

July 16, 2015

To all:

Please be aware that some changes are coming to campus next week regarding the Lecture Hall construction project. Construction activities will start out slowly on Monday and Tuesday, but will become more apparent as the week proceeds. Below is a brief list of activities that our contractor plans to start on Monday:

START UP SCHEDULE

MOBILIZATION	10 days	Mon 7/20/15	Fri 7/31/15
ESTABLISH CONSTRUCTION LIMITS	2 days	Mon 7/20/15	Tue 7/21/15
Temporary fence with vision blocker	5 days	Thu 7/23/15	Wed 7/29/15
Set hardscape protection for deliveries	5 days	Mon 7/20/15	Fri 7/24/15
set up construction parking area	2 days	Mon 7/27/15	Tue 7/28/15
Set up Absher site office	10 days	Mon 7/20/15	Fri 7/31/15
Establish/install site office communications	5 days	Mon 7/27/15	Fri 7/31/15
Establish laydown area limits	2 days	Thu 7/23/15	Fri 7/24/15

July 31, 2015

Okay, it has been hot. Some say scorching, sweltering, sizzling, stifling, scalding, and sultry. And I'm not just referring to those giant orange steel plates! Anyway, it is probably a good thing our construction fencing is showing up later than anticipated; doing hard laborious work in this heat is not conducive to high productivity. Do expect to see the installation of construction fencing starting next Wednesday, August 5th. The construction zone around the Lecture Hall will be fenced off and then a portion of the B-lot (B-11) will be fenced off for contractor parking. It will be a lot of fencing, so it will take two to three days for the installation. Not much else is planned for work on the Lecture Hall next week, but that might change.

Have a fabulous weekend!

Tim

August 6, 2015

To all:

Now that we have construction fencing installed around the Lecture Hall our contractor has let me know that everyone who enters this fenced in area must be equipped with protective gear. Protective gear entails a hardhat,

high visibility safety vest, eye protection, and gloves. All people who enter this area should also undergo a safety awareness training that Absher will be giving to all of their workers.

Thanks,
Tim

August 7, 2015

Okay, so we have our construction fencing installed and it didn't take long for the wind to knock part of it down. Luckily nobody got hurt when that happened; that would not have been a good way to start a project. I asked our contractor to do a much better job at making sure the fencing is secure so that a gust of wind won't cause that to happen again.

So, now that our fence is up I would like to ask everyone to please keep out of the fenced in "construction zone". Only construction staff and approved people may enter this construction area; and you must be sporting the latest fashion trend...hard hat, highly visible vest, safety glasses, gloves, and appropriate footwear, also known as PPE (Personal Protective Equipment).

I'll be working on getting some signs installed that will aid people with appropriate ADA routes and best ways to get to different buildings on campus. This is a large construction zone right in the middle of normal campus circulation, so I figure some temporary signage is due. These signs will be installed ASAP.

I have required that our contractor install an accessible ramp near the steps that lay just northeast of Lab II. The contractor thought they could save us some money by not creating an accessible pathway in this area, but we really need one at this location. This temporary ramp will be in place for the duration of construction and will also be installed ASAP.

Next week's activity will most likely just be the start of asbestos abatement. Don't worry, we have highly experienced professionals that will be doing this portion of work. We also have an Environmental Health and Safety consultant working for TESC to ensure this abatement work is performed and disposed of per State and Federal requirements.

I hope you are enjoying the sun and much more tolerable temperatures.

Cheers!
Tim

August 14, 2015

It seems hard to believe that I'm glad to see it raining in an often rainy Olympia vicinity. I'm usually dreading the rain and gray clouds, but it is a welcome sight today, especially being that I'm at work. Well the lightening has me charged up and ready to write this version of the construction digest.

Our construction team has started to do "soft demo" work this week. Real serious demolition work will start next week. When you hear how much noise they will be making you will then understand why this week's work is referred to as "soft demo". I've worked on similar remodel / demolition projects on structures constructed of concrete. Because of this experience I can tell you there will be a lot of saw cutting of the concrete structure and those big diamond saws make a tremendous amount of noise. But try not to complain, it will be the sound of progress.

Abatement preparation work began this week, but the removal work won't really start to take place until next week.

Excavation equipment should also start arriving next week and they will start pushing dirt around in preparation for the addition to the Lecture Hall. When the equipment arrives you will understand the reason for installing the giant orange steel plates; a.k.a.: the orange elevated walkway.

Directional signs to help people navigate around the construction fencing will be installed next week.

Have a wonderful weekend!
Tim

August 21, 2015

I can't believe another week has gone by already. And some of the work I wrote about last week did not take part as planned. I was told we would be pushing dirt around by now, but our clever contractor figured they should wait until we have a supplier on board for the concrete placement before excavating for the Lecture Hall addition. We are still on schedule, just the approach has changed slightly.

This past week we removed existing, yet fairly new, fixed seating from the Lecture Hall and put them in storage for future re-installation. Wood slats from the walls in the Lecture Hall have been removed for repurposing. The abatement subcontractor has begun setting up containment barriers (lots of

heavy clear plastic sheathing and special blue duct tape) in preparation for asbestos removal. You may have noticed they also created a big hole in one of the exterior walls to Lecture Hall 2. The ceiling in Lecture Hall 2 has asbestos material in it and needs to be abated. The attached photo will help you understand how they plan to more easily reach a ceiling in a space with a stepped floor. Pretty smart being that Lecture Hall 2 is the one piece of the Lecture Hall pie that is getting demolished anyway. They were just doing a dry run with the telescoping boom lift to verify their plans will work. A containment barrier will be erected around the lift, and doorways, before any abatement begins.

We finally acquired a quote to get a temporary accessible ramp installed alongside the steps outside Lab II. We also figured out that we could buy the ramp for a little more than it costs to lease it for a year. In doing so TESC will then have an accessible ramp system that can be easily installed in the future at very special events that take place in June in Red Square. Anyway, that ramp is scheduled to be installed on September 2nd.

I had a near collision this week in front of the Library where the construction fence takes a 90-degree turn. I was almost run over by a young adult who was walking and staring at a somewhat small rectangular object they were holding in their hand. It looked very similar to one my teenage daughter always seems to have in her hands. Anyway, this event made me realize the sight lines should be improved at this location. I had the contractor pull some of the green fence fabric screen back a bit to allow you to see people before you would otherwise meet them by accident at this corner. I hope this does not make me appear to be anti-social.

I'm told the dirt pushing and further demolition work will take place next week.

Have a great weekend!
Tim



August 28, 2015

The sound of progress has been prevalent this week at Evergreen. Lots of jackhammering and crunching of concrete took place. Demolition and removal of the roofing and roof insulation is work still in progress.

Some trees have been removed as part of this project. The larger remnants from the Pines will be milled by a local individual. I could not get much more information about what will happen with this wood after it is milled, but it sounds like it will be wisely repurposed, which seems better than it just being used as firewood. The Maple tree that we removed was cut into large pieces and transported to the Longhouse Carving Studio for future use by that program. I was told the Pine tree wood isn't really conducive for carving use, unless carving out toothpicks is your thing. Did you notice that strong pine tree smell wafting about campus Wednesday? The pile of limbs from the Maple and Pine trees are also being repurposed; they are going to a bark & landscape supply company and will become mulch for use in landscaping beds. It is great that not much was wasted with the tree removal. I'm hopeful our new landscaping will make up for the trees that had to go.

More demolition and earthwork will take place next week.

Attached is one design image of what the renovated Lecture Hall will look like from Red Square. I'm looking into getting more design images posted on the Facilities Services website.

Have a great weekend!

Tim



September 4, 2015

The jackhammering continues. As does the concrete saw cutting, roofing removal, asbestos abatement, and paver / sidewalk removal, which is all part of the Lecture Hall project. Have you noticed that it gets very quiet around here at about 3 PM?

Our temporary accessible ramp also went in, and I think Doug the mail guy is as happy as a Geoduck in mud because of the ramp. You might want to be wearing your Foster Grants if you plan to use the ramp on a sunny day, it is very shiny and does an exquisite job at reflecting sunlight.

