North Lot to Close for General Academic Building No. 1 Construction

After the fall semester, site preparations will begin for the second new academic facility in the UMass Boston master plan, General Academic Building No. 1, a four-story building to be located adjacent to the Campus Center on the current North Parking Lot.

The beginning of construction will permanently close the 388-space North Parking Lot. Drivers who use the lot will be encouraged to use alternative parking lots on campus or use public transportation. The Bayside lot on Mt. Vernon Street will be available beginning on January 28.

Starting with early site preparation at the end of December, the Campus Center garage will remain open, but the entrance will change so that a retaining wall can be built.

“We know closing the North Lot will create inconvenience and even frustration,” said Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Ellen O’Connor. “It is true that as we build the new facilities we need, we will lose parking spaces on campus, but we have plenty of parking available at Bayside, with dedicated free shuttle-bus service to the Campus Center. We encourage people who normally use the North Lot to go directly to the Bayside, or switch to public transportation if possible.”

In early 2013, crews will begin preparing the site by installing fencing, setting up trailers, relocating utilities, and clearing the lot to get ready to construct a new waterfront academic building. Following the groundbreaking, scheduled for February 27, contractors will begin moving soil to elevate the grade of the site and driving piles for the foundation.

“General Academic Building No. 1 will enhance our teaching and learning environment,” said Provost Winston Langley, adding that an inclusive process involving academic leader-
Campus Plans Are Taking Shape

When I look out of the windows of my office, I see the Integrated Sciences Complex taking shape right in front of me. Crews are working on winterizing the site so they can continue to make progress on the building through the cold months. The pace at which we have gone from a set of plans to an actual new building – the first academic building to be erected on our campus since 1974 – is breathtaking.

The idea that in just two years, our students and faculty will be streaming in and out of this building, using its equipment to carry out research, and learning by doing in interactive teaching labs is exciting. And the idea that this building is just the beginning of our expansion and improvements to the campus is truly amazing.

Looking out of that window and seeing the physical reality of a building reminds me of how important it is that we continue to make headway on our plans. It reminds me of the reason we’re taking on these large and complicated new construction projects, why the upheaval to our campus is going to be more than worth it when we’re done: our students’ futures.

As our enrollment grows, we need to grow as well, not merely to accommodate a larger student body, but to provide our brilliant, dedicated, committed students with state-of-the-art university facilities that will allow them to develop and enhance their skills.

In this publication, you’ll read about developments on our plans for General Academic Building No. 1, our next construction project, slated to break ground in February. You’ll learn that Governor Deval Patrick and his administration are supporting our plans every step of the way – so much so that they have just committed to helping fund General Academic Building No. 2. You’ll find out about improvements we are planning for our roads and infrastructure.

There’s a lot going on at the University of Massachusetts Boston. And every piece of the work we’re undertaking is in service of providing our students, faculty, and staff with the campus facilities they deserve. I hope you enjoy this update on our progress toward this goal.

Chancellor J. Keith Motley

General Academic Building No. 1 Construction Site

The building will include the first multimedia studio classroom on campus, modeled after one at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; two case-method classrooms, the first on campus; 18 classrooms for 40 or fewer students; four 150–200-seat discussion halls; and a 500-seat lecture hall.

Specialized instructional spaces for three academic departments will include:

› Art Department studios for digital media, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and video;
› Chemistry Department teaching laboratories, including laboratories for general physiological, analytical, physical/structural, organic, and inorganic chemistry;
› Performing Arts Department studios for acting, instrument and vocal instruction, and dance. A 150-seat recital hall and a 150–200-seat theater are also planned.

The $113 million facility will be approximately 181,000 square feet and will also house faculty and staff offices, a café, a student lounge, and study spaces. All spaces will have state-of-the-art amenities, including instructional technology, furnishings, and building systems. The new facility will incorporate many sustainable design strategies and will qualify for LEED Silver certification.

The project is managed and primarily financed by the UMass Building Authority. Boston-based Wilson Architects is the project designer, and Gilbane Building Company serves as the construction manager.

To see a short video about the building, visit www.umb.edu/videos.

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General Academic Building No. 1 Construction Site (continued from page 1)
Gov. Patrick Announces $100 Million for UMass Boston’s General Academic Building No. 2

Governor Deval Patrick visited UMass Boston on October 2 to announce $100 million in funding for the construction of a new, cutting-edge academic building.

The governor’s 2013 Capital Plan includes $607 million in bond funding set aside for projects across the UMass system. At UMass Boston, the money will finance the construction of General Academic Building No. 2. Design of the new building is expected to begin in 2014, with construction to follow in 2016.

