VVC Deans Tour Advanced Technology Center

Lori Kildal, John Rude, and Nick Parisi took time out of their busy schedules to take a first hand look at the construction going on at the Advanced Technology Center. We spent time going over details like actual class size, smart classroom technologies, layouts, and blueprints. The Deans can tell you that a first hand look at the project really helps one to appreciate the size and complexity of the construction of this new facility.

Steel trusses are being swung into place by cranes and it won’t be too long before the exterior shell is finished and the work on the interior of the building gets underway. After numerous meetings with the instruction office, deans, faculty members, consultants and many others, it appears as if the blueprint for instruction has been finalized and work of computer based instruction for these areas can now be planned.
Update ~ Speech/Drama Addition

Things are progressing very well at the Speech/Drama Addition. Photos below show the inside of what will be the Rehearsal Theater, Scene Shop, and Experimental Theater. The masonry walls are nearly complete, steel and decking that will separate the upper floors and lower floors and steel for the roofing system are all in progress. Meetings with the faculty to determine furniture, colors, carpet and overall use of the building have been very productive. In addition, we are working with our campus theater staff to identify possible sound and lighting enhancements to the existing theater.

Rehearsal Theater

Scene Shop

Experimental Theater
Central Plant upgrades are complete, and the second and final phase of the hydronic piping began on Monday, February 26th. The two new 500 ton chillers are installed and operational. New cooling towers for the system have been cleaned, flushed and tested. The updated energy management system that will control our new heating and cooling system is nearly complete.

The second and final leg of the hydronic piping began Monday February 26th. This final section of piping from the Advanced Technology Center to the Speech/Drama Addition and to Student Services 1 & 2 will enable us to utilize the Central Plant for cooling of these facilities.

The Air Handling Units at both the Counseling/Administration building and the Art building are scheduled to be replaced over the Spring Break, continuing the energy efficiency work taking place on campus.

Unfortunately, class schedules leave us little time throughout the academic year to complete these types of necessary repairs, so Spring Break is the next possible time frame to complete the work with the least amount of disruption. The good news is all work will take place in the basement areas of both buildings and students will be on vacation. The bad news is both buildings will be without heating or air conditioning. Spring Break should be the best time of year to complete this work as the weather is typically moderate.

We plan on providing fans for general air circulation and if necessary install some type of temporary heating and or cooling. We anticipate staff being able to carry out business as usual in the Counseling/Administration building and the Art building should only have a few Faculty and staff in the building during the break. The buildings will go off line on Friday, April 6th (Good Friday) and will be back on line when students return April 16th. Chevron and its sub contractors have a tremendous task with very little time in which to complete it.

Additional Information

The Chancellors Office has given VVC approval to submit this year’s Five Year Plan with two final project proposals (FPPs). One FPP is for a Health Professionals Building and the other FPP is for a Fire Technology/Administration of Justice Facility. Both projects scored very high in last years initial project submittals.

Spencer/Hoskins Architecture and the Facilities Construction department will be meeting with V.P.s, Deans, and Faculty to thoroughly define the scope of these projects prior to the June 30 deadline. As work on the current Five Year Plan progresses it will be fully incorporated into our soon to be completed Facilities Master Plan.