

# Oswego Campus Concept News

A Report from the Campus Concept Committee

---

---

Spring 2001

---

---

## *The Committee*

The Campus Concept Committee, with representation from faculty, staff, students, and administration, is charged by Faculty Assembly and the President with overseeing the development of renovations and new construction on campus.

Meeting minutes, information about projects, and mission statements are available at

<http://www.oswego.edu/cc/>

Comments or questions for [committee members](mailto:committee_members) should be sent to [Concept-list@oswego.edu](mailto:Concept-list@oswego.edu)

## *Campus Center Planning Process in Early Stages*

The first stages of the new Campus Center project are underway. Cannon Design has met with the Campus Center Steering Committee to establish the list of groups whose functions are candidates for inclusion in the center. Meetings with those groupings, and with the Campus Concept Committee will develop a list of desired functions for the center, along with space allocations.

These meetings, which began in late April, and will continue in early May, are information-gathering sessions. Over the summer, Cannon will develop a set of conceptual plans upon which campus groups will comment in the fall of 2001. It is hoped that the project will be ready for the design phase in December 2001, with bids to go out in 2002, and construction to begin in early 2004.

The [Campus Center mission statement](#) is on the reverse side of this sheet.

---

## Renovations of Academic Areas Move Forward

Three major initiatives are progressing through the somewhat complicated process that will lead in a few years to new facilities for Business, Education, and Humanities departments, as well as for a mix of student services and instructional offices that will integrate functions now separated geographically and functionally.

### School of Business

The designs for the new School of Business, in a revamped Rich Hall, have been approved by the SUNY Construction Fund, which oversees all academic building in the University. Construction should begin in Fall 2001, with occupancy hoped for in Fall 2003.

### School of Education

A conceptual plan for the integration of now-scattered departments in the School of Education into spaces in Wilber and Park Halls is nearing completion. Two departments—Educational Administration and Vocational Teacher Preparation—will move in Fall 2001 into new permanent quarters in Park Hall. Other departments in the School, and the office of the Dean of Education will move into Wilber Hall in the next few years. (The Department of Modern Languages will occupy space in Wilber while it awaits its new location in the Swetman-Poucher Humanities Center.)

### First-Year and Humanities Centers

Plans to house many student services functions, a first-year academic center, and humanities departments (English, Modern Languages, and Philosophy) in a Campus Learning Center located in Swetman-Poucher are nearing completion of the first "conceptual" phase. HOLT Architects of Ithaca is now preparing alternative plans for the building, which it will present to campus groups before the end of the semester, with hopes to begin the design phase in the next year.

[The mission statement](#) for the project and a list of the departments, offices, and functions to be included in the on the reverse of this sheet, and on the Campus Concept Web page.

The mission statement, devised last year by the Concept Committee, appears on the reverse of this sheet, and on the Campus Concept Web page, along with the "Mission themes" developed by the Campus Center Steering Committee.

## Two Issues to Note

- The Campus Center is funded through a separate item in the state budget and is not part of the general funding for academic improvements in the five-year plan which funds our other renovation and repair projects. The legislation granting the funds to Oswego specified that the structure be a combined student center and athletic facility, so our planning must operate within that legislative framework.

- The questions of traffic flow and parking are matters of major concern. The architects both for the campus center and the Swetman-Poucher project are carrying out studies which will guide the decisions to be made (with plenty of campus input) in the 2001-2002 school year. The relocations of departments and offices will shift traffic and parking demands from one part of the campus to another, and the events dimension of the Campus Center will move substantial traffic onto campus.

## *Several Academic Buildings Slated for Improvements*

Some pressing campus needs and improvements to buildings will be underway in a series of projects to begin in fall term 2001. The selection process for these projects was as follows:

In the fall of 2000 the chairs of the Arts and Science departments and the Library were asked to identify items that could be considered for prioritization.

The projects focus on deferred maintenance issues, especially when repairs will enhance the academic mission of the buildings being upgraded. (See reverse side for process.)

### Summary of Projects (to begin in Fall 2001):

Mahar Hall: Lobby and entry renovation, elevator replacement.

Snygg Hall: Upgrading of Computer Science area--corridor and class-

Rooms 105/106/107. Upgrade classroom 127.

Penfield Library: Accessible study rooms.

Several other projects will be addressed in a second phase, to be completed during Summer 2002:

Mahar, Tyler, Lanigan, Piez: Classroom renovations...

Piez: Corridor and entry upgrades, elevator upgrade. Renovation of seminar room.

Penfield Library: Stairway carpet replacement.

[\(Continued on p. 2\)](#)

## Other Proposals Being Studied

The Committee has considered several other proposals. The following ideas for the campus seemed important enough to be considered as components of the next five-year capital improvement plan, or to be funded through grants and donations:

- A center for Communications and Information Technology which would house Broadcasting, Journalism, Graphics, and some aspects of Information Science in a state-of-the-art facility.
- A renovation of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Computer Sciences laboratories and classrooms, with hopes to reflect shared pedagogies in a unified science area.
- An "Oswego Plantations" landscaping and horticultural garden proposal that would work alongside the current landscape planning to make the campus a showplace of botanical plantings native to the Northeastern United States.