General Academic Building No. 2 will join the Integrated Sciences Complex, currently under construction, and General Academic Building No. 1, now in the design phase, as the first facilities in the master plan.

“This afternoon’s announcement is yet another show of support from you and your administration on behalf of the students of our commonwealth," Chancellor J. Keith Motley told Patrick. "It is proof of your faith in our ability to give them the education they deserve, one that will help them serve our state – and all while being a pretty darn good bargain.”

Joining Patrick and Motley at the ceremony were state Education Secretary Paul Reville, UMass system President Robert Caret, UMass Trustees Chairman Henry Thomas, and UMass Boston Student Trustee Alexis Marvel.

In Massachusetts, “education is our calling card,” Patrick said. “It’s as important for us as coal is in West Virginia or corn is in Iowa.”

New projects at UMass Boston and across the state will help preserve the commonwealth’s status as a hub for higher education, the governor said.

“We have an advantage because of that reputation,” Patrick said. “But we will only retain it if we invest in it.”

The $607 million in UMass funding comes from a $2.2 billion higher education bond bill signed by Patrick in 2008. Motley told the crowd that the projects under way are part of Caret’s plan for the system.

“Each building we’re designing, each course and academic program we’re planning, every improvement, renovation, or tweak to this campus and our offerings is in service to President Caret’s clear direction and vision for the university system,” Motley said. 🕊️

Governor Deval Patrick announces funding for General Academic Building No. 2. UMass Trustees Chairman Henry Thomas (left), UMass President Robert Caret (center), and Chancellor J Keith Motley (right) listen as the governor speaks.
Utility and Roadway Improvements on the Way

As part of UMass Boston’s 25-year master plan to renew the campus and make it greener and more accessible, the university will reconfigure the perimeter roadway to accommodate two-way traffic and install an accompanying utility corridor to deliver power and utilities to a growing campus.

The two-year Utility Corridor and Roadway Relocation Project will begin in 2013. Initial work will focus on modifying the existing utility plant. Later, work will move to the roadway.

“This is a homely but vitally important infrastructure project that will allow us to improve traffic flow and community accessibility and upgrade utilities to keep pace with campus growth,” said Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance Ellen O’Connor.

Currently, the university’s utilities are hanging in the closed substructure, former parking garages beneath the campus’s central plaza, and must be moved for improved safety. Relocation will also allow creation of a green central campus quad.

The new utility corridor will be along the new campus roadway and will comprise nearly 17 miles of new piping and ductbanks to provide reliable and redundant utility services to the campus. The utilities include hanging in the closed substructure, former parking garages beneath the campus’s central plaza, and must be moved for improved safety. Relocation will also allow creation of a green central campus quad.

The reconfigured roadway will run closer to the Campus Center, creating more green space and a larger lawn for commencement and other university activities. University Drive North will shift to the northeast to connect directly to Mount Vernon Street.

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HarborWalk Design Moving Forward

UMass Boston will soon choose a design for the 800-foot stretch of HarborWalk on the northern side of the campus between the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum and the Harbor Point Apartments.

The design work under way will help to determine which features and amenities will be included in this new section of the HarborWalk.

The HarborWalk Improvements and Shoreline Stabilization project, managed by the UMass Building Authority, will restore and stabilize the shoreline and relocate and replace the current gravel path.

More Efforts to Reduce Carbon Footprint Launched

As part of the university’s ongoing efforts to encourage people to use sustainable methods of transportation on and off campus, UMass Boston partnered with the city of Boston this fall to install a Hubway bike-sharing kiosk on campus, giving people the opportunity to rent bicycles to travel between stations throughout Boston.

In addition, a new GPS system showing real-time locations of the university’s free shuttle buses between the JFK/UMass MBTA Station and the campus is up and running. It will be especially useful as a new dedicated bus route is being added for those parking at the Bayside lot.

Shuttle riders can go to www.TransLoc.com, using a web browser, or download the TransLoc app on their smart phones. Information on Hubway is available at http://www.thehubway.com.

domestic and fire water, sanitary wastewater, chilled and hot water, stormwater, natural gas, electricity, telecommunications, and data. The utility corridor will also benefit the neighboring John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, the Massachusetts Archives and Commonwealth Museum, and the future Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.

The new roadway and pathways will improve overall traffic circulation and pedestrian connections on campus. Various amenities – including bike lanes, tree lawns, and sidewalks throughout the campus – are included in the plan. More than 300 new trees will be planted on campus and 275 new roadway and pedestrian light fixtures installed. A storm water management plan that makes extensive use of sustainable bio-retention swales is also part of the project.

Relocation of the current University Drive North to the northeast will align it with the end of Mount Vernon Street and provide direct access to the JFK Library and the future Kennedy Institute.

