



**BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY**  
**Office of the Executive Vice President**  
**and Chief Operating Officer**

**TO: All Members of the Brandeis Community**  
**FROM: Peter B. French, Executive VP/COO**  
**SUBJECT: Update on Capital Projects**  
**DATE: May 10, 2007**

---

I would like to update you on the status of the many construction and renovation projects underway on the Brandeis campus and to give those of you who will be returning in the fall a preview of some changes you can expect to see when you return. This and my previous community update memos are available on the EVP/COO website, at [www.brandeis.edu/evpcoo](http://www.brandeis.edu/evpcoo) (click on the [News and Info](#) link). Further information on capital projects may be found at [www.brandeis.edu/capitalprojects](http://www.brandeis.edu/capitalprojects). To go immediately to information about any of the following, links are provided below.

Projects in design or under construction:

- [Science Complex Renewal](#)
- [New Ridgewood Residence Hall](#)
- [Edmond J. Safra Center for the Arts](#)
- [Heller-Brown Renovation](#)
- [DeRoy Residence Hall Renovation](#)
- [Chapels Field Rehabilitation](#)
- [Rabb Steps Renewal](#)
- [Phase 2 Energy Savings Program](#)
- [Graduate Student Center](#)
- [Parking Structure](#)

If you have questions about any of these projects, please refer to the contact information at the end of this memo.

### **Science Complex Renewal**

Much of the utilities and infrastructure work to prepare for the Science Complex Renewal Project is complete. This has involved rerouting many of the utilities that ran through the building site. Excavation for the Phase 1 Carl J. Shapiro Science Building is nearing completion and pouring of footings and preparation for foundation walls has begun. The building will house two levels of teaching labs and common spaces and three levels devoted primarily to research. It will also include an atrium, a café, an electronic library, and several conference rooms throughout. Phase 1 also includes the creation of a new connector between Kosow and Rosenstiel as well as renovations in Bassine and other buildings as

required by the removal of Kalman and Friedland, planned as the last step in Phase 1. Project completion of Phase 1 is projected for winter 2008/09.

### **New Ridgewood Residence Hall**

Architect William Rawn Associates' design work for the New Ridgewood Residence Hall continues. Project specifics were developed based on the early work in the Pre-Design Cost Control workshops, with input, since the completion of the workshops, from a Project Advisory Group that includes Jean Eddy, Rick Sawyer (Assoc. VP for Students & Enrollment and Dean of Student Life), Maggie Balch (Asst. Dean) and Rich DeCapua (Director of Residence Life), with key staff members from Res Life, and four students. Additional student input was solicited at an open forum in February.

The new three-building residence hall complex will house 184 students. Removal of the existing Ridgewood Quad is scheduled for this summer, with construction slated to begin immediately afterwards. Occupancy of the New Ridgewood Residence Hall is projected for the start of the spring 2009 semester.

### **Edmond J. Safra Center for the Arts**

Architect Moshe Safdie is working on schematic design for all three phases of the Edmond J. Safra Center for the Arts. The agreed-upon program is being maintained in the new design. Construction of Phase 1, the Edmond J. Safra Fine Arts Building, is expected to begin in early 2008, with occupancy projected for the start of the fall 2009 semester.

### **Heller-Brown Renovation**

Renovation of the Heller-Brown building is scheduled to be complete by the end of July, with occupancy slated for August. The renovated building will be consistent in its finishes and furnishings with the recently completed Irving Schneider and Family Building. Openings will be created on all floors of Schneider to allow full integration of the two buildings as the completed new home for the Heller School for Social Policy and Management.

### **DeRoy Residence Hall Renovation**

As part of the University's ongoing residence hall renovation program, DeRoy Residence Hall in Massell Quad will be renovated this summer. Bathrooms will be upgraded, new carpeting, ceilings, and lighting will be installed in hallways and lounges, and all rooms, as well as hallways and lounges, will be painted. In addition, new lounge furniture will be installed. The renovation is expected to be complete by the end of December, with occupancy slated for the start of the spring 2008 semester.

### **Chapels Field**

On May 23, work will begin to restore and improve Chapels Field. At the same time, improvements will be made to the area between Chapels Field and the Brandeis Walk (the central pedestrian spine) and to the walkways between Chapels Field and Rosensthal Quad. Chapels Field will be closed for the duration of this project and is expected to reopen for use

at the beginning of the fall semester. Any necessary pedestrian detours will be clearly marked.

### **Rabb Steps Renewal**

On May 21, work will begin to restore the Rabb Steps (between the loop road and Rabb Building). At the same time improvements will be made to the plaza and stairs underneath the Rabb Building. The project is expected to be complete by the beginning of the fall semester. Any necessary pedestrian detours will be clearly marked.

### **Phase 2 Energy Savings Program**

Phase 2 of the Energy Savings Program continues the University's ongoing efforts to reduce energy use, improve its environmental footprint, and lower costs. This summer, additional segments of underground steam and condensate piping will be replaced between the Central Heating Plant and Kosow, between Sherman Hall and the Faculty Center, and under the Rabb steps.

Other planned energy savings improvements include:

- Spingold Theater -- Replacing lighting in the Dreitzer Gallery, replacing deteriorated heating and air conditioning units in classrooms and offices, and upgrading heating and ventilation controls and the building's energy management system.
- Sherman/Hassenfeld and Kutz Hall -- Installing energy management systems. Neither of these buildings currently has an energy management system.
- Ziv Quad residence halls and in Brown Social Science Center – Installing remote HVAC system monitoring and controls.

### **Graduate Student Center**

A Graduate Student Center will be created in space formerly occupied by the Registrar in Kutz Hall. (The Registrar is now in the space formerly occupied by Student Financial Services, and SFS has relocated to Usdan.) Responding to the program recommended by the Graduate Student Association and with the approval of Provost Marty Krauss and Senior Vice President for Students and Enrollment Jean Eddy, the Graduate Student Center will include space for the Graduate Coordinator, a commons area, a computer cluster, an office for the new Assistant Provost for Graduate Student Affairs, a kitchenette, lockable storage, and lockers for students. In addition, a new seminar/conference room will be created across the hall, in the space formerly used by the Registrar for transcript requests. Construction is expected to begin in early June, and the goal is to have the Center ready for the start of the fall semester.

## **Parking Structure**

After consultation with the City of Waltham and with the University's construction managers for other projects underway, construction of a new parking structure has been postponed so as not to interfere with the Science Complex Renewal, New Ridgewood Residence Hall, and Edmond J. Safra Center for the Arts projects.

## **Questions?**

Please contact Dan Feldman, Vice President for Capital Projects, at x6-8405 or by email to [feldman@brandeis.edu](mailto:feldman@brandeis.edu), with questions about the following projects:

Science Complex Renewal  
New Ridgewood Residence Hall  
Edmond J. Safra Center for the Arts  
Heller-Brown Renovation  
Chapels Field Rehabilitation  
Rabb Steps Renewal  
Graduate Student Center  
Parking Structure

More information about these and other capital projects can be found on the website of the Office of Capital Projects, at [www.brandeis.edu/capitalprojects](http://www.brandeis.edu/capitalprojects).

Please contact Mark Collins, Vice President for University Services, at x6-4564 or by email to [collins@brandeis.edu](mailto:collins@brandeis.edu), if you have questions about the following projects:

DeRoy Residence Hall Renovation  
Phase 2 Energy Savings Program