

Moving time for School of Law

The school is relocating to the new William W. Knight Law Center

By Teri Meeuwsen
Oregon Daily Emerald

Boxes of books, truck-loads of furniture and a new sense of home are moving into the new William W. Knight Law Center while finishing touches are put on the \$24 million building.

Professors and administrators have been packing up the School of Law in Grayson Hall and have already moved 600 to 700 boxes to their new address — 15th Avenue and Agate Street.

"The faculty are in charge of packing their own offices and labeling their boxes," said Jane Gordon, associate dean of the law school.

Law professor Jim Mooney said the move is a little hectic, but exciting.

"The building is kind of a shambles because everyone's putting things into boxes," he said. "But we're all really excited to be in a new building."

The big move will last until Sunday, Gordon said.

"We hope to be open for business by 8 a.m. Monday morning," she said.

Provided that new furniture gets to the law center in time, both summer classes and a review for the Bar Exam will also begin on Monday, she said. In the meantime, woodwork and other detail work will be finished up around the new inhabitants.

"We've made a deal that we would stay out of each other's way," Gordon said.

The move, originally budgeted for \$100,000, will only cost an estimated \$40,000 to \$60,000, Gordon said.

The new building has about 50



Sophomore journalism major Tara Pratt unpacks boxes in the administration office at the William W. Knight Law Center. The moving is expected to be done by Monday.

percent more space than Grayson Hall, will accommodate about 5,000 students and contains a larger library, conference rooms and study rooms. It also houses The Commons, a central place where students, faculty and staff can meet, she said.

In 1996, Phil Knight, Nike CEO and University alumnus, gave the University \$25 million. A portion of the gift was used to build the new law center in honor of his father, William W. Knight.

About two years ago, the University sold back some state bonds to raise \$10.3 million and more than \$14 million was raised through private funding.

After the School of Law moves into the new building, Grayson Hall will undergo a \$4 million renovation and be used by University Computing, the Department of History, the Ethnic Studies Program, the Social Science Instructional Laboratory and the Oregon Survey Research Labora-

tory.

"The main focus of the project is creation of high quality, flexible teaching space," said Fred Tepfer, planning associate for the Office of University Planning.

The existing lecture halls and classrooms will be upgraded with better equipment, better lighting and improved acoustics, he said. Two new 120-seat classrooms will be added and ten smaller classrooms will accompany them. In addition, the project will build two new computer classrooms. The total classroom capacity will be about 1,400 stations.

The project also includes new accessible entrances, more attractive approaches, improved bicycle parking, and many other features, Tepfer said.

Half of the construction funding is from gifts and other non-state funds. The other half is funded by the State of Oregon, he said.

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