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Construction Clippings from the GSU View

Office of Marketing and Communications

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This file contains the following clippings from the GSU View university newsletter about the E & F building construction progress published 2012-2013.

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*The video mentioned in this article can be accessed [here](#) in Digital Collections.

**The photos mentioned in this article can be accessed [here](#) in Digital Collections.

Limited Access

The E/F renovation project has finally begun. Preliminary work by the contractors is well underway.



The F entrance (at the east end of the building complex) is closed and, beginning next week, additional barriers will be in place to restrict the university community from construction areas and activities. Please watch for signs directing you to alternative entrances.

Please note these new entrance points:

- Access to the Gross Anatomy Lab (F1690) will be from the exterior entryway located on the east side of F Building.
- Access to first floor science labs in F wing will be via the stairwell facing parking area 3 East. A sidewalk has been constructed to the stairwell entrance.
- Access to second floor science labs will be via G building bridge
- Access to all other buildings (from outside) will be directed through G building

Most importantly, there will be **NO ACCESS** to F building from either the F building entryway located on the east side of the university or E wing. This inconvenience is necessary to protect the safety of the university community. Your cooperation is appreciated.

For more information about the construction work, contact project manager [Tim Kosiek](#) at ext. 7451 or [David Stone](#).

E and F Renovation Update (03-12-19)



This week, the contractor started demolishing two sets of concrete stairs. This will be very noisy, and there may be “structure-borne vibration.” Workers started today with the stairs closest to occupied areas of E-wing, and will move to the F-wing stairs after the first set is razed. We appreciate your patience and cooperation during this (possibly) disruptive portion of the project.

Last week some areas experienced an unpleasant odor coming from the construction area. The smell was from sprinkler line water that had been stagnant in the sprinkler piping for most of the last 40 years. While the odor lingered for a while in some areas and was unpleasant, it was not harmful.

The demolition has exposed an interesting piece of GSU’s history. Our longtime employees and faculty will recall that the buildings were originally covered with a Cor-ten steel panel, which was supposed to form a rust coating and then last “forever.” In many locations it never stopped rusting, and within 10 years there were spots where snow would blow under the panels into occupied areas. The brick you see today was added in front of the metal panels in the mid-1980s. As walls were removed this week, we found the original panels, which apparently “weathered” better once they were covered by brick.



Looking Good

The E & F Renovation Project is picking up speed. Demolition in the "t phase 1 area" is well under way and will continue for the next three to four weeks. Students, faculty, and staff can expect to see frequent traffic as debris is taken out of the



building to construction dumpsters filling. This traffic is generally restricted to the east entry drive.

Once debris is removed, it is taken to a sorting facility where recyclable materials are removed. The goal is to divert as much material as possible from the landfill. This is one of the steps being taken to make the building as sustainable as possible.

ITS and FDM have joined forces to establish a webpage for project updates. Check on the progress of the E & F Renovation Project at www.govst.edu/renovationupdates.

E and F Wing Renovations Move Above Ground

After spending the spring completing demolition, and the summer digging new foundations and installing underground piping, GSU's E and F Wing renovation project is finally "out of the ground."

Last week contractors installed the new structural system, infilling the former two-story atrium to create more usable floor space. When the project is complete, there will be new labs on the first and second floor where infill occurred. The corridor will be relocated along the north wall with views of the CSU pond, prairie, and Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

Bruce Crooks of ITS has been documenting the renovation with his camera. [Click here](#) for his latest images.

Jim Zumerchik, FDM's new project manager, is pictured in one of the photographs. FDM is pleased to welcome Jim. Thanks to Bruce for his great camera work.

Take a Tour of E and F Wing Project

You don't need a hard hat to see the steady progress in E and F Buildings, where crews have completed the first phase of their construction project. When the project is finished, GSU students will have state-of-the-art science classrooms and labs.

Follow [this link](#) for a video tour of the E and F renovation in progress.

E & F Winging to Completion

It was one year ago when GSU “tore down the walls” at the ceremonial groundbreaking for the E/F Renovation Project.

Great progress has been made:

- The F atrium infill is complete
- New drain lines are installed beneath the slab
- Duct work is hung
- Copper lines for hot and cold water, plus science gases, are being

installed

- New windows on the second floor offer a panorama to GSU's lake
- Metal stud walls are framed
- Classroom F1622 is gutted
- Tons (literally) of new mechanical equipment have been installed on the roof

A committee of stakeholders is meeting regularly this fall to finalize furniture, equipment, and technology needs to coordinate orders, deliveries, and movers for occupancy of Phase 1 next Spring.

See Bruce Crooks' [photos](#) of the renovation progress.

