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FMU rolls out plan for Health Sciences Complex

Francis Marion University hosted a special public presentation and information session on its new Health Sciences Complex (HSC) in downtown Florence on Monday, Oct. 27 in the Florence City Center.

Representatives from Balfour Beatty Construction and Little Diversified Architectural Consulting, both of Charlotte, and Watson Tate and Savory architects of Columbia were on hand to present images of the new building and to lead a discussion of the HSC's architecture and program components.

FMU is building the new \$15.5 million facility on the southwest corner of Irby and W. Evans streets in the newly revitalized downtown Florence. The three-story, 52,000 square foot building will provide classroom and office space for FMU's Nurse Practitioner Program, FMU's proposed Physician Assistant Program, and for the University of South Carolina's third- and fourth-year medical students and instructors assigned to Florence for their clinical rotations. The latter program is supported by a partnership between FMU, USC's School of Medicine, McLeod Regional Medical Center and Carolinas Hospital System. The City of Florence, the State of South Carolina and the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation are funding the project.

Construction of the HSC is scheduled to begin in early 2015 and expected to be complete by the fall of 2016.



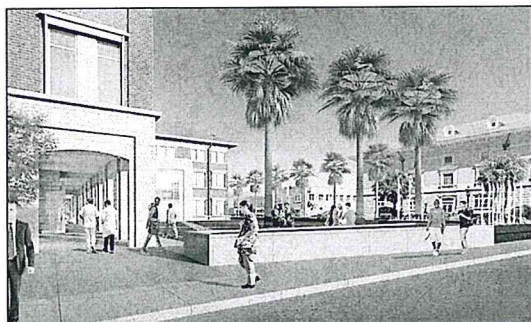
Here's a quick look at the Complex and its planned programs.

The building

- 52,000 square feet of class A classroom and office space.
- Includes laboratories and a state-of-the-art simulated hospital.
- Construction is expected to begin in 2015 and to be completed by Fall 2016.
- The Complex will be constructed on the southwest corner of Irby and W. Evans streets in the heart of downtown Florence.
- Project cost: \$15.5 Million. Funding sources include City of Florence (\$3 million), State of South Carolina (\$5 million), and the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation (\$7.5 million).
- Three-story structure.
- Landscaping includes a water feature and grand plaza.

The programs

- FMU Nurse Practitioner/Nurse Education Programs
First classes began in January 2013, and will graduate in December 2014.
- FMU Physician Assistant Program
First class proposed to enroll in 2016.
- University of South Carolina 3rd and 4th Year Medical Student Clinical Program



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