Expect more of the same for next week, except on Monday, which is Labor Day (Labour Day if you are Canadian, aye). Enjoy it if you have Monday as a holiday; I know I will be doing so.

Have a great long weekend!
Tim

September 11, 2015

Lots of digging took place this week. In some areas of excavation we found chunks of asphalt (circa 1971) which might be remnants of the original construction access road to the college core. Not nearly as exciting as news this week regarding 10,000 year old stone tools that were discovered in Redmond. It could very well be that a Pre-Historic technology boom (creating stone tools) started at the future home of Microsoft. There is a rumor these tools were used 10,000 years ago to make signs demanding a \$15 minimum wage.

Concrete crunching has started to take place on the walls of Lecture Hall 2. The cruncher is essentially a giant hydraulically powered lobster claw attached to a big excavator; see attached photos. That is me modeling in these photos so you can see the scale of this machine. It chews through concrete walls like they are made of graham crackers. I want one!

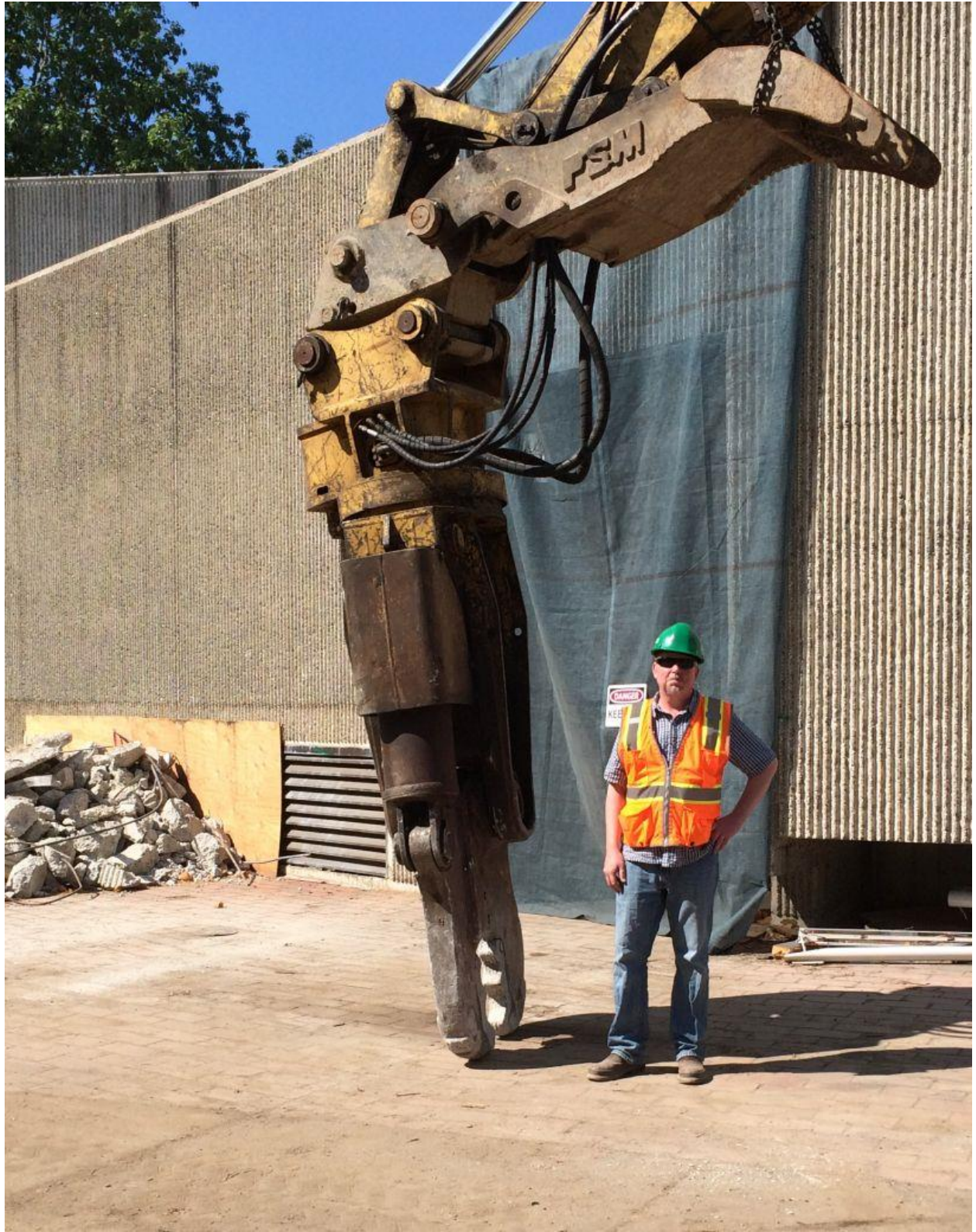
There has been some discussion about potentially using the broken up concrete in place of a gravel base under the foundation. It sounds like another good way to re-use existing building materials and avoid unnecessary trucking of materials. We should score some more LEED parts for doing so.

More crunching of concrete is due next week. We should also start to see some formwork for footings being installed as well.

Have a great weekend!

Tim





September 18, 2015

The existing Lecture Hall 2 is now almost non-existent. Concrete munching took place earlier in the week and with the main exterior wall and roof removed from Lecture Hall 2 the demolition work at the lower level of the building could be completed and the debris is swiftly removed. Demolition work inside the other lecture halls will continue next week as well as the demolition of the rotunda area.

This week's photo (see attached) was taken with the ultimate selfie stick; also known as a drone. Our demolition contractor used his techno-toy to shoot some cool motion video of the demolition as well as some still photos. Yes, he has another possession that I want.

I've heard orientation activities start taking place tomorrow. Any coincidence that tomorrow's orientation is also on "International Talk Like a Pirate Day"? Yes, the world has become so progressive that talking like a pirate has become multi-cultural.

Cheers,
Tim



September 25, 2015

Well, another weekend is almost upon us and a lot has taken place this week with the demolition work on the Lecture Hall building. Lecture Hall 2 is now a bundle of rubble. The large concrete muncher has completed its work and is leaving the site today. The attached photo shows the current state of the project as of just before 11 AM this morning. In the foreground you can see the smaller blue metal containers in which the concrete debris sits waiting to be removed and recycled. To the middle right are larger metal containers, one of which contains metal debris that will be recycled, another contains debris that is not recyclable, and yet another smaller one is filled with concrete chunks. Towards the lower left is the large munching attachment being removed from the big excavator. Just beyond the excavator is what used to be the rest rooms for the Lecture Hall. To the right of that area is what used to be Lecture Hall 2.

About three to four of the metal containers full of concrete debris have been removed from site every day this past week. These containers are smaller than the others because concrete weighs a lot more than most other construction debris. I saw one of the trucks lifting one of these concrete filled containers in place yesterday and at one point it looked like the truck's front wheels were going to come off the ground. I get the feeling they really engineered these trucks and containers to take the maximum load of concrete without flipping the truck. From what I've been told the recycled concrete will go to a local quarry and get crushed and eventually it will most likely be used as either a base material for roadways or a base for building footings. The scrap metal gets re-purposed in various ways. Most of the metal will go to a foundry, it will get melted down and it could end up as steel beams, metal handrails, or perhaps giant metal steel plates (preferably orange) for a future Evergreen construction project.

This week's excitement on the job site was that we had a drone crash. It turns out the demolition contractor's son (who is a grown man, not some kid) crashed it into a pine tree just inside the construction fence line. I witnessed it happen and I had great empathy for him after I suddenly had flashbacks of me getting in trouble when I was a little cherub. The amazing thing is it hit a branch on the tree about 60-feet above the ground, tumbled down to the ground, eventually hitting one of our lovely orange metal plates, and yet it did not have any damage at all, the drone that is. It was up and flying again this morning in the rain! So it turns out he's lucky being he didn't have to run to Dad with a broken toy, and also being that nobody was hit by the drone as it fell to the ground.

One more item of interest. Recently seen and overheard at Red Square was somebody watching the construction activity on the Lecture Hall while shaking their head and saying "There is no way they are going to be ready for the first day of classes." You are correct! But we should be next year.

