

A NEW LANDSCAPE FOR LEARNING: PROGRESS REPORT

IT WAS A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR AGO that the University's Board of Trustees and President Luis M. Proenza announced plans for a comprehensive transformation of the Akron campus. Since that time, UA's "New Landscape for Learning" has begun to take shape — most visibly with the demolition of Simmons Hall — to prepare room for the new Student Union and the ongoing construction of the Polymer Engineering Annex north of E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall.

Many other significant projects are also under way — although they might not be obvious to most visitors of the University. These include the rehabilitation of the Auburn Science and Engineering Center, renovations to the Knight Chemistry Lab and Spanton Hall, and ongoing work on the Polsky, Exchange Street and E.J. Thomas parking decks.

The construction of a parking deck with approximately 1,100 spaces is under way. It will be located on the corner of Buchtel and Spicer on the east side of campus. Unlike most parking structures, the

deck will be designed with the new aesthetics of the campus in mind, utilizing the red and yellow brick of Buchtel Hall, the stone colors of other academic buildings and the glass of the Goodyear Polymer Center.

"It certainly isn't your typical parking deck," says Ted Curtis, senior vice president for capital planning and facilities management. "It makes an architectural statement of its own and will add to the beauty of the new campus."

Construction on the deck is expected to be completed in fall 2001.

Renovations to Titchie Residence Hall also is underway and renovation of the Student Administration Services Building (the former Goodyear Building) will begin shortly.

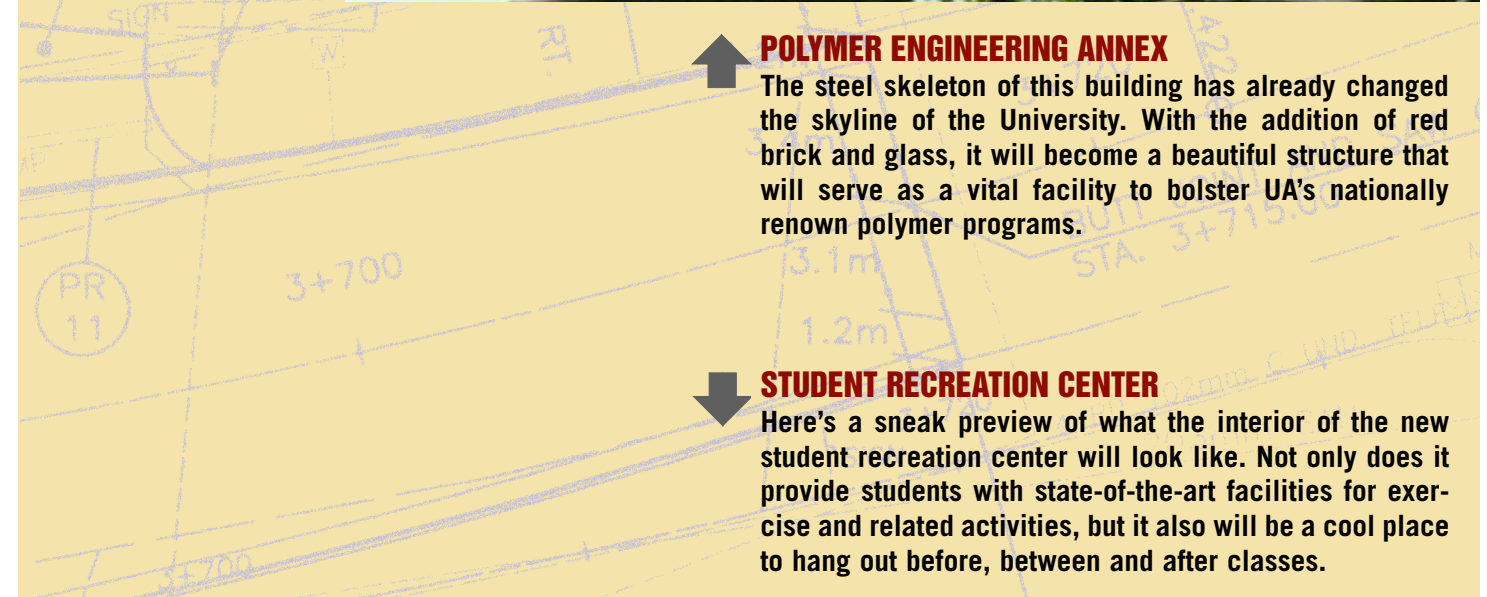
Soon after, other major new buildings — currently in their final design stages — will be erected on the Akron campus. Among these highly anticipated projects are the new Arts and Sciences Building, phase one of the Student Union and the Student Recreation Center. All should be in progress next year.



STUDENT UNION
A new architectural rendering shows exactly how the Student Union will fit in with other University buildings, as well as how it will help shape a new flow for foot traffic and create new gathering areas.



POLYMER ENGINEERING ANNEX
The steel skeleton of this building has already changed the skyline of the University. With the addition of red brick and glass, it will become a beautiful structure that will serve as a vital facility to bolster UA's nationally renowned polymer programs.



STUDENT RECREATION CENTER
Here's a sneak preview of what the interior of the new student recreation center will look like. Not only does it provide students with state-of-the-art facilities for exercise and related activities, but it also will be a cool place to hang out before, between and after classes.

