Honors College & International Center

VFTH

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A brand new building that solidifies WKU’s presence as a leading American University with International reach will be dedicated tomorrow.

Amy Bingham takes us inside the new Honors College/International Center in this week’s View from the Hill.

Ten different programs that have been scattered across campus are now under one roof in a new 22 million dollar three story building that is billed as WKU’s Gateway to the World.

McKenzie Perdew \ Senior, Honors College

Sean Jacobson \ Senior, Honors College

Dr. Leila Watkins \Assist. Prof., Honors College

 Dr. Craig Cobane \ Exec. Dir., Honors College

 “Everyone on campus is going to know exactly where you go if you want an international experience.”

From the flags outside to the globe inside the atrium, there’s no doubt the new Honors College/International Center will expand WKU’s International reach even further.

 “Every single international student who comes to WKU will come through this building, all 1500 of them.”

It’s also the long awaited home of 1400 students in the Honors College.

 “It’s just so exciting to have this building all in one space for me at least because last year we were up at the top of the hill far away from Honors housing.”

Programs like the Office of Scholar development and the Chinese Flagship to name a few are just steps away.

 “It’s nice to have this environment where we’re becoming a crossroads for the Honors community and the International community.”

Students like Sean are taking advantage of the buildings many study rooms and faculty members love the flexibility of the classrooms.

 “The way the classrooms are set up is really perfect for the type of teaching I like to do and my colleagues like to do. “

The building even boasts three authentic British phone booths complete with skyping stations.

 “A student or faculty member can literally go in a british phone booth and skype up a friend or colleague in another part of the world.”

This thesis defense room displays the work of former honors graduates.

But perhaps the biggest buzz of the building has been The Passport Bistro which is scheduled to open in a few weeks.

 “After studying abroad I miss a lot of international foods, specifically gelato, I need gelato back in my life.”

Another element that will add to the building’s overall ambiance.

 “Just walking into this great atrium and seeing that globe in the middle, feeling like there’s something special about the place. “

A dedication ceremony for the Honors College and International Center is planned for four o’clock tomorrow afternoon at the facility on Normal Street.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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