

SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

June 22, 2016

Dear Members of the Sarah Lawrence Community,

I am pleased to report that we have made progress toward the realization of the Barbara Walters Campus Center, a transformative project that is the result of a visionary lead gift from alumna Barbara Walters. This exciting project is the first new building for the College in over 10 years and it will be funded by \$35 million of private gifts.

As part of our progress, the College has selected KSS Architects (kssarchitects.com) as the principal architectural firm. KSS Architects is a nationally recognized architecture firm working with leaders in the fields of education, commerce, and community. In their designs, KSS prides itself on taking a holistic approach to planning and design, one that reflects the context and values of each institution.

KSS was selected as the result of an intensive selection process that first considered the qualifications of 19 firms, followed by screening interviews of 8 of these firms and ultimately a series of detailed presentations by the four deemed most qualified to undertake this important initiative. The review committee was comprised of 23 members of the Sarah Lawrence community including faculty, staff, and students, as well as trustees. I want to thank this group for their time and commitment. The input from their deliberations was invaluable in helping us make the selection of our architectural partner.

This new building will support multi-purpose spaces, dining, meeting rooms, and informal community space, while also becoming the permanent home of the Barbara Walters Archives. Shortly, KSS will begin preliminary planning with the help of a series of focus groups. We expect to accelerate the planning efforts after classes resume this fall with the goal of incorporating broad community input.

I look forward to working with KSS and having their team fully engage the College community in the months to come as we ensure multiple opportunities for participation by all in this historic project for our campus. As always, I welcome your thoughts on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Steve

Stephen Schafer
Vice President of Finance and Operations
Sarah Lawrence College