

Update on Campus Center Work This Summer

The Comprehensive Campus Plan identified a number of necessary targeted interventions to improve how the Campus Center (CC) serves our students and the greater Macalester community. Expanding dining capacity, providing a more engaging and student focused dining experience and adding flexible dining space for other campus constituencies emerged as specific priorities. In response, a steering committee composed of students, staff and Bon Appetit Management worked with HGA Architects over the past several months to develop a plan to renovate the CC this summer. This renovation was approved by the Board of Trustees in February 2024. Improvements will include a redesigned entry experience, gender inclusive and ADA compliant restrooms on the first and second floors, moving the retail grill to the second floor, a commuter kitchen on the second floor, more efficient serving lines, and moving the conference rooms from the west side of the building to the east side of the building in order to provide more space for the campus community to gather, hangout, study, and eat. [Plans for the renovation can be found here.](#)

Key Dates:

- May 1 - Staff who office on the second floor of the building will be moved to 1st floor of Weyerhaeuser Hall
- May 3 - Limited construction begins on the second floor. This work will be limited to the offices in the non-public areas on the east side of the building. - The CC public areas and conference rooms will remain on line for community use through May 12th.
- May 13th - Construction begins in earnest. The entire second floor and the south half of the 1st floor will be off line. The lower level will remain open and accessible. The north half of Cafe Mac will remain open and will serve food for events, students living on campus over the summer, conferences, and camps through Reunion.
- June 10th - Food service moves to the second floor of Kagin. Food service will remain active in Kagin until August 25th.
- August 25th - Food service will move back to the CC. The CC is expected to be fully operational for Orientation activities.
- September 1 - Construction is planned to be completely finished.
- Approximately September 15th - Returning staff and student programming that were moved to Weyerhaeuser will move back into the CC permanently. Several staff currently officing in the CC will permanently office in Weyerhaeuser after the summer construction is over.

Key Information About the Project:

- Bon Appetit will continue to do catering through the summer for on campus meetings and events.
- There will not be a retail food outlet in the CC over the summer; the walk up grill will be shut down.

- The conference rooms in the CC will not be available for use from May 13th to August 26th. If you need a conference room over the summer, please use [EMS](#) to reserve a space.
- The free pantry will be temporarily moved to the CC lower level for the duration of the project (May 1 to August 26th). It will be temporarily relocated to the game room at the back of the Loch. Its permanent home will be on the second floor of the CC and it will begin operating from its new location on August 26th.
- MCSGs meeting space will be permanently relocated to what is currently part of the Advancement suite in Weyerhaeuser over the summer.

This project will cause disruption and inconvenience for some on campus this summer. These changes are necessary to improve the experience for our students and community in the future.

Please direct all questions to Nathan Lief at nlief@macalester.edu.