Chemistry Faculty Tours New Facilities

The chemistry faculty - Drs. Walter Henne, Joong-Won Shin, Shelly Kumar, and Karen D'Arcy, and Stephen Kent, university lecturer - recently toured the E and F Wing reconstruction site. Ron Bachus, Environmental Health and Safety



Chemistry faculty on tour
and research labs for the first time.

Coordinator, led the tour. Jennifer Morehead of OSPR and Dr. Mary Carrington of Biology also toured the construction site.

Faculty members were eager to see the office layout, have the opportunity to select offices appropriate for the program coordinator and faculty advisor, and envision the new lab facilities. Dr. Henne selected an office close to the new biochemistry lab. Dr. Joong-Won Shin, a new professor, viewed the new teaching

As the new office space and labs are readied over the next few months, the Science and Health Science Faculty will prepare for the move by reducing their “footprint” in their existing offices and labs. Thanks to E and F transition team, more confidential document disposal boxes are available and an additional trailer is ready to be loaded with obsolete and surplus equipment destined for the State of Illinois auctions in Springfield.

The December/January break between terms will be a busy time for faculty and staff as they identify equipment that will be moved into the new labs and items that are headed for disposal. FDM has already begun removing surplus lab benches from the F-Wing.

E & F Building Disconnect – November 21

A scheduled outage affecting all computer systems and Cisco office phones in the E and F buildings will take Wednesday, November 21. Outages are planned in E building from 6 to 10 a.m. and in F building from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please make arrangements to shut down office computers in these locations prior to the outage. Remote access into office computers from off-campus will NOT be available during or after power outage until the computers are manually restarted.

For more information, contact the ITS Helpdesk at 708.534.4357.

Science Renovation Continues Over Break

The renovation of GSU's science facilities will continue over the university's winter break. Several construction projects in F-wing are scheduled, including:

- Connecting the hot water heating system
- Connecting the cold water/chiller system
- Connecting the domestic water
- Connecting the emergency power panels

Welding will take place in the basement of the biology offices and associated fumes and odors can be expected. No lab experiments or student activities should be planned during this time.

Dates for construction in occupied F-wing are December 26, 27, 28, and 31.

In other news the Phase 1 construction project has a May 1 delivery date. The CAS Science Division has set a goal to move all labs into the new space by May 20, the beginning of summer term. Thanks to science faculty, staff, and student workers who participated in a recent inventory project, the Science Division has identified equipment that will be moved into the new space, and items that will be turned into scrap and surplus.

Anyone who is planning to spend any extended time inside of F-wing during the construction days should contact [Karen D'Arcy](#) or [Steve Shih](#).

Phase I in the Science Wing – Almost Done

Phase I of the E and F Wing renovation project is almost complete, which means that a move-in date is fast approaching. Currently, our occupancy date is slated for May 20 – just in time for summer biology, physics, and chemistry classes to begin in the new lab settings.

As the date nears, you will see access to the renovated areas opening up. Temporary walls will come down, and doors will be opened. However, the construction area is still not open to the public. The GSU community is reminded to follow all signage and barrier indicators and not enter the construction area until it is officially open for use. Even during the first week of classes this summer, there will be a lot of activity while equipment is moved into the new labs and faculty move to their new offices.

Phase II of the renovation project is already under way. Completion of this portion of the project is slated for Spring 2014. In August, the university will officially celebrate the completion of Phase I.

Board of Trustees Meeting – May 17, 2013 (05-20-13)

The Board of Trustees meeting Friday provided an opportunity for transitions, announcements, and presentations. Newly confirmed board members Lorraine Tyson and Anibal Taboas were welcomed by Board Chairman Jack Beaupre and President Elaine P. Maimon. Chair Beaupre noted that this was the first time the board has had full membership in many years.

President Maimon reported that the recent focused visit by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) team was very positive. While the final report has not been filed, Dr. Maimon noted that, during the exit conference, the visiting team expressed "praise" for the way we have been planning our lower division and our general education curriculum. Dr. Maimon complimented the work of the General Education Task Force, "brilliantly chaired by Professor Ann Vendrely."

In addition to the positive review of the university's progress on student assessment, Dr. Maimon reported that the HLC team gave full approval to the operational change to admit freshmen. "The team noted that this was not a change in mission. GSU was founded as a comprehensive regional university; admitting freshmen helps us fulfill our mission." The HLC Team also praised the extensive planning in progress for the first-year program at the same time the university is expanding to meet the needs of transfer students through innovative programs such as the Dual Degree Program.

"Many thanks to the campus as a whole for the great work that has led to this outside validation," added Dr. Maimon.

