

NURSING DISTANCE LEARNING CLASSROOM RENOVATION

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors authorize the President, or his designee, to award contracts for the renovation of the Nursing Distance Learning Classroom Renovation. It is further recommended that the Board of Governors authorize spending up to \$650,000 to design and construct the project. Funding for this project will be provided from the College of Nursing.

Background and Project Description

The project involves modification of distance learning classrooms in the Nursing School that increases capacity and upgrades technology. This project is in progress.

The original estimate and established budget for this project was \$455,000, and was under the Board of Governor's threshold required for approval policy of \$500,000. The demolition for the project is complete and the construction is in progress. Bids were received for the audio visual distance learning component of the project after the construction work was in progress and the lowest bid received is almost three times the original estimate for the audio visual components. In addition there were some unforeseen conditions with infrastructure access that raised construction costs. The total project cost for the project is now anticipated to be \$650,000. The project is funded by the College of Nursing and the College of Nursing is prepared to fund the overage.

The Richard Cohn Building constructed in 1960 has undergone a number of renovations over the years to update and improve instructional spaces to support the academic mission of the College. To continue the progress, the proposed project will modify distance learning classrooms to increase capacity and upgrade technology.

Participation in the College of Nursing's Synchronous Distance Learning Program is available for the MSN, DNP, and Graduate Certificate programs. The Distance Learning Program allows users to participate in a live videoconferencing with the traditional on-site classes from remote sites located 60 miles or more from our campus. Currently, students are located all over Michigan and Ohio and connect to and participate in classes from sites in Lansing, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Traverse City, Marquette, and Flint. Distance students represent a growing portion of the College's graduate level students. For the Fall 2017 term, 20% of the College's MSN students are participating in class via distance technology. Expanding the distance capabilities will allow the College to further grow the graduate level programs and reach a broader potential student population outside of metro Detroit.

Submitted by: William R. Decatur, Vice President, Finance and Business Operations

As the enrollment of distance students grows, so does the demand for classrooms equipped with the proper distance technology. Nursing currently has seven distance-enabled classrooms. Depending on term enrollment, all of the rooms can be in use simultaneously. This project will provide the College with the ability to teach onsite classes of up to 90 students while also creating an additional distance classroom.

The project will convert some smaller classrooms into one large distance learning facility with leading edge technology and upgrade the technology in another smaller distance learning classroom. The project will also expand an adjacent conference room and add a kitchenette. Demolition and construction of the new spaces; reconfiguring the mechanical, electrical and plumbing; new finishes; furniture; and distance learning technology and equipment are included.

Approval is sought from the Board of Governor's to continue the project through completion to the budget of \$650,000 fully funded by the College of Nursing. All contracts will be awarded in accordance with University policies and procedures.

Submitted by: William R. Decatur, Vice President, Finance and Business Operations

Project Budget

Funding Sources	
College of Nursing	\$650,000
TOTAL Sources	\$650,000
Expenditures Plan	
Design Fees	\$30,000
Construction	\$300,000
Furniture	\$108,000
Equipment and Technology	\$192,000
Project Management and Contingency	\$20,000
TOTAL Expenditures	\$650,000