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2.0 – Background

This new Life Science & Philosophy Building at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania is partially funded by a gift from Ann & Richard Barshinger. This is the second building with their namesake at the F&M campus. The building provides a common space for the Biology, Psychology, and Philosophy Departments, as well as the Biological Foundations of Behavior and Scientific and Philosophical Studies of the Mind Programs. These labs, support offices/student spaces, faculty offices, and common study areas partly replace older facilities spread throughout the campus, and provide 40% more area for these departments and programs to spread and continue their growth, as well as provide the most cutting-edge resources to the students and faculty studying at F&M.

F&M has not been building many new facilities in recent years, mostly due to a dislike of the look and feel of most "new, sleek" buildings. Much care was taken to have this new facility blend with the rest of campus. The planned location was in place of 11 turf tennis courts to the west of the faculty/staff parking lot, and to the north of the Central Utilities Plant. This put the new building right at the heart of old campus. The college told Einhorn Yaffee Prescott that a Colonial-Revival building was the style they wanted, clad in brick to match the older buildings on campus, one in particular – Fackenthal Science Building. This, and the addition of a \$1.1Million Vermont Slate Roof, allows the building to blend in, at least partly, with the other core campus buildings.

The Barshinger LS&P Building encompasses 104,000 square feet of floor space in three above-grade floors, and a slightly smaller basement. The basement houses an observation vivarium and the upper floors house all the labs, classrooms, and faculty / student support spaces. Construction began in December of 2005, and the building was turned over in August of 2007, having just completed its first full academic year this spring. Turner Construction gave a GMP contract for the building at \$39.9Million, and the fully finished building cost F&M \$48.7Million at turnover.

This is to be the first of a few buildings slated for construction in the northwest quadrant of campus. Most of the infrastructure of "old campus" has been pushed to its limits, including the central chilled water plant. Originally, 4,000 square feet of floor space in the basement was planned for a new chiller plant, with all cooling towers placed on the flat hidden section of the new building's roof. However, after the soils reports came back, this plan was scrapped, and the building's chiller was relocated. The soil under the tennis courts was extremely rocky, so excavation was expensive. Because of this, the excavation for the chiller plant was eliminated, and kept to only the minimum needed for the vivarium, and vital mechanical systems. The building's chiller was moved to the central plant, and crammed into a very tight spot next to an existing chiller, but the tower was kept on the new roof. The new growth/master plan is to place the chiller plant (if possible) in one of the new buildings, or to place one chiller in each of those buildings, and locate the towers on the new building. Also planned is a reduction of the Central Utilities Plant, back to the original 1932 building. That requires shifting the existing chillers in the building to towers located on the roof of the new building. There is a great deal of space available up there, and it will be packed full of cooling towers within 10-15 years.