

2022 Summer Construction Presentation

Link to the recorded Zoom presentation:

https://albany.zoom.us/rec/share/IQcApLSk7-LpA7NNz4H_v0AUAFkg3Zu7-7Xh2ghvBTdRPv_hWD7KUfPnKamurpif.mVv4Nv0Ums6ku-fk

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Presentation Questions and Answers:

Q: What has been selected for the canopy trees? Oaks? Lindens?

A: There is diversity in the proposed new plantings of the Gardenway. We are replanting over 200 new trees with up to 8 different tree species proposed. Most of the trees include Maple, Oak, Honeylocust, Hackberry, Gingko and Sweetgum.

Q: Is it cost prohibitive to eliminate bleacher seating and go with all chairbacks in the reno of SEFCU Arena?

A: From the standpoint of staying within the budget we have committed to the project, we have decided to move forward with bleacher seating.

Q: How many more group study rooms will be added to the LCs?

A: There are currently a total of two group study rooms constructed. Plans are still being finalized, but at this time we anticipate there will be up to a total of nine group study rooms at the completion of the LC Project in 2029.

Q: I am curious to learn about the university's sustainability and environment friendly policy on construction. Could you please explain a bit more on it?

A: One of our sustainability goals is to be carbon neutral and stop burning fossil fuel in 20 years. To that end, the campus is developing a net zero carbon master plan to migrate away from fossil fuel-based heating to beneficial electrification over the next few decades. ETEC was designed and constructed as an all-electric building that utilizes a geothermal heat pump system to provide 100% of the heating, cooling, and domestic hot water for that building. All retrofits are being designed to operate on a low temperature hot water system that can be connected to a campus-wide district geothermal heat pump system in the future.

Additionally, all new construction and retrofits meet stringent requirements for low energy use intensity per the [SUCF Directive 1B-2](#). The campus also follows the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification to incorporate various sustainability measures into our project including, but not limited to, green stormwater infrastructure, indoor air quality improvements, use of local materials and recycled content, and diversion of construction and demolition waste from landfill. We have been successful in receiving LEED-Silver certification on (4) buildings, Gold certification on (8) buildings and Platinum certification (highest level) on (1) building. We are expecting another LEED Platinum certification on ETEC. If you are interested in learning more about the energy and sustainability projects and initiatives, please contact Indu, the University Energy Officer at ilnu@albany.edu.

Q: Are there any plans for food options (ie: cafe) in FAHS?

A: Food services will remain solely in Husted Hall on the downtown campus.

Q: There are 2 broken glass panels in the atrium of the Science Library. One has been broken for quite some time, the second showed up a couple of months ago. Is there a plan to repair them?

A: As indicated during the on-line presentation the answer to this question is yes, there is a plan to replace them and Physical Plant is in the process of engaging with a vendor to remedy the situation. The replacements are anticipated soon now that the weather is warmer.

Q: Any update on Hawley Hall elevator?

A: This project is under contract, design has begun and we plan to move it forward as quickly as possible. That said it is likely a couple years away with a hope that construction would be completed by spring 2025.

Q: What was the Milne 200 update?

A: As indicated during the presentation, this project will increase the seating capacity in Milne 200. The goal right now is an intersession start. This secondary egress will allow 100 guests by code, verse the 49 we are restricted to now.

Q: Any news regarding the Humanities building?

A: All priorities are being considered during the current Facilities Master Plan Update. No timeline has been identified specifically for Humanities at this time.

Q: Will all the buildings on the podium be renamed like Taconic and Catskill?

A: As indicated during the presentation, the former AVP for Facilities John Giarrusso, chaired a Building Renaming Committee where building names were discussed. Currently, buildings are only being renamed as renovation occurs. More information on the work on the former Building Renaming Committee can be found here:

<https://www.albany.edu/facilities/campusplanning/faq.html#:~:text=Building%20names%20should%20be%20unique,similar%20to%2C%20existing%20building%20names>

Q: Will there be no more pool at UA?

A: There is no longer a pool at UA and there are no plans to replace or rebuild the pool now or part of the Facilities Master Plan process.

Q: Are there any plans to renovate the MSC building now that UAlbany has acquired it?

A: As indicted during the presentation, an engineering assessment was performed prior to UAlbany's acquisition. We addressed many of the items noted in the engineering report but there is still more work to do. We expect the remaining items will be addressed in the upcoming years and follow our normal facility review and priority assessment. Projects will be prioritized and moved forward as funding allows.