

University Works to Build a More Visible and Vibrant Campus

By Jason Hollander

Taking a walk around Washington Square it's often impossible not to notice the sounds of hammers and drills and saws. That cacophony is the work of numerous construction sites where experts are building and rebuilding different parts of the University. The result will be a more visible and vibrant campus, with new, state-of-the-art labs, classrooms, and common spaces that reflect the bold initiatives of the Campaign for NYU.

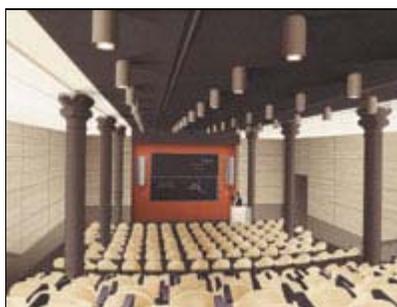
The projects will enable a number of moves for various departments, and space has been carefully chosen according to the special needs and proximity requirements of the different disciplines. Much of the work being done is part of the Arts and Science Capital Plan, which the Faculty of Arts and Science has begun to implement as a result of the \$60 million Partners Fund gift to the University. Below is an outline of the extensive work that has already been accomplished and current projects that are in the works:

12, 14, and 16 Waverly Place New Science Building

This facility, which will be located in three existing buildings on Waverly Place (12, 14, and 16) between Greene and Mercer Street, will increase life science research space by some 30%. The University has retained Hillier Architecture to begin work this fall on the project, which will be a gut rehabilitation of the buildings while maintaining their current facades. The facility will be the home to an initiative in comparative functional genomics.



12-16 Waverly Place will house a new science building that will be home to an initiative in comparative functional genomics.



The new stadium-seating classroom on the street level of 269 Mercer.

269 Mercer Street

Two of the University's largest social science departments, the Department of Economics, currently located at 269 Mercer Street, and the Department of Politics, currently located at 726 Broadway, will move into renovated space at 269 Mercer Street occupying floors two through eight. The renovations on the upper floors will start next fall. Renovations are already underway on the ground floor, which will house a lecture hall, classroom, lobby, and lounge.

3-5 Washington Place

Philosophy Building

The Department of Philosophy, currently located on the 5th floor of the Silver Center, will move to a new home at 3-5 Washington Place occupying floors two through six. The first floor of the building will be used to create new classroom space.

Puck Building

Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology will occupy a newly designed and renovated space on the 4th floor of the historic Puck building along with the Wagner School, which recently moved to the second and third floors.

19 University Place

Languages and Literature Building

Phase One of Languages and Literature, which was the first of FAS's projects to bring academic units with similar research interests together, has been completed. Phase Two, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2005, includes the restoration of the building's limestone facade and renovation of the interior, which will house a 120-seat lecture hall, lounge, and graduate student study area. Renovations of the basement will provide additional office space for the departments in the building.

Brown Building

The University is renovating existing science space in the Brown Building on the seventh and eighth floors for faculty hires in Genomics.

Meyer Building

Space for the Soft Condensed Matter Research Group: The Physics Department recently announced the hiring of the first three of eight scholars in the field of soft condensed matter physics. Several floors of the Meyer complex are being renovated for this initiative.

Bobst Library Undergoes First Major Renovation Since 1973

Last summer, Bobst Library underwent 75,000 square feet of renovations on the two lower levels and the first floor reference center. All of these floors are now open, though work will be continuing to install computers and complete some sections.

The Brine Library Commons in Lower Levels 1 and 2 have been refurbished to reflect a modern research and learning environment. Library users now have a wide variety of new study spaces, including: 332 reading seats in

various locations; 20 group study rooms; reading rooms, research and word processing stations available with networked printing access; disk printing station; VTS (value transfer stations) for photocopying, printing and microform reader/printer copying; wireless access at all work stations; a leisure reading lounge; research computers; student lockers; and a new snack lounge.

On the first floor, the Humanities and Social Sciences Reference Center has been completely renovated. A newly refurbished central reference desk is now visible from the library's main entrance. Consultation rooms and a demonstration classroom are available for students to work with reference librarians and receive research assistance. Seating is available for 122 at tables near the windows, and quiet, individual seating is offered in the west wing.

Offices for 10 subject specialist librarians in the social sciences and humanities have been constructed on the Mezzanine, in close proximity to the Humanities and Social Sciences Reference Center. Public seating has been maintained on the east, west, and north sides of the mezzanine, and the study collection remains there.

The work was done by acclaimed New York architects Alspector Anderson, LLP under the guidance of Jacob Alspector, and totaled \$15.5 million.

[Back to top](#)

[NYU Today Home](#) | [Search](#) | [Archives](#) | [About NYU Today](#) | [Contact Us](#)