2014-15 Physical Plant Overview

The 2014-15 fiscal year included a range of activities: planning, projects, and operations.

Planning

A master plan framework was initiated in January 2015 to provide a campus wide context for siting three major projects; and to assess conditions and recommend strategies for wayfinding and circulation, improving the pedestrian experience, campus landscape and gathering spaces.

Athletics and Performing Arts Center Planning Studies were coordinated with the campus plan to determine program and siting.

Major Projects

The Observatory relocation project is complete. The new location is better for night time observing. A bigger classroom offers more flexibility for teaching.

The first phase of the Roberts Union renovation is complete, with 75 beds arranged in singles, doubles and suites, and central lounge areas on both floors. One of the original campus buildings, Roberts was constructed in 1947. Historic building elements such as fluted columns in the lounge spaces, textured plaster walls in some locations, and the original woodwork aesthetic have been restored. The second-floor lounge has an outdoor porch available for limited use and the glassed-in porch leading from the Robins meeting room on the first floor has been converted to an open porch.
The **Baseball/Softball Complex** will be completed in early November 2015 and ready for use at the start of the spring season. Multiple batting tunnels for practice, artificial turf, and stadium lighting will enable extending the playing season and evening games and practices. Other amenities are a team drop off area, new bathroom facility, and ADA accessibility.

**View of the Baseball/Softball fields construction in September.**

The **Grossman renovation and expansion** design will continue through 2015 and into spring 2016. The existing building will be renovated for career counseling spaces, interview rooms, an online workstation area and staff offices A two-story addition will house an expanded Resource Library and Reception area on the ground floor, with meeting rooms on the upper level available for use by the Career Center and other campus groups.

**Image of Grossman addition by Ann Beha Architects**

**Summer Projects**

The second phase of the **Mudd/Arey renovations** was completed in mid-August. The physics, geology and biology departments benefited from improved and new lab and office spaces with provision for possible biology expansion in the future.

**Counseling Services and Health Center Improvements** provided counselors with expanded office and reception space, and improved confidentiality. Health Center services have been rearranged for contiguity with other clinical functions and improved work flow.

**Infrastructure and Energy**

Since October 2014, the **energy conservation projects** completed include HVAC testing and retrofit, LED interior and exterior lighting (including an additional 44 fixtures) and the solar rooftop panels at SSWAC. All work is scheduled to be complete by November 2015. Overall, this project is anticipated to reduce Colby's electric consumption by over 500,000 kWh annually. With funding provided by Efficiency Maine, the projects have an ROI of 20% and a payback of 3.5 years.

The **main steam line section replacement** from behind Miller Library to the steam pit beside Averill Hall was constructed with new insulation materials to reduce heat loss to the ground and will also incorporate better corrosion resistant materials for the outer jacket.

During the FY15 winter, the Biomass Plant produced more than 100 million pounds of steam, representing nearly 76% of total steam produced, supplemented by natural gas as the secondary fuel source.

**LEED certified buildings** on the campus now number 12 with a LEED Gold rating for the Davis Science Center. The Miller Library Renovation and Roberts Renovation projects are aiming for LEED Gold status as well.
Operations and Services

PPD had another productive year supporting the students, faculty and staff with a variety of needs. More than 34,000 work orders were processed for services ranging from moving furniture and fixing leaks to infrastructure and building repair. The Grounds, Custodial and Shops crews supported the summer programs schedule, and assisted with set ups for many large and small special events on campus. Despite another severe winter, PPD crews kept the campus systems, pathways and roads cleared and functioning. PPD ended the year with operational expenditures on budget.

Leadership

Mina Amundsen was hired as the new Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Campus Planning following a national search. Mina comes to Colby from Cornell University where she worked for over thirteen years as the Director of Capital Budget and Integrated Planning, and as the University Planner. Mina has Master’s degrees in Architecture and City Planning from MIT.