THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

FALL 2016

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Construction feat marks major milestone in Rockefeller's campus expansion project

A 19 million-pound structure has been assembled by hoisting steel sections from the river and over the FDR.

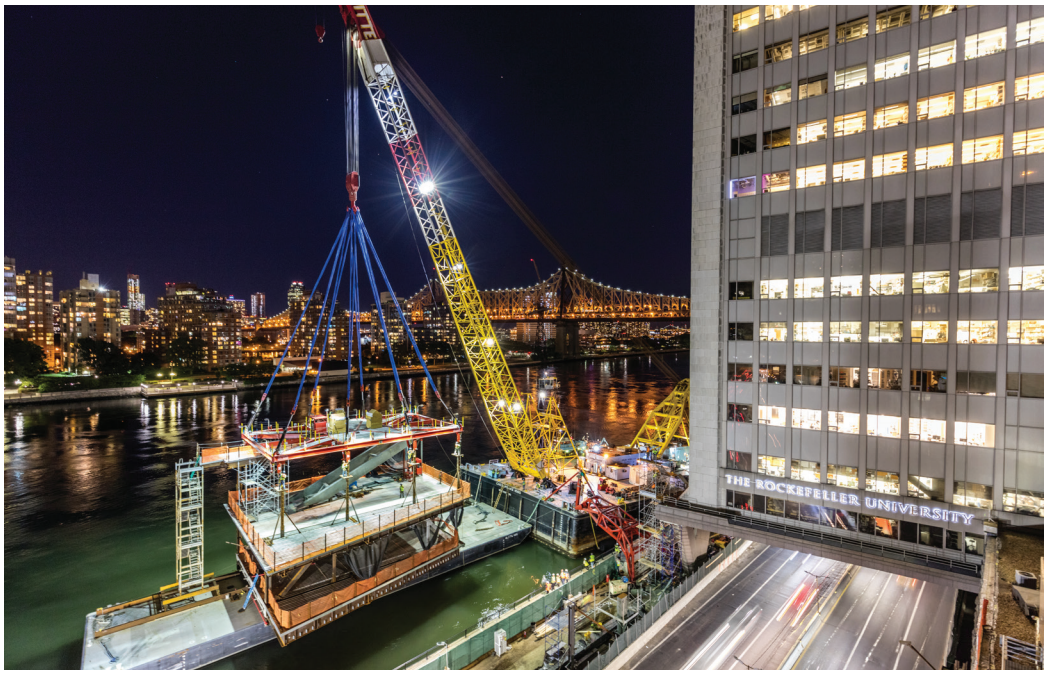

Photo: Max Touhey

Rockefeller University reached a milestone in its campus expansion project this past summer when the last of 19 massive steel modules was bolted into place, completing the structural skeleton of the new Stavros Niarchos Foundation–David Rockefeller River Campus. Beginning in mid-June, the prefabricated sections, the heaviest weighing 1.5 million pounds, were carefully lifted over the FDR Drive by the largest barge-mounted crane on the East Coast. The installations—repeated 19 times, one for each module—were conducted overnight and required the precise coordination of brief highway closures with lulls in the East River's tides.

The River Campus, due to be completed in the spring of 2019, will add two acres to the university's footprint and will include the Marie-Josée and Henry R. Kravis Research Building—a two-story, three-and-a-half-block-long, 136,000 square-foot laboratory facility.

As part of this project, Rockefeller made repairs to a dilapidated stretch of the East River seawall, and will also improve the adjacent, public portion of the East River Esplanade. With new landscaping, pavement, lighting, and a variety of seating designed to maximize views, the Esplanade will be a renewed waterfront experience. A noise barrier will be installed to dampen the sound of FDR traffic for bikers, joggers, and other park visitors. The university has created a $1 million endowment to maintain the landscaping in perpetuity. It has also partnered with and made a $150,000 donation to Friends of the East River Esplanade, a conservancy supporting the Esplanade's renovation.