In response to board inquiries, Dr. Maimon provided an overview of recent efforts by the Council of Illinois Public University Presidents and Chancellors (IPUPC), a statewide organization that Maimon serves as a convener, to offer research-supported solutions to issues of pension reform in Illinois. IPUPC has been engaged in constructive discussions with the legislative leadership to ensure that our employees' interests are protected while ensuring the solvency of the pension system, explained Maimon. Towards this end, the IPUPC has been advocating the adoption of the "Six Simple Steps", the position paper developed by the Institute of Government and Public Affairs, as a guide in reforming the state's pension system. "The IPUPC solution is a responsible, constructive position," Maimon added.

Dr. Maimon acknowledged several transitions at GSU, announcing the appointment of Lydia Morrow-Ruetten as Dean of the Library. (See related story) She also noted that this was Provost Terry Allison's final board meeting. "As GSU gains prominence nationally, executive search firms become interested in our top administrators." Dr. Maimon thanked Provost Allison for his many accomplishments and service and

wished him well in his new position at Indiana University, South Bend.

Looking forward, Dr. Maimon said that the new provost will join GSU at a remarkable time. "As I complete the sixth year of my presidency, I am pleased to see our goals come together in what we are calling Renaissance 2014." Dr. Maimon cited the success of DDP and the GSU Promise, expansion to a full-service university, construction of student residences, and the renovation of E and F wings, among many other developments and accomplishments. "Renaissance 2014 means the rebirth of our founding principles of innovation, diversity, and student-centeredness in the shape of a 21st Century model university."



BOT Tour of E and F Wings

In his report, Executive Vice President Gebe Ejigu reported that the first phase of the E and F wing renovation project was almost complete, adding 75,000 square feet of badly needed science labs, classrooms, and

faculty offices. Classes will be held in the new spaces this summer even as work begins on Phase II of the project.

At the conclusion of the meeting, board members and members of the GSU community toured the renovated areas. Dr. Walter Henne, of the chemistry faculty, led the tour and answered questions.

Additionally Dr. Ejigu introduced the preliminary FY14 budget, which the board approved. In other business Friday, the Board approved the promotion to associate professor, with tenure, of the following faculty: Carlos Ferran, CBPA; Barbara Gormely, COE; and Robin Washington, CHHS. CHHS's Susan Ji was also awarded tenure.



Trustees Durkin and Fletcher

The Board of Trustees honored student Trustee Erin Fletcher, who will be graduating on June 8, with a resolution read by Trustee Eileen Durkin. Fletcher was recognized for her academic success and her contributions to GSU. She chaired the Sustainability Committee, helped organized the First Annual Student Sustainability Conference, and represented GSU at the 2013 Association of Governing Boards Annual Meeting as a panelist on the topic of *Today's College Students*.

First Phase of Science Wing Renovation Complete, GSU's East Entrance to Re-Open (05-23-13)

With the completion of the first phase of E & F wing renovation, GSU's east entrance will once again be open to students, faculty and staff. Starting Tuesday, May 28, the east entrance, located in F building, will be open. The stairway silo, just south of the east entrance, will be open only to construction workers for the remainder of the E & F project.



Construction of Phase II of the E & F project begins Tuesday. It is likely that the Phase II project will be completed in the summer of 2014.

"I'm happy to report that Phase I of the science wing renovation is complete, and that many of the labs and classrooms in E and F buildings are ready for our students," said Karen Kissel, Vice President for Finance and Administration. "Congratulations and our deepest thanks to everyone who has helped

make this project a success."

When both phases of the \$25.5 million project are completed, the renovation of GSU's science classrooms and laboratories will comprise approximately 76,000 square feet of space and include six research labs, 11 teaching labs, 12 classrooms, nine prep/store rooms, and a new lecture hall that seats 90 students. The renovated facilities will serve students and faculty in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, nursing, communications disorders, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.

E/F Roofing Project Commences

Re-roofing of the E/F renovation area began last week and will continue for approximately six to eight weeks. As with other re-roofing projects in the last year, FDM will close fresh air intakes to limit the entry of asphalt odors

Persons with offices on the north side of G-wing need to keep their windows closed to prevent fumes from entering the building. The system design in G-wing makes it especially critical that those windows are closed for the duration of the E/F roofing.

F building Phase 1 and OT/PT may have odor issues, because their fans are 100 percent outside air fans. Based on typical wind patterns, no major issues with these areas are anticipated.

While the roofing odors are not harmful, they can be unpleasant. Like any irritant, sensitivity and reaction varies between people. Please do not hesitate to call FDM, ext. 4515, if your area becomes a problem. FDM will do all it can to mitigate odors in a particular area.