

CONSTRUCTION from page 1

Disability Act, the Chestnut Library is also undergoing minimal construction. In an effort to make the nursing building more wheelchair friendly, FSU will create a courtyard where the narrow sidewalk that ran alongside the SBE used to be. A beautification project is being incorporated into these changes.

"For one thing, it will beautify the campus. Students will be able to sit down and enjoy the scenery," said Harold Miller, FSU's project manager.

University architect, Rudy Cardenas, feels this will generate more activity between the nursing building and library.

"It's going to create a wow factor. Aesthetically it's going to improve the sight. It's going to create an outdoor socialization place," said Mr. Cardenas.

The Lily Gymnasium, which has been undergoing renovation since the end of the 2011 spring semester, is scheduled to reopen by the end of this year, said Gene Cottrell, director of facilities administration/budget.

Mr. Cottrell is happy that the gym will soon be open to students.

"It is a very versatile place, and it hasn't been usable for a while. But hopefully it will be now," said Mr. Cottrell.

The next project will be Renaissance Hall, FSU's newest residence hall. With three stories, a media room, recreation room and study area. The new dormitory will be larger than New Residence Hall.

Mr. Miller said it is estimated to be 82,300

Parking problems?

For information about parking restrictions go here: <http://bit.ly/reDliTn>

square feet and will house 338 students. Most of the rooms will be double occupancy, with two students per bath area. The hall will also offer suites that house up to four students. These suites will be similar to University Place Apartments, in which each occupant will have a single room to themselves. The only difference is that students will have to share a bath with only one other student instead of two.

These projects are seen as the university's way of moving forward and bringing the campus closer to FSU's vision statement.

"It shows progress with the campus," said Mr. Cardenas. "It's recruiting students. It's a great thing."

Students have probably noticed the change in parking availability. The fences blocking certain walkways have inconvenienced both students and faculty.

Due to construction, be sure to take notice to the many areas that are off-limits. This includes the walkways where the plots used to be and the sidewalk that connects the nursing building to the library. Parking lots M, AH, G, E and W are closed until further notice. In July FSU sent an email to students, faculty, and staff detailing how parking has been re-assigned.



photo by John Caldwell

Construction work occurring between the Chestnut Library, SBE and Butler building.

"They should have had it finished before school started so parking would be more available," said Albert Forster, FSU facilities management employee.

Mr. Forster feels that some of the parking closures are unnecessary, such as a portion of the circle in front of Bronco Hall. Others feel that parking is more available to construction

workers than to students and faculty.

Although students saw tuition hikes for the 2011-2012 year, those extra funds are not being used for the projects. The cost for all of FSU's current construction projects were paid for by state funding that was allocated by the state legislature several years ago.

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