Subject: School of Public Health
School of Public Health Buildings Renovation

Action Requested: Approval of Schematic Design and Revised Budget

Background:

At the February 2000 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the $40 million renovation of the Henry F. Vaughan Building (SPH I) and the appointment of Centerbrook Architects and Planners as the architect. The scope of the project at that time was primarily to upgrade infrastructure within the SPH I Building, constructed in 1942. After we began programming for the renovation in the spring of 2000 it became clear that the original renovation project, that would have gutted and renovated the existing SPH I building, did not meet the requirements of laboratory sciences, nor did it reflect the sustained growth in research at the School of Public Health or the newly emerging priorities for the role of public health in the world. In addition, we found that the circa 1942 SPH I building does not lend itself to cost effective renovation of laboratory space.

The project scope was then refined to propose demolition of the southerly east/west wing of the building to allow the creation of new laboratory space of the type that is necessary to build modern, open laboratories that will be flexible into the future. A 125,000 gross square foot addition and 69,000 square foot renovation are currently proposed. The addition will be seven floors plus a penthouse for mechanical equipment and will house modern open laboratories, instructional spaces, student and faculty interaction spaces, and offices. The proposed addition will better address the remarkable growth in sponsored research that has doubled over the past five years. This impressive growth in valuable research has led us to plan for additional growth, and led to the revised budget estimate of $70 million necessary to put the School in a competitive position. Also, the addition will address the current space constraints of the School, which currently leases a significant amount of off-site space.

We estimate an additional 50 parking spaces for faculty and staff will be needed upon project completion. These parking needs will be accommodated by the Cardiovascular Center parking deck, scheduled for completion in late 2006.

We are seeking approval to revise the project budget from $40,000,000 to $70,000,000. Funding will be provided from a combination of investment proceeds from the University and the School of Public Health along with gifts. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Regents. A phased construction schedule is planned in order to minimize disruption of the academic calendar, with construction scheduled to begin in Summer 2003 and be completed in Fall 2006.

We recommend the Regents approve the schematic design and revised budget for School of Public Health Buildings Renovation project as presented at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow
Interim Chief Financial Officer