

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY



PROPOSAL FOR ACADEMIC RENOVATION & ADDITION

Project: Health & Science Building

Montana hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and other health care providers rely increasingly on the graduates of the expanding Allied Health Professions and Sciences programs at MSU Billings. Students graduate ready to fill high-demand positions and meet the needs of the health care, education and science industries.

The MSU Billings Health & Science Building was constructed in 1947 and an addition was completed in 1976. The building houses some of the university's most advanced programs including chemistry, biology, physics, science education and health professions. It is critical to upgrade the facility to provide an education that will enable students to compete in today's labor market. The proposal includes renovation of the existing 49,000 square feet and 36,000 square feet of new construction.



Rationale

- **Out of date:** In 2013, the building will be 66 years old and is in dire need of upgrades to help prepare students with knowledge to meet 21st century expectations. Additionally, current lab spaces do not allow for individual workstations and the hands-on learning that make students competitive in the job market.
- **Inflexible lab spaces:** The labs are not able to adapt to the current best practices in teaching that integrate lectures with laboratory experiments. Additionally, the chemistry lab is equipped with only two fume ventilation hoods, which is inefficient for large classes that must conduct experiments.
- **Overcrowded:** Each semester, one out of every seven students at MSU Billings attends a class in the building, but there is no dedicated space for students to meet with tutors, advisers or work in groups. Due to lack of space, a janitor's closet had to be put into use as a microscope lab.
- **Building inefficiencies:** The building layout does not take advantage of any day lighting, natural ventilation or any other sustainable design strategies that reduce expenses and improve building performance.
- **Deferred maintenance:** The current building represents nearly 20 percent of all deferred maintenance on the Billings campus.

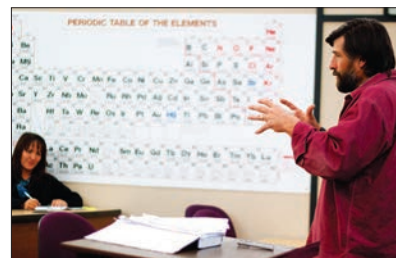


Benefits

- **Education to provide health care:** Some of the fastest growing programs at MSU Billings are in the College of Allied Health Professions, which trains students in essential areas of the health care system such as health and human services, rehab and mental health counseling, athletic training and health administration among others.
- **Strengthening pre-professional programs:** Students in many of MSU Billings' pre-professional programs including pre-medical, pre-nursing, pre-pharmacy, and pre-veterinary are trained in the Health & Science Building. The proposed improvements and exposure to modern technology will improve their education and ultimately their career success.
- **Better-educated teachers:** Future science teachers, most of whom will teach in Montana classrooms, take classes and conduct science laboratory experiments in the Health & Science Building. Their content knowledge and hands-on training will better enable them to teach the next generation of Montanans.
- **Health and science collaboration:** To maximize usage of equipment and increase collaboration, the new building design will house classrooms, labs, and offices for both science programs and allied health professional programs.
- **Construction job creation:** The renovation and construction involved in the project will also support numerous jobs in the local economy.

Health and Science Career Outlook

According to the "Montana Employment Projections 2011–2021" report from the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, the growth areas for occupational demand are well aligned with the programs housed in the Health & Science Building. The report states that "Health care occupations continue to dominate the list [of labor projections], with accountants, educators, and teachers also present." The majority of these positions require at least a postsecondary education certificate, an associate's degree or a four-year degree.



Investment

The \$14.9 million proposal, which has been endorsed by the Board of Regents, would cover renovation of the existing 49,000 square feet and the addition of 36,000 square feet of new construction.

For more information:

Waded Cruzado | President, Montana State University · wacruzado@montana.edu · 406-994-2341

Rolf Groseth | Chancellor, MSU Billings · rolf.groseth@msubillings.edu · 406-657-2300

Jason McGimpsey | Interim Director Facilities Services, MSU Billings · jason.mcgimpsey@msubillings.edu · 406-657-2197

Tracy Ellig | Executive Director-External Relations, Montana State University · tellig@montana.edu · 406-994-5607