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Education

Bentley launches \$85 million renovation of largest campus academic building



A rendering of the future remodel of the Adamian Center at Bentley University.



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Story Highlights



- Bentley University started an \$85 million renovation of its campus.
- The 90,000-square-foot Adamian Academic Center will open to students by fall 2027.
- Provost Paul Tesluk said the facility will feature immersive data labs.

Bentley University has begun construction on an \$85 million project to overhaul the largest academic buildings on campus.

The Waltham business school is looking to “future proof” its most active student building, the Adamian Academic Center, with a complete makeover focused on bringing more technology into business classes.

“This is about creating the physical space that will allow for technology entrepreneurship at scale,” said Paul Tesluk, provost and vice president for academic affairs at the institution.

The new center began construction in March after two years of planning with firm DSK Architects.



Image: Bentley University

Bentley's first maker space will be in the revamped Adamian Center.

BENTLEY UNIVERSITY

Bentley's remodeled Adamian Academic Center is designed to be 90,000 square feet and have four levels. The center is adding a cafe for students, an open courtyard, and faculty offices.

The building is expected to be ready for students by fall 2027, university officials said.

According to Tesluk, Adamian's redesign is focused around business technology that will elevate the classroom experience. In one room will be Bentley's first "maker space" for students interested in creating products. In another, there will be a space for virtual and artificial reality-fused classes.

The provost also described an immersive data lab where there will be ribbon screens on every wall primed for displaying relevant material for a class to solve a data-driven business problem influenced by current events.



Image: Bentley University

Bentley University is creating a data lab with wraparound screens to do real-time business analysis.

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"Imagine a finance class that looks at how events in the Middle East impact markets or oil in real time," said Tesluk. "There are a host of fascinating topics you could look at with this type of space."

The building remodel is also prompting Bentley to redesign classes that could best use the new immersive technology spaces. One required undergraduate computer-science course, for example, is being recreated to integrate the experiential learning spaces.

The Bentley community was a part of the design process, Tesluk said, and students across all ages, from pre-college to Ph.D., will be able to attend classes in the building.

"Adamian is intended to have hundreds of students in the space every day and we're working now on how to cement the semester sequences to see which courses can use various spaces," said Tesluk.