July 3, 2002

Business project impacts growing bigger, louder

Construction of the Lillis Business Complex in the northwestern corner of the UO campus has really taken off since ground was broken on April 2 in a ceremony with UO officials and lead donors Chuck Lillis, former MediaOne Group chairman, and his wife, Gwen.

University planners are working to ensure that tempers don’t also flare up as the $40 million project exerts more of an impact on campus.

Crews from the project’s general contractor, Lease Crutcher Lewis, began tearing down the old Commonwealth classroom bridge between the wings of Gilbert Hall the week of April 22 following two months of asbestos abatement, materials recycling and tree removal. The space where this 1950s-era structure once stood will become the center of the new Lillis Business Complex, which will give the Charles H. Lundquist College of Business 196,500 square feet of new and remodeled space to call home.

Prior to Spring Term finals week, the excavation contractor worked extended hours to complete all the hard rock excavation. May 24 marked the first of what will begin to be a normal occurrence, a major concrete pour. Following on June 1 was the arrival and subsequent set up of the tower crane looming 250 feet above the construction site.

Since mid-June, site utility connections have been the focus, with workers tying into existing water, fire, storm and sanitary lines in the street.

The Commonwealth demolition and subsequent activities were the first of many steps that may create...
disruptions during the 18-month construction project. In order to minimize the potential negative effects on the campus and learning environment, the University Planning Office prepared a document entitled "Dealing with Disruption, Mitigating Construction Impacts."

"We urge faculty and staff to be understanding of the impacts this major undertaking will have," says Janet Lobue, project manager for Facilities Services. "We have tried very hard to anticipate concerns of the campus community in advance, and have developed a plan to mitigate the impacts as much as possible."

About 25 campus stakeholders attended a March meeting to make recommendations about the draft document. Then, University Planning made suggested revisions prior to distributing it campus-wide in April.

Essentially, the document addresses potential problem areas including noise, air quality, vibration, utility service interruptions, and pedestrian, street and traffic issues.

Among the mitigation steps: Signage and "you are here" maps showing detours and accessible routes around the construction zone; crews trying to limit their noisiest activities to early hours to minimize effects on classes; and workers reducing dust and fumes by wetting down the construction area regularly and not leaving vehicles idling when unnecessary.

Noise is expected to have the biggest effect. Some noises, such as diesel engines, may be continuous, while others, such as drilling or jack hammering, will be intermittent. Noise will most affect those buildings to the north and immediately surrounding the site: the Computing Center and McKenzie, Villard, Deady and Fenton halls. Condon and Chapman halls to the south, and buildings as far away as PLC, also may be effected.

The University Planning document also addresses issues of accessibility for people with disabilities and emergency exiting from adjacent buildings.

A temporary ramp will provide disabled access to the second floor of Gilbert East, which contains Lundquist College administration and student program offices. A hydraulic lift north of Chiles Business Center will allow access to second-floor classrooms and the third-floor technology center. When the sidewalk in front of Gilbert on the north side of 13th Avenue is closed for brief periods, provisions will be made for wheelchairs to cross to the south side.

Access to classrooms will be maintained on a case-by-case basis; a few might need to move to other buildings to ensure accessibility. Access to program elements inaccessible during construction, such as faculty offices, will be provided upon request.

Because both Gilbert wings and the Chiles Business Center depend on emergency exits that will be demolished, the contractor has created temporary exits from the upper portions of these buildings to
ensure that all occupants have at least two exits.

Designated contact people in buildings surrounding the job site will be notified prior to the start of especially disruptive activities or when major schedule changes occur.

Faculty and staff should not communicate suggestions or concerns directly to contractors or their employees. Instead, direct all questions or complaints about construction or access issues to Janet Lobue, 6-5259, or send e-mail to <lobue@oregon.uoregon.edu>. As the university’s full-time project manager, she will be at the construction site most of the time and will act as a conduit for rapid communication between the university and the contractors.

"This building will have a tremendously positive effect on students and the campus when it is completed," says Lobue. "To get there, we need to balance the university’s need for minimal disruption with the builder’s need to complete the project as quickly and efficiently as possible."

For weekly updates on the construction schedule or other information about the project, browse lcb.uoregon.edu/complex/. To go directly to a live web cam view of the site, see lcb.uoregon.edu/lillis/.

Quilting Quackers commemorate 125th

One day in August of 2000, a group of faculty and staff members–the "Quilting Quackers"–set out to design a quilt to celebrate the university’s 125th anniversary.

In subsequent months, they brainstormed ideas for the UO icons that should appear on the quilt. Carol Rydbom, President’s Office, says the quilt went through many stages.

"For instance, when we started, we thought the quilt was going to look like the back does now."

After about a year’s painstaking work and shared camaraderie, the quilt was finished.

At first you see the University Seal, influenced by the stained glass window that casts a warm glow over the Johnson Hall conference room where the group met. The background contains a river, two "Tall Firs"–representing the 1939 men’s basketball team that won the first NCAA championship–as well as duck foot prints and ducks floating in rivers and flying in the sky.

You also see images of Steve Prefontaine, the five members of the first graduating class, Deady Hall and the Pioneer Father and Mother statues, as well as stars representing the UO’s schools and colleges.

During the yearlong celebration of the UO’s 125th anniversary, the quilt has accompanied President Dave Frohnmayer and other UO officials as they crisscrossed the state on a 2,400-mile trek to share the story of the University of Oregon’s successes and contributions to the state’s citizens.
The quilt also has been displayed several times on campus. Now that the anniversary year is drawing to a close, officials are seeking a place to permanently display the well-traveled quilt.