The weather is supposed to be great this weekend. Enjoy it while you still can.

Cheers!

Tim



October 2, 2015

Sigh, another busy week is almost over.

Seeing the campus filled with so many people with so much enthusiasm this week was certainly invigorating for me. We surely have a diverse student body. The gathering and promoting of Evergreen's assorted bunch of student groups and clubs at Red Square was certainly entertaining. I had no idea there could be so many of those at a school of this size. I would be more apt to join the Anti-Social Club or a Motorcycle Enthusiasts Group if they existed. But realistically the Way of Tea is much more my speed and style.

This week's highlight for me was the Clam Bake. I love seafood, and I'm really glad there wasn't a Clam Liberation group devoted to stopping the Clam Bake from happening. You may have noticed there was not any construction noise after the Clam Bake started. I was given notice about plans for the Clam Bake back in August. So, with a bit of planning and coordination our contractor was able to make the Clam Bake free of construction noise. It turns out the only subcontractor work going on this week was regarding the demolition work. The demolition contractor has a regular monthly safety meeting that takes all afternoon at their office. They originally had it scheduled for today, but they moved it up to Thursday in order to coincide with the Clam Bake. Thanks to Absher Construction and Ascendent Demolition Services for working with us on allowing the Clam Bake to go on undisturbed!

Not much else to report this week. Demolition will continue through next week, so you can expect to hear more jackhammering.

Cheers!
Tim

October 9, 2015

I don't know about you, but it has been kind of a ho-hum week. Maybe it's the weather? Maybe because it is so dark in the morning when I leave for work. Or maybe it's the seemingly incessant jackhammering at the Lecture Hall?

Things are shaking all over in the Lab II that is for sure. I received a complaint about the jackhammering noise from somebody (not to be identified) in Lab I, so I know it is impacting a number of people. It is what it is at this point. My office is also right outside the Lecture Hall work area, so I have empathy for you being temporary victims of this loud work. There is a lot of concrete to be removed, so we will have about another week or two of the jackhammer noise. If this noise is really impacting your focus and work in your office please let me know. There might be another location we could put your office temporarily. This might be possible for a few people, not for everyone on campus. So don't you all start lining up at my office door!

We should start seeing actual construction work taking place next week. Formwork and concrete reinforcement for building footings and foundations will start being installed around Wednesday.

I haven't had any great construction photos for you in the past few weeks. But if you need a bit of photog image stimulation, and are looking to momentarily escape spaceship earth - the NASA image of the day can be found here: <http://www.nasa.gov/image-feature/morning-aurora-from-the-space-station> What a view to take in while getting ready for the day. If you look really, really close, and you have good eyes, you can see the Evergreen Clock Tower in the lower right corner.

It looks to be a soggy Saturday. Stay warm and dry.

Cheers!
Tim

October 16, 2015

We have reached a significant milestone with the Lecture Hall project. Instead of just demolition and excavation work taking place this project has reached a point in which we'll be pouring "mud" today. Mud is contractor language for concrete. Yes, some formwork and steel reinforcement (aka: rebar) have been set in place and new concrete footings will start being poured this morning! Some demolition work will continue, but that kind of work will mostly taper off for the next month or two. More formwork, rebar installation and mud pouring will also take place next week. I love that we are now going to be constructing instead of just deconstructing!

I had the pleasure of meeting Robert (Bob) Haft this week. For those of you who don't know Bob, he teaches photography and art history here at Evergreen. Anyway, Bob reached out and asked me if he could take some photographs inside the construction area. I would usually say no being I can't just let everyone who asks onto the jobsite. Surprisingly our General Contractor said it would be okay in this one instance if I escorted him around, and if it took place during a time period in which no - to minimal work was going on. Well, I learned that Bob really has a good eye for this art form, and get this, he uses real film! Who does that anymore! Bob does! He even uses black and white film, which can result in marvelous photo images with exceptional contrast. He printed some of the photographs he took on Monday and provided me with a few of them; I'll soon have all of these posted on the Facilities website. My favorite print is attached. Yes, that is me modeling again. I really had no idea that my working at TESC would be beneficial to my modeling portfolio. I believe this may be another good one for the Evergreen archives. I'm sure someday it will be worth millions, just

like the photograph of Billy the Kid and his gang playing Croquet. If you have not heard about it, the Billy the Kid photograph was in the news this week as to being authenticated and valued at \$5 million; it was purchased for only \$2. Here's a news link about it:

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2015/10/15/448993361/-2-photo-found-at-junk-store-has-billy-the-kid-in-it-could-be-worth-5-million>

I'm going to give this print from Bob to my daughter so she will be financially set 30-years from now. She has no idea how lucky she is.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Tim







October 23, 2015

I was about to start this message stating there is not a whole lot of excitement to express on the Lecture Hall project this week. But then I got out of my office and that all changed. The Lecture Hall construction site is about twenty steps away from my desk, and there were all sorts of things to see this morning, so my perception quickly refocused. Concrete saw cutting, jack-hammering, and mud pouring galore were all taking place at the same time.

The dueling concrete diamond blade saws are back. Those things make so much noise it is hard to believe somebody can put up doing that type of work for five days a week. Refer to the attached photo named "saw cutting". The saw cutter has a rail that is secured to the building to hold his saw and which also guides him in making a straight cut. A blast of water is used to keep the blade from overheating and dually keeps concrete dust out of the air, but he gets blasted with this slurry of concrete residue and the noise is awful. I certainly couldn't put up with it, and I get the feeling you would have to be somewhat crazy to do so.

Mentioning the word crazy brings up something I read in the news this week: "Texas is so nuts [it's become synonymous with "crazy"](#) in Norway, according to a Tumblr thread discussing use of the word first reported on by Texas Monthly."

"The publication compiled multiple instances of Norwegian speakers using the word online, including a police chief describing a situation concerning [reckless foreign truck drivers](#) as, roughly translated, "absolutely Texas" and a story about a [fisherman's uncommon swordfish sighting](#) being, also roughly translated, "totally Texas."" I ran across this information on the Huffington Post Weird News section. I'm not making fun of Texas, yet it sure would be simple to do so. But I find it interesting that a periodical regarding Texas seems to be embracing the "crazy" aspect. I don't think any respectable publication in Washington State would embrace the "crazy", weird maybe, but not crazy.

Anyway, also attached are a few photos of today's mud pour. One worker guides the concrete chute, one uses a large vibrator tool to help get any air bubbles out of the concrete while also helping it spread out in the formwork,

two other workers come behind and trowel the concrete to the height of the formwork. Great teamwork in action. More of the same for next week's work.

Enjoy the weekend!

Cheers,
Tim





October 30, 2015

As I sit here eating my Trader Joe's Non-Fat Pomegranate Greek Yogurt I wonder what is a "Grade A Blend" as it is noted on the container? How many grades are there? What do they pertain to? Why even have grades? Evergreen doesn't use any, right?

It is looking to be very wet today, but there is still plenty of fall color outside. I dread the thought of winter being around the corner. It just gets so gloomy and cold.

Anyway, yesterday was an exciting day on the other side of the green fabric covered fencing, also known as the Lecture Hall Renovation project. Some of you may recall the majority of the Lecture Hall exterior walls did not connect with the adjacent grade; see attached photo "1 a before shot". Since we need to change the floor level to make the building fully accessible, new walls need to extend, infill and connect to the existing walls that are to remain. So the current part of this project is to install those walls, and they are also going to be constructed of concrete.

Some formwork and steel reinforcement were installed as I mentioned last week. Our contractor decided the best method to install these new walls was with the use of "Self Consolidating Concrete". This type of concrete is highly flowable and in this case it is being pressure pumped. The beauty of this approach is you get to fill the formwork without the use of "any mechanical consolidation". Typically the mechanical consolidation part is accomplished with the use of mechanical vibrators. Vibrators could not be used in this installation being we are forming up to an existing wall above and the forms are fully enclosed. This is not your typical construction project, and I've never had the experience to work on a project using this method of concrete placement. I got pretty jazzed when I saw the concrete pumper pull up yesterday.

