



Facility Services Project Update February 3, 2023

Block Hall Renovation Project Status Update

- Dowling Architects has completed the first round of schematic floor plan designs reflecting the new layout as defined by the Block Hall Renovation Faculty Committee.
- The layout includes repurposing the basement level from what is currently storage, into academic space.
- The layout also includes a new elevator on the north end of the building. Development and review of schematic design will continue for several more iterations before moving into detail engineering.

Wellness Center Project Status Update

- [BSpark Architecture](#) out of Great Falls has been appointed as the design firm.
- Their principal owner, Sophia Sparklin, was on campus last week to video and map out the existing BARC building and the location of the proposed new build.
- Sophia's team will meet with the UMW Student Senate and other stakeholders this week to continue the schematic design work for the project.

Main Hall Exterior Door Card Swipe System Installation

- Work continues to progress on the Main Hall card swipe access installation project.
 - Main Hall has a total of 18 exterior doors, 9 of which will have card access systems installed to allow entry from the exterior of the building for individuals with authorized Bulldog Card access outside of regular business hours.
 - The other 9 doors are called "monitor" doors and there is no card reader installed and no exterior access is allowed at any time. They still function as exit doors. As monitor doors, the door position is electronically monitored and will alarm if opened or propped open for an extended period of time.
- Hardware installation has been completed on all but two doors and programming of the system is expected to be completed over the next week. It is anticipated that the system will be able to go live within the next 1-2 weeks.
 - Doors will be programmed to remain unlocked during regular business hours.
 - After-hours access will be granted to individuals who require access for academic purposes or to conduct university business.
 - Doors will be programmed to be unlocked for community events that are held in Main Hall outside of regular business hours.
- This project was mandated and funded by OCHE in 2021.
 - Main Hall is the last state building on campus to implement electronic access.
 - This is a major milestone for Montana Western as it is the only affiliate campus to have completed exterior card swipe access system installation on all high-traffic campus buildings at this time.
 - Managing and controlling exterior access is a significant component in improving overall safety and security of our campus.

Heating Plant Upgrade Project

- UMW Facility Services is excited to report the new boiler #2 is now operational and has been meeting campus steam demand for nearly two weeks.
- There are now three natural gas fired boilers in the campus heating plant:
 - #1 installed in 1998 rated at 500 hp;
 - #2 (replacement for the old biomass boiler) installed in 2022-23 rated at 250 hp;
 - and #3 installed in 2018 rated at 175 hp.
- Also installed as part of this project is a new deaerator and surge tank, make-up air unit, and controls system.
- There remains some building envelope and clean-up work that will be taking place over the next 1-2 months as weather allows.
- The last component of this project is the installation of a new back-up generator.
 - The new generator set is rated at 8000 KW and will provide back-up power to critical needs on campus in the event of a power outage.
 - Installation of the new generator will take place after the spring semester, as it will require a total campus power outage for about 8 hours. More information will be provided as the time approaches.

Future updates from Facility Services will continue to be provided.

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