New Building For Forestry

Carl H. Stoltenberg

Iowa State University

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The 1963 Iowa Legislature has appropriated 2.7 million dollars to construct a new building for the Departments of Botany and Forestry. This appropriation will be supplemented by a 1.1 million dollar grant from the National Science Foundation to improve the building’s research facilities.

The four-story structure with its 140,000 square feet of floor area will provide sizeable increases in space and vastly improved facilities for both departments. It will be located east of MacKay (Home Economics) and west of Agronomy, on the south side of Osborn Drive (6th Street). Completely air-conditioned, it will be one of the largest and most modern and effective buildings on campus.

The Forestry Department will be located primarily on the second floor with additional ground-floor for heavier equipment for teaching and research in wood products.

Forestry facilities of particular interest will include private offices for all faculty, a modern general office, adequate office, computational and other facilities for graduate students, a faculty-graduate student reading room, and laboratories for research in silvics, tree physiology, mensuration, wood anatomy, and wood mechanics. Undergraduate students will benefit from the modern teaching labs and classrooms, a private office for the Ames Forester, improved facilities for the Forestry Club, better counselling and teacher-student contact opportunities, and a classroom designed for group participation in management and policy case studies and senior and graduate seminars.

The forestry facilities will reflect the faculty's effort to make more effective use of students’ class time by placing even greater emphasis on student participation in labs, discussion sessions, and courses involving independent action and problem solving. It will reflect the increasing importance of research and graduate study in forestry in general, and particularly in the areas of silvics, tree physiology, statistics as applied to forestry, wood science, and forestry economics.

We hope that building contracts will be let this fall and construction will start soon thereafter. We hope to occupy the building within two years.

This fine facility will fulfill one of the dreams of Prof. Mac and Professor Hartman, as well as other Iowa State forestry professors who have over the years sought improved facilities for forestry teaching and research.