

Construction on track for fall completion

Ashley Dunn
Lance News Editor

Concern surrounding the lack of funding for the construction of the residence facility, Dramatic Arts Building, and the Health, Education and Learning Centre has caused some students to question where The University of Windsor will compensate for the lack of funds.

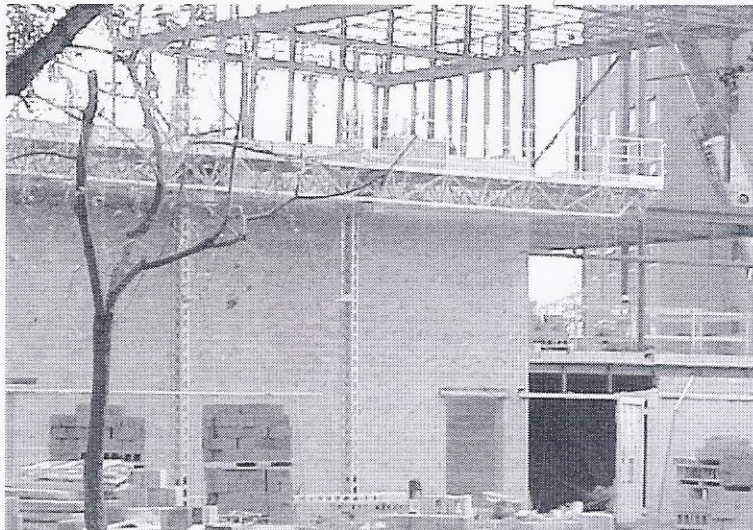
Jon Carpenter, a second year social science student said, "I thought the buildings would be done by now. I've heard that there is not enough funding and the school may increase students' tuition to pay for them."

He continued, "I didn't ask for the new buildings and don't think I should be held financially responsible for their underestimation of funds."

The Health, Education and Learning Centre (commonly referred to as the multi-media centre) and the Dramatic Arts building are financed by a combination of the Government of Ontario Superbuild funds and the fundraising campaign efforts of the Office of External Affairs, led by Dr. Paul Cassano.

According to Dennis Hastings, Director of the Physical Plant, the estimated date of completion for the Dramatic Arts Building is mid to late May.

"We are currently within acceptable scheduling timelines," Hastings said, "although some work is a week or so late. It is not unusual for there to be



Construction continues on the Multi-Media Centre

Photo by Boris Ramon

some flexibility in the schedule, depending on many factors, such as weather, product availability, scheduling of sub contractors and so on."

Hastings said that the original date of completion for the multi media centre, located at the corner of Randolph and Sunset Avenue, was the end of June 2003, but because of a late start and some earlier problems with the progress

of the construction, the building is not expected to be substantially complete until the end of July 2003.

He went on to say that by then, the university will have 6 new classroom areas, the Faculty of Nursing offices and the satellite medical office ready for September classes.

When asked whether students' tuition will be affected by the financial

problems Hastings said, "The plan is to raise all the capital funds necessary for the construction of these buildings outside of the operating budgets, thus not being a burden on the yearly operating, which is partially derived from tuition fees."

However, on Wednesday the university will ask alumni for financial donations for the residence facility, located

south of Wyandotte on Sunset Avenue and currently under construction.

Hastings said, "The residence will house 348 new beds that will be available to students for September, 2003. The plans call for this complex to be completed by the end of June, but the work is a week or more ahead of schedule at this point and may allow the University Residence Department to make use of some areas during next summer."

Sandra Aversa, Director of Food, Housing and Conference Services, said each suite is \$7500 payable over five years. She said there are 174 suites available and when sponsored, the alumni will have their name engraved on a plaque above the financed suite.

In addition to the three construction projects, Hastings said Superbuild funding was received on a matching basis: \$1.5 million for multi-media classroom upgrades, \$2 million for Science and Engineering lab upgrades, and \$2.9 million for an integrated University of Windsor and St. Clair Engineering project.

"Most of these projects are also in progress and will be completed for the fall of 2003."

Hastings continued, "All in all, we have about fifty million dollars worth of construction going on right now. It is creating some inconveniences, but it is very exciting to look forward to all these new spaces in the coming year."

Windsor partners with Poland

Ashley Dunn
Lance News Editor

The University of Windsor held a series of events around campus last week in conjunction with the annual Polish Week in Windsor.

On April 25, 2001 Windsor and Lublin, Poland officially became twin cities, as a result of a petition presented to the City of Windsor by the Polish Canadian Business and Professional Association on behalf of the Polish Community of Windsor.

Since then the Windsor Polish community has been working to promote awareness surrounding Polish culture and strengthening the affiliation between the cities.

Lublin is the ninth largest city in Poland and has a population of 360,000. There are five universities in Lublin that grant degrees; they are the Medical Academy, the Agricultural Academy, the Lublin Institute of Technology, the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, and the Catholic University of Lublin, which is the only Catholic

university in Poland and includes Pope John Paul II among the retired faculty.

"We are proud of our links to this community..."

Like Windsor, Lublin is involved in the motor industry, producing world-class helicopters and manufacturing plants for cars, trucks and buses. Same Deutz - Fahr Polska, a firm located near Lublin, produces 5000 Lamborghini tractors each year.

According to Bonnie Belczowski, a fourth year biology student at The University of Windsor and writer of the Windsor-Lublin Partnership section of the Programme of Polish Week in Windsor, the goal of the agreement between Windsor and Lublin is to, "Promote the exchange of cultural, academic and economic ideas, which will benefit both communities for many years."

Last Wednesday, The University of Windsor held a seminar on current socio-economic realities in Poland that was led by Dr. Tadeusz Zasepa, Rector,

Lublin Business School.

In a welcoming address Dr. Ross Paul, president of the University of Windsor praised Polish academics and musical talents, including the works of Fryderyk Chopin.

Dr. Paul said, "I think what is more important today is to recognize and thank those of Polish origins and roots who make up and contribute so much to our community."

Dr. Paul continued, "We are proud of our links to this community and of our cities twinning relationship and look forward to more links with our university and scholars and students in Poland."

Dr. Jacek Junosza Kisielewski, Consul General of the Republic of Poland said that he had been to Windsor three times prior, but was especially pleased to be a part of the week's festivities.

Kisielewski said, "I'd like the university to develop a close relationship with a university in Poland. I think the best choice would be Lublin because Windsor already has an agreement with the city."



Herb Gray accepts a token of appreciation

Photo by Ashley Dunn

The Honourable Herb Gray was presented with several tokens of appreciation for his contributions to the Polish community, both in Windsor and Lublin. Gray said the week is an example of what Windsor and Canada are all about today and in the future.

"We bring together heritages of people from all over the world and come together as part of a great Canadian family," he said.

Belczowski was also one of the three presenters to Gray. She said, "This week is important because it gives us a chance

to share our culture with the rest of the community and especially with the university students, many of whom may not have had a chance to learn about Poland."

She continued, "I think it is very important to establish ties between the university and universities in Poland. It's a great way for students and faculty to exchange ideas between and benefit each other that way."

For more information visit: www.poleniawindsor.ca