



Clockwise, from top: Situated in the middle of the campus, the 69,000 square-foot Center for the Arts is scheduled to be completed in 2012. It will house the new PCC Art Gallery, which will showcase the work of both Artists-in-Residence and students, and various lecture halls and art studios.

NEW PROJECTS NEARING CONSTRUCTION PHASE



About Measure P: In March 2002, the voters in the Pasadena Area Community College District approved Measure P, a \$150,000,000 General Obligation Bond measure to fund facilities replacement, reconstruction, and modernization of existing campus facilities. These facilities needs are identified in the Pasadena City College Facilities Master Plan 2010. This 10-year facilities master plan specifically identifies the projects funded by Measure P.

Since March 2002, when the voters of the Pasadena Area Community College District approved Measure “P,” a \$150,000,000 General Obligation Bond measure to fund facilities replacement and reconstruction and modernization of existing campus facilities, PCC has been in a constant state of change.

The first project, the 2,000-car Bonnie Avenue Parking Structure, has now been in operation for more than five years and has greatly reduced the shortage of parking stalls on campus.

During the construction of the parking structure, the economy played havoc with costs, and the next project was delayed in order to ensure the project scope would fit within the available funding. Eventually that project – the Industrial Technologies Building – was built at the same time as the next two major projects: the complete renovation of the Campus Center and the construction of the new Campus Bookstore. Those three projects took more than two years to complete and have now been open for more than eight months.

With the completion of the Industrial Technologies Building, the Campus Center and the Campus Bookstore, the next building to be constructed will be the Center for the Arts – the capstone of the Measure “P” bond projects. This building will eliminate two very old and obsolete structures and replace them with a magnificent center that will serve the students and community for decades to come.

We anticipated beginning the demolition phase months ago. All building plans for the campus are required to go through a plan-check by the Division of the State Architect. The full plans for the Center for the Arts were submitted in December 2008, meaning that DSA has so far taken more than 16 months in their review. Normally, plan reviews should take about four or five months. With



the economy in desperate need for new construction activity that will infuse money into the system, PCC stands ready to begin construction immediately. Dozens, if not hundreds, of jobs will be created for a two-year period as soon as DSA processes the plans.

In the meantime, a number of other projects are also nearing the construction phase, most notably the elevator construction and upgrade project. Two new elevators will be built – one in the W Building and the other in the V Building. Currently, those people who are unable to use stairs must use elevators in adjacent buildings, then cross bridges connecting the buildings in order to get to the second floors of the two old structures. The two new elevators will make life far more bearable for those students, faculty, staff, and visitors to the campus.

The second part of the project is the upgrading of 10 elevators in five buildings. The old units have long ago reached the ends of their useful lives and do not meet the modern needs of our constituencies. The two parts of the project will likely take between 18 and 24 months to complete, as the construction schedule must take into account the accessibility needs even during construction. Where two elevators exist in one building, only one can be



Clockwise, from top left: The Campus Center features a Wi-Fi lounge and new dining areas; students in an Automatic Transmission class at work in the Industrial Technologies Building auto shop; the new Campus Bookstore doubles the space of the old facility.

upgraded at a time. While perhaps not as cost- or time-effective as undertaking the upgrading of all elevators at once, it is critical to allow for the proper and orderly operation of the campus during the transition.

As the last of the projects gets underway, PCC reaffirms its commitment to completing all projects that the voters approved, and completing them within available funds. Our community deserves nothing less.