Dear SPH Students, Faculty and Staff:

To view prior building updates, please visit this page on the SPH Intranet.

Open Houses

There will be two opportunities over the next couple of weeks to attend a Population Health Facility Open House. At each of these sessions, you will be able to see more detail of project progress to date, as well as provide input and feedback on what you are seeing. These sessions are being conducted in an open-house style to keep input rolling — rather than having hard and fast start times — and maximize opportunities for individuals to attend. Please do make some time to drop by on Tues., Oct. 24, 3-5 p.m., South Campus Center 316R and 316L, or Mon., Oct. 30, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at South Campus Center 316R and 316L.

Project Progress

The project overall remains on track. As you read this update, you will be tempted to think that little tangible progress has been made over the last month. That’s not the case, as the design team continues to work on a number of aspects simultaneously. It is the case that some of what has been done relates to enabling projects (e.g., upgrading the facility that the current occupants of the Guthrie Annexes will move to) or conceptual refinements (like vertical and horizontal traffic corridors within the building, or lighting studies of how to maximize access to natural light throughout the building in conjunction with the exterior building skin). These are necessary steps in the design process, but don’t show up as specific design elements or as drawings of specific floor layouts.

Connectivity within the Building

One of the issues that continues to be discussed is connectivity within the building. The rendering below looks at the building to the
east, across 15th Ave NE. Because of the topography of the site, the ‘ground floor’ of the building is somewhat of a multi-level experience. Enter from Grant Lane in the north (under balloon #2, seen at the top of the image) and you would be entering on Level 1. However, enter from Architecture Hall to the east (under balloon #3) and you would initially come in on Level 2, then descend to Level 1. The classroom spaces are on Level 1 (balloons #6-10). Toward the southern end of the building closest to Physics/Astronomy, you would go down a level to the exit on B1. Bike storage and possibly another classroom or larger convening space will be on B1, details of which can’t be shown in the image below. Double-height spaces on Level 1 (balloons #4-7) somewhat limit the usable office space on Level 2. Levels 3-7 are full office floors. Level 8 is again a partial office floor, stepped back due to height restrictions. The step back on Level 8 will allow for some greater ‘rooftop’ deck options. There will be some form of internal stairs between Level 3-8 (balloon #6), both to improve inter-floor connectivity and to help bring more natural light into the center of the building. The Redwood-sized conifers, towering above an eight-story building are pure artistic fantasies. There are plans to save several of the mature trees on the eastern side of the building — between the building and Architecture Hall — but none would even come close to being taller than the building.

Thank you,

Uli

Uli Haller
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