Members who contributed the 125th anniversary quilt included Donella-Elizabeth Alston, Ethnic Studies; Marlene Singer, Business Affairs; Leona Neef, Human Resources; Debbie Anders, Development; Carol Rydbom, President’s Office; Ellen Childs, Research Services; Gayle Freeman, Registrar’s Office; Debra Otley, Graduate School; Colleen McKillip, Physics; Marlys Meckle, Financial Aid retiree; Shirley Bolles, Yamada Language Center; and Judy Fossum, Business Affairs. Liz Gray of Eugene did the machine quilting.

–Danielle Stiller, Media Relations intern

Steller walks, seeks donations for a good cause

Linda Steller, Economics, is training to participate in the Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day. Her mission highlights the role faculty and staff can play as volunteers in the UO community and beyond.

"I’m motivated by a combination of things—the challenge for fitness and the desire to help people," Steller says. "I lost a cousin to breast cancer, and I have an aunt with a mastectomy."

The event, set Aug. 9—11 in the Northwest, is a 60-mile walk from Enumclaw to Seattle, Wash. Participants are required to raise $1,900 before they enter the race. Steller, who is on track to meet that goal, has until July 12 to finish her fund raising.


Announcements...

PARS is conducting two pilot programs this summer that offer recreational opportunities for children and youth of UO faculty, staff and students at the Student Recreation Center (SRC). During Family Recreation, students and summer SRC members can bring the little (or not so little) Ducks and enjoy the recreation center together from 3-5 p.m. on Fridays. For questions, send e-mail to <dmunroe@oregon> or call 6-4150. The second pilot program extends independent summer membership purchase eligibility to dependents 16 years and older of students, faculty and staff. For questions, send e-mail to <gcashel@oregon> or call 6-1180.

Library Special Collections and University Archives has temporarily changed its public service hours this summer so that staff can organize and carry out a major shift of collections from one building location to another. Throughout Summer Session, Special Collections and University Archives will be
open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The division will be closed on Saturday and Sunday. To help meet the needs of university researchers as well as local and visiting patrons, public service hours will be extended to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays through Aug. 16 and to 6 p.m. on Wednesdays from Aug. 17—Sept. 29. For information or to comment, send e-mail to <jdfox@oregon> or call James Fox, 6-1904.

Our People

On the Move

Anne Leavitt became the university’s newest senior administrator when she began a two-year interim appointment as vice president for student affairs on July 1. The new position was created to bring focus to the array of student services that are outside the classroom and to ensure that these activities support and enrich students’ academic lives. In her new post, Leavitt will oversee Enrollment Management, Admissions, Financial Aid, Student Affairs and the Registrar. In addition, she will work closely with the vice provost for undergraduate studies and the dean of the graduate school to develop programs and foster attitudes that promote academic achievement. She will report directly to Senior Vice President and Provost John Moseley.

Deborah A. Carver, associate university librarian for public services and collections since 1994, became the Philip H. Knight University Librarian on July 1. She has served as interim university librarian since July 1, 2000, following the retirement of George W. Shipman. The Oregon Library Association’s 1999 Librarian of the Year, Carver represented Oregon as an elected member of the American Library Association Council from 1998—2001, having previously served that professional group as chair and member of numerous committees. The 1995-96 president of the Oregon Library Association, she served on its legislative committee and chaired its Vision 2010 Task Force.

Laird C. Kirkpatrick, a nationally known scholar in the field of evidence law, will become dean of the UO School of Law on Aug. 1, succeeding Rennard Strickland, who is stepping down to return to teaching and writing. A highly respected and prominent graduate of the UO law school, Kirkpatrick is currently Hershner Professor of Jurisprudence and will become the Knight Law Dean. He previously served as interim dean of the UO law school for six months during 1980. Kirkpatrick is co-author of Evidence Under the Rules, one of the most widely adopted evidence course books used in American law schools, and author of the leading Oregon treatise on evidence. He is also co-author of a five-volume treatise on federal evidence that is widely cited by the federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. Kirkpatrick recently returned from a two-year appointment in Washington, D.C., where he served as counsel to the head of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division and also as an ex officio commissioner on the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

C. Brad Foley, dean of the East Carolina University (ECU) School of Music since 1995, will become dean of the UO School of Music on Sept. 1. He will succeed Anne Dhu McLucas, dean since July 1992, who will return to teaching and research following a one-year sabbatical leave during which she
will be a Fulbright distinguished scholar in Scotland and will be working on a book on oral traditions in American music. Foley, an Indianapolis, Ind., native, graduated magna cum laude in music education in 1975 from Ball State University. He earned a master’s degree in woodwind performance from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1977 and a doctor of musical arts degree in music performance, also from the University of Michigan, in 1983. A saxophonist and an oboist, Foley has presented more than 350 solo and chamber music performances since joining the ECU faculty in 1979.

In the Spotlight

Sheryl Eyster, Student Life, and Herb Chereck, university registrar, received the D.U.B.S. Award during the annual Spring Family Weekend All-University Awards luncheon on May 18. Established 12 years ago by students Doug Untalan and Brian Sandy, this award recognizes the efforts of those administrators who have shown the highest concern and involvement enhancing the education and lives of the student body.

Russell J. Donnelly, Physics, will receive the Fritz London Memorial Prize, the highest award in the field of low-temperature physics, in August during a conference of low-temperature physicists sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics at Hiroshima, Japan. Donnelly’s 45-year career as a researcher has focused on the flow behavior of superfluid helium at temperatures just above absolute zero, and on the corresponding behavior of ordinary fluids. For the London Prize, Donnelly was cited for his recent research in superfluid turbulence and high Rayleigh number convection experiments at low temperatures.

On the podium

Mary Jaeger, Classics, lectured on "Livy and the Fall of Syracuse" at a July 2001 conference titled "Memory and Power: the Roman Annalistic Tradition" in Trier, Germany.