Key Personnel: Bob Bowen and Laura Wedekemper

Capital projects are one of the visible signs that the College is growing, expanding, and changing to meet the needs of students, faculty, staff, and the residents of our district. The following is a list of projects that have been completed, and those projects that are ongoing into fiscal year 2007.

Health & Professional Careers Building
Construction of the 44,000 square foot building is well underway and is expected to be under roof later this fall. Work on the building is expected to be completed late spring 2007. After the building is finished, the remaining temporary buildings will be demolished. The programs to be located in the building include: Child Care, Cosmetology, Dental Assisting, Massage Therapy, Physical Therapy Assistant, Respiratory Therapy, and X-ray Technician.

Vandalia Campus Phase I
Groundbreaking for this project will be held on August 29th. This split-level 21,000 square foot building will include both classroom and lab spaces. Construction of the building should begin in early September and be completed in early summer of 2007.

Throughout the design phase of this building, the architect and engineers, along with the design committee, recognized the need to incorporate sustainable design, or “green” elements as the building was being developed. A “green building” is one that uses the latest technology that is more environmentally conscious and improves efficiencies through HVAC systems, window treatments, landscaping, flooring, lighting, and physical placement of the building.

As a result of this planning, the project has been registered with the United States Green Building Council. We are seeking certification to become a LEED Building, which stands for “Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design”. Our facility is on track to be one of the first buildings in the State of Illinois to achieve this recognition.

Sports & Wellness Complex
The College is dedicated to ensuring the citizens of our district a collegiate presentation of its buildings and grounds as well as providing outstanding athletic and intramural programs. One of the College’s major initiatives is to provide a wellness program for all students, staff, faculty, and the community. The sports and wellness complex will provide the first stages towards those programs.
Additional instructional programs that will benefit from these plans include physical education classes for both credit and non-credit. These facilities will provide recruitment opportunities through camps for children and teens, through building stronger relationships with athletic programs offered through public and private education and communities, and through providing a training facility for other groups.

Phase I of the complex will be completed this fall. This includes the construction of the restrooms and concession building, baseball field modifications, construction of a softball field north of the baseball field, and the construction of a commons area to include a service drive and pedestrian sidewalks.

Other future phases of the complex include construction of locker/dressing room facilities, conference room, office space, and a multi-purpose room that will contain a storage area and batting cages. Additional outdoor improvements include additional parking at the south end of the west parking lot, basketball goals, field lighting, putting green, tennis courts, soccer field and a walking track.

Last November the College experienced severe wind damage that uprooted several trees and caused damage to the greenhouse. Probably the most visible sign of damage was at our baseball field. The roof on the first base dugout was blown onto the field and the concrete block was damaged. The damage to the dugout on the third base side was more severe, with the dugout structure actually “imploding”. Although the bricking of the dugouts was part of phase I, the total rebuilding was something that the College was not expecting. As of this date, the dugouts have been rebuilt, along with brick being installed on the outside.

When complete, the Sports and Wellness Complex will make a positive and professional reflection showing that Kaskaskia College is an institution of higher learning that cares about quality facilities as it serves its students and the residents of our district.

Signature Sign
The College has made great strides in enhancing the aesthetics of its picturesque Campus. Included in these improvements is the installation of a signature entry sign along the Shattuc Road. This sign is collegiate, striking and eye catching, and marks the area defined in the Master Plan as the future boulevard entrance from the Shattuc Road.

Lifelong Learning Center Phase I
Kaskaskia College promotes lifelong learning and is committed to providing educational opportunities and training to all residents of our district. Construction of this building will allow the College to provide a safe and efficient educational and learning space for students and the general public. The project will provide secure and efficient facilities for non-credit Continuing/Community Education, Art Studio/Gallery, Foreign Language and Cultural Arts, Business and Industry Training Programs, and provide the constituents of District #501 with a conference room that will accommodate as many as 300 people. This project will move the College forward in meeting the instructional and continuing education needs of the district residents and businesses.
The 15,000 square foot one story building will be constructed on the main campus between the Health & Professional Careers Building and the Health & Business Building. Design for the building is in process and construction of the building should begin next summer after the remaining temporary buildings are demolished.

One Stop Center
Kaskaskia College has purchased a 12,000 square foot building located at 325 South Poplar in Centralia. This building was formerly known as the “CVS” building and is situated directly across from the Centralia Post Office.

The One-Stop concept was initiated in the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) several years ago for the purpose of consolidating several public agencies in one location for cost savings and more efficient services for the public. Kaskaskia College has been asked to take a lead role in developing a one-stop facility in downtown Centralia.

Approval from the Illinois Community College Board has been gained and plans for the renovation have been established and demolition/construction documents are being created.

This project will provide space in downtown Centralia for the Kaskaskia College Business Incubator, the One-Stop Center and Adult Education classes. By having these three programs located together, support services and training can better meet the needs of clients and students.

Renovations should be completed by March of 2007.

Campus Infrastructure
Our Main campus has buildings (other than the “temporary” buildings) that were constructed in the early 1970’s through the mid 1980’s. As a result, the infrastructure of the buildings is aging. Due to the vigilance and expertise of our maintenance staff, we have in most cases exceeded the useful life of our infrastructure equipment. Several systems are in need of replacement due to age and/or the inability to locate replacement parts.

Last winter, the College replaced 39 unit ventilators in the Library Building and the Science and Technology Building. Plans are to continue replacing the units throughout campus. Approved Protection, Health, and Safety Projects that are being moved forward include lighting and ceiling replacement in the gym locker/dressing areas, replacement of the gymnasium building air handlers, emergency lighting improvements (Campus wide), replacement of the restroom exhaust fans, replacement of zone pumps, heating system improvements, and the installation of an emergency generator in the Gymnasium Building.

Campus wide interior signage is being designed and will be patterned after the signage used in the Health & Professional Careers building.
Property Improvements
Plans are being developed to provide renovations to the restrooms. Designs are being finalized and the renovation of the restrooms across from the bookstore should begin later this fall. The classrooms on the second floor of the Health & Business Building have been painted and the carpet has been replaced. Floors have been cleaned and waxed throughout Campus.

Outdoors, several trees that were damaged in the storm last fall have been removed and replaced. The arboretum has been re-established and several trees have been added over the past year.

As is always the case, the Physical Plant staff has done a great job keeping our Campus groomed and maintained both inside and out.