

Board Meeting  
January 19, 2006

ROLL CALL

APPROVE PROJECT FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE RESIDENCE HALL  
DINING ROOMS AND DINING SERVICES PROJECT, URBANA

**Action:** Approve Project for the Pennsylvania Avenue Residence Hall Dining Rooms and Dining Services Project, Urbana

**Funding:** Auxiliary Facilities System Funds

In March 2005, the architecture firm of Thompson Ventulett Stainback & Associates, Inc., was employed to provide professional services to evaluate the feasibility of remodeling the dining hall and the exterior courtyard of the dining room, entryway, servery, and kitchen at the Pennsylvania Avenue Residence Hall (PAR) on the Urbana campus. PAR was constructed in 1963 and houses 1,044 residents, the majority of whom are freshmen. The dining hall, located in the basement of the facility, is dark, crowded, and only marginally accessible to students with disabilities.

The proposed renovation will serve both the residents of PAR and the Florida Avenue Residence Halls (FAR) with an accessible marketplace dining concept that includes attractive food stations, each specializing in a different cuisine. This concept is similar to the approach being developed in the proposed Student Dining and

Residential Services Building in Champaign, bringing modern dining options to residents on both sides of the campus.

Flexible and varied seating options would allow residents to dine in large or small groups, and wireless connections would allow for multi-tasking during meals, an expectation of residents. Further, eliminating the single serving line in favor of multiple stations would allow the implementation of a declining balance meal plan, enabling students to purchase only the food they want, thereby decreasing waste and increasing satisfaction. The a la carte menu items and expanded hours (including late night dining) would give residents greater choice in how they spend their dining funds.

Redesigning the kitchen area would allow University Housing to benefit from economies of scale and environmentally friendly practices including facilities to enhance accessibility for students with disabilities.

Accordingly, the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Urbana with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the following actions:

1. Project approval for the PAR renovation at a project budget of \$12.0 million.
2. Submittal of the project to the Board of Higher Education for approval as a non-instructional capital improvement to the Urbana campus.

The board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*,

*The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

Funds for this project are available from Auxiliary Facilities System funds of the Urbana campus.

The President of the University concurs.