

Assumption College President Francesco Cesareo makes opening remarks during the groundbreaking ceremony for a new academic building. T&G Staff/Christine Peterson

Telegram and Gazette 4/5/16

WORCESTER – With snow swirling around the shivering crowd that came out for the occasion, Assumption College officials Monday afternoon broke ground on a new academic building on campus.

The planned 60,000-square-foot building, the college's first major construction project since the Testa Science Center a dozen years ago, is expected to open in the fall of 2017.

Slated to go up between Fuller Hall and the Hagan Campus Center, the center is more than just a new addition at the school, Assumption's President Francesco C. Cesareo said in his address. It's also "a visible manifestation of the centrality of the intellectual life of the campus and a manifestation of the mission of the institution," he said.

Described by college officials as "state of the art," the new academic center will feature seminar rooms, common study spaces, and a 400-seat performance hall equipped with high-tech acoustic systems. It will also contain 13 classrooms designed for "group-based learning" rather than traditional lecture-based instruction, said the project architect, Stephen Van Dyke of Nault Architects Inc. in Worcester.



COURTESY ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

The new building at Assumption College will house seminar rooms and study spaces along with the performance hall and a multi-