The Harper Center project has made continuous progress over the summer months. The structure is being built on schedule for the University to occupy next summer. The completion of the steel erection culminated with a “topping off” event on July 19, 2007. The building has taken shape and its different components are now readily identifiable.

The masonry exterior is making good progress with the south elevation complete and the east elevation is in process. The concrete slabs on all floors have been poured and wall framing is underway. The sloped roof structures have been set and are being covered. Mechanical and electrical rough-in on all floors is progressing. Framing for glazing on the south side of the building is in progress and the elevator contractor is starting work on the vertical conveyance systems. Expect to see glass being installed in the next few weeks. The large air handlers for the ventilation system have been delivered to the project site. September will see concrete shingles being placed on the roof. Sadly, the tower crane will come down but possibly not until November.

In keeping with the continuous effort to have a “green” construction site, recycle bins have been placed throughout the jobsite to dispose of as much construction debris as possible. The project is not LEED certified but does meet the criteria to be certified, had a certificate been pursued.

A series of working groups are progressing through the details of operating the facility when it opens. Consideration is given to scheduling use of the space, operating hours and fixtures needed to operate. The results of the working groups will likely be completed this calendar year.

Tours of the facility will soon be scheduled so progress can be seen first hand watch for future announcements of dates and times.