The 2016-17 fiscal year included planning, projects, operations, and sustainability. Several large and small projects transformed areas of the campus in an incredibly busy year.

Major Capital Projects
The new Athletic Fields construction was completed and the fields opened for use in late-August 2017. The Bill Alfond Field, an artificial turf competition field, supports varsity field hockey and women’s lacrosse. This field and the adjacent natural turf competition soccer field have enhanced spectator viewing and game management features. The third field, a natural turf practice field, will expand to its full size in a later construction phase. The full site is ADA accessible and connects to the adjacent, and extensive, campus trails network.

Construction documentation design for the new Athletics Complex is underway and expected to be completed in spring 2018. The first Early-Release package was approved in June for site preparation and enabling construction which began in summer 2017. The package included site and utilities work as well as design-assist services for pool design and some building systems. The design team is led by Hopkins Architects from London and the construction team is led by Consigli Construction from Portland.

Construction has begun on the site of the Athletics Complex

The enlarged Rugby Field, south-east of the Mary Low parking lot, was reconstructed with appropriate drainage to allow long-term use and is open for use by the men’s and women’s teams. The site includes refurbished storage shed and bleachers, new goal posts, and a new solar powered scoreboard.

View, looking north, of the newly completed Rugby field

A conceptual design study for an Arts and Innovation Center was completed in spring 2017 by William Rawn Associates. Schematic design is anticipated to begin in fall 2017. The facility will include purpose-built spaces for music performance and instruction, theater, dance, and cinema studies, as well as offices and support spaces. The project location on the Mary Low parking lot will create a gateway presence for the arts at Colby and transform this area of the campus.
The renovation and expansion of **Grossman Hall** was completed in summer 2017 and will house the **Davis Connects** program. The new building is a highly visible, welcoming location for DavisConnects, a unique program that will support universal experiences—global, research, and internships—for Colby students, a key strategic initiative of the College. The facility includes a resource library, interview and meeting rooms, counseling spaces, an online workstation area and staff offices.

The meeting rooms and outdoor terrace to the south of the addition create new interior and exterior gathering areas for the campus. The site and landscape are designed to integrate the building into the campus, and the project is targeting LEED Gold certification.

Seven of the nine **Faculty Apartments** on campus were upgraded during the summer of 2017 to support the Faculty-in-Residence program. The newly renovated spaces will provide more welcoming accommodations, encouraging greater faculty and student engagement in the residence halls.

The **Dining Area Upgrades**, completed in fall 2016 include the updated Caporale Lounge in Cotter Union, an allergen-free room in Dana, and the conversion of the catering kitchen in Cotter to a teaching kitchen. A new mobile kitchen, acquired as part of the project, increases capacity to support catered and other special events across the campus.

Multiple major **Science Lab Renovations** over the summer in Arey, Keyes, Mudd, and Olin accommodated new faculty associated with new academic initiatives across the sciences. The fast-track project required extensive relocation of existing labs, classrooms, and offices, as well as the creation of new support spaces and infrastructure. The **Schupf Computer Lab**, relocated from Keyes 403 to a larger space in Olin 017, will include enhanced visualization capabilities.

The **Mary Low Coffeehouse** was redesigned and renovated over the summer in active collaboration with students.

The **Colby Mule Works Innovation Lab**, a renovated storage space along Miller Street, houses 3-D printing, laser cutting, and virtual reality technology. Students explore new interactive technologies and generate innovative forms of scholarship and creative expression.
The College acquired the contiguous property at 38 Mt. Merici Avenue in spring 2017 as part of a long-term, landbank strategy. The house was partially renovated to provide housing for Language Assistants in 2017-18.

**Energy and Infrastructure**

The [Large Scale Solar Photovoltaic Power Purchasing Agreement](#) has completed phase 1 of construction, the extension of the campus micro grid to the Washington Street Annex building. Phase 2, the construction of the entire solar facility is nearing completion with anticipated use in fall 2017.

![View of the entrance to the Mule Works Innovation Lab from Miller Street](image)

A major [Water Utility Renewal](#) project replaced the Bixler Drive water line from Mudd to Treworgy and extended the line to Mayflower Hill Drive to provide a complete loop. [Primary power upgrades](#) were completed for Lorimer Chapel and the Hillside dorms. The project entailed replacing an old primary switch and installing a new transformer at the Chapel and relocating the Hillside transformer to an outside pad. The infrastructure upgrades will allow future renovation work in the buildings that may require more extensive power.

**Planning**

Planning studies underway or completed last year addressed a number of areas including the campus master plan, landscaping, building conditions, infrastructure study, library program planning study, and space utilization. These and other studies will inform capital planning, operations, and sustainability projects in the years to come.

**Other Department Highlights**

Sandy Beauregard ’06, was hired as Colby’s new Director of Sustainability and Doug Cosentino was hired as Grounds Supervisor and Landscape Manager. Several staff were reassigned and promoted in a reorganization of the department—which underwent a name change to Facilities Services. A new Green Colby website was launched and is now accessible from both academics and campus life sites.

The maintenance management system was upgraded to a mobile format to allow greater efficiency in work order dispatches to crews, following a pilot effort that led to savings in time, effort, and paper processing. Other improvements to the system included a new interface to manage more than 20,000 setup requests received each year.

Residence hall vandalism charges have decreased significantly over the last three years, following a concerted collaborative effort by Facilities Services, Campus Life, Security, and student leaders (SGA, CAs).

![Annual Res Hall Vandalism Charges (000)](chart)

Campus Life has also joined with Facilities Services to support student sustainability efforts.