



Saint Mary's University

Campus Facilities

Building Usage

Saint Mary's University owns \$143.1 million (March 31, 2011) in net capital assets (\$197.7 million less accumulated depreciation). The majority of this is invested in our [campus buildings](#).

Renovation and Renewal - Funding

The September 2010 insurable value (replacement cost new, less obsolescence allowance) of Saint Mary's campus buildings was placed at \$305.3 million¹. Based on the Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA) studies², annual capital maintenance requires 2-2.5% of the current replacement value. At Saint Mary's, this would require a total of \$6.1-\$7.6 million.

The 2011-12 capital budget provides an allocation of \$4.0 million to address some of Saint Mary's major capital infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs on campus. The capital budget is partially funded through the Campus Renewal fee. Approved by the Board of Governors in 2003, the mandatory student fee (\$66 per 6 credit hours) will provide approximately \$2.0 million in 2011-12.

Campus Master Plan

Recognizing the growing importance of a compelling and functional physical environment, Saint Mary's University developed a Campus Master Plan. In conjunction with the University's Strategic Directions and Academic Plan, the Campus Master Plan will help guide our evolution and growth over the next 30 years while demonstrating the University's vision to potential faculty, staff, students and supporters.

Launched in August 2005, the [Campus Master Plan](#) will ensure that the physical facilities and amenities of the campus continue to respond to, and exceed, the expectations and requirements of its users. Approved by the Board of Governors, the Master Plan provides a framework for the evolution of the campus as a setting that will symbolize and nurture excellence and will help transform the University's integrated planning efforts into a tangible and exciting vision that will garner broad-based support and optimally leverage resources.

Sustainability Stewardship Strategy

In 2007, The Board of Governors mandated "the development and implementation of a sustainability strategy appropriate for the campus environment". Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff as well as community and other partners have been creating sustainability initiatives on an ad hoc basis for many years. Now, the University has adopted a Sustainability Strategy.

¹ Canadian Universities Reciprocal Insurance Exchange – Saint Mary's University: Buildings, Contents and library Collections, Insurable Value As of September 1, 2010, American Appraisal Canada, Inc., October 22, 2010

² Douglas K. Christensen, *Capital Needs Analysis*, September/October 2004 Facilities Manager, www.appa.org/files/FMArticles/091004_ei.pdf, accessed September 15, 2006

The primary focus of this strategy is environmental sustainability, interconnected with the University's vision and values. It is intended to align the current sustainability activities and foster the development of new programs, with education and awareness being a cornerstone.

The Sustainability Stewardship Steering Committee is responsible for implementing the Sustainability Strategy. More information regarding sustainability activities on campus can be found on the [Sustainability at Saint Mary's University web site](#).



Saint Mary's University, Aerial View

Current Projects

[McNally - North Campus Infrastructure Project](#)

[Energy Management and Natural Gas Conversion Project](#)

[Homburg Centre for Health and Wellness](#)

[Burke Building Revitalization](#)

Select Past Projects:

[The Atrium](#)

[Ignatius Loyola Residence—Reconfiguration](#)

[Applied Science Building Renewal Project](#)

[Dockside Cafeteria](#)

[Edmund Rice Residence Upgrades](#)

[Security and Emergency System Enhancements](#)

Applied Science Building Renewal Project

On April 29, 2008, Students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends gathered on campus to celebrate the official opening of the newly renovated Science Building. Dr. Dodds called the newly renovated Science Building “a celebration” made possible in large part through the support received from donors and the Government of Canada, as well as the success of the \$40-million Hearts & Minds Campaign led by Paul D. Sobey.

“This is more than bricks and mortar. This is an investment in people, ideas and processes—an investment in the future—and we are committed to helping people reach their full potential,” said Dr. Dodds.



The SMU Science Building provides state of the art teaching and research space

Completed on schedule and on budget, the \$25.5 million Science Building Renewal Project began in May 2005. In keeping with the University’s [Strategic Directions](#) and [Academic Plan](#), the project included the renovation and modernization of the University’s existing five storey, 71,500 square foot science building as well as the construction of a five-story, 22,500 square foot addition to the north end of the building. The building houses the applied science faculty departments of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Sciences and Geology along with related programs and services.

