FIMS ACADEMIC BUILDING PREVIEW

The new FIMS/Nursing building is scheduled for completion December 2016, with classes beginning January 2017.
The four-storey building will occupy 130,000 square feet at the corner of Lambton and Huron drives, next to the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building.

Select portions of green space are being preserved and the project will follow Western’s policy to replant at least one tree for every tree removed. Much of the new spacious courtyard and surrounding curbside will be enhanced with plants that are representative of the removed material and that compliment the area.
Identity and Presence

The building will meet the efficiency standards defined within LEED guidelines (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Although not LEED certified, the infrastructure is designed to meet Canadian Green Building Council's high performance standards.

The overhanging section is one of many appealing features of the exterior. The floating effect of the second floor is created using two massive trusses, similar to the framework used in the Support Services Building bridge on the other side of campus. Huron/Lambton Drive is a busy intersection and the structure will provide a dramatic presence at the southwest corner. The façade has two notable traits. First, the exterior reflects the Collegiate Gothic style synonymous with campus. This is achieved, in part, with the use of rough-cut stone exterior and low-rise (less than three stories) architecture. Second, the two jutting wings of the building act to blend in with the preexisting Health Sciences Building next door.
The building will house a learning lab, similar to the WALS classroom in University Community Centre. It will feature enhanced technology and dispersed, small group learning pods. The space has built-in flexibility to allow for various teaching styles and methods.

FIMS space will provide many new areas that will allow and encourage collaboration and hubs of activity.

The building has been designed so that there are pathways to the general use classrooms with separate entrances for general use, Nursing and FIMS.
Common areas continue to be a priority in space planning. There are several communal gathering areas in the building, such as the north wing atrium featuring a naturally lit, comfortable space with high ceilings.

The FIMS community will have several additional gathering spaces, including a commons area inside the main FIMS entrance on the 2nd floor, close to administrative and student services offices.
Administrative offices are located on the 2nd floor. The GRC Library, graduate student lounge, and media studios take up the bulk of the 3rd floor.

Overall, 53 rooms are available for FT, PT, Adjunct and Emeritus faculty, visiting appointments, research activities and guests. These offices will be located on the 4th floor of the building.

The 4th floor also houses three seminar rooms, graduate student offices and kitchens, a boardroom, a formal meeting room, open meeting areas and some soft seating in the Faculty/Staff lounge.
Some features of the building

- Faculty & staff offices
- Student spaces
- Administrative spaces
- Common areas
- Lounge areas
- FIMS classrooms

- Computing labs
- Multimedia labs
- External grounds
- Bike racks
- Shower facility
- General use classrooms

Rendering of dedicated FIMS space.
External view of the building as of May 2016. Nursing wing is on the left, FIMS wing is on the right.

View of courtyard from a 2nd floor window in the FIMS wing.
The yellow part of the wing is the 3rd and 4th floors, which house the GRC Library and media studios (3rd floor) and faculty offices/graduate student work areas (4th floor).

The middle of the wing is where you will find a dedicated FIMS entrance on the 2nd floor. The 2nd floor also contains administrative offices, student services and the FIMSSC office.
Inside the FIMS entrance, undergraduate and graduate student services will be found here, along with a common seating area.

The large, shared central atrium with its floating staircases and views from the 2nd and 3rd floors.
Photo Gallery – Under Construction

Beginnings of the new graduate student lounge on the 3rd floor.

Work underway on an expanded Graduate Resource Centre Library on the 3rd floor.
Media studios, with lighting tracks already installed (black framework at the back), 3rd floor.

Flex area, with more lighting framework, 3rd floor.
PhD work area in the pointed wedge area at the back of the building, 4th floor.

View of practice fields from a 4th floor window.
130 seat general use classroom, 1st floor.

80 seat general use classroom, 1st floor.
THE END

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