Construction Starts on the New Law School Building

Work on the foundation of the new Law School building is underway and the structural steel will be ordered this month, Dean John D. Feerick told members of the Law School Building Campaign Advisory Committee.

The renovation of the existing Law School building on West 62nd Street and the new four story addition is the largest single building project of the University during the past 15 years according to Brother James M. Kenny, S.J., Financial Vice President of Fordham.

Construction costs alone are now estimated to be roughly $7.1 million. Furnishing costs will account for the remainder of the final project cost. The architects are Wank, Adams and Slavin Associates.

The F.J. Sciame Construction Company has been awarded the construction contract. "This is the same company that successfully completed several building projects on the Rose Hill campus within extraordinary time constraints," Brother Kenny said.

Time constraints are no less arduous on this project. Renovation to the interior of the present Law School building will begin this summer. Two additional floors will be added this winter providing 22,000 square ft. of new space this winter. Much of this new space is allocated for the Law Library. The expanded library will then be able to increase its collection by more than 100,000 volumes. The net effect will be a more accessible collection significantly improved reading areas and the availability of sophisticated reader printers.

The reconfiguration of our present space and the two new floors will provide 15 individual faculty offices and secretarial areas. In addition the admissions office, placement office, and various student facilities such as the law review offices will be enlarged and improved.

In December when the adjoining 53,000 square foot building is ready, the interior work will begin. This building will contain two 140 seat tiered lecture hall classrooms and a beautiful 250 seat amphitheatre.

A new cafeteria accommodating 275 people will be located on the ground floor of this building. The present snack bar facility will be converted into a student lounge.

An elegant atrium will add an extra dimension to the school providing a unique setting for receptions and special gatherings.

Dean Feerick stressed that this exciting project which will be completed in August 1984 is intended to meet the existing needs of our 1,200 students and a faculty of 100.

"The vastly improved quality of life at the school its attentive, dedicated faculty coupled with increasing alumni involvement will greatly enhance our ability to develop outstanding law leadership," Feerick stated.