



SHU MCLAUGHLIN UNIVERSITY CENTER TO OPEN FALL 2013

After careful planning and years of dreaming, ground breaking for the new Siena Heights University (SHU) McLaughlin University Center began June 2012, with the building's completion scheduled for the fall 2013 semester. Under the management of Krieghoff Lenawee, construction crews are working diligently, paying attention to details both inside the building and out.

“THE NEW STUDENT CENTER WILL PACK A ‘WOW’ ON CAMPUS, IT REALLY WILL.”

The new McLaughlin Center has become the main attraction of campus since construction began last spring. The 34,000 square foot L-shaped brick brings a modern edge to campus.

“The new student center will pack a ‘wow’ on campus, it really will,” Lee Johnson, senior vice president for business and finance at SHU, stressed. “There will be more gathering space for students, more accommodations, latest technical capabilities and a place to hang out for individuals and groups. It continues with the theme of the campus openness and attractiveness, as well as honoring sustainability through seeking LEED Certification, by using products that were recycled.”

The McLaughlin Center will provide new services to the students, faculty, and staff that Sage Union and Benincasa do not offer. There will be a new convenience store, which will be called the C-Store, several student lounges both inside and outside the building, as well as a cardio/weight room, a prayer and meditation

room, and an executive board room. Michael Orlando, SHU dean of students, noted, “The students can look forward to a nice comfortable place to hang out and get involved on campus while feeling at home.”

Entering the Center

The McLaughlin Center will present a warm welcome, featuring two main entrance ways – a south-east entrance that faces Siena Heights Drive and a north-west entrance, across from the Performing Arts Center. The north-west entrance will be convenient for those parking in the new parking lot off of Cemetery Road.

Each entrance will have an enclosed heated tiled foyer, similar to the east entrance of Dominican Hall.

Welcome Desk

A welcome desk, staffed by public safety, will be inside the north-west entrance to the right. The staff will answer questions about where to go and assist with reported problems and concerns.

Lounge Areas

Inside the south-east entrance students will be able to take a right and enter a cozy living room lounge with a gas fire place. Large windows overlooking Siena's green area will offer a scenic view of campus. The university anticipates that the area will be a hot spot for group gatherings and small performances.

On the second floor there will be additional

Left: Second floor blueprints for the McLaughlin Center.

Right: Artist rendering of outdoor area of the new student center.



lounge space. One large area at the top of the stairs will overlook the elegant north-east entranceway and dining area, with an extended area through the middle of the floor.

On warm days, students can relax outside. The south-east entrance will have benches along the walkway, and the north-west entrance will feature an outdoor meeting space with a fire pit. **New Chartwells' Dining Services**

One of the biggest changes at SHU will be the new Chartwells dining hall. The cooking facility, food stations, and dining hall will take up about three-quarters of the first floor. It will seat 302 guests compared to the current Benincasa dining facility that seats 250. The dining hall will be carpeted while other serving areas will be tiled. Oak laminate tables will be placed throughout the dining hall with bistro height tables and bar stools around the perimeter. The dining room chairs will have the SHU colors of blue and gold.

Quick-serve food items currently in Sage Union will be combined with the full-service items currently in Benincasa Hall. The new layout will eliminate the lines that Benincasa now has with gallery-style serving by presenting five different food stations.

This pulse-on dining, a modern trend in food service, according to Chartwells' director Donald Bargo, will allow the patrons to go to the different stations to pick up their food. There will be more space around each food area and a better traffic flow.

"We are really excited about the big change in our food service on the campus. There will be more of a selection, more variety, more space, and an easier layout for the students, staff and community," Bargo explained.

The five food stations include: Bakers Crust, My Kitchen, Hearth Stone Oven, My Pantry, Halo's Grill, and a soup and salad bar. Bakers Crust will be a sweet shop with baked goods made daily from scratch. My Kitchen will have the traditional hot entrees. The Hearth Stone Oven will serve pizza, stir fries, casseroles and pasta dishes. My Pantry will be an all-day breakfast station that will serve items such as bagels, muffins and orange juice. Halo's Grill will be a Mongolian-Style Barbeque. A separate soda station will be available for drinks.

Chartwells now has twenty-seven employees. With the expansion into the McLaughlin Center, there will be a need for up to thirteen additional employees, some part time and some full time.

AT A GLANCE THE MCLAUGHLIN UNIVERSITY CENTER

- 1 CHARTWELLS' MULTI-FACETED DINING SERVICE
- 2 SPACIOUS MODERN DINING HALL
- 3 NEW CAMPUS CONVENIENCE STORE
- 4 NEW BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSTORE
- 5 STARBUCKS COFFEE
- 6 STUDENT CARDIO WORKOUT ROOM
- 7 STUDENT COMMUNITY ROOM
- 8 EXECUTIVE BOARD ROOM
- 9 MEDITATION/REFLECTION ROOM
- 10 PRIVATE OFFICES AND WORKSTATIONS
- 11 COZY LIVING ROOM WITH FIRE PLACE
- 12 LOUNGE AREAS ON THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS
- 13 TWO OUTDOOR PATIO LOUNGES

ON HIGHER GROUND CAMPAIGN

SHU'S, ON HIGHER GROUND CAMPAIGN, RAISED MORE THAN \$19.3 MILLION IN GIFTS AND PLEDGES OVER A THREE YEAR PERIOD, OFFICIALLY ENDING JUNE 30, 2012. THE FUNDRAISING WAS USED TO SUPPORT TWO CAMPUS PROJECTS AND EXCEEDED FUNDRAISING GOALS BY MORE THAN \$6 MILLION. THE MCLAUGHLIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT CENTER IS THE LATEST OF THE TWO PROJECTS AND FOLLOWS THE MARY AND SASH SPENCER ATHLETIC COMPLEX, WHICH WAS COMPLETED IN JULY 2012.



