

Campus renovations take shape



Seniors Anshu Thapa and Keiko Shinohara hang out in the new dining area in the Student Union Building. The spacious lounge now provides more seating and work space for students.

Mayank Dhungana/
Index



Photo by Mayank Dhungana/Index
Construction workers have just completed the first stages of Dobson Hall's renovation. The building is being gutted from the inside out.



Photo by Mayank Dhungana/Index
Crews work on the Towne Museum's roof earlier this week. The building's second phase is set to begin in January.

BY JOHN MOENSTER
Assistant News Editor

With all the construction going on throughout campus, it's hard to tell what's being built and what's being renovated.

Campus Architect Mark Schultz said there are at least 13 projects going on right now at the University. Walking across campus, students might notice the following projects underway.

Dobson Hall

The most noticeable project on campus is Dobson Hall. Schultz said Dobson renovations started during the summer. Asbestos abatement has been completed and just as students arrived in Kirksville, chilled water lines were pulled from the mechanical room in Blanton, Nason and Brewer Halls for Dobson's air conditioning system, resulting in sidewalk work that prevented students from walking between Dobson and Violette Hall during Truman Week. Schultz said he plans to follow about the same time line for Dobson as for BNB, which would allow students to move in next fall.

Dave Rector, director of institutional research and budgets, said the University has two main budgets for these projects: a state budget and an auxiliary budget that covers residence halls, the Student Union Building and the Student Recreation Center.

The Towne Museum

Schultz said he hopes the new museum, admissions building and welcome center will be completed within the next year.

"The Towne Museum is currently running a little behind schedule," Schultz said.

The museum display project has just gone out to bid a second time and work is set to start in January.

Rector said the museum is funded by a \$1 million gift from Dr. Ruth Towne as well as University funds. The cost of the project is about \$2.3 million.

Parking Lots

Schultz said parking lot expansions in front of Barnett Hall and along Franklin St. quickly are coming to a conclusion. Both lots had a late start this summer, but thanks to a last-minute rush before students arrived, the Barnett lot was completed in time. The Franklin lot is expected to be completed within the month.

Rector said the state does not provide funding for parking lots. Funding for the parking lots is provided for in part by parking stickers and fines but mostly by University funds. The project will cost about \$975,500, he said.

Student Union Building

Schultz said the SUB is complete and is waiting for the final closeout documents to be processed. Major renovations completed include a mezza-

nine, public rest rooms and an expanded serving area in the Mainstreet Market dining area. Schultz said the building still needs some accessorizing, such as paintings and plants to soften some of the spaces. The parking lot just south of the SUB also has been resurfaced and reopened.

Rector said the SUB project was completed on budget and was funded by bonds.

Ophelia Parrish

In Ophelia Parrish, dry-wall repair has been completed and chalk and tack boards are a week from being finished. Schultz said work will be done soon to reduce sound intrusion on the roof when it rains. During Winter Break, movable sound baffles will be installed in the performance hall to adjust the acoustics of the room based on the needs of the performance.

Campus Utility Mapping Project

An on-site utility mapping project currently is underway around campus. The goal is to establish a record of the locations of all the utilities on campus, including water mains, circuit breakers and pipes. Schultz said this project also will help develop a master plan that will help identify what needs to be done to make the University more energy efficient and effective.

Other Projects

Schultz said there are several smaller projects also taking place around campus. Damage

in West Campus Suites from the flash flooding in July currently is being repaired. Missouri Hall is complete but there are several mechanical issues undergoing repair, primarily the steam heating system in the building.

Rector said Physical Plant has its own budget but that the state provides another maintenance and repair budget.

Future Projects

Schultz said he expects more projects taking place for as long as he's around. Proposals currently are coming in to retrofit and repair Magruder Hall, where there are water intrusion and duct noise issues. There also is a problem with electromagnetic waves and vibrations in the floor, making it impossible to use microscopes in certain areas of the building. Schultz said shielding is being designed to combat the problem.

Schultz said there still are about five years of residence hall renovations in the plans. Other future projects include repairs to the Student Recreation Center, the Kirk Building and Kirk Memorial Building.

Sophomore Rachel Catlett said she doesn't think there is any more or less construction going on around campus this year.

"Dorm-wise it's about the same construction-wise," Catlett said. "All this construction is a good thing though, it's making the campus and Kirksville a nicer place."

Are You Interested in a Minor in Disability Studies?

The School of Health Sciences and Education (SHSE) is exploring the possibility of developing a minor in Disability Studies. The Disability Studies minor would be of interest to students from many different academic areas. Students interested in the arts, law, medicine, social work, health, nursing, architecture, education, communication disorders, and other liberal arts and sciences disciplines may have a special interest in applying their study to focusing on the needs of disabled populations.

A minor in Disability Studies would provide the opportunity to study the nature, meaning, and consequences of disability in global culture from an integrated perspective. Students interested in interdisciplinary academic work would be provided with rich avenues of new scholarship in fields throughout the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences.

If a minor in Disability Studies interests you, please attend an informal discussion on Friday, September 5, at 12:30 p.m., in Violette Hall, room 1320. The purpose of the discussion would be to generate ideas and gauge student interest.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Janet Gooch at jquinzer@truman.edu or at 660-785-4672.

IL SPAZIO
AMERICAN BISTRO

AMERICAN BISTRO ...
... ECLECTIC FOOD

215 WEST WASHINGTON | DOWNTOWN KIRKSVILLE | 665-8484