I took a number of photos which I've attached to this message so that I can explain the process. Did I mention this is pretty cool? Well now, the second picture is of the concrete pumper truck. The third picture shows the concrete truck starting to drop the mix into the hopper of the concrete pumper. In the fourth picture the hose is extending from the pumper arm as the pumper is primed with the concrete mix. Note the fellow with the orange hard hat in this photo, he has a little controller box hanging from his waist. This fellow is controlling the pumper remotely with all sorts of buttons and joy-sticks on the control box, again this is pretty cool! In the fifth picture the pumper arm is extended to the first wall form. In the sixth picture you can see the hose descending to the workers below. The seventh picture shows the fitting

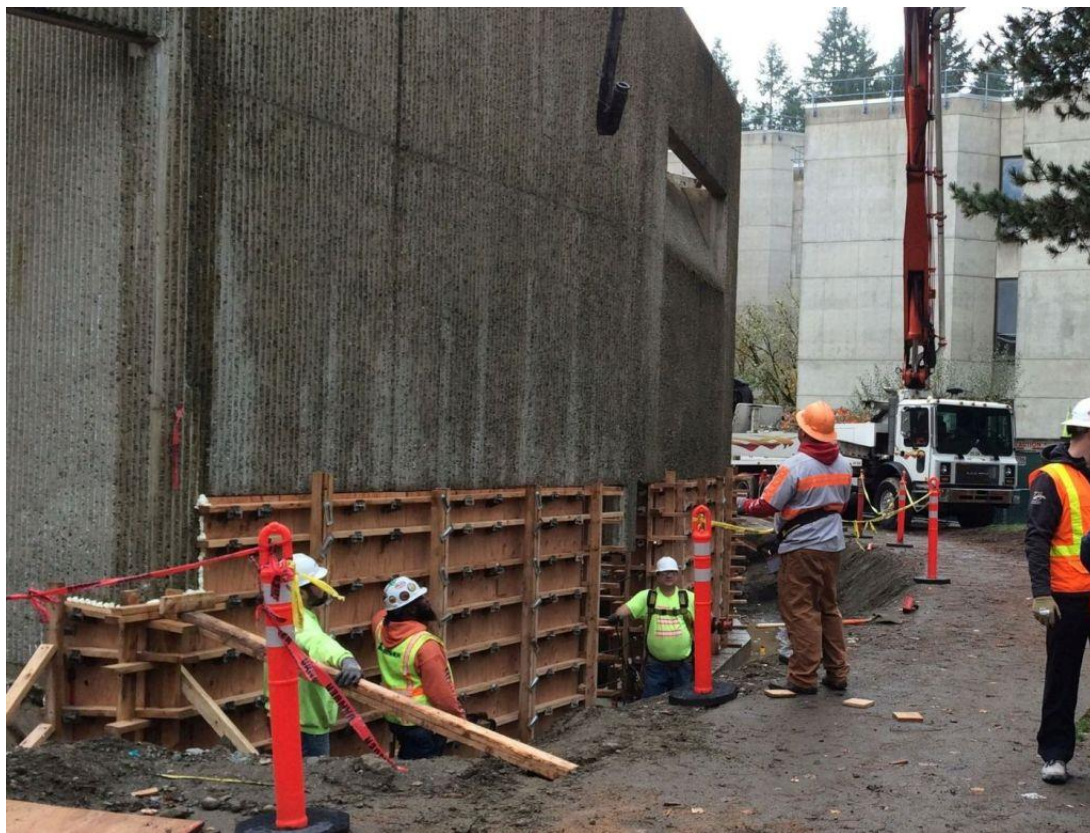
installed earlier on this formwork in which the hose will be connected and concrete pumped into the wall form. The fitting is located low so the objective impression left in the concrete will be below grade once the wall is back-filled. On the eighth picture they are connecting the hose to the wall fitting. In the ninth picture they are pressure pumping the wall with the concrete. The workers tap the wall periodically to see how high the concrete is rising. In the tenth picture you can see concrete oozing from the top of the formwork which means that formed wall is filled and time close the wall fitting and to move on to the next wall. In the eleventh picture the hose has been moved into the drum of the concrete truck so they can empty the unused concrete that is left in the pumper truck. The unused concrete is typically returned to the concrete plant and poured into molds which become what are called "Eco Blocks". An example of such is the last picture. You may have seen these around being used as vehicular barriers, or perhaps stacked and used as retaining walls. Not much goes to waste with a concrete pour!

More formwork and concrete pouring next week. I've been told that next week will be void of any concrete saw cutting and jack hammering!

Have a great wet windy weekend!
Tim













November 6, 2015

I've learned a lot about TESC this morning in a very short span of time. One thing I learned is where the old construction photos of our campus have been hiding. Another thing I learned is our contractor on the Lecture Hall Renovation (Absher) was also the contractor who built the College Activities Building back in early 70's. I think that is pretty cool. In viewing the photographs of the original construction on the Lecture Hall building I learned the construction firm that built it (CE & C, Inc.) also did a remodel to the Library building in 2009. Absher is celebrating being in business for 75-years, and CE & C has been in business for 67 years. I guess both of these firms must be doing something right if they have been in business for so long.

My timing in finding these old photographs is perfectly apt for this week's edition of *Lecture Hall Construction Digest*. Last week I told you there would not be any jackhammering or concrete saw cutting for this week. Well, earlier this week Absher's construction superintendent sluggishly walked into my office with his hat in his hand seeking forgiveness. They were planning on doing some major jackhammering next week, but they decided to move it up a few days.

What they have been jackhammering are some oddly shaped concrete walls that could be considered buttresses. On the attached photo titled "LH looking east", taken on April 14, 1971, you can see I've circled some of these buttresses in yellow. They were built to support the stepped concrete floor levels in the lecture halls while also supporting the cantilevered exterior walls. We have removed the steeply stepped floors (try to say that fast three times in a row!) and will eventually be installing a much more gentling stepped flooring system that will meet accessibility needs. If we are to remove these buttresses the exterior walls need to be supported first. On the second attached photograph, taken this morning and looking at the same area of the Lecture Hall, I've pointed out these buttress locations, and you can also see the new concrete infill walls supporting the exterior walls. Anyway, they have been jackhammering these buttresses to allow us to fill the gaps between these infill walls. The third photograph titled "no buttress" shows what the inside of Lecture Hall 4 looks like with the buttress removed. Anyway, the good news is we should only have two days of this jackhammering next week. It had to happen at some point in time, so the majority of next week should be much quieter out there.

Construction activity next week will also include another concrete pour, more formwork and more grading of the soil inside the old lecture halls.

Thanks to all of you who have conveyed to me how they like my weekly updates. It seems like every time I meet someone for the first time on campus their immediate reply is how much they like my email messages. I really appreciate the support you provide me. Believe it or not I use to be an

extremely shy and timid person. It has taken some time, but I've learned through the years that fear does nothing but stifle creativity and hinders accomplishment. I really like my job here at Evergreen, and I hope it shows.

