

Facilities Upgrades Taking Shape on Campus

St. Paul, Minn. Macalester College has started work recently on a number of campus renovations and upgrade projects that will continue through this summer.

These developments include finishing the lower level of Markim Hall with the addition of a community space for students, renovating a room in Neill Hall to function as an active learning classroom, updating the hot water system for the Dupre Residence Hall, and renovating the field station facilities at the Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area which serves as a site for education and research involving faculty, students, and the local community.

Under the direction of Nathan Lief, Director of Facilities Services, the renovation projects have hit the ground running. The lower level of Markim Hall will be completed in the next month upon the installation of new cabinetry and light fixtures, making it a comfortable hub for students pursuing interdisciplinary concentrations to gather and work together. The construction portion of the active learning classroom space in Neill Hall has been finished, creating the necessary infrastructure for large-scale group brainstorming and problem solving. Dupre Hall's hot water system will undergo an overhaul once students have moved out in June and will be installed by mid-summer. Finally, the Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area is in the final stages of construction planning in conjunction with the Biology Department and is on target for implementation this spring. Once completed in July, the station will feature upgrades to sleeping and bathroom spaces and a new kitchen and lounge.

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