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Zenon Smolarek, physical plant assistant director at UW-Stout, explains construction in a hallway of Harvey Hall.

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**July 26, 2015**

## Harvey Hall update continues on schedule

By UW-Stout News Bureau

MENOMONIE — The largest, most expensive and longest building renovation project in UW-Stout history is about halfway done.

Work is on schedule at Harvey Hall, with completion expected in late spring 2016. A grand reopening is planned for fall 2016, the building's 100th anniversary and the university's 125th.

"Harvey Hall is an integral part of UW-Stout and its history," UW-Stout Chancellor Bob Meyer said. "We all look forward to enjoying a renovated Harvey Hall for many years to come."

Four classrooms are scheduled to reopen in late January for the spring 2016 semester, according to Zenon Smolarek, physical plant assistant director who is overseeing the project.

The building has been closed since January 2014, when the project began with asbestos removal.

Five-level Harvey Hall is the largest academic building on campus. The \$28 million project is a top-to-bottom renovation that includes remodeled classrooms and offices; new infrastructure and historically correct 9-foot-high windows; brick tuck-pointing and exterior cleaning; and the addition of a first-floor food and lounge area.

The location of classrooms and offices are being reversed, with classrooms moving down to the first two floors and offices to the third and fourth floors. Fourth-floor skylights, part of the

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original building, are being restored. Hallways again will have 13-foot ceilings, with drop ceilings removed.

A mechanical room has been added to the roof. A second elevator, part of the original building, is being installed, partially necessitating the rooftop addition because the old, unused shaft was housing some mechanical operations. Heating and cooling efficiency also will improve.

Construction workers have found several old items during the project, including animal bones under the building, glass bottles, soda cans and a 1969 memo encouraging faculty and students to hear a speaker on campus.

The project actually is the second phase of the building's renovation. Harvey Hall Theatre reopened in April 2011 after a \$5.6 million upgrade.

The theater has been closed during the current project.

Harvey Hall originally was named the Domestic Science Building when it opened in 1916 and then the Home Economics Building.

It was renamed in 1952 after Lorenzo Dow Harvey, the school's first president from 1908 to 1922.

The building, the third academic structure on campus, was erected while Harvey was president.