Update on Major Projects

August 27, 2014

Fine Arts Instructional Center – The construction of this 118,000 SF facility is well underway. As you can see from many parts of campus, the exterior walls are being erected, and the brick installation is underway. Interior walls are being constructed, and 80% of all slab on grade floors has been poured. Utilities such as electrical, HVAC and plumbing are being roughed in. The building is expected to be enclosed before the onset of winter allowing the contractor to utilize the heating system to temper the conditions within the building during the winter construction period. Construction is scheduled to be substantially complete in September 2015, and occupancy will take place in January 2016.

Shafer Hall Renovations – This project will renovate the 1946 building and change the use of the building from academic to residential. The building will house approximately 100 students in various suite-style apartments. It will include upgrades to electrical, HVAC, plumbing, sprinklers, heating, new windows and repairs to the building skin. The building will meet High Performance Building Regulations and is expected to meet Silver Certification Criteria under the LEED Certification process. The contract for the architect is being processed, and design is expected to kick off in the fall of 2014.

Goddard/Communication Renovations – This project will renovate both the Goddard and the Communication buildings, providing for newly-renovated classrooms, labs and offices. The project will also provide new electrical, HVAC, plumbing, sprinklers and heating upgrades. Windows will be replaced, and improvements to the building skin will be addressed. This building will meet High Performance Building Regulations. The architect has been selected, and negotiations are progressing for the design contract. The project design is expected to kick off in the fall of 2014.

Academic Quad – The contractor is nearing completion of final grading for the Academic Quad that is located between the Library, Webb Hall, Science Building and Constitution Hall. The project will include new Sternberg Lights lining all sides of the Quad and re-grading of the entire Quad to flatten the landscape and make it more usable for student recreation activities and University events. New landscaping will enhance seating areas to the front of Webb Hall and provide tree-lined walks on the eastern and western edges of the Quad. New staircases will provide access to the terrace at the Library and to the entrance of Constitution Hall. All walkways, lighting and stairways will be completed by the start of the academic year. Final landscaping will be completed early in the fall semester.
**Hurley Hall - Study** – The final phase of the study is nearing completion. The study looked at the present seating capacity of Hurley Hall, the efficiency of the operations and a review of current trends in the industry. The study recommends maintaining the main kitchen and moving some of the service areas to the main floor of the hall. This will create an atmosphere similar to a food court with seating clusters and is an approach that many campus food services are now using to update their food services. The plan also has options for the President’s Dining Room relocation, an expansion of the existing seating area and reconfigured entry and flow into the building.

**Windham Street Extension Walkway and Lighting Improvements** – This project included new walkways, lighting and benches on the eastern side of Windham Street Extension. The project will help to strengthen this entrance to campus and continue to develop walkways and landscaping that are in conformance with our campus standards. This is a heavily-travelled corridor between the north campus and the south campus. This entrance to campus now has features that help identify it as Eastern Connecticut State University.

**Athletic Support Building** – This building was completed in May of 2014. It will house locker rooms for Eastern Connecticut State University sports teams, a training room, locker rooms for officials and public restrooms. Equipment is being procured so that the facility is fully operational in the fall of 2014.

**Instructional Space Utilization Study** – The renovation projects involving Goddard, Communication and Shafer Hall will require that these buildings come off line for construction. If the projects run concurrently, it would mean the temporary loss of general-purpose classrooms. In March of this year, Facilities Management & Planning initiated a study of our instructional space utilization that looked at the number of classrooms, labs and seminar rooms on campus. This included a review of the size, number of seats, furnishings and utilization of each of these spaces. The study also reviewed our scheduling practices. The study reviewed the impact of the loss of instructional space during construction of these projects and possible ways to mitigate that impact. In May, a survey was made available for faculty and student response. The survey asked for comments and suggestions on instructional space, scheduling and types of technology used in the spaces. The final draft of the study has been submitted and is under review.

**Low Rise Cabinet Re-facing** – This project is nearing completion and will refinish cabinetry bases and install new laminate countertops, garbage disposals and cabinet door and drawer fronts. The project included work in the 100, 200, 300 and 400 buildings. The design was done by Facilities Management & Planning.

**Burnap Hall Stand-Alone Boiler** – This project includes the installation of an upgraded gas line along the western edge of Eastern Road to Burnap Hall. The project also includes the construction of a boiler room in the basement of Burnap Hall and the installation of two new gas-fired boilers to provide heat and domestic hot water for the building. The project is due to be completed in October of 2014.
ADA Access to AccessAbility Services – This project provided new paving, signage, and walkway identification to provide an ADA-accessible path to the AccessAbility Services Office located on the lower level of the Health Services Building. The project is substantially complete and will be ready for the start of the academic year.

Sports Center Lobby Renovation – This project provided for finish upgrades to the main lobby of the Sports Center. The original building was completed in 1970, and the building has not seen major upgrades since that time. This project provided new porcelain tile flooring throughout the lobby, new entrance doors from the vestibules and into the gymnasium and new tile walls and artwork highlighting sports at Eastern Connecticut State University.

New Carpet Faculty Offices – Webb Hall – This project started over the 2013/14 winter intersession. Broadloom carpet was replaced with carpet tiles in the faculty offices on the first and second floors of Webb Hall. In May of 2014 we also replaced the broadloom carpet in the third and fourth floor faculty offices as well as in the department offices on each floor. The project was completed in June 2014.

Security Cameras for Campus Entrances – In an effort to increase and improve our security on campus, Facilities Management & Planning has been working in conjunction with Eastern’s Public Safety Department and Information Technology Services Department to add digital cameras to our three campus entrances. Entrance cameras have been installed at the entrances adjacent to the Campus Police Station and at 333 Prospect Street. The installation of the equipment at the main entrance will be completed this fall.

Security Camera Upgrades Low Rise & High Rise Complex – This project is also a joint project with the Public Safety Department, Information Technology Services Department and Facilities Management & Planning to upgrade and provide additional security cameras at the Low Rise and High Rise apartment complexes. The installation of conduit and data wiring to support the new cameras is complete. The installation of the security cameras has commenced and will be substantially complete prior to the start of the academic year.

Communication Office Expansion – This project expanded the Communication Department offices into the space vacated by Information Technology Services in the Communication Building. The design was done by Facilities Management & Planning, and the majority of the construction work was also performed by Facilities. The project was completed prior to the start of the spring semester.