Campus Planning Newsletter



The Office of Finance and Administration

Dear members of the Connecticut College community,

Welcome to the spring semester! Facilities Management and Campus Planning spent the winter break planning and executing projects. Facilities Management continues with daily operations and is still experiencing staffing shortages, so we thank you for your continued patience. Further updates are provided in the outline below.

Facilities Management

Repairs to the Cummings' heating system are ongoing. Facilities Management will continue to monitor the building's temperatures closely. During diagnostics and exploration, various mechanical systems were found to be faulty or in suboptimal condition. While awaiting the equipment for the larger repairs to the major systems, the team has continued work and made repairs with noticeable improvements. The equipment is scheduled to be onsite this week and we anticipate installation to take about one week to complete.

Additional steam leaks on the steam infrastructure have been reported recently and will need further investigation. Any interruptions to service or to the campus grounds will be communicated as needed.

Campus Planning

Over the winter break, there were two small footprint, high impact projects completed. First, offices on the second floor of Crozier-Williams were modified to make a new home for the Residential Life staff. Second, a small donor-initiated project allowed improvements in the Hillyer lobby to transform the space into a new theater box office and entrance to the Stark Center. Light work will continue over the next few weeks. We encourage you to stop by these enhanced spaces! The LED lighting project, initiated by the Office of Sustainability as part of a bundle of sustainability projects, continued over the break in the Plex and Cummings. This work will also continue through the next few weeks.

A facilities condition assessment (FCA) has been initiated to assess approximately 62 buildings on campus. The last assessment was done in 2012. The FCA will be completed by consultants and include an existing condition analysis, organizational needs statement, gap analysis, identification of code deficiencies, recommendations, facility cost projections and life cycle cost analysis, and capacity analysis and use recommendations.

A long-term energy plan is also being developed to identify an alternative means of heating. Currently, the College heating system runs on steam and the existing infrastructure is declining. The College will be partnering with an energy consultant to provide data and analysis to advance a roadmap that aligns with the FCA data to help plan short-term and long-term reinvestment projects.

The Facilities and Land Management Committee and Environmental Model Committee will be kept apprised as these two assessments progress.

The College has received Board of Trustee approval to move forward with the partial renovation of Crozier-Williams, and a construction manager has been awarded the project. Contractual work is in process and a project timeline and logistics plan will follow. Once further information is available, an update will be provided.

As the Crozier-Williams project develops, we will evaluate how this project ties into the phasing of the pedestrian promenade and enabling east lot. The east lot permitting process continues and we anticipate site work to begin in March or April. Weather and permits will dictate the start. As these timelines develop, the project team will continue with designing. Below is a conceptual design of the Cro-Plex connector.

