Update on Major Projects
August 25, 2021

Low Rise Courtyard Improvements and Stair Replacement – Phase four of the Low Rise Courtyard Improvements and Stair Replacement project began in May, and construction of the site stairs at the 500’s Building is wrapping up. Additional structural work is required on the bridge that connects the courtyard access to the main floor of this building. This work is expected to last into the fall, and as a result, the building has been taken offline. This is the final phase of this multi-year project!

Replace Gymnasium Bleachers and Re-Finish the Gymnasium Floor – This project is substantially complete and final inspection for use is scheduled for Tuesday, August 25. The bleachers are now electrically operated, fully code compliant and updated. The project includes a section with seats with back rests.

Residence Hall Masonry Repairs – Funding approval and a request for permission to administer this project has been submitted to the Department of Administrative Services. Once received, we will request the services of an architectural firm specializing in the repair and restoration of masonry. We expect to be in the design phase by late fall / early winter. The High Rise building, Nejadlik Hall, and Mead Hall are included in this project. The repairs will include the removal and replacement of spalled and cracked brick, repointing, repair and replacement of flashing and caulking. We expect to begin construction in the summer of 2022.

Interior Renovations Noble Hall – The design of this project is substantially complete. We have submitted a variance request to the State Building Inspector. We expect to be able to bid this project late fall and begin construction in January. The schedule for completion would have this project ready for occupancy in August of 2022. Noble Hall was originally gutted and renovated in the 1990s.

High Rise Geothermal Equipment Modifications – The geothermal system which heats and cools the High Rise residence hall was originally installed in 2000. Pumping equipment needed to be upgraded to keep the system running optimally. This work is substantially complete and in operation. Punchlist work remains which will not affect the heating or cooling for the building.
Sports Center Equipment Room Air Conditioning – The Sports Center equipment room contains commercial grade laundry equipment used to clean athletic uniforms. This space was not air conditioned. The project is substantially complete and in operation. Punchlist work remains and a final inspection is scheduled for the last week of August.

347 Prospect Street – Structural Upgrades and Exterior Skin Repair – The University recently acquired 347 Prospect Street. The property has been vacant for several years and needs structural repairs as well as repairs to the skin of the building. The project has been initiated, but design services were put on hold by the Department of Administrative Services preventing us from making any headway this summer. The architect has been released to begin design. The design is expected to be complete in the spring of 2022 and will require approval by the National Historic Preservation Office. We hope to begin construction in summer of 2022.

Reset All Classrooms for Full Occupancy – Facilities reset all classrooms, refreshed COVID signage and has marked the placement of chairs in rooms with the blue dots (same ones used during the last academic year to indicate the placement of seating). All classrooms and labs have been reset using 3’ social distancing. Out of abundant precaution, all plexiglass installed in classrooms and labs last summer has been left in place. We will monitor the COVID rate and determine if they can be removed prior to the spring semester. The work to resize classrooms over this past summer was a huge undertaking.

Fuel Cell – A new bank of fuel cells has been installed on campus at the main Sub-Station. The new fuel cells have been operating since mid-July and are providing 1.15 KVA of electricity for the campus. The amount of electricity generated from the new fuel cells is more than half of our campus monthly load.

Science Building Exterior Stair & Retaining Wall Restoration – This project was initiated this summer to restore the exterior stair and retaining walls that are located to the front and south side of the Science Building. The design work is expected to be completed late fall and bidding and construction would take place next spring and summer.

Hurley Hall Roof Replacement – This project was initiated to address leaks associated with the Hurley Hall roof. The roof is at the end of its life cycle and we are experiencing leaks. An architect was selected, and funds were allocated to design the replacement of the roof. The architect is in the schematic design phase of the project. All design is expected to be complete by early February and bidding will take place in the spring with construction over the summer of 2022.