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Education News In Connecticut

By Staff & Wire Reports

Quinnipiac Moves Forward at Anthem Site

One of four buildings on the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield campus in North Haven will open in Fall 2008 for Quinnipiac University graduate students, it was recently reported in the New Haven Register. The building will be used for graduate health sciences programs.

A site plan and special permit that will allow Quinnipiac to start working on the building has been approved by town land-use agencies.

Bernard Pellegrino, an attorney for Quinnipiac, said that the exterior of the building will not change, and that existing parking at the site off Bassett Road will be sufficient.

Approximately 600 students will attend classes in the building. According to Pellegrino, Quinnipiac will have to return to the town for permission each time it wants to retrofit and occupy a building there.

As part of the university's entrance into the North Haven community, Quinnipiac will involve itself in town affairs.

James Bubaris, a traffic engineer hired by Quinnipiac, said that there will be less traffic with the change than when more than 2,100 people worked full-time at Anthem. Currently, approximately 1,600 Anthem employees work at the site.

Quinnipiac announced in January that it had reached an agreement with Wellpoint, Inc. to purchase the 100-acre Anthem site in North Haven. The school immediately gained access to the vacant 100,000-square-foot building on the campus, and will obtain access to the remainder of the site over a 10-year period. It is expected that the university will eventually create a comprehensive Graduate Education Center for most, if not all, of its graduate programs in the School of Health Sciences, School of Business, School of Communications and Division of Education.

The movement of graduate programs to the North Haven campus will free up considerable space on Quinnipiac's Mount Carmel campus for use by undergraduates.