Subject: George Granger Brown Memorial Laboratories
Mechanical Engineering Addition

Action Requested: Authorization to Issue the Project for Bids and Award Construction Contracts

Background:

At the December 2010 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the schematic design for the George Granger Brown Memorial Laboratories Mechanical Engineering Addition. The approximately 220,000 gross square foot George Granger Brown Memorial Laboratories (G. G. Brown) was constructed in 1958 and houses the Department of Mechanical Engineering, which has evolved to include emerging research areas such as bio-systems, energy systems, and nano-systems. The College of Engineering proposes an approximately 62,500 gross square foot addition to G. G. Brown. The addition will house research laboratories and faculty and graduate student offices to support these emerging research endeavors, as well as spaces that will enhance the ability to realize ultra-high-resolution measurements at molecular and atomic scales. This addition will be designed to support interdisciplinary collaboration within the university and with other academic institutions and industry. The scope of this project includes the architectural, mechanical and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements.

The estimated cost of the project is $46,000,000. Funding will be provided from a combination of College of Engineering resources, gifts, investment proceeds, and a construction grant from the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by bond proceeds or increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Board of Regents. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2014.

We recommend that the Board of Regents authorize issuing the George Granger Brown Memorial Laboratories Mechanical Engineering Addition project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

December 2011