Cheers,
Tim





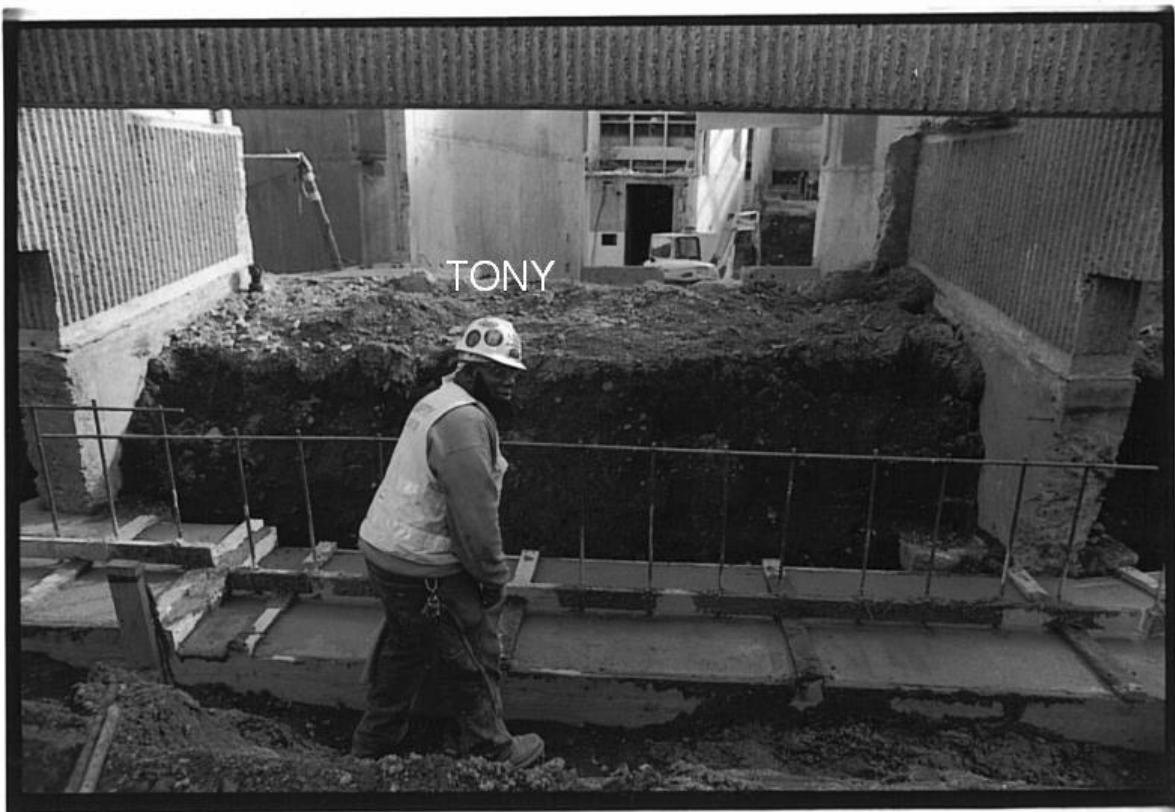
November 13, 2015

It was nice having a holiday this past Wednesday in honor of our Veteran's. For me it seemed like we had two Monday's and two Friday's within one work week. Hopefully you were able to enjoy Veteran's Day (11/11) whether you are a veteran or not. Did you know this holiday coincides with Armistice Day and Remembrance Day in a number of countries to mark the end of World War I. That war formally ended on the 11th hour, 11th day, of the 11th month in 1918. In the U.S. we use this day to celebrate all veterans, as well as being a day dedicated to the cause of world peace.

On Monday of this week Bob Haft joined me for another photo shoot of work in progress behind the green covered fencing. The timing was good being the crew was just wrapping up for the day when they had a moment for Bob to take a group photo; see attached. These are the carpenters and laborers working on the Lecture Hall Renovation for Absher Construction. One of their usual crew members was at another site on Monday, so I added a separate photograph of him, which Bob took previously. I added their names above their heads in these photos. These are the guys doing all the hard labor. Going out there and watching them work in the elements this time of year really makes me glad that I have mostly a desk job. They had to work on Veteran's Day, but Absher gave them the day off today because the site is such a big muddy mess with the rain we had in the past 24-hours. Working in such conditions is not conducive to being productive or safe. A few earthwork guys are still on site today doing some grading work. They are lucky to be safe, warm and dry inside their excavation equipment.

Next week's activities include more concrete pouring, but new work on site will be the erection of steel infill framing for the roof and then some steel roof decking installation. The jackhammering activity will be on hold for about another week. Grading work will also continue inside the Lecture Halls and outside the building.

Happy Friday!
Tim



November 20, 2015

Brrr! It was sure cold this morning. During this time of year I'd rather have the sun and the cold on some days, and others the warmer air and clouds can work for me just as well. But enough about the weather.

Some not so pleasant stuff has gone down on campus and in the world since my last construction digest. Pretty serious stuff; especially in Paris. Well, you may recall a photo I provided last week of some of the workers on the Lecture Hall project. Mel is one of the guys in that main photo. His wife was assaulted earlier this week at her place of employment by a disgruntled worker, word is she was really beat up and has major head trauma; no word yet on her current condition. Our thoughts are with him and his family. As you all likely know by now, one of our own Greener's, Kort Jungle, died on Wednesday. I did not ever get to formally meet Kort, but he did e-mail me just two weeks ago regarding one of my Friday email updates. Here is what he sent to me:

*"Timothy,
My name is Kort Jungel. I manage Receiving & Mail and have been a student, a full-time employee or a "hanger-on" since Sept of 1972. When I first arrived as an 18 year old freshmen I was impressed by much of the landscaping including that around the lecture halls.*

*I have several prints of the Pine trees when they were 6-8 feet tall! These photos were taken with a Montgomery Ward's instamatic and they still hold up. Once I digitize them I'll send a few along.
Kort"*

Because of his passing I cannot help but think of my ultimate fate. Many of you have some fond memories of Kort and conveyed very kind words about what kind of person he was. All I can say is I'm certain it would make my family proud if my co-workers and friends had the same thing to say about me as you all did about Kort. He sounded like a really good person to work with and to know.

Behind the green fence new structural steel infill framing began this week at the roof level and will continue on for at least the next few weeks. Formwork and rebar installation continues and another concrete pour is scheduled for next week. The attached photo shows some of that work progressing. To the left side of the photo you can see a steel worker up on a man lift inside future Lecture Hall 4 – he is adding some steel support members. To the right you might think something looks wrong with the clock tower; not only

does it look like it is leaning over, but the time is wrong on one of the sides.
Can you tell which one?

Enjoy the upcoming short week, and have a profoundly enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. It is almost hard to believe that my next Friday update will be in the month of December.

Cheers!
Tim



December 4, 2015

Well, well, well another Friday it is.

Boy there was a lot of activity on the Lecture Hall construction site yesterday. The day went by fast for me being I was a coordinating fiend.

Over the past summer we discovered a few problems with our underground water system in the vicinity of the Lecture Hall. When we attempted to shut off a water line one of the water valves refused to work (for some reason those last three words remind me of a former co-worker). Anyway, we also noticed the grass was nice and green around one of the fire hydrants near

the Lecture Hall. Why would that grass be green while all the other lawn areas were bone dry and looking dead? As I assumed, the fire hydrant was leaking and should be replaced. So, we'll be replacing a broken water valve, and not one, but two fire hydrants will be replaced over the next week. One of those is on the west side of Lab II, which is not leaking, but was not exactly working the way it should when the fire department last tested it. Anyway, I'm working with a separate contractor on this water valve and fire hydrant project.

Next week on the Lecture Hall the structural steel infill framing will continue. We also began the installation of the new metal roof decking. Those guys are really noisy with their work. If you hear a bunch of sudden "boom" and "bang" sounds emanating from the site it is likely from those steelworkers. I think it is because they are out of sight and want to be sure the guys below them know they are up there and are actually working. Or maybe they are insecure and are just looking for attention?

Next week we will have masons starting to construction support walls for the new floor framing. Excavation will begin to accommodate the new building addition. Formwork and concrete pouring will continue, as well as more metal roof decking.

I've attached two photos to this message for you. One is in black and white looking at old Lecture Hall 3. I just like the contrast in the wall openings which are now evident because of the roof decking that has been installed. The other I took from the roof of Lab II which shows the roof decking installation in progress. You can also see the new infill concrete walls that have been installed and the formwork for the infill walls where the buttresses have been removed. And look how green the lawn is beyond! It seems like it was just yesterday when it was pale and lifeless.

Happy Friday to you all!

Cheers,
Tim



December 11, 2015

What a muddy week it has been around the Lecture Hall construction site. Some of the work we had scheduled for this past week did not take place due to what seemed like relentless rain, which resulted in a very muddy site. So the excavation for the first of the building addition will not begin until Monday. The masonry work did not begin as scheduled either. Currently the weather forecast indicates a dry and sunny start for next week, for Monday anyway. I'm optimistic things will get better next week.

Other work on the Lecture Hall next week will include more of the same, concrete formwork, installation of steel roof framing, as well as metal decking.