Concept Committee News Spring 2001 pag 2

## *Buildings Slated for Improvements*

[\(continued from p. 1\)](#)

The criteria for building improvements identified after the first round of meeting with Arts and Sciences Department Chairs and reviewed by the Campus Concept Committee were as follows:

1. Project installations and purchases must have a minimum 15 year useful life
2. Space Renovations must bring spaces up to current building codes including hazard abatement, ADA accessibility and building signage
3. Space allocation studies should be included in the design
4. Public spaces such as classrooms, building entries, lobbies, and elevators should be given priority
5. Projects should be consistent with the September 1999 capital planning study

After preliminary cost estimates the items identified totaled about \$2 million. The Dean of Arts and Sciences again consulted with the chairs on priorities and the list was reduced to about \$1million. The remaining project list was approved by the President and submitted to the State University Construction Fund for review.

Two determinations were necessary to be made by SUCF. First, that the value and scope of the proposed project was appropriate for the capital plan and could fit into our overall budget. And second, whether or not they would permit the project to be managed by the campus. While SUCF agreed with our proposal the full amount of funding for the project was determined to be unavailable due to the need to preserve bidding contingencies for the Rich Hall renovation. SUCF and the campus agreed that the project could be done in two phases with the first phase funded at about \$600,000.

Based on the prioritization process undertaken earlier, and in consultation with the Dean, the list of items was again reduced to the phase 1 and phase 2 list that was reviewed by the Concept Committee on March 19 and was

## Mission Statement for Swetman-Poucher Learning Center

The Campus Learning Center is intended to be the springboard for renewal of the learning culture at Oswego. It will be a focal point for the development and implementation of enhanced learning opportunities for all students. Located along the major east-west pathway of campus, it will place the cultivation of student involvement in the intellectual life of the college at the geographical center of the campus. The building will provide a variety of environments for the integration and application of general education/disciplinary learning, and the development of learning skills and values.

The center will provide open spaces for interaction between students, faculty, and learning support staff. In addition to interactive learning areas, the building will provide highly visible, convenient access to services such as academic support, career planning, and international study opportunities.

This building will be a physical link between the east and west campus, providing a continuous, attractive, and welcoming series of spaces for movement between Penfield Library, the new Campus Center, and the entry to the East campus opposite Poucher Hall.

presented to the A&S chairs on 4/3/01.

## Campus Center Mission Themes

Developed by the Campus Center  
Steering Committee March 2001

- The focal point of student activity ...
- Central crossroads function ...
- Events center for campus...
- East/west link with openings to north and south...
- A convocation dimension accommodating up to 3000 persons in tiered seating capable of handling graduations, banquets, student fairs, musical and theatrical events, intercollegiate and intramural ice sports, speakers, and other activities that bring the college community together.

## Mission Statement for Campus Center

Adopted by the Campus Concept Committee Nov. 8, 1999

While serving as the focal point of student activity, the campus center will promote a shared sense of identity and community for the campus, inviting faculty, staff and visitors to contribute to its vitality. The Campus Center is the primary venue for the events and celebrations of campus life, connecting the learning activities and social activities of students on the campus. Along the central pathway of the campus, the center projects a physical presence that draws attention to its central function while incorporating views of the lake and green spaces. It serves as a crossroads where students and faculty find a haven for social interaction, co-curricular organized activity, co-curricular learning opportunities, events and convocation, and a comfortable oasis between classes and other structured activity. The facility will play a central role in campus-wide events and celebrations. Its design provides a continuous and seamless link to academic and student services in Penfield and Swetman Halls along the east-west pathway of the campus while providing major entrance links to that pathway from the north and south residence approaches. The center will provide for flexible and multipurpose spaces with attention to the creation of character in comfortable spaces taking advantage of natural light

## Dormitory Improvement Projects Advance for Johnson, Riggs Halls

The Johnson Hall renovation project is currently entering final design stage. Mechanicals and engineering requirements are in final stages. Windows and brick facing are being selected now. Construction will begin this summer. The design adds a fourth residential floor and physically connects Johnson Hall to Lakeside Dining Hall. The building will provide the home for the First Year Residential Experience and is designed to facilitate connecting freshmen to college, both academically and socially.

Riggs Hall and Lakeside Dining Hall are included in the Johnson project as the second and third phase. Riggs Hall will be designed starting in the fall of 2001 and will also be designed as a living-learning center.

The academic theme for the center has not yet been selected.

[CLICK HERE TO RETURN TO TOP OF DOCUMENT](#)

## Campus Concept Committee Membership (2000-2001)

Faculty: Sue Camp, Qiong Dong, Donald Feck, Craig Graci, Chris Hebblethwaite, David Hill, Al Lackey, David Sargent

Student Body: Saleem Cheeks

Staff: Kristen McNeill

CSEA: Casey Walpole

Administration: Michael Flaherty, Joseph Grant, Carolyn Rush, James Scharfenberger, Sara Varhus

*Ex Officio:* Jerry DeSantis, David King (co-chairs)