

Science institute expects construction in 2006

This summer, work commences for the underground Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies building

BY EVA SYLWESTER
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

Groundbreaking for the underground Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute building is expected to take place during the summer of 2006, and the building will become occupied in fall 2007, according to the most recent schedule released Thursday at the Campus

Planning Committee meeting.

"We slowed the project down a bit because we wanted to get it right," said chemistry professor Jim Hutchison, who is on ONAMI's leadership team.

The committee met to review the schematic designs for the building and discuss the landscaping around the area. Approval of the design will be at the committee's meeting in January.

Hutchison said the site for the new building, underneath the lawn between Huestis Hall and Deschutes Hall, was selected because of the relative absence of vibrations that might harm the building's sensitive equipment and because of its proximity to other science buildings — including another science building that may be built between Deschutes Hall and Franklin Boulevard in the more distant future.

Hutchison said the new building will feature space for collaborative endeavors, such as those the University engages in with Oregon State University, Portland State University, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and industry representatives through ONAMI.

Tim Evans, principal architect for SRG Partnership, Inc., the firm designing the building, said the one part of the new building that would not be underground is the entrance.

Because neither Huestis Hall nor nearby Streisinger Hall has a major entrance, the entrance for the ONAMI building might also function as a major entrance for those two buildings.

It is likely that the entrance would be a stairway that allows natural light down into the ONAMI building, 19 feet below the sidewalk.

One of the goals of the project is to maintain open space on campus and encourage more active use of the plaza.

Part of artist Scott Wylie's "Science Walk," a chain of tiles on the ground connecting the science buildings from Cascade Hall to Deschutes Hall, would have to be removed during the



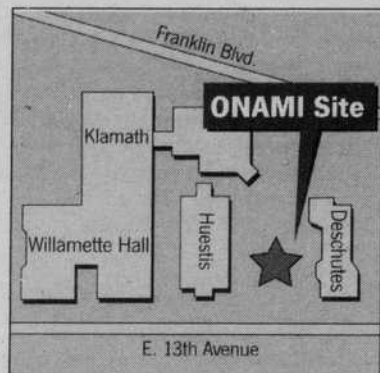
TIM BOBOSKY | PHOTO EDITOR

Tim Evans from SRG Partnership, Inc. speaks with Dennis Munroe, director of Physical Activity and Recreation Services, explaining some of the landscaping options for the yet-to-be-constructed underground building that will house the Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute.

construction process, but Evans said the pieces would be salvaged and then either reinstalled or recreated to emphasize links between the sciences.

Larry Gilbert, principal landscape architect for Cameron McCarthy Gilbert & Scheibe Landscape Architects LLP, said the construction would also necessitate the removal of at least 35 trees. He added that these trees are fairly young, planted only 10 years ago.

Contact the business, science and technology reporter at esylwester@dailyemerald.com



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Speaker encourages Americans to learn about Sudan civil war

The African Studies Committee invited professor Jok Madut Jok to contribute to its Baobab Lecture series

BY JOE BAILEY
NEWS REPORTER

For Americans concerned about the conflicts and atrocities that continue to ravage Sudan, Jok Madut Jok suggested a way to help: Learn more about the situation.

Jok, an associate professor of history at Loyola Marymount University, spoke Wednesday as the first lecturer in the Baobab Lecture series, presented by the University African Studies Committee.

Born and raised in southern Sudan, Jok has spent considerable time researching and working with the people in Sudanese refugee camps.

"They usually gave me the message: 'If people around the world know we are suffering, we aren't alone anymore,'" Jok said.

Sudan has been divided by Civil War since 1983, but it has received significantly more international

attention over the past two years as the world has watched government-sponsored militias attack the villages of tribal African populations in Darfur.

Approximately 200,000 people have been killed and more than 1 million have been displaced in Darfur since 2003, Jok said.

Jok traced the conflict in Sudan to three political and cultural currents. First, the rise of militant Islam in northern Sudan has radicalized Muslims who want to institute a theocratic state, he said.

Second, the ruling elite in Sudan has attempted to "homogenize" Sudan as an Arab country, Jok said, even though Sudan is composed of ethnically diverse population groups.

These steps have outraged Sudanese who do not identify as Arab or embrace radical Islam. To marginalize opposition groups, the Sudanese

government has undertaken a policy of silencing dissent.

"The response of the state has been to arrest, to maim, to torture and to exile," Jok said.

Jok began his lecture with a photographic slide show that illustrated how the violence has influenced all spheres of Sudanese life.

The slide show included a photo of an African Sudanese woman carrying a baby on her back while tucking an AK-47 assault rifle under her arm.

Jok criticized the international community for its unwillingness to intervene.

"It was the United States government that acknowledged genocide in Darfur, but why the hell isn't it doing anything?" said Jok, referring to a U.S. congressional resolution passed in Sept. 2004 that explicitly labeled the atrocities in Darfur as "genocide."

Jok also criticized European nations for continuing to do business

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