



New Building Update

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 11:21 AM

To: BUS - All Business School; BUS - All PHD - All Students

Dear Ross School Colleagues,

The Communications Advisory Committee is pleased to provide the following update:

Building Design

Beginning May 9, eight committees composed of deans, directors, faculty, staff, students, alumni and university engineers started collaborating with KPF architects on the final design for the new building. In response to the community, building design has taken on a different functional layout. Significant progress has been made in defining space needs for programs, community areas, offices, classrooms, student services and group study areas. Site designs are being developed for final review in mid-August. The design proposal will be presented to the University of Michigan Board of Regents in the fall.

Specialty groups also have been reviewing exterior design elements, sustainability, mechanical and electrical systems and technology/communications requirements with a commitment to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.

Teams have worked to meet the school's program goals and provide a unified look to our campus, which is being expanded by approximately 100,000 square feet. Features include:

- The Winter Quad - a large, central atrium for informal gatherings

- Additional classrooms and group study areas

- Increased faculty offices from 168 to 197 with better locations for support staff

- Consolidation of Student Services to one location

- Increased natural light in public areas, offices and classrooms

- A fitness center

- Improved food services and facilities

- Rooftop gardens, terraces and landscaping

- Sheltered exterior passageways

Drawings

Once the Regents have approved the schematic design, the Community Creation Committee will present the drawings to the community.

Schedule

The proposed timing is aggressive. Pending the Regents' approval and additional fundraising, demolition is scheduled to begin in May 2006 with an estimated two-year construction period.

Relocation During the Construction Period

Because the new building requires the demolition of some buildings, some faculty, staff and student programs will be relocated for the duration of the project. Over the past several weeks, various options have been under consideration. The goal is to arrive at a final plan by mid-August with the first moves taking place in mid-October. Faculty and staff will have more than 30 days notice to pack their offices for the professional move teams.

In the interim, it is important to note the pre-planning efforts and logistics involved in such a large project. For example, Facilities teams have identified 420 phone lines that will need to be relocated. Student computing labs will be relocated to the second floor of Kresge Library to accommodate the PhD Program's new interim location. The new computing area will house approximately 40 lab computers, new printers, an improved laptop support area and group study seating. This move will take place in August.

Your Suggestions

On May 26, a "New Building Suggestion" feature was launched on the school's home page. The Community Creation Committee has received more than 140 suggestions from the Ross community. The suggestions were helpful and ensured that planning is on the right track.

Overall, suggestions have followed common themes, including the need for a large, indoor community space, an environmentally friendly and sustainable facility, improved student lockers and mail boxes, better classroom design, increased group study areas and more computer/Internet access.

Although we have passed the June 30 deadline for design suggestions, we encourage you to continue to make suggestions and ask questions about the building. These, along with other comments, will provide the basis for the next phase of the project.

The Community Creation Committee wishes to express their thanks to all who took the time to submit their ideas. Again, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to use the Suggestion Box located at <http://www.bus.umich.edu/>

More updates will be forthcoming in the near future.

Thank you,

The Communications Advisory Committee

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