Subject: Nuclear Engineering Laboratory Renovation

Action Requested: Approval of Schematic Design

Background:

At the September 2013 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the Ford Nuclear Reactor Renovation project, the appointment of SmithGroupJJR as the architect for its design, and naming of the facility. The project will increase space utilization by creating additional usable floor space within the structure and existing penthouse, resulting in an additional 20 percent increase in the total building square footage to 20,500 gross square feet in this four-story building. This will accommodate the expansion needs of the Department of Nuclear Engineering and Radiological Sciences (NERS) in the