Welcome! We are very pleased to showcase our newest residential facilities, the opening of which marks a proud and historic moment for the Ohio University community.

The bricks and mortar that you see are much more than student sleeping quarters. This new residence hall complex is a source of Bobcat pride. It brings to life a vision set in motion nearly a decade ago by Ohio University’s Housing Master Plan. It honors our growing student community, as well as the committed faculty and staff who support our students. Most importantly, this new housing complex is a pivotal step toward our educational mission – the intellectual and personal development of students.

The educational programming and day-to-day living experiences fostered by Ohio University’s new housing complex will deeply impact the lives of future students. Opportunities will unfold. Lifelong friendships will take root. Horizons will be broadened. In essence, the memories that take shape within and among these walls will define the OHIO experience for generations of students. We are honored that you have chosen to be part of this exciting time in Ohio University’s history.

Cordially,

Roderick J. McDavis, President

Jenny Hall-Jones, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs
Luchs Hall (217 beds) is named after Evelyn Coulter Luchs, who was the first woman trustee of Ohio University in 1949. Luchs was a graduate of Ohio University and was voted most outstanding student in 1927. Luchs received a Certificate of Merit Award from Ohio University for national contributions to education and religion. She was also known for her interest and participation in civic and welfare activities. Luchs was the president of the Ohio Council of Church Women and was actively involved in the National Council of Protestant and Presbyterian Church Women. She was on President Nixon’s Committee on Government Contracts along with the Board of Trustees of the International University of Tokyo. We are pleased for the opportunity to highlight our first woman trustee and an OHIO alumna.

Tanaka Hall (239 beds) is named after Tomoyasu and Sumiko Tanaka. Tomoyasu was a member of the physics and astronomy faculty from 1971-1989, was later appointed an emeritus faculty professorship, and is widely considered the father of the OHIO-Chubu relationship. He mentored Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, who received his Ph.D. from Ohio University in 1976 and received the 2009 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Sumiko Susuki frequently opened her home to exchange students and co-founded and co-funded the Exchange Program for Developmentally Disabled and Elderly Citizens. We are pleased for the opportunity to highlight these celebrated international relationships.
Sowle Hall (217 beds) is named after Claude R. Sowle, president of Ohio University from 1969-1974. Sowle led OHIO during a tumultuous time, including the closing of the University as a result of the riots in 1970 after the Kent State shootings. President Sowle was known for his transparency in office, often facilitating open budget hearings that were broadcast live over the campus radio stations. The Ombuds Office, the Office of Institutional Equity and the Honors Tutorial College as we know them today were all established during President Sowle's term. We are pleased for the opportunity to highlight the contributions of one of our past presidents.

Carr Hall (239 beds) is named after Arthur Carr, who graduated from Athens High School in 1902. One of 17 members of the 1903 Ohio University football team, he is believed to be OHIO's first African-American student-athlete. Carr graduated from Ohio University in 1905 and went on to attend Howard University Medical School, graduating in 1912. He later taught at Howard Medical School for 45 years. Carr's family owned a portion of the land where Peden Stadium now stands. We are pleased for the opportunity to highlight the contributions of a local alumni and scholar.
January 2014
First walls were erected on Tanaka Hall

First walls were erected on Tanaka Hall.

The southeast corner of the site houses a large generator that will serve the newly constructed buildings. A necessary life-safety feature of the site, the generator posed an aesthetic challenge. In September 2014, approval was received to pursue the commissioning of a relief sculpture that would be etched into two of the four brick walls that surround the generator, prompting a design by a local artist whose illustrations have promoted the iconic beauty of the Athens Campus for decades.

A retired designer and illustrator for Ohio University’s Printing Services, Tad Gallaugher, spent more than 20 years creating brochures, posters, fliers, and promotional materials for the University. An award-winning artist, Gallaugher focused his talents while at the University on capturing the iconic images for which the campus is known.

The illustrations were sent to sculptors Brad and Tammy Spencer, who used the images to bring the sculpture to life. Brad is an artist with more than 30 years of experience. Beginning January 2015, the Spencers, began chiseling and carving away at the brick relief sculpture.

Approximately 1,750 bricks completed the relief sculpture, the largest brick sculpture created by the couple to date. The south-facing image of the sculpture stands at nearly 17 feet wide by almost 9 feet tall, while the east-facing image is nearly 29 feet wide by almost 9 feet tall.

The bricklayers involved in installing the sculpture have been working on the Phase 1 site since they first started laying brick on the buildings. Two of those bricklayers from Kirk Brothers, Kevin Six and Mike Richter, have been laying bricks for more than 25 years, but this project marks the first time either of them had installed a brick relief sculpture.

Three-dimensional in nature, the sculpture includes iconic images of South Green and symbols of the University. The east-facing wall of the sculpture depicts views of the Athens Campus from the Hocking River.
In addition to the Phase 1 construction, renovation and demolition of residence halls on the Athens Campus, OHIO’s Housing Development Plan also includes the creation of additional recreational and green spaces. The first phase of the plan includes the development of Phase A of the plan’s “sweep concept,” creating pedestrian pathways and green space that links the campus’ East and South Greens to its West Green and upper campus.

The Sweep located on the northern end of the Phase 1 site from University Terrace to South Beach’s sand volleyball courts provides open green space for pedestrians and limited vehicular networks extending throughout the campus. The Sweep follows the topography and historic railroad bed, creating a series of campus spaces that allow for ease of pedestrian circulation and fully accessible routes from South Green. Key locations along the Sweep include Baker Center and academic buildings to the west, south of the Ping Center, Nelson Commons and east of South Beach.

The first phase of the sweep includes a hillside amphitheater that will be available for use by members of the OHIO community, as well as additional green space that can be used for gathering, playing, and learning. The sweep provides a complete front yard for the Phase 1 site which ties the campus together creating an expanded and unique gathering space.
QUICK FACTS

Construction

- Total gross square feet for all 4 Residence Halls and the Living-Learning Center: 276,528
- Project timeline: September 2013 - August 2015
- Total project cost: $110 million
- Number of project staff: 1,180+
- Miles of sod: 13
- Over 20,000 cubic yards of soil (over 1,700 truckloads) - to raise the first floor out of the floodplain
- Approximately 825,000 bricks

Sustainability

- In order to accommodate construction, a 79 foot, 166,000 pound State Champion Virginia Pine tree was moved 225 feet
- 80 trees were removed and 167 were planted
- Contractors joined OHIO’s commitment to sustainability with over 80% of the construction generated waste diverted away from landfills (over 801 tons of recycled material)
- All Phase 1 buildings combined will use 15.5% less energy than a standard (AHRAE 90.1) baseline building, equating to:
  a. 1,502,467 Kwh/yr savings
  b. $66,710/yr savings
  c. 1,142 tons savings of CO2 greenhouse gas emissions
- Interior wood doors are made from 85% recycled materials
- Buildings are projected to use 32% less water
- Water bottle filling stations were installed to encourage use of re-fillable containers