The completed South Lawn Project provides new homes for three academic departments and a number of interdisciplinary programs. With its combination of classrooms, faculty offices and student gathering places, the project is designed to accommodate the contemporary program requirements of the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences while paying respect to the Jeffersonian architecture in the nearby Academical Village.

New academic buildings housing the History, Politics and Religious Studies departments are located on the south side of Jefferson Park Avenue. A broad, landscaped, stepped terrace connects the new buildings with Central Grounds across Jefferson Park Avenue, which will be below the terrace. At the south end of the terrace is a circular plaza that sits atop a Commons building, with an exterior stair leading to the garden areas below. A conservatory containing lounge spaces and a café with three-story glass walls is framed by two west-facing porches that serve as entrances to two perpendicular wings of buildings.

The buildings, Nau Hall and Gibson Hall, are named for John L. Nau III (College ’68), and David E. Gibson (College ’62, Law ’65). David Gibson is a founding sponsor and emeritus trustee of the College Foundation, and John Nau is past president of the Foundation. Gibson Hall is the home for the Politics and the Religious Studies departments and Nau Hall serves as the History department building for the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences.

The South Lawn Project has a strong environmental focus. The project is among the first LEED-certified building efforts at U.Va. The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating system has become the ultimate benchmark for green building in America, providing a "whole building" approach to sustainability. The system focuses on five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. The South Lawn Project will include green rooftops covered by living plant material. Among the featured plants are several varieties of drought-tolerant sedum.
The landscape includes several outdoor terraces, courtyards and gardens where groups can gather for class discussions or quiet conversations. An existing stream will be brought back to the surface and storm water will be accommodated on site. Native Virginia plantings will predominate in the landscape design.

Just east of Nau Hall on Jefferson Park Avenue, the Foster Historic Site will provide a public garden with interpretive exhibits and signage describing archaeological findings from the site and recognizing the history of free black property owner Catherine Foster, her family, and the Charlottesville community once known as “Canada.”

Building Plan Features

- 100-foot-wide terrace across Jefferson Park Avenue connects the South Lawn Project with the Central Grounds.
- At the south end of the terrace is a circular plaza that sits atop a Commons building, with an exterior stair leading to the garden areas below.
- Conservatory containing lounge spaces and a café with three-story glass walls is framed by two west-facing porches that serve as entrances to two perpendicular wings of buildings.

Architects

Design Architect–Moore Ruble Yudell, Santa Monica, Calif.
Associate Architect–Glaserworks, Cincinnati, Ohio
Landscape Architect–Hood Design, Oakland, Calif.

Project Cost

$105 million. The cost includes construction, landscape, parking, furnishings and equipment, as well as all consulting fees, code review and project management costs and project contingencies. The project is funded through a combination of University ($43.8 million) and philanthropic ($61.2 million) sources.

Building Size

109,000 gross square feet; approximately 70,000 net square feet

Environmental Focus

The project is among the first LEED-certified building efforts at U.Va. The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating system has become the ultimate benchmark for green building in America, providing a “whole building” approach to sustainability. The system focuses on five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The South Lawn Project will include green rooftops covered by living plant material. Among the featured plants are several varieties of drought-tolerant sedum.

Building Names

Nau Hall
Named for John L. Nau III (College ’68), president and CEO of Silver Eagle Distributors, the nation’s largest distributor of Anheuser Busch products and past president of the College Foundation. Nau Hall will serve as the history building for the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. See bio on next page.

Gibson Hall
Named for David E. Gibson (College ’62, Law ’65), a former executive vice president of Citicorp/Citibank and a founding sponsor and emeritus trustee of the College Foundation. Gibson Hall will be the home for the Politics and the Religious Studies departments within the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. See bio on next page.

*The College Foundation is an independent organization created by Arts & Sciences alumni to manage philanthropic gifts in support of the school and its programs.*
Rooms

- Commons building lecture hall (250 seats)
- 6 classrooms (2 at 60 seats, 4 at 30 seats)
- 4 seminar rooms (20 seats each)
- 2 student study lounges
- 6 computer lab suites
- 142 faculty offices
- 3 administrative suites
- 2 conference rooms
- 8 faculty/student meeting rooms.

Landscape

- Just east of Nau Hall on Jefferson Park Avenue, the Foster Historic Site will provide a public garden with interpretive exhibits and signage describing archaeological findings from the site and recognizing the history of free black property owner Catherine Foster, her family, and the Charlottesville community once known as “Canada.”
- Several outdoor terraces, courtyards and gardens where groups can gather for class discussions or quiet conversations.
- Existing stream will be brought back to the surface and storm water will be accommodated on site. Native Virginia plantings will predominate in the landscape design.

David E. Gibson

David E. Gibson is a former executive vice president of Citicorp/Citibank. A 1962 alumnus of the College of Arts & Sciences and a 1965 alumnus of the University of Virginia’s School of Law, Mr. Gibson is an emeritus trustee of the Darden Foundation for the Darden Graduate School of Business and a founding sponsor and emeritus trustee of the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. He is a member of the board for Assyst, a trustee of the Montpelier Foundation, a member of the advisory board of venture investment firm Fairfax Partners, and a member of the board of proprietary mutual funds distributed by the Citigroup Private Bank.

John L. Nau

John L. Nau III is President and CEO of Silver Eagle Distributors L.P., the nation’s largest distributor of Anheuser-Busch products.

Since 1995, Mr. Nau has served as Chairman of the Texas Historical Commission (THC). He was appointed to the THC in 1993, and is now serving his third term. In 2001, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to a four-year term as Chairman of the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and was reappointed in 2006.

Mr. Nau is a 1968 graduate of the College of Arts & Sciences, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in History. He is the past president of the College Foundation of the University and Vice Chairman of the U.Va. Capital Campaign. He has also served as Chairman of the College of Arts & Sciences Campaign and on the Board of Managers of the Alumni Association.