The UMass Building Authority hired BVH Integrated Services Inc. as the project designer and BOND as the construction manager for the approximately $150 million roadway and utility project.

To see a short video about the Utility Corridor and Roadway Relocation Project, visit www.umb.edu/videos.
UMass Boston Chancellor J. Keith Motley and Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino honored 71 freshmen receiving the inaugural Boston City Scholarships at a September celebration in the Campus Center.

Under the program, UMass Boston provides $1,000 awards to Boston Public Schools graduates who are admitted to UMass Boston with a 3.0 grade-point average or higher, and enroll at the university the semester following their graduation.

UMass Boston will renew the scholarship for up to three additional years for students who remain enrolled full-time at the university and maintain a 3.0 GPA. Scholarship money can be applied to tuition, fees, or other school-related costs.

“This is a very special day for the University of Massachusetts Boston,” Menino told scholarship recipients. “We want to groom you to be that team that takes over eventually. ... You are the future of this city.”

The Boston City Scholarship program was developed as part of an agreement with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission to transfer ownership of the commission’s pumping station and Calf Pasture property on Columbia Point to UMass Boston.

The university has committed over $2 million to fund the Boston City Scholarships program, which will continue for approximately 15 years.

A 440-ton crane erects steel for the future Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate, adjacent to the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.

Construction updates are posted on the UMass Boston website, available on the homepage at www.umb.edu. To view the construction webcam or sign up for updates to be delivered to your email box, go to www.umb.edu/construction. If you have questions or concerns, contact UMass Boston Customer Service at 617.287.4000 or construction@umb.edu.
Adán Colón-Carmona is looking forward to spending less time in the catwalk.

The associate professor of biology splits his days between three buildings at UMass Boston – Wheatley and McCormack halls and the Science Center. That means a lot of time spent walking from classrooms to labs to offices.

When the new Integrated Sciences Complex (ISC) opens in fall 2014, Colón-Carmona’s work will take place in one location.

"In the new building, we will all be in an open format on the fourth floor,” Colón-Carmona said. "Students will interact with each other and with faculty on a daily basis."

Construction crews are hard at work on the exterior of the ISC. Inside, the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems are coming together. When it’s complete, the ISC will create an environment that allows students, faculty, and researchers to do their best work.

"Better facilities provide an opportunity for us to compete as we pursue our research," said Colón-Carmona. Undergrads and doctoral students alike will benefit from the new laboratories and learning spaces.

The new facilities will host essential training for students – especially the "sandbox" laboratory, which will provide space for undergraduate students to work in teams or independently with oversight from a faculty advisor.

"I strongly encourage my students to get into the labs," Colón-Carmona said, noting that students pursuing medical, biotech, or academic careers are expected to have two years of lab experience in college.

The ISC will also feature new climate-controlled plant growth rooms, which are essential to the research of Colón-Carmona, a molecular cell biologist. The current facilities in Wheatley no longer meet his needs; the new rooms "will make a huge difference in our research," he said.

The fourth floor of the building will include the home of the Center for Personalized Cancer Therapy – a partnership between UMass Boston and the Dana-Farber/ Harvard Cancer Center. Colón-Carmona, a co-principal investigator for the new cancer center, will use the ISC space to train students, conduct cancer therapy projects, and host research skills "boot camps" during winter and summer breaks.

See a short video about the ISC at www.umb.edu/videos.

**Punch List**

**Public Address System to Be Tested**
A public address system designed to alert the campus community in emergency situations will be tested in the near future. The system, which consists of outdoor speakers on campus buildings, will supplement the current emergency notification system. The community will be notified before testing occurs.

**Clark Gym Renovated**
The Clark Athletic Center Gymnasium has reopened after undergoing an eight-month renovation. The 3,000-person, fully accessible gym now boasts a new maple hardwood floor and upgraded bleachers, entryways, and specialty lighting and audiovisual systems. The Athletics Department will host a grand reopening tailgate event, which is tentatively scheduled for February 5.

**Utility Plant Waterproofing**
The utility plant roof waterproofing near the Healey Library and along the Quinn roadway is wrapping up with final paving and some landscaping under way. The utility plant work is part of the Structural Stabilization and Various Repairs project.

**Healey Library Roof in Need of Replacement**
Superstorm Sandy caused an estimated $3 million in damage to the Healey Library roof and draining system. The storm and nor’easter, which followed a week later, caused substantial water damage on the 10th and 11th floors of the library. The roof is being repaired for the winter; it is anticipated that it will later need to be completely replaced and waterproofed.
The exterior façade of the Integrated Sciences Complex is currently under construction. Crews are also framing and installing piping and conduits inside the research and academic building, which is scheduled to open in 2014.