Throughout the planning phases of the project, Rockefeller has worked in conjunction with its neighbors and local government officials to ensure the public enhancements meet the needs of the community. For example, to help minimize inconvenience to both neighbors and drivers, the steel River Campus superstructure was prefabricated offsite as a series of interlocking modules. Each module, brought by barge from Keasbey, New Jersey, to the Upper East Side, was hoisted into place by a crane and then attached to support columns that had been constructed along both sides of the FDR. The modules were installed during overnight road closures stretching from June into mid-August.

The next phase of construction will involve the creation of two pavilions—one for dining and one for administrative offices—atop the superstructure. By mid-2017, the building will be enclosed and interior work will begin. Renovations to enhance the Esplanade will begin around the same time, with anticipated completion in the spring of 2018.

For updates on the project and to see photos and videos of the construction, visit rivercampus.rockefeller.edu or send an email to campus.extension@rockefeller.edu.

Rockefeller welcomes President Richard P. Lifton

An internationally recognized physician-scientist, Richard P. Lifton took office on September 1 as Rockefeller University's 11th president. Dr. Lifton, who has pioneered the use of genomics to uncover the fundamental mechanisms of human disease, is best known for discovering the connection between salt consumption and high blood pressure. His work has informed public health efforts to prevent hypertension, and has led to the development of therapeutic strategies used worldwide to treat the condition.

Dr. Lifton received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University. Among other prestigious appointments, he has served on the faculties of Harvard Medical School and Yale University, and co-chaired the planning committee for President Obama's Precision Medicine Initiative in 2015. Before joining Rockefeller, he was chair of Yale's department of genetics and executive director of the Yale Center for Genome Analysis.

Dr. Lifton, who is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Medicine, was named president of Rockefeller in May, succeeding Marc Tessier-Lavigne, who stepped down to become president of Stanford University. Dr. Lifton is moving his lab to Rockefeller, continuing a longstanding tradition of presidents maintaining active research programs.

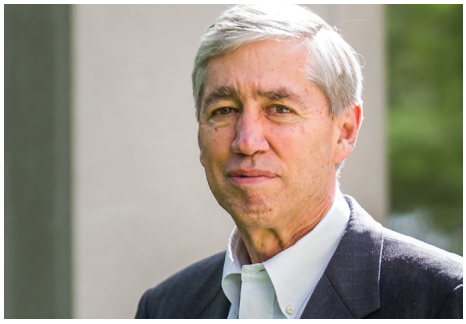

Photo: Scott Rudd

"The clarity of purpose and the mission at Rockefeller—science for the benefit of humanity—speak to me in a profound way," he says. "The environment here is perfect for developing a deep relationship between innovation, basic biology, and understanding human health and disease."

SCIENCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANITY

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The Rockefeller University is the world's leading biomedical research university, devoted to making transformative discoveries in bioscience and improving medicine for the benefit of humanity.

www.rockefeller.edu

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Clinical Trials

The Rockefeller University Hospital, a unique facility devoted exclusively to clinical research, is recruiting volunteers to participate in several innovative trials.

Riluzole in Alzheimer's Disease

Do you or your loved one have Alzheimer's? The Rockefeller University Hospital is conducting a study testing a new drug that may improve memory.

Learn more at go.rockefeller.edu/riluzole.

Reduced sense of smell

Have you lost some or all sense of smell? The Rockefeller University Hospital is conducting a study to develop an improved test to detect impaired sense of smell.

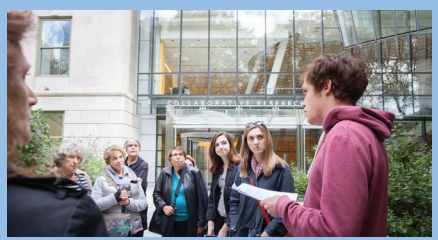
Learn more at go.rockefeller.edu/smell.

More than 100 other clinical studies are currently underway at Rockefeller. Explore them at www.rucares.org or call 1-800-RUCARES.

Community Connection is published by The Rockefeller University Office of Communications and Public Affairs.

Upcoming Event

OCTOBER 15 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.



Open House New York: Tours of The Rockefeller University campus

Get a free guided tour inside the world's leading biomedical research university, and visit several buildings including the historic library. No tickets or reservations required.