

# Sommer Center for Health and Fitness Education

## Bluffton University

- **60,000-square-foot complex** located north of Marbeck Center—construction began July 2011; opening November 2012
- **Expected to be the first campus building certified** by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) system
- **\$14.7 million project funded by Bluffton alumni and friends as part of "Extending Our Reach,"** a comprehensive campaign that has raised more than \$32.7 million in cash and pledges for academic programs, scholarships and endowment, as well as the building project
- **Facility features include:**
  - **Copeland Court, the new home for intercollegiate basketball and volleyball,** with seating for more than 1,500 plus two practice courts and a walking/jogging track. Replacing 61-year-old Founders Hall as the home of Beavers basketball and volleyball, the new facility will be on par with the best in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference. Added court space will also enable intramural athletes to participate more often and at more reasonable times.
  - **Fitness and weight training center,** a 5,000-square-foot space for all students with separate areas for aerobic fitness and free weights
  - **Reichenbach Room, a multipurpose space** with an elevated view of the arena, to be used for classes, meetings and special events
  - **Collegiate locker and team rooms** for men's and women's basketball and volleyball
  - **Sports medicine center** with an exam room and offices for physicians and trainers; space for physical rehabilitation, including hydrotherapy; and dedicated areas for treatment and taping
  - **Administrative offices for athletics and the academic department of health, fitness and sport science,** which graduates many teacher-coaches and prepares students for growing opportunities in the fields of recreation and rehabilitative care
- **Architects** are Boston-based Sasaki Associates, who also designed Bluffton's academic center, Centennial Hall, which opened in 2000
- **General contractor** is Bellefontaine, Ohio-based Thomas & Marker Construction, whose many building projects at Bluffton have included Centennial Hall and, most recently, summer 2010 improvements to College Hall, Musselman Library and the Burcky Gym locker complex