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UB adds parcel to downtown base

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NEWS STAFF REPORTER

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UB continues to claim land along the downtown medical corridor.

The University at Buffalo Foundation has purchased a small parcel at 65 Goodell St. from a corporation called Nosnevets LLC for \$875,000, according to records filed in the Erie County clerk's office.

The parcel abuts the former M. Wile building— now UB's Downtown Gateway building. In fact, the 8,400-square-foot atrium to the Downtown Gateway was built on the parcel.

The former owner of the Downtown Gateway building leased the land from Nosnevets, which is affiliated with Eastman Machine, said Timothy A. McCarthy, vice president for legal and corporate affairs at Eastman.

"It's a much better arrangement for the university to own rather than lease this property," said UB spokesman John Della-Contrada. "Purchase of the property enables UB to keep moving ahead in its development of a downtown campus."

UB this summer plans to break ground for a building on the parking lot adjacent to the Downtown Gateway.

The new four-story structure — first announced in 2007 — will be connected to the Downtown Gateway and be constructed for UB's Educational Opportunity Center, which helps disadvantaged people in the region receive job training and prepare for college.

Construction is expected to begin in August and be completed in 2012.

UB has been taking steps toward establishing a downtown campus. Besides buying the Downtown Gateway building in Bankruptcy Court in 2007 and adding a new Educational Opportunity Center building, UB and Kaleida Health are constructing a \$291 million vascular and research center on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

In addition, UB and its foundation last month announced an agreement to purchase the 15-acre McCarley Gardens apartments from St. John Baptist Church, so the university can eventually relocate its Medical School and other health-related departments downtown.

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