

It probably cost more to fix a fire-damaged dorm at U-W-La Crosse this year than to build the dorm in the first place...

The renovation of Drake Hall is nearly complete, but it won't be open to students again until just before the fall semester. Campus residence life director Nick Nicklaus says the repair bill came close to three million dollars. And the remodeling process was prolonged by the need to replace wiring that was fused together by the January fire.

Nobody was hurt in the Drake fire, and the exact cause is still unknown. Meanwhile, the university expects the cleanup of another campus fire last weekend at Wittich Hall to take about a month.