The Science Building Renewal Project built on the Proposed Planning Principles already developed by the University met the following objectives:

- Renew the building the infrastructure including architectural, mechanical and electrical infrastructure
- Provide each faculty member with separate research and office space
- Optimize lab capacity for teaching purposes
- Optimize research space and capacity
- Harmonize with the Atrium Building in function and appearance

[Return to Project List](#)

McNally North Campus Infrastructure Project

The oldest building on campus is getting a well-deserved makeover. The nearly sixty-year-old McNally building was named in honour of the Archbishop John T. McNally who supervised the construction of the building over a three-year span from 1949 to 1952. The building is built on land that was once the estate of the famous 19th century Haligonian merchant Enos Collins.

Long before the days of Loyola and Vanier Residences, students at Saint Mary's University used to live and learn in McNally; in addition to holding classrooms, the building also served as the dormitory. It is the centre of the campus and updating the outward appearance as well as the interior will be a great boost for the University and its reputation.

Begun in June 2009, the McNally – North Campus Infrastructure Project is budgeted at \$26M. The project will bring major renovations to the 57-year-old McNally Building as well as renovations to the Burke Building and the Patrick Power Library.

The project is funded in part by the federal government's Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP), which has two key objectives: 1) to support enhanced graduate and research space; and 2) to support improvements to facilities for research and development. The KIP fits the University's well-defined deferred maintenance requirements and our mandate for improved graduate studies and research capacity.

Renovations to the McNally Building will include such items as:

- restoration of the outside stone work, window wells, and window replacements
- elevator upgrades
- roof replacement
- upgraded electrical, plumbing and ventilation systems
- upgraded communications systems including fibre optic cable and increased wireless network coverage
- renovations of corridors, research areas and classrooms
- the addition of a second Learning and Research Commons area on the 2nd floor of McNally Main

Renovation to the Burke building includes roof replacement, replacement windows, skylights and the upgraded washrooms. Upgrades to the Patrick Power library will see improvements to washrooms as well as upgrades to the library's elevator roof replacement, and the creation of additional student study areas.

The work is slated for completion by September 2011.

For more information regarding the project, please visit The McNally Restoration Microsite at www.smu.ca/mcnally



Stonework repairs are carried out on the McNally building

[Return to Project List](#)

Edmund Rice Residence Upgrades

Built in 1969, Rice is a 17-storey residence housing 380 students in self-contained, furnished, two-bedroom apartments. The four students in each apartment share a kitchen, bathroom and living/dining area. The Edmund Rice Residence appeals to students who want independence, with the convenience of living on campus.

A three-year project, which fully renovated all the bathrooms and kitchens, was completed during the summer 2008. This included new kitchen ventilation, bedroom lighting and paint throughout.

In addition, \$100 thousand was spent in 2008 on exterior re-caulking.

In the summer of 2009, a \$450K project was completed that saw the conversion of double rooms to single rooms, which are considered more desirable by today's students. Further conversions, costing \$900K were carried out during the summers of 2010 and 2011. Pending budget approval, conversion of the final three floors is expected during the summer of 2012.

In addition, a \$400K upgrade to the building's elevators is scheduled for the fall of 2011.



A renovated kitchen in the Edmund Rice Residence



[Return to Project List](#)

