Dear Friends of University of Detroit Mercy,

The sound of construction equipment and heavy machinery fills the air just below my office window as crews work on the major extension to the University’s Student Union. It is wonderful to hear because it signifies exciting changes to the McNichols Campus.

This Student Union expansion and renovation will change the appearance of the McNichols Campus and is the first in a series of projects designed to bring University facilities up to the level of Detroit Mercy programming.

For years, the University has sought ways to address the challenge of adapting older facilities to the new technologies and methods of teaching that are relevant to today’s students. This bold, comprehensive approach will yield labs and classrooms that will inspire prospective students and support faculty creativity.

These projects have been designed intentionally and will be much more than attractive new spaces after they are completed. They will be hubs for learning and centers of forward-thinking programming that will be delivered in innovative ways.

I hope that after reading about these projects you will be inspired to receive more information about them and others that are planned by contacting our team members listed on each page. We would love to discuss our plans with you in detail and how you can help make them a reality. Your assistance will impact the students we serve today and into the future.

Thank you for your dedication.

Arnold D’Ambrosio ’17
Vice President for University Advancement

P.S.: You can share the excitement by watching construction in real time at udmercy.edu/renovation.
The facility will be student-centered, providing all resources prospective and current students need to learn about Detroit Mercy—from a modern Admissions suite to the Office of Financial Aid and Student Life offices. Additionally, a coffee shop and game area, administrative offices, a conference center, an updated bookstore, University Ministry and the office of the president will be located here and accessible to all members of the Titan community. It will truly become the center of the campus. Though construction has begun, funds are still being raised and several naming opportunities throughout the complex are available.

CONTACT
Arnold D’Ambrosio
Vice President for University Advancement
313-993-1025 • dambroaa1@udmercy.edu
The mission of the College of Health Professions & McAuley School of Nursing is to graduate the next generation of health professionals who will lead the charge to transform individual and community health systems. The Simulation, Technology and Research Center (STAR), along with our collaborative Hub, will provide opportunities for interprofessional and community collaborations, enhanced programming and the application of innovative technology in a flexible environment.

The overall project consists of converting space in the College of Health Professions facility into the STAR Center, a large, flexible space that can be used across the healthcare curricula. Reimagining our learning space to infuse collaboration across the board will drive a healthcare education movement that benefits the students, patients and the communities we serve. The STAR Center will be the nucleus that connects the McNichols Campus, with our Detroit Mercy campuses at Aquinas-Grand Rapids and Novi.

The impact will be felt across southeast Michigan as partnerships with health systems and community groups are forged that lead to better healthcare outcomes.

**CONTACT**

**Kristine Hoover,** Director of Development
College of Health Professions & McAuley School of Nursing
313-993-1669 • hooverka@udmercy.edu
The College of Liberal Arts & Education has set an ambitious goal to become a leader in Communication Studies with a state-of-the-art facility supporting a dynamic new curriculum.

The vision for reinvigorating the Communication Studies program begins by uniting the separate sections into one vibrant Center on the garden level of the Briggs Building. This hub will provide new and emerging technology for the communication studies lab, video lab and audio lab, where students will learn essential media skills on equipment being used in the field.

The Neal Shine Center, home to the 102-year-old Varsity News, will be updated and located in an area more central to the work of the department. Because studying communications is a requirement in the University’s core curriculum, nearly every student who matriculates through Detroit Mercy will be impacted by the improvement.

CONTACT

Jillian Tupper, Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts & Education
313-993-1429 • tupperjs@udmercy.edu
The College of Engineering & Science will transform the Civil, Environmental & Architectural Engineering area of the High Bay into an open, flexible area, activating the space for interdisciplinary opportunities relating to sustainability and smart infrastructure.

This center will serve as an inspirational hub, creating a community of collaboration, engagement and communication among departments, faculty, staff and students from across the University and outside of it, opening the doors to interdisciplinary learning. These renovations will leverage the College’s historic strength in experiential learning by facilitating innovative research and projects. The updated facilities and equipment will allow the College to expand these opportunities by attracting additional industry and community projects.

Providing students with opportunities to translate classroom learning to hands-on application in the laboratory enhances understanding of environmental challenges and opportunities for exploring innovative sustainability and smart infrastructure solutions. Students will use current and emerging technologies to investigate things like the composition of microbial communities, conduct water and air testing, analyze the effects of air pollution, model groundwater contamination and develop materials for Green Building applications. They will also study the effective use of drones, sensors, and data analytics to advance infrastructure technology.
The Collaboratory & Maker Space

The Engineering Annex building is set to become the home to the College of Engineering & Science’s Collaboratory & Maker Space, a place where experiential hands-on learning opportunities are used to design, prototype, build and test for competitions like the Shell Eco-Marathon, Intelligent Ground Vehicle, the Formula Hybrid and SAE Baja competitions. These opportunities augment classroom experiences with additional opportunities to develop interdisciplinary problem-solving skills directly translatable to the world of work.

The sense of community will be greatly enhanced by repurposing and upgrading the mezzanine area into a space where students can meet to study, collaborate, exhibit and present projects as well as opening the two-story space for events and recruiting.

Plans for this high-impact space demonstrate that the University continues to be at the forefront of teaching and learning innovations. The curriculum is driven by what industry needs today and is expected to need tomorrow.

Coming soon

Major renovations of the Chemistry and Ford Life Sciences buildings are being developed to update labs, classrooms and integrate a more hands-on curriculum that is more relevant to today’s students and tomorrow’s employers.

CONTACT

Mike Berryman, Director of Development
College of Engineering & Science
313-993-3360 • berrymmj@udmercy.edu