12. Improve Access to Upper and Lower Levels of the West Building.

Goals C7 and C27

- C7. Explore feasible options to reduce the College's dependence on escalators as a form of vertical transportation.
- C27. Improve access to, and visibility of the Bookstore.

Problem Statement

Chapter 11 addresses the need for a change to the vertical circulation system in the Bonnell Building. Like the Bonnell Building, The West Building has a high dependence on escalator transportation. The West Building entrance off of 17th Street, while not serving as a primary entrance to the campus for visitors, does serve a high volume of students and faculty. The escalators in this building, like those in the Bonnell Building, are approaching 20 years of service, and are prone to frequent breakdown. Since there is only one up and down pair of escalators per floor level, the reliance on escalators for vertical transportation in this building can be a great inconvenience when the inevitable breakdown occurs. Faculty and students are forced to search for alternate means of vertical circulation in more remote stair towers and passenger elevators.

Proposed Solution

The proposed solution, while less dramatic than the new entry pavilion for the Bonnell Building, will alleviate the problems the escalators present (noise, frequent breakdown, obstruction of views, etc...), while providing users of the West Building with more vertical transportation options. The proposed pair of elevators and the open stair would be built in-place-of the existing escalators. A supplemental wheelchair lift will be required to transport wheelchair-bound persons from the accessible entrance to the main floor level, a grade change of approximately 24 inches. The elevators would serve all levels, including the Bookstore on the Lower Level. Some reconfiguration of the bookstore would be required to accommodate the elevator shafts and adjacent machine room. Reconfiguration of the Bookstore could be coupled with connecting it to the proposed New Dining Pavilion to be built adjacent to the West Building. The Dining Pavilion will bring thousands of students and faculty within close proximity of the Bookstore on a daily basis, and should lead to a greater visibility for the store and an improvement in store sales.

Cost Estimate

New Elevators and Stairs in West Building Total Construction Cost \$1,443,750.00









