implement security into a building and campus is through pre-design planning. ECU advocates the integration of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principals and strategies in their site planning and facility designs. CPTED focuses on the positive use of space and natural elements to maintain a desirable quality of life for intended users, while increasing the difficulty for criminal or abnormal activities. The principles focus on the positive use of space to create designs that attract users because they feel safe, while simultaneously making it unattractive and difficult for criminals and terrorists. The three main CPTED design principles are territoriality, natural surveillance, and natural access control.

- **Territoriality** clearly defines an area physically or psychologically utilizing physical element to create an environment with a sense of ownership where abnormal behavior, such as unusual loitering or other unauthorized activities, is easily recognized. A major component of territoriality is wayfinding, which is a concept where architectural and landscape features are designed with visual clues and signage to direct people or allow them to easily identify where they are and where they should go.

- **Natural Surveillance** supports good visibility in and around the campus and buildings to limit concealment of criminal activities. The concept is to see and be seen; criminals do not like to be seen and guests feel safer when they are seen.

- **Natural Access Control** is about using layout and design elements to easily direct site users in an orderly fashion from one location to another while reinforcing territoriality and aiding natural surveillance.

For the electronic security systems ECU will begin to standardize on one centralized security management system that is capable of integrating and centralizing the existing disparate systems into one system, providing a cost effective system. Additional improvements will include revamping the video monitoring center, consolidating the access control systems, and building a new facility to house the Police Department and Security Operations Center.

The primary intent of the Security Master Plan is to implement a proactive and cost effective set of policies, plans, and procedures that will improve the overall safety and security of the University. The plan prioritizes assets based on the actual threats and risks ECU faces. The Security Master Plan establishes a long-term approach to building a security program trailer made for ECU that matches current the planned growth of the university. It provides a best in practice approach to discourage a criminal or group of criminals from perpetrating an incident or crime.