I spent two hours this morning sitting in room 4300 of the Library Building attending a "Required Training". I'm sure many of you did the same. I don't know if it affected others this way, and no offense to the presenters, but I feel like the life got sucked out of me over those two hours. Anyway, I don't have much more exciting news to share, except I wrote a Haiku just for you:

Precipitation
It beckons our Winter soon
And creates much mud
©2015

Cheers,
Tim

12/18/2015

Many of you know the Lecture Hall, and most other building on campus, were built in the 70's during a time when many public buildings were built in the architectural style of Brutalism. The Lecture Hall itself is what I would consider an extreme version of brutalism. There have been various "trends" in styles of architecture over recent time. There was the Craftsman Style (which I'm very fond of), Post Modernism, Modernism, Deconstructionism, and Brutalism to name a few. Deconstructionism was mostly developed as a philosophy movement. But some architects got into it in thinking it as a way to move on from Modernism and Post Modernism. I was taught that Brutalism was formed on a new-found respect for its socialist principals and was also a celebration of raw concrete. There are good and bad design examples of Brutalism, as well as other architectural styles. Yet Brutalism became very popular from the mid-50's to the mid-70's and now is considered to be one of the most vilified architectural styles of last century.

I found an interesting article in The Seattle Times this week regarding the old Nuclear Reactor building at the University of Washington, which is an example of Brutalism. Some people consider it to be a truly, truly ugly structure. Within this article I discovered that a local architecture critic, Larry Cheek, previously described it in the Seattle-Post Intelligencer: "To some of us, it's the bastard love child of Brutalism and Burger King." But Cheek now advocates for saving it stating: "We need to save a handful of Brutalist-style buildings to remind us how bad they were and we don't do that ever again. They are cold, ugly, inhumane." He should come on down to Evergreen to see that we are doing our share of keeping the Brutalist-style alive. I have not seen the building at UW that he referred to, but I assume it is a bad example of Brutalism. I think the original buildings we have on the Evergreen campus are better examples of Brutalism.

With our Lecture Hall building we are doing a combination of things. We are retaining some of the exterior walls, yet adding a more modern addition to it that will be much more welcoming and properly addressing Red Square. The plan is to clean up the remaining "fluted" concrete walls so they are not so weathered looking. The addition will be more modern in presence being clad in metal wall panels that will in an abstract way replicate the vertical fluted pattern of those original walls.

This week we had another big slab pour of the area that will be Lecture Hall 4, as well as the installation of masonry block walls in Lecture Hall 3 which will support the new floor structure; photos attached. While the weather cooperated on Wednesday we also began the excavation for the new addition. Metal roof panels and structural steel installation also continued. Next week should be more of the same.

One last thing. Our General Contractor on the Lecture Hall, Absher Construction, reached out to me in wanting to give back to our local community. They informed me their company likes to do so in communities in which they perform work. They wanted to give holiday meals to those less fortunate and wanted a good local source that could benefit from their altruism. The twist is they had perishable items, so it couldn't just be donating canned food to the Thurston County Food Bank. I told them about Quixote Village and how their program might be a good candidate. If you are unaware of Quixote Village you can learn more here:

<http://quixotevillage.com/> . Anyway, Absher contacted the staff at Quixote Village who were certainly open to perishable food donations for their residents. I went along with them yesterday afternoon to help in delivering the meals. We delivered 50 frozen turkeys and 50 bags of food containing potatoes, stuffing, gravy, rolls, green beans, cranberries, and brownie mix. Just writing about all this food is making me hungry! A photo from this delivery is also attached.

Happy Friday to you all,
Tim





January, 8, 20016

Hello, it's me! No, it's not Adele, it's me!

I don't know about you, but I'm really, really, really glad the whole winter holiday season is over. Whether you are into Christmas, Kwanza, Festivus, Hanukkah, or none of those things, it is over for another year! On with everyday life!

At the same time I wonder about what I've succeeded with in this past year. What I really wanted a year ago was a new job. Six months ago from this week I started a new job working here at Evergreen. I recently read a quote credited to novelist W.P. Kinsella that is poignant and timely for me. Here it is: "Success is getting what you want, happiness is wanting what you get." I Googled this quote and Dale Carnegie is also credited with it. Donald Trump will probably claim it is his, so who knows which one is due credit, but I still like it.

On the Lecture Hall project yesterday we had some more concrete work continuing the infill of openings in existing concrete walls. On the attached photo you can see we really tested the limits of the concrete pumper. The arm of the truck is stretched out over 75-feet to get the concrete to an infill wall at what will be Lecture Hall 2. I took this panoramic shot with my phone, the steel beams and decking in the foreground appear to be bent; they are not.

Next week the concrete saw cutters will be back cutting away the buttresses in Lecture Hall 1 so the the expansion of that space may take place. I've heard some complaints regarding the metal deck guys and their noisy hammering. The good news (as I see it) is the saw cutting noise will probably drown out that darn hammering noise. We will also start to see the installation of new steel beams for the new rotunda area. Metal floor decking installation will continue. Placement of footings for the building addition facing Red Square will begin.

That's it for now. Happy New Year!
Tim



January 14, 2016

Hello all,

We will have a lot of activity tomorrow (January, 15th) related to the Lecture Hall construction that I want you to be aware of before Friday begins. A whole bunch of mechanical units are due for delivery tomorrow and will be craned into the lower level of the lecture hall. We will have flaggers out coordinating the trucks driving in for this delivery, but we want to make extra you sure you are extra aware of these activities. I beg of you to please keep your smart phone in your pocket and your head up while you are walking, running, skateboarding, rolling in your wheel chair, hovering on your hoverboard, or Segging on your Segway while in the vicinity of the bus loop and the construction entrance off Red Square. Please believe me, that latest text message or Tweet about me can wait! Be safe!!!

There will be a lot of other activities next week, some include the use of a very large crane. Yes, a crane capable of lifting 185 tons will be on site on Wednesday to support the remaining portion of an exterior wall at Lecture Hall 1 while temporary shoring is removed and the new permanent structure supporting it is installed; see attached photo. All you Facebook show-offs will want to invest in a selfie-stick for this day. You definitely will not want to miss this photo opportunity to share with all your friends. More concrete saw cutting is also in store, so don't throw away those earplugs yet.

Have a great three-day holiday weekend! I will honor MLK Jr. with spending time with my family, whether they like it or not.

Cheers,
Tim

LENGTH OF UPPER WALL TO BE SUPPORTED BY CRANE



January 22, 2016

Wow, it is Friday already! I love these four day work weeks, especially when the weather on the holiday isn't half bad.

Do you know that today, January 22, 2016 is National Hot Sauce Day? Tomorrow is National Pie Day? Sunday is National Compliment Day? I wonder what National Hot Sauce tastes like?

There will be some construction activity on the Lecture Hall project tomorrow, so don't be surprised to hear the metal decking guys hammering if you stop by campus tomorrow after picking up your National Pie. Other activity will be some concrete pouring of the floor structure inside new Lecture Halls 2, 3 and 4. The steel erectors will start framing the new floor structure for the rotunda area. The large curved concrete wall that will enclose the Lecture Hall 1 addition will also be poured.

Our own faculty member, Bob Haft, was out on site with me taking numerous photos of the crane work and beam installation on Wednesday. I haven't seen any of those photos yet, so I have included my own photo of this beam after all the work that was needed to get it installed; see attached. It took about two hours for the crane to set up, about an hour to remove the shoring, get the beam set and bolted in place, and then remove the crane cables supporting the upper wall. Then it took between one to two hours for the crane to demobilize and head back to the shop. That is an enormous amount of work for one beam.

Enjoy the sun while you can!

Cheers,
Tim



January, 29, 2016

Earlier this week I read an article about Nooruddin Karsan who is known in the IT world for selling a human-resources software company that he co-founded. He sold it to IBM for \$1.3 billion. He now runs Karlani Capital and also offers management consulting to companies that are having problems. He's a solver of big problems. The fee for this work is a mere \$250,000. I first wondered what kind of problem is worthy of such a fee? I then realized that perhaps Chipotle Mexican Grill should give him a call.