Lee Johnson, senior vice president for business and finance at SHU, explains the layout to the McLaughlin Center.

Photo Credit: Amy Garno

Students that are interested are welcome to apply for opening positions at the start of the fall 2013 semester.

C-Store

The C-store is the first retail convenience store on SHU's campus. It will be open early in the morning until late evening to accommodate the students and staff. Operated by Chartwells, the C-Store will be located on the first floor next to the dining hall. Starbucks coffee will be one of its main attractions. It will also offer a hot food component for those who don't have time to go through the dining hall. Patrons can purchase pre-made sandwiches as well as grab-n-go salads, yogurt, fruit cups and a variety of snacks and drinks. Frozen foods will also be available for students to take back to their apartments and cook. The store will carry some personal care products that will be chosen based on students interest.

Barnes and Noble Bookstore

The new Barnes and Noble bookstore will make the transition from the basement of Ledwidge Hall to the new McLaughlin Center shortly after the fall 2013 rush and before Homecoming. It will be located to the left inside the south east entrance facing Dominican Hall. The new location allows better visibility plus easy access. The climate controlled air-conditioner and large windows will provide improved lighting and comfort compared

to the existing bookstore that is below ground level and doesn't have air-conditioning.

Since there isn't another full-service bookstore in the local area, the bookstore plans to cater to the outside community as well as the SHU students. Student textbooks, however, will remain the main focus for book section. The new store will carry close to the same volume as the existing one, but it will have a new layout to make shopping easier. The selection of items will expand to include more up-to-date technology, such as all of the accessories for the 9" Nook tablet that it currently carries. Front window displays will highlight featured items and new books and clothing merchandise will be presented on tables throughout the store. A dock area will also be added to for employee convenience.

"I am looking forward to the new dock area that will allow skids of books and merchandise to be delivered into the store much easier," Deb Flint, the SHU bookstore manager, commented. "This will be a big asset to the employees in receiving the merchandise and stocking the shelves."

The new store will continue to carry Arizona juice and tea products along with gum, candy and snacks in limited amounts since the new C-store will carry many popular snacks also. "We will be working with Chartwells and the new C-Store to make sure we are meeting the needs of the students without duplicating products," Flint noted.

The McLaughlin Center
begins to take shape.

Photo Credit: Amy Garno



Artist rendering of board
room in student center.

Photo Credit: Amy Garno

Cardio Workout Room

The cardio room is specially designed for busy students to keep in shape without the added time and cost of driving to a fitness center. Wood flooring will absorb the impact of workouts and a modern cooling system will make this room a comfortable place to work-out on tread mills and elliptical machines.

Multi-Purpose Room

Located right next to the Cardio Workout Room, this room can be used for yoga or other physical fitness classes. It also will have a wood floor and plenty of open space for programing. Other than the entrance door with side windows, this room will be relatively private and away from the flow of traffic.

Student Life Offices

The Student Life offices will move to the second floor of the McLaughlin Center. Among the offices moving are Student Engagement, Multicultural Student Services, Campus Ministry, and International Studies.

This space will also be the hub for all student organizations, with specific dedicated office space for the Student Governments and Student Programing and Resident Hall Coalition (SPARHC).

“Our current space has been affectionately called ‘The Corridor of Awesome.’ Part of the magic behind this space is the high level of student interaction that we have the opportunity to be a part of,” Paul Spradley, the SHU director of Multicultural Services, said. “Though students will not have to pass our new location to get to classes, the main dining facility will be located in the new student center, and food is always a draw. There will be opportunity for more collaboration... and greater collaboration means more awesome programs for the students.”

Gabe Dunbar, director of student engagement, also feels the new location will be an asset to student organizations. “The McLaughlin Center, apart from being a brand new state-of-the-art facility, will provide much needed space for the students to gather and meet. There will be some great places to study and meet as larger groups. I believe the space will really help student organizations to grow and develop.”

Community Room

With several windows overlooking a picturesque view of campus, the large second floor room will be

brehtaking. Separate tables, with enough space to accommodate 24 seats, can be arranged differently for a variety of campus meetings and events. The room is equipped with a pull-down projector screen and a small podium. Carpeted floor and window shades make this room feel comfortable and inviting.

Executive Board Room

This stately room on the second floor will be the main conference room used by the board of trustees and student organizations. It is equipped with a large flat-screen television for audio and visual presentations as well as a pull-down projector screen. A large wood-grain laminate table is the room’s focal point, surrounded by comfortable high-back padded swivel chairs, embossed with the SHU crest.

Prayer and Meditation Room

Students are encouraged to take needed time for prayer and meditation in this serene and peaceful room. This second floor space will allow those of all faiths to come and worship. Carpeted floor allow for comfort while dimly lit and minimal decorations provide less distraction.

Amy Garno