

Biological Sciences Building Renovations

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize the President, or his designee, to proceed with the design and construction to renovate spaces in the Biological Sciences Building for a project cost not to exceed \$2,500,000. Funding for this project will be provided from Series 2013 general revenue bond proceeds obtained for this purpose.

Background and Project Description

The Biological Sciences Building (BSB) was constructed in 1991, and is located on the corner of Gullen Mall and Warren. The basement through fifth floor provides research and office space, and the sixth floor consists of four greenhouse spaces and mechanical rooms. During the 2012 Facilities Review conducted for purposes of updating the Campus Facilities Master Plan and identifying priorities to be funded by Series 2013 bonds, dysfunctional core facilities and support equipment in this building were noted as significant issues impeding research productivity. The need to upgrade these facilities was ranked as high priority and funding for the project was obtained through sale of Series 2013 bonds.

The project scope includes improving the environment of the four greenhouse spaces by replacing the existing roof system, and upgrading mechanical, electrical and lighting systems. Equipment in two autoclave rooms will be replaced and the rooms restored to good condition. The project scope also includes creating a suite of five microscopy rooms, and a suite of four rooms to provide additional DLAR space. New laboratory casework and furniture will be installed as needed. Many of these improvements will benefit all researchers who work in this building.

All contracts for this project will be awarded in accordance with University policies and procedures, and with a focus on sustainability.