

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Biotechnology/Life Sciences Renovation

2009 – 11 Request:	\$15,100,000	Project Type:	Program (Renovation)
Institution Priority:	#13	Project Phase:	Design/Construction
		Gross Square Ft:	79,188

Washington State University is requesting funding for the renovation of teaching and research laboratories and office space in Eastlick/Heald, Fulmer, and Abelson Halls.

This project emerged as the result of the planned relocation of the College of Sciences School of Molecular Biosciences to a new state-of-the-art biotechnology research building (Biotechnology/Life Sciences) scheduled for completion in Fall 2009. The move allows the University to implement a strategic and cost-effective approach to utilizing existing space that will help meet the long-term needs of growing and successful College of Sciences teaching and research programs.



Remodeling and modernizing these facilities supports the development of cutting-edge programs in the biological, chemical, and environmental sciences, and is critical to the retention and recruitment of top-level faculty and graduate students. These are established high-demand program areas. The University's 2009-11 Operating Budget Request includes enrollment funding for the sciences and specifically for integrated science enrollments to educate future teachers with expertise in math and science education and entrepreneurs to support biomedical and technology industries in the state.

Use of the existing Abelson, Eastlick, and Fulmer Halls have significantly changed from their original intent when constructed in 1936 (Abelson Hall) 1977 (Eastlick Hall), and 1990 (the last major addition to Fulmer Hall). Regulations now require more sophisticated laboratories, utilities, services, vibration-resistive and structurally-sound environments. Information technology infrastructure must accommodate the distance mentoring of students, virtual communications and data-distribution with collaborative distant research centers and state-of-the-art multi-media teaching and core research facilities. Heald Hall and Morrill Hall are no longer conducive to conducting successful research programs and select activities currently housed in those buildings are part of the relocation plan.

Recognizing space is a critical university resource, the University developed an integrated planning approach with strategies for reassignment and reallocation of space to be vacated by the School of Molecular Biosciences. The key strategies identified include relocating nearly all School of Molecular Biosciences (SMB) faculty, graduate students and laboratories to the new Biotechnology/Life Sciences Building. After renovation, the space would be assigned to the growing programs from the School of Biological Sciences, the Department of Chemistry, the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, the School of Biological Sciences, the College of Sciences administrative offices and an undergraduate learning and science education advising program, currently located in multiple locations and extremely difficult for students to access.

This project is more cost effective than the development of new research facilities and allows for an expedited solution to the current "quality of space" challenges these growing science programs face.