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A R C H I T E C T S

Press Release **Work nearly complete on Dakota State University housing**

Owner / Client: **JUNE 23, 2009 - MADISON, SD** - Construction is nearly complete on full renovations of student housing on the campus of Dakota State University (DSU) in Madison, SD.

Pat Keating
Physical Plant Director
(605) 256-5222

Steve Bartel
Director of Residence Halls
(605) 256-5146

To keep up with student needs and campus living trends, DSU engaged Koch Hazard Architects to modernize each of DSU's four residence halls - Higbie, Richardson, Emry, and Zimmermann. Higbie and Richardson were renovated during the summer of 2008, and renovations for Emry and Zimmermann are expected to be complete in mid-August, just in time for student occupancy on August 29.

Project Location:
Dakota State University
Madison, SD

The original DSU residence halls were designed and constructed between 1965 and 1971. To meet current demands, aging infrastructure such as plumbing, HVAC, and window replacements are being updated to be more energy efficient. Other improvements include updating finishes and furniture, creating privatized restroom facilities, upgrading safety and security features, and adding more power and data connections all in the interest of creating enhanced first impressions for today's student.

Projected Completion Date:
August 2009

Architect:
KOCH HAZARD ARCHITECTS
Christopher M. Schiltz, AIA
Senior Principal
(605) 336-3718

"The main goal is to provide as much convenient access to service as possible to make the students more comfortable and satisfied with their hall environment," said Steve Bartel, Director of Residence Halls at DSU. Bartel cites examples such as moving laundry facilities and kitchens to more accessible locations as well as improving heating and air conditioning.

Improving lobbies and lounges to enhance student interaction is also an important focus. The introduction of additional natural light will enliven interior spaces and views to campus.

"We put a lot of windows in so when students pass by the lounge and see that something is going on, they join in," said Pat Keating, Physical Plant Director at DSU. "We've added more power and amenities, such as big screen televisions. We've tried to make it more comfortable; a place where students want to spend their time," said Keating.

Last summer's renovation at Higbie and Richardson proved successful, and Bartel is confident in similar results for Emry and Zimmerman this year.

"The previous lounges were way too small and limited in their functionality to the point where they simply weren't being used," said Bartel. "As a result of last year's renovation, main lounges were both aesthetically remastered so they now have a nice inviting look. In terms of functionality, they increased in size and were designed to actually be used by the students. Those things have had an impact, and there is a clear difference."

Koch Hazard Architects is an architecture, planning and interiors firm innovatively designing and effectively delivering quality projects that strengthen our clients' missions.

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