

SAO eNews  
State Architect's Office / Columbus, Ohio  
January 5, 2007

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1. Groundbreaking ceremony held for new Taft Plant Health Diagnostic Laboratory

A groundbreaking ceremony took place Jan. 3 for the new Taft Plant Health Diagnostic Laboratory for the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Governor Bob Taft, Director Fred L. Daily of the Ohio Department of Agriculture and Keith Manbeck, President-elect of the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association gave comments and broke ground for the new \$10.5 million facility.

The Taft Plant Health Diagnostic Laboratory, totaling 27,155 square feet, will be located on the Ohio Department of Agriculture's campus in Reynoldsburg and will feature plant pathology, entomology and seed labs.

The State Architect's Office oversaw the design of the building and will oversee the construction of the project, which is scheduled to begin in August. For more information, go to <http://www.ohioagriculture.gov/news/>.

2. SAO deputy state architect named

Please join the State Architect's Office in congratulating Ned Thiell as the new deputy state architect for management team A, representing higher education facilities and Ohio Department of Administrative Services projects. SAO is pleased to promote one of our great employees. Ned's new role officially started December 10.

3. Employment opportunity: Architect

SAO is continuing to seek applicants for the position of architect, serving as a project manager and reporting to a deputy state architect. There is little design, in the traditional sense, related to the position; rather, the successful candidate will manage projects during all phases from programming through post-occupancy.

Applicants must be an architect licensed by the State of Ohio. Additional information is available on the state Web site at [www.stateofohiojobs.com](http://www.stateofohiojobs.com). Applicants may apply electronically or submit an application to the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Office of Employee Services, 30 E. Broad St., Room 4001, Columbus, Ohio, 43215-3414.

#### 4. 2007 SAO College classes announced

SAO College will be held Feb. 12 and 13 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus in conjunction with the Ohio Construction Conference, sponsored by the Builder's Exchange of Central Ohio.

The State Architect's Office will offer classes on the new Ohio Standard Requirements for Public Facility Construction (Front End), how to secure work in Ohio for Associates and Contractors, insider secrets to successful code compliance, the state of high performance design in Ohio, growing your business with the EDGE (Encouraging Diversity, Growth and Equity) program, secrets to a successful state project, closing out a state project, and a special "lunch n' learn" for business office professionals about how to get paid using SAO's new electronic forms.

For a full list of classes, go to [www.das.ohio.gov/saocollege](http://www.das.ohio.gov/saocollege). Registrations for each class will open soon at the Builder's Exchange of Central Ohio's Web site at <http://www.bx.org>. Questions about SAO College should be directed to Angie Carder at 614.752.0448 or via e-mail at [angie.carder@das.state.oh.us](mailto:angie.carder@das.state.oh.us).

#### 5. Link to the January Ohio Register

The January 2007 issue of the Ohio Register was posted to the SAO Web site on Jan. 2. It can be viewed and printed at [www.ohio.gov/sao](http://www.ohio.gov/sao) (click on Ohio Register).

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