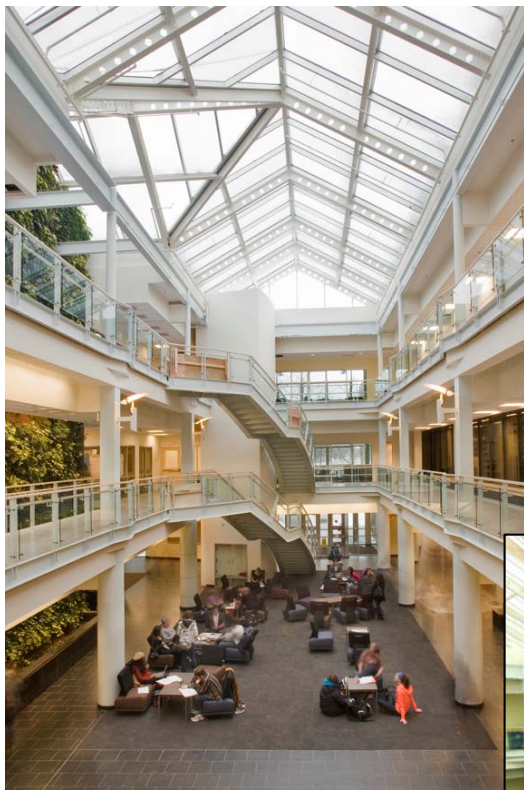
Atrium Project

Completed in September 2009, the new \$17.5 million Atrium is a 44,165 square foot, three-storey building located in the northwest corner of the campus and connects the Science, Patrick Power Library and Burke Buildings.

It features a main floor Global Learning Commons - a wireless, student-centred, barrier-free communal learning space that encourages interaction between faculty, students and staff, and provides more opportunity for community engagement. The second and third floors house teaching and study space, along with various Computational Sciences research space and offices.

Other unique features of the Atrium include an interior bio-wall and a green roof. The building is designed to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.

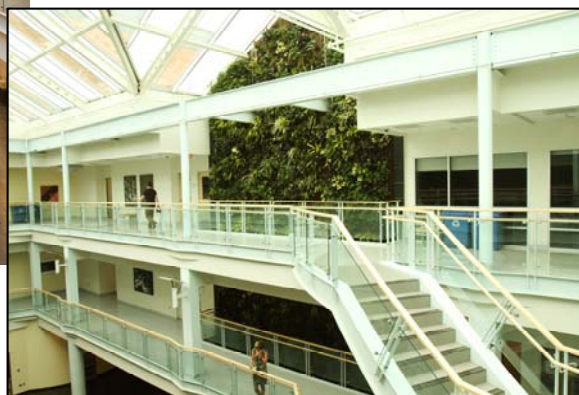
In May 2011, the Atrium received the Canadian Institute of Steel Construction's 2011 Architecture Award recognizing it as an example of great construction and architecture. The building was designed by DSRA Envison Architecture with construction overseen by Aecon Group. Judges praised the use of exposed steel in the roof and floor structure, and in particular, in the staircase, to give this project an exterior quality which is light and fresh. One judge called it an exciting, playful steel gem featuring creative use of steel throughout the entrance and through curved stairs, handrail details and ceiling beams.



The Global Learning Commons



Judges with the Canadian Institute of Steel Construction called the Atrium Building an exciting, playful steel gem.



The Atrium includes a living wall

[Return to Project List](#)

Energy Management and Natural Gas Conversion Project

Saint Mary's University contracted Siemens Building Technologies Ltd. in association with F. C. O'Neil Scriven and Associates to perform an Energy Management Study during the winter of 2007. The study was funded 50% by the Federal Government's ENRCAN Program. The study determined that considerable opportunity existed at SMU for energy usage reductions and infrastructure improvements. Review of the facilities, which has a combined annual utility cost approaching \$2.65 million (\$1.33 million electricity, \$1.01 million fuel and \$310,000 water), identified sixty-six Technology Improvement Measures and seven Operational Improvement Suggestions. The projects involve lighting upgrades, water conservation measures, ventilation heat recovery, HVAC control optimization, insulation, weather-stripping and windows upgrades as well as upgrades to air conditioning equipment.

Completed in January 2009, the conversion of the University's three main heating plants to natural gas is a key part of the university's sustainability strategy; supports regional and provincial sustainability commitments and will act as an anchor for the expansion of the natural gas system into the Halifax peninsula south area. The conversion is expected to result an annual reduction of CO₂ of 2000 tonne (32%), SO₂ of 47 tonne (99.9%), NO_x 11.1 tonne (79%) and particulate 2.8 tonne (90%).