The interior of the Lecture Hall is really starting to come together. The metal floor decking in Lecture Halls 2, 3 and 4 has been installed and this week we poured the concrete floors in those spaces. The attached photo which is named "LH 2" shows the pouring and finishing in action in Lecture Hall 2. You can see the room will have three stepped levels and they are working on the second one. The concrete pumper has an arm and hose through the roof deck, one worker controls the placement of the concrete out of the hose, a couple of laborers rake it in place, another laborer is using a mechanical vibration tool to work out the air bubbles, two other workers use a screed to level out the concrete, and another guy (holding the long blue pole) does some detail leveling and finishing with what is called a bull float. After a couple of hours the new concrete sets up enough so they can get on it with the use of kneeboards and a couple of trowels to do more detailed finishing of the floor.

Last Friday's major beam installation allowed for the grading inside Lecture Hall 1 to be completed this week. That now enables the concrete foundation to be poured in Lecture Hall 1 next week.

The structural steel framing for the new Rotunda started this week and the metal decking for that area just began this morning; see attached photo titled "from south".

Beginning next week a new temporary construction path will be installed along the front of Lab I. This path will allow for the expansion of the building towards Red Square while allowing construction access around the south and west of the Lecture Hall building. After that pathway goes in more excavation and foundation work will begin for the rest of the building addition. This path will eventually be constructed into a ramp that will provide access to Lab I and II from Red Square.

Cheers!
Tim



February 5th, 2016

Geek alert. The following email contains technical stuff regarding construction. No foolin'.

There are so many rules and regulations when it comes to construction that it can be mind boggling. But it is all in the name of safety. Did you know that every time a concrete truck shows up on site we have a "Special Testing & Inspections" firm do work to ensure the concrete being installed meets the current building code requirements? This is an independent agency the owner (Evergreen) pays to verify that certain structural materials meet the design strengths specified. They check on numerous things done on site such as the steel welding, steel reinforcing placement, and they inspect many different aspects of the concrete being placed. One of those tests is called a "slump test". The "slump test" is done on-site shortly after the concrete truck arrives. If you want to learn more about slump the following is a good resource: <http://www.concreteexchange.com/how-to-center/concrete-mixes-and-additives/concrete-slump-test/>

Another thing the agency does is take samples of the concrete from the truck and simulate it's placement on site with the use cylinders that will be tested at a later date. The attached photos show C.J. Coffey (Mr. Coffee is what I call him) of Pacific Testing & Inspections doing some of his work. He puts a little concrete in each cylinder and then pokes it 25 times with a rod to replicate a vibration tool the contractor uses to get air bubbles out of the concrete (also known as "mechanical consolidation"). Then he adds a bit more concrete and does the same thing again, and then a third time until the cylinders are full. Those cylinders are capped and stored on site to cure in the same setting as the concrete poured for the building. The next day the samples are sent off to a lab and eventually crushed so the compressive strength of the concrete can be verified. If the concrete does not meet the required strength it will have to be removed from the building. Too much water in the concrete mix will make it weak and will increase its likelihood to crack. Not enough water in the mix may create voids in the concrete and again make it weak.

The required strength of the concrete may vary depending on the application. On the Lecture Hall the new infill concrete walls have to meet a designed 4,000 PSI (pounds per square inch) of compressive strength. In one example the crush test performed at seven days after the pour showed a strength of 7,370 PSI. They crushed another sample at 27 days and it measured a strength of 10,920 PSI. That is like Super Hero Strength. Can you say "WOW"? The concrete will continue to slowly build up more and more strength over time. It will eventually reached its peak strength in

about 50 to 100 years, and then even more slowly lose some of that strength. I'm pretty sure I reached my peak strength some time earlier.

If you were on campus yesterday you may have noticed a number of concrete trucks coming and going from the Lecture Hall construction site. Well, yesterday was another milestone. We poured 93 cubic yards of concrete in what will become Lecture Hall 1. This concrete installation was for the footings and slab that will support the structure for the new Lecture Hall floor deck. It amounted to ten concrete truckloads! The pouring started around 8 AM and continued until just before 1 PM. Another attached photo shows that installation in process.

Today some more jackhammering will take place as they start clearing paving from around the Lecture Hall to allow for more of the addition. Most work next week will include the excavation and concrete formwork installation for the addition. Roofing weather barrier work started on the Lecture Hall this week and will continue next week as the weather cooperates with us. Formwork for foundation walls will go up for a new classroom east of Lecture Hall 1. Concrete will be poured on the newly installed Rotunda metal floor decking. Some of the excavated areas between Lab II, the Library Building, and the Lecture Halls will be backfilled and compacted, so don't be surprised if you feel planet earth shaking a bit next week.

Have a fantastic weekend. Don't forget Chinese New Year begins this weekend; so Happy New Year once again!

Cheers,
Tim





February 12, 2016

During this past week's adventure in Busland I overheard something while commuting on route 41 from Evergreen to the Olympia Transit Center. This fellow passage said "I suddenly have really bad motion sickness, I think I'm going to hurl." This is not something you ever want to hear from the person sitting next to you on a fully packed bus. I've previously seen the chain reaction that can occur from just one person tossing their cookies. I want to thank you Evergreen student, whoever you are, for not vomiting on me (or anybody else) that afternoon!

We have reached another milestone this week in construction of the Lecture Hall. The trenches have been dug and footing formwork is being installed for the addition of the workshops and classroom that will be constructed between the lecture halls and Lab I. The attached photo was freshly taken shortly after 1:30 PM today. I've indicated on this photo as to what areas will become the new teaching and learning spaces. You can also see the freshly poured mud in the Rotunda area.

Next week we should see some walls being framed in Lecture Hall 2, 3 and 4. Metal decking installation will begin in Lecture Hall 1. Being so, those noisy metal workers will be using their loud saws again to cut the metal decking for installation. Some more concrete work will take place just outside Lecture Hall 1 for the construction of classroom 2. They will also

start pouring the footings for the workshops and classroom 1 after the formwork and rebar installation is complete.

Wow, another three-day holiday weekend is just hours away. Enjoy it!

Cheers,
Tim



March 4, 2016

So, my lovely cherub is an 18-year old senior in high school and very much into drama. Not just the typical drama teens have with their parents, but real drama as in theater, singing, and musicals. Recently we made a trip up to the Seattle area so she could compete for a National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) scholarship that took place at Highline Community College. I killed some time by browsing the bulletin boards in

their Student Union facility while she was rehearsing for her performance. I came across a laminated business card for somebody who goes by "SkyMan, an American Real Life SuperHero"; <http://rlsh.wikia.com/wiki/SkyMan>. I thought to myself "Wow! How cool is that?" I had no idea such a thing existed. I started thinking about some issues I've had with unwanted people getting onto the Lecture Hall construction site and doing undesirable things. I figured this could be the key to catching these hoodlums! I will become a Real Life Super-Hero and protect this construction site from evil! Beware potential violators of the green fence barrier. You will be overtaken by my acute awareness and ability to dress in non-offensive color schemes, unlike Skyman. You potential villains have all been warned. Now I just need an appropriate Super-Hero sounding moniker.

This week on the Lecture Hall project the forms were stripped from last week's stem wall concrete pour. Now a large amount of electrical and plumbing infrastructure will be installed on the subgrade in preparation for the Workshops and Classroom 1 building addition. On the attached photo you can see the stem walls in place and the start of the electrical conduit installation.

Today will entail a bit of jackhammering work as they start on the expansion of the Rotunda that will be constructed between Lecture Hall 1 and the Workshop and Classroom 1 addition.

During next week you won't likely notice any significant construction activity taking place as the electricians and plumbers do their under slab work. The following week should be when the slabs for this addition get poured. There will be a lot of concrete trucks on campus during that day, so I'll warn you when that date becomes definitive.

