

“Ground-breaking” makes it official

Now it's official.

A ceremony on Thursday, May 2, celebrated the start of construction on the new science center. Work on the site had started in mid-March, reflecting the college's goal to have the building ready for use in the fall of 2003.

“You do not have to be very observant to realize that it is a bit of a stretch to call this a ‘ground-breaking’ ceremony,” said Hope College President James Bultman '63. “There already appears to be a considerable amount of ground broken, for which we are grateful.”

Remarks during the ceremony focused on the theme of the *Legacies: A Vision of Hope* capital campaign through which the new building is being built. Trustee Dr. George Zuidema '49 of Holland, Mich., cited the important contribution of faculty members across many decades, beginning with two of his mentors, Dr. J. Harvey Kleinheksel '22 and Dr. Gerrit Van Zyl '18.

“Hope College has held and continues to

hold a unique role in scientific research and education,” he said. “We are justifiably proud today of the record of the college and what a strong group of dedicated individuals have been able to accomplish over the years.”

Dr. James Gentile, dean for the natural sciences, noted that the new building will enable Hope to continue to play a leading role in science education by supporting the work of such dedicated faculty. “That's the legacy we're going to take forward when this building is built, so that the next generation of scientists from Hope College will be able to experience only the best,” he said.

Other participants in the ceremony included the Rev. Dr. Timothy Brown '73, Hinga-Boersma Dean of the Chapel and Henry Bast Professor of Preaching at Western Theological Seminary; Al McGeehan '66, mayor of Holland; J. Kermit Campbell of Traverse City, Mich., chair of the college's Board of Trustees; Dr. Donald Mulder '48 of Pacific Palisades, Calif., honorary trustee; and Matthew Nehs '02 of Traverse City, a graduating senior. ✎



Work on the science center had started in March, but a ceremony on Thursday, May 2, provided an opportunity both to celebrate the occasion and to help along the construction team a bit. From left to right are: Dr. James M. Gentile, J. Kermit Campbell, President James E. Bultman '63, Dr. George Zuidema '49, Matthew Nehs '02 and Dr. Donald Mulder '48.

“Quote, unquote”

Quote, unquote is an eclectic sampling of things said at and about Hope College.

Hope sponsors the “Cesar E. Chavez Address” annually in conjunction with national Hispanic Heritage Month. This year's talk, originally slated for Tuesday, Sept. 18, was delayed because travel complications and professional responsibilities following the September 11 terrorist attacks made it impossible for speaker Daniel Hernandez Joseph, consul of Mexico in Laredo, Texas, to visit campus as scheduled.

He spoke instead on Monday, April 15, presenting “Crossing Borders, Mending Bridges: U.S.-Mexico Immigration Debate and Challenges.” Here are excerpts from his discussion of how the United States and Mexico—which he said had pointedly avoided discussing immigration issues—worked their way toward dialogue on the topic by starting small and building trust.

“In negotiating all these documents and agreements, what was also happening was a human interaction—the rapport between the authorities. And I was part of that.

“And I can tell you, the first negotiation we did was not very ambitious—we were trying to establish a simple little program for people to be flown from San Diego to different parts of the interior of Mexico. It took us 12 hours locked up in a room to get that negotiation through because we did not trust each other.

“Whenever the U.S. side said something that we liked or offered or proposed something that we liked, we would ask for a team-back: we would go into a separate room from the negotiating room, just the Mexican delegation, and go, ‘What do they really want? What's their hidden agenda?’ And when we said something they really

liked, then they asked for a team-back and we knew that they were doing the exact same thing.

“And actually there was no hidden agenda. The truth is that there were a lot of points which we actually agreed upon.

“And slowly, over the years, after five years of being in all these negotiations—there would be a couple of them per month—at the end, when somebody would say, ‘Well, we want a team-back,’ we would go, ‘Wait, wait, wait. Before you leave, why don't you tell us: what are you concerned about? There is no hidden agenda.’

“We could be frank enough to move things right along and deal with much more complicated issues that only five years before that would have seemed impossible. It would have been unimaginable to see Mexican government officials and U.S. government officials sitting down together, dealing with these issues.

“Basically what we did is, we combed in all the U.S.-Mexico immigration issues, those areas where we agreed, where we had common ground, and that we could work on together. And those where we knew there was going to be disagreement, we just sort of left out and pushed to the margins, and we worked on what was agreeable to work on.

“This was what we were doing while the bi-national study [an analysis commissioned to examine immigration-related issues] was being produced. When the bi-national study came out, we had done so much that at this point looking at the bi-national study, we knew that we were ready to actually, for the first time, begin to really talk about immigration: what is happening with this movement of human beings from one country to another that has been going on for decades, and what can public policy truly do... to try to affect the reality of immigration.” ✎



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On the cover

In our main photo, faculty marshals Dr. Hersilia Alvarez-Ruf and Dr. Donald Luidens '69 lead the Class of '02 through the “Hope College” arch toward the end of the class's Baccalaureate, and undergraduate, journey.

At top center, Tom Stoner, Kathy Hoger '72 Mulder-Sheridan and Joyce Drolen '72 Budge catch up during Alumni Weekend.

At top right, freshman Lauren Vande Kopple of Rockford, Mich., makes it home.

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