Substantial government funding to develop infrastructure on campus coupled with Heritage Gas' commitment to develop the distribution system into the south end peninsula makes this project an attractive option for Saint Mary's.

The Project is estimated to deliver annual savings of \$450K. (Based upon 2007-08 experience):

- Fuel Oil \$238,500
- Electricity \$124,000
- Water \$ 87,500

In addition to reducing energy costs, the Energy Management Plan has addressed some of the University's key infrastructure renewal issues such as:

- The replacement of two thirty-six year old chillers
- The replacement of two thirty-five year old ventilation units
- Improved lighting in the Tower and Library
- Improved air circulation in the Library

The project is expected to be completed by October 2011.

For additional information about sustainability activities at Saint Mary's, visit www.smu.ca/sustainability



[Return to Project List](#)

Security and Emergency System Enhancements

Saint Mary's University takes the safety of the students, faculty and staff seriously. As such, the University has undertaken upgrades to security building access control systems, and the installation of additional surveillance cameras in all campus buildings and exterior spaces. A campus-wide emergency public address system was also implemented.

Started in 2004, the project is slated to cost \$700,000 in total, with approximately \$100 thousand being expended each year. The project was completed in December 2010.



[Return to Project List](#)

Dockside Cafeteria Renovation

Completed in September 2009 at a cost of \$1.3 million, the Dockside Cafeteria Project involved the renovation of the servery and dining area to create an open area station style cafeteria for an 'All You Care To Eat' dining concept. This involved the creation of a single large servery/dining area where students can select from multiple stations serving fresh food. The room has been designed to provide a relaxing comfortable quality environment where students can feel like they are in their kitchen at home.

The main dining hall features an array of dining options including international, vegan and vegetarian cuisine, and a "create your own entrée" option.

The space provides for a wide variety of seating options, with window seats, comfortable booths and even bar seating.



[Return to Project List](#)

Ignatius Loyola Residence – Room Re-configuration

The Loyola Residence is a 22-storey high-rise, with a mixture of same gender and co-ed floors. Each floor has a common lounge with kitchenette and four suites containing four single and one double room with shared (but private) washrooms. In addition, there are several floors of family housing apartments.

Loyola and Vanier Residence recently received extensive renovations including new external walls (cladding), all new furniture, new windows, new hallway flooring, new kitchenette in the lounges (Loyola only) and installation of telephones, cable TV, and internet connections at every desk.

During the summer of 2009 a \$320k project was completed that saw the conversion two floors of family housing apartments to premium style suites.



[Return to Project List](#)

Homburg Centre for Health and Wellness

Scheduled to open in April 2012, the new \$8 million Homburg Centre for Health and Wellness on campus is well underway.

The new facility will include a 20,250 sq. ft. addition to The Tower. It will be the focal point for SMU health and wellness initiatives; offering services that support students, faculty, staff and community members in achieving healthier lifestyles. It will create an academic, athletic and recreation complex, with a health and wellness focus, offering students and members of the community access to a range of programs and activities.

In addition to community/active living/wellness studios, lecture/seminar rooms, multipurpose rooms, and congenial space, the new building will become the permanent home for the Centre for the Study of Sport and Health; confirming SMU's commitment to healthy lifestyles and support for interdisciplinary research on issues relating to sport and healthy living.

The new facility is made possible thanks to a \$5 million donation from Dr. Richard Homburg, Chairman of the Homburg Group, along with donations from other donors.

For more information, please visit the Homburg Center for Health and Wellness Microsite at www.smu.ca/homburg.



[Return to Project List](#)

Burke Building Revitalization

The 33,250 square foot Burke Building, which was linked to the McNally, Science and Library buildings by the University's new Atrium, houses the Geography Department.

Renovation to the Burke building under the McNally North Campus Infrastructure Project, included roof replacement, replacement windows, skylights and the upgraded washrooms.

Further revitalization of the Burke Building, scheduled for the spring of 2011, will include upgrades to lobby and public areas, as well as new flooring and ceilings. The project is estimated to cost \$450K.



[Return to Project List](#)