

## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anne Taylor Carros  
Lord, Aeck & Sargent  
404-253-6710  
[acarros@lasarchitect.com](mailto:acarros@lasarchitect.com)  
or  
Ann Kohut  
Kohut Communications Consulting  
770-913-9747  
[annielk@bellsouth.net](mailto:annielk@bellsouth.net)

**Lord, Aeck & Sargent Announces Four Student Life Facility Wins**  
*Projects recognize the architecture firm's expertise on a nationwide basis*

ATLANTA, Oct. 29, 2012 – Expanding the geographic reach of one of its areas of expertise – the design of student life facilities – [Lord, Aeck & Sargent](#) (LAS) announced that four colleges and universities recently have awarded the architecture firm significant such projects.

At [Millersville University](#) (Millersville, Penn.), LAS is partnering with private developer Ambling University Development Group and Student Services Inc., a non-profit corporation that enhances the campus and is managed by the university, to replace more than 2,000 beds over five years at a cost of \$180 million. At [Texas Southern University](#) (Houston), HarrisonKornberg Architects in collaboration with LAS will design a \$41.5 million urban student housing project. At [Western Michigan University](#), (Kalamazoo), LAS was just selected to design a housing complex. And LAS is designing its third student housing project for [Young Harris College](#) (Young Harris, Ga.), this one a \$9.5 million facility targeted toward first-year students. Joe Greco, LAS president and design principal for the four projects, said all of them will have significant living/learning components.

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“We’re particularly excited about these recent wins because the Millersville, Texas Southern and Western Michigan awards confirm that our reputation for designing successful live/learn/play environments in the southeast is becoming recognized nationally,” Greco said. “And we’re very appreciative of our ongoing relationship with Young Harris. We view the college’s continued confidence in our firm as a strong endorsement of our ability to deliver responsive design, technological expertise and exceptional service.”

The Millersville housing, which will be designed in phases, will replace six aging dormitories over the next five years, transforming the South Quad of the campus into an academic village. The first phase, designed primarily for freshmen, will be a mostly four-story, 185,000-square-foot project with more than 700 beds in a mix of single- and double-occupancy suites and semi-suites, at a projected development cost of \$35 million. The project design consists of two V-shape residential wings connected by a signature living/learning center that will anchor the end of a historic campus lawn. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2013 and is planned to be completed by August 2014. Benchmark Construction of Brownstown, Pennsylvania, is the construction manager.

The new Texas Southern University (TSU) facility, unlike Millersville, will be located in an urban setting on university-owned land adjacent to the existing main campus. Actively addressing the street, the building is expected to have at least one ground-level retail component. Currently estimated to be 215,000 square feet, the facility will house 800 beds and large and small group social and study spaces on six to seven floors. Construction on the TSU project is scheduled to begin in May 2013, with completion anticipated in July 2014.

At Western Michigan (WMU), the 750- to 1,000-bed housing complex involves the sustainable redevelopment of a central precinct on WMU’s campus, including the demolition of two 1960s-era dormitories and redevelopment of the quad with new, state-of-the-art residence halls. The complex will consist of the individual units, support spaces, an academic area, and

other amenities. Construction is slated to begin in late 2013 with occupancy scheduled for the fall of 2015.

The new student housing at Young Harris College (YHC) is the third such project designed by LAS for the college in the last four years as part of its transformation from a two-year college to a comprehensive four-year institution. While LAS' previous projects, Enotah Hall and The Village, were designed with sophomores and upperclassmen in mind, the new facility will be designed primarily for first-year students.

The 57,500-square-foot facility will house more than 230 beds organized in "pods." Each "pod" will contain 11-12 double-occupancy rooms, one single room for a resident assistant, two common bathrooms and a common living area. Pods will be organized in three adjoining pavilions. Two of the structures will be four stories and one, three stories. The central pavilion will house common areas for all residents on the ground floor. Targeting LEED certification, construction began in October with the building scheduled to open in time for the fall 2013 semester. Hardin Construction Co. is construction manager for the project, and Brailsford & Dunlavey is the program manager.

#### **About Lord, Aeck & Sargent**

LAS is an award-winning architectural firm serving clients in academic, historic preservation, scientific, arts and cultural, and multi-family housing and mixed-use markets. The firm's core values are responsive design, technological expertise and exceptional service. The firm is listed as 28<sup>th</sup> in *Architect, the Magazine of the American Institute of Architects'* annual "Architect 50" ranking of U.S. architecture firms. The ranking is based on business, sustainability and design excellence/pro bono. In 2007, Lord, Aeck & Sargent was one of the first architecture firms to adopt [The 2030 Challenge](#), an initiative whose ultimate goal is the design of carbon-neutral buildings, or buildings that use no fossil-fuel greenhouse gas-emitting energy to operate, by the year 2030. Lord, Aeck & Sargent has offices in Ann Arbor, Michigan; Atlanta, Georgia; Austin, Texas; and Chapel Hill, North Carolina. For more information, visit the firm at [www.lordaecksargent.com](http://www.lordaecksargent.com).

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