Subject: New Biological Science Building

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

Background:

At the November 2014 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the schematic design for the New Biological Science Building project and authorized awarding limited construction contracts for demolition, utility relocation, site work, and other preparatory work. The College of Literature, Science and the Arts is proposing to construct a new teaching, research, and museum facility for the biological sciences and exhibit museums. The proposed project will include a new Biological Science Building of approximately 300,000 gross square feet that will be connected to the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) Building to increase the utilization of its dock and vivarium functions. A small renovation to the LSI will also be necessary for vivarium and related support activities. The new building will house research laboratories, associated support functions, offices, and classrooms for the Department of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, the Anthropology, Natural History, Paleontology and Zoology museums, and a portion of the Herbarium specimens. The laboratories will be constructed in an open plan to encourage collaboration and provide increased flexibility and space utilization. The scope of this project includes the architectural, electrical, and mechanical work necessary to accomplish these improvements.

The estimated cost of the project is $261,000,000. Funding will be provided from College of Literature, Science, and the Arts resources and Office of the Provost resources. 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. The project is expected to provide an average of 256 on-site construction jobs. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2018.

We recommend that the Board of Regents authorize issuing the New Biological Science Building project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin P. Hegarty
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

May 2015