

SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

May 5, 2017

Dear Sarah Lawrence Community,

It was nearly a year ago that we announced the kick-off of the formal design of the Barbara Walters Campus Center with the hiring of the firm KSS to serve as our project architect.

Over the last year as part of the initial design phase, KSS, in conjunction with our project Steering Group, has sought continual input from the community through formal meetings with focus and working groups, as well as open forums with faculty, staff, and students. Through this process, we have seen the early concepts come to life and be refined in ever more detailed floor plans and renderings of the campus center. While wall finishes, colors and furniture choices will be discussed over the next year or so, we are working to finalize the basic design of the building that currently includes:

- Features that encourage and foster informal gatherings for faculty, students, and staff, both inside and outside of the campus center, such as a balcony overlooking the main atrium, outdoor patios, interior ledges, and a large flexible space on the first floor that we have been referring to as the “living room.”
- A flexible, divisible multi-purpose space for social and academic activities, including student dances, faculty and guest lectures, meetings, and other large-scale community events, such as student recruitment, orientation, and reunion events.
- A dedicated collaborative work space for student organizations, to be relocated from Bates.
- A dining area featuring outdoor seating and enhanced kitchen and serving capabilities that will relocate the current functions of the Pub.
- The Barbara Walters Gallery for exhibitions of fine art.
- The Barbara Walters Archives and Reading Room, that will include information kiosks to access and research the Barbara Walters archives.
- Sustainable features that include a green roof over a portion of the first floor, LED lighting, an efficient orientation of the building to manage solar heat gain while maximizing natural daylight, and a highly insulated exterior wall to minimize heat or cooling loss.

As in the early stages of the process, your input and suggestions remain crucial as we move into the final stages of the building’s design. At this time, I invite you to attend an Information Session on Wednesday, May 10th, 2017 from 1:00 to 2:00 in the Miller Lecture Hall to discuss the progress that has been made. Representatives from KSS will be available to answer questions and receive additional input for consideration in the final design plans. In addition, KSS will be showing a short 3D simulated fly-through video of the building that will help to visualize the current design of the spaces both within and around the campus center.

If you are not able to make the information session on May 10th, we will be posting the materials from this session, including the 3D fly-through of the building to the project website at

https://my.sl.c.edu/ICS/Campus_Life/community/Barbara_Walters_Campus_Center and always welcome your thoughts and feedback.

Thank You,

Steve

Stephen Schafer
Vice President of Finance and Operations
Sarah Lawrence College