6. Redesign Northern (Front) Section of First and Third Floors of Mint Building

Goal C21

C21. Implementation of 1997 concepts with respect to the redevelopment of the Mint Building. The third floor of the Mint would be converted to administrative space relocating functions from the first floor and elsewhere. Vacated portions of the first floor would be converted to student instruction and support functions.

Problem Statement

The 1997 facility master planning process identified a significant number of issues associated with the way that the first and third floors of the Mint Building were used. The third floor of the Mint has not been significantly changed since the College first acquired access to the Mint in 1972. The classrooms on the third floor of the Mint are poorly designed, not appropriately sized given current enrollment patterns and class size limits, and offer an educational environment which is not consistent with the standards in place throughout the rest of the campus. Most importantly, elevator access to the third floor is provided by only one passenger elevator which means that disabled faculty and students are vulnerable to missing class time if the elevator is inoperative. While a second elevator is potentially available (the freight elevator), this elevator is not designed to be a passenger elevator and access to it is limited and it is difficult for both the students and faculty to operate.

The first floor of the Mint contains some of the College's most interesting and historic architectural features. Current use of this space is dedicated to administrative functions which limit both student and visitor access to this area. Many of the administrative functions on the first floor of the Mint have outgrown their original office configurations and could be better accommodated in redesigned space on the third floor. Because these functions do not require extensive interactions with students, the limited elevator access would not promote a significant functional barrier for the successful use of the third floor for administrative purposes. With the elimination of administrative functions on the first floor of the Mint, the first floor could be turned into a combination of meeting rooms and instructional spaces which would encourage student, faculty and staff usage of the area. A redesigned first floor could take advantage of its architectural features and create an environment that would be both functional and engaging with respect to the historic character of the building.



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Proposed Solution

The third floor of the Mint will be used for administrative functions not requiring student access on a significant basis including Controller functions, Human Resources functions, Marketing and Communications, Budget and Financial Services including Purchasing and other general administrative support space. Ideally some portion of the third floor would remain undedicated to specific institutional functions and serve as special project space on an as-needed basis.

The first floor of the Mint will be used for student instructional and support activities that are less intensive than normal classroom instruction (e.g., seminar space for the College's Honors and TOP Programs and space for the Next Step Program). It may also serve as space which would support an expanded Development and Foundation Office. As a part of the renovation of the first floor of the Mint, the Main Campus Security Office would be relocated to the ground floor of the Mint Building adjacent to the Student Systems space and the Facility Operations Office. As discussed elsewhere in the Plan, Student Health Services will be relocated to the expanded Winnet Building or to the ground floor of the Bonnell Building.

Cost Estimate

Mint Building North (Front) Section First and Third Floor Renovation

Total Construction Cost:

\$2,732,850.00

(Note: All estimates are in 2003 dollars. On average, construction costs increase 1% to 2% per year. See detailed cost estimate prepared by Turner Construction in Appendix A)



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