

September 14-15, 2016

**ITEM 172-1004-R0916**

**Request for authorization to design a new academic building addition to the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center – University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

Consistent with provisions of BOR Policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents authorizes the University of Montana-Missoula to proceed with \$1,600,000 in planning and design services for a new academic building addition to the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center.

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**EXPLANATION**

In association with UM's receipt of a generous private donation to support the Education Center's success in academic program development and facility improvements, the donor intends to complete the design for a new addition to the Center. OZ Architects has been appointed by the State as the architect of record for this project. The preliminary planning and design studies have been completed.

The expansion of the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center will provide much needed research, classroom and learning space to meet growing, diverse needs of the UM faculty, staff, and students. Planning services for an expansion are anticipated to include classroom and instruction space with advanced and sustainable technology/equipment, enhanced experiential learning, and inspirational spaces for students. Also included are essential spaces for innovative programming and clinical instruction. Academic leaders will be able to provide services of great need to the campus and wider Missoula community.

The Education Center, constructed in 2009 as an addition to the existing College of Education and Human Sciences facility, has proved invaluable, but is now at capacity and requires a substantial increase in space due to the steady programmatic and research growth within the College. Enrollment in the College of Education and Human Sciences' five academic departments has consistently risen above 1,400 students. This, combined with over forty-five tenure-tracks faculty, demonstrated a significant need for greater functional space.

In addition to its significant on-campus contribution, the College of Education and Human Sciences plays a vital role in the educational community in Missoula and across the state and nation. Planned facilities to expand research and service in the areas of autism, early childhood education, and digital learning will address state and national needs. Additionally, numerous trainings, conferences, and continuing education units are provided each year in the College. Concurrently, a large number of innovative programs geared toward external constituents are offered to professionals in the community. These contemporary initiatives range from such subjects as STEM education, wage equality, mental health facilitation, child phonology, and more. The existing Phyllis J. Washington Education Center, too, has become known in the community as welcoming, positive environment that is perfectly suited for hosting anything from the smallest meetings to international conferences.

This stimulating new building addition is to be approximately 35,000 SF and will house modern teaching spaces of various sizes and configurations to support a variety of teaching pedagogies, collaborative learning spaces, and administrative, faculty, and departmental offices. The facility will also accommodate student seating and lounge areas, open study areas, formal and informal computer and technology centers, and institute and clinic suites. The planning and design efforts are expected to cost approximately \$1,600,000 and will be funded by private donations through UM's Foundation.

UM's construction standards require that this facility achieve an Environmental Design (LEED) certified silver or higher rating.

This authority does not authorize construction, financing or any operations & maintenance funding for this project. UM intends to request construction authority (including O & M funding) from the 65<sup>th</sup> Montana Legislature (2018-2019 Long Range Building Program).

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**Information Required by BOR Policy 1003.7**

**Board of Regents Policy: Physical Plant B Section 1003.7**

This authority request is for an amount greater than \$150,000 which requires the following additional information:

**(a) Project Description:**

This project performs the design services for a new academic building addition to accommodate UM's Phyllis J. Washington Education Center. The facility is anticipated to be approximately 35,000 SF and will be constructed on the UM Missoula campus. This addition will be LEED certified (silver or higher) facility. The new facility will accommodate academic programs, institutes, clinics, administrative spaces, departmental office, community outreach spaces, and other support spaces to better serve students and advance the missions of the Phyllis J. Washington Education Center and the University.

**(b) Cost Estimate and Funding sources:**

Estimated Cost: the design of this project is not expected to exceed \$1,600,000.

Construction:	<i>(not applicable for the authority request)</i>
Consultant Fees:	\$ 1,500,000
Pre-construction Services:	\$ 50,000
Owner's Expenses:	\$ 25,000
<u>Contingency:</u>	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
Total	\$ 1,600,000

Funding Source: This project will be financed with private donations through the UM Foundation.

**(c) Program Served, Enrollment Data, Projected Enrollment:**

The 100% instructional use facility will be occupied primarily by Montana Early Childhood Institute, Montana Autism Center, Montana Digital Academy-EdReady Montana and the Application Lab & Technology Classrooms.

**(d) Space Utilization Data:**

The addition is expected to be approximately 35,000 SF.

**(e) Projected Use for Available Residual Space**

N/A

**(f) Projected O & M Costs and proposed Funding Sources:**

O&M expenditures are anticipated to cost approximately \$12.00/SF or \$420,000 per year. UM intends to request construction authority (including O&M funding) from the 65<sup>th</sup> Montana Legislature (2018-2019 Long Range Building Program).

**ATTACHMENTS**

None