A few people have contacted Facilities with concern over sediment and possibly oil getting into the campus drainage system. The Department of Ecology has some pretty strict regulations when it comes to these matters. Being so every project that involves pushing dirt around includes what we in the construction world refer to as "TESC" plans. No, these initials are not related to the name of our college, but they stand for "Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control". In the plan for this project are the requirements to filter any sediment and / or containments that could get into catch basins and potentially impact aquatic life. Being so drainage patterns from our site were observed and a couple of catch basin drains in the Red Square area have been fit with catch basin filter socks. All catch basins within the construction area are also fitted with these devices. So rest assured that all is taken care of in this aspect of our project. We are not harming salmon or any other sea life with our construction project.

Have a fun filled weekend!

Cheers,
Tim



March 11, 2016

Thought of the Day: "Wisdom equals knowledge plus courage. You have to not only know what to do and when to do it, but you have to also be brave enough to follow through." - Jarod Kintz

I like this quote and I thought this must be from a wise old mind. But it is not. I Googled the name and he's a young hooligan, sort of like me, but I don't consider myself young. He loves to write, like me, but he actually is self-published, unlike me. I

may have to read some of his work. The title of one of his works is intriguing: "There are two typos of people in the world: those who can edit and those who can't."

Not much new to report on with the Lecture Hall construction, except that we have a new trade on site. The drywall contractor has started installing the metal stud framing in the lecture halls. These metal stud walls will form the finished walls inside the building, so we are one-step close to finishes.

Have a great weekend, and don't forget to Spring your clocks forward on Saturday night. Yes, Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend.

Cheers,
Tim



March 25, 2016

Hello yet again! Our contractor poured a whole lot of concrete this past week, about 100 cubic yards in all. The middle level floor of Lecture Hall 1 was poured as were the rat slabs for Workshops 1 and 2, as well as Classroom 1. I refer to them as rat slabs being these slabs at this point are not going to be the finished floor. The design includes hydronic radiant floor heating in the additions to the building. Rigid insulation will be installed over the new rat slabs and then lots and lots of plastic water pipe will be installed over the insulation. After all that piping is in place a concrete topping slab will be poured in place. So when the building construction is complete all that piping in the concrete floor will be circulated with hot water which in turn will keep the occupants little toes pleasantly warm during our cold winter days.

Faculty member extraordinaire, Bob Haft, joined me on site Tuesday morning so he could take some photographs of that day's big mud pour; "some" is an understatement. Attached is one of my favorites of his photos from that day. I've also attached some progress photographs I've been taking from the roof of the Lab I building. With these images you can see how much progress they have made on the addition in the last two weeks.

Today - the first metal stud walls began to rise for the addition. Next week you should see a lot more of these stud walls go up. The weather forecast for next week is looking ideal for roofing work, so we should also see progress on the roofing installation at the lecture halls.

Have a great weekend and happy spring!
Tim



April 4, 2016

It looks like spring is fully sprung with the weather we have experienced this week. Doesn't it seem like we went from March to June in just a matter of a week? The current weather report indicates there is a chance of rain next Monday, but otherwise fair weather is in the forecast for our fair little city. This is something we certainly need to help expedite construction on the Lecture Hall. We are a bit behind schedule, but the latest schedule update makes it look like we will be substantially complete by the last week of July instead of the third week in July.

Next week's construction activities will include more metal stud wall framing, and a bit more concrete pouring of the floor slab at the classroom added to the northeast of Lecture Hall 1. The roofing work will continue on the lecture hall areas and mechanical and electrical work will proceed as areas become available to those trades.

Attached is this week's progress photo taken just moments ago from the roof of Lab I.

I'm off work next week, so you won't get another construction update for two weeks. Being so, you should see a lot more progress in my next Lecture Hall photo. No Foolin'!

Take care,
Tim



April 15, 2016

Hey there,

Yes, I'm back at it after taking off a week. I'm not so sure if it was a real vacation, but I certainly was not at work. Anyway, I spent the week of April 4th driving around New England with my daughter touring different higher educational institutions that she was interested in attending. I write "was" because she now is committed to attending UW. We also toured some other colleges just for kicks. And we visited one just to see their Culinary Arts Museum. Well, I'm glad to be back at work and that my daughter finally has figured out what institution she will be attending next school year.

A lot of work has taken place in the past two weeks regarding the Lecture Hall construction. Today was exciting because they poured the tiered floors in lecture hall 1 this morning. We also took delivery of the new electrical switchgear equipment. The switchgear was a long lead time item that is going into the electrical room at the basement level of the lecture hall. It is so big we needed to hold off installing an area of floor decking in order for the switchgear to be installed. Attached is a PDF which contains photos of the switchgear as it was being craned into the basement of the lecture hall just moments ago.

Next week we will see steel decking being installed at the floor opening for the switchgear, then rebar and concrete will be installed over that portion of the project. The concrete stairs and ramp extension at the rotunda will also be poured. The formwork for the tiered concrete floors in lecture hall 1 will be stripped. A week from now I'll show you what that area looks like.

The weather is supposed to be great this weekend. So, get out and enjoy it. Cheers!

Tim

April 22, 2016

Greetings Earthlings, and Happy Earth Day to you all!

There was a lot of progress on the Lecture Hall project this week with all sorts of activity on the ground, on lifts, ladders and on the roof. That opening in the decking to the lower level, which I mentioned last week, was framed in and concrete was poured over that portion of the addition as well as the ramp and stair areas of the rotunda extension. All sorts of wall framing continues as does the electrical rough-in work that follows the wall framers.

Next week we should start to see glue-laminated (aka: Glulam) wood beams and wood decking being installed. If you are not familiar with it, the glulam product is an engineered wood product that utilizes 2x stud material (2x4,

2x6, etc...) which are bonded together in laminations with moisture-resistant structural adhesives (glue) that results in a product that pound for pound is stronger than steel and much stronger than traditional dimensional lumber. Without utilizing glulam's - much larger dimensional lumber members would be required and those usually come from old growth timber. 2x material does not require the harvesting of old growth timber. It is a much better use of our natural resources and can be formed into complex curved members. Take a visit to the LeMay - America's Car Museum in Tacoma if you want to see what kind of curved structures can be created out of this product. Anyway, glulam timber is hardly a new product, but I thought it would be a good to bring up on Earth Day how glulam members, as well as the certified wood we are using, are helping us tread lightly on Mother Earth. Have a great rest of your day and a splendid weekend. Cheers!
Tim

April 29, 2016

Just a short update for you this week. Our first shipment of glu-lam beams were received yesterday. The attached photo shows one of them getting staged in the vicinity in which it will be installed. On Monday we will have a crane on site helping the crew set them in place. The wood decking will follow as the beams go in. That is about the only major development for next week.

Cheers!
Tim



May 6th, 2016

Hello all and happy Friday. Hopefully you are all doing well after celebrating Cinco de Mayo aka: Battle of Puebla Day in Mexico. I personally feel like I need to have a liposuction procedure ASAP after consuming a bunch of yummy nachos last night.

It has been a very interesting week on the Lecture Hall job site. On Tuesday a large flatbed truck had just delivered another load of glulam beams to our project. While attempting to leave our campus and driving up the ramp to the McCann Plaza bus loop / driveway, the driver made not one but two mistakes. He simultaneously ran over the metal hand rail at the ramp and also over an irrigation device on the other side of the ramp, which in turn broke the irrigation line and caused a sudden geyser near the entrance to Red Square; photo attached. I was actually there when it happened and it was definitely a "I can't believe what I'm seeing" moment. Luckily I was able to contact our Grounds Supervisor on his cell phone and notify him

immediately of the situation before Red Square became a new campus water feature. There is never a dull moment at Evergreen.

I had mixed feelings that day; I didn't know whether to laugh at that situation or to give the truck driver a hug since he looked so dejected.

Anyway, that situation made me think of the following quote: "Mistakes are a great educator when one is honest enough to admit them and willing to learn from them" – Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

We will have the usual activities on site again next week. More glulam beams and wood decking will be installed, followed by roofing work, electrical work, and wall framing. There will be no more driving over hand rails or creating simulations of Old Faithful.

Also attached for your viewing pleasure are two roof top progress photos, one from April 25 and one from yesterday.

Have a great weekend, and happy Mother's Day to all those moms out there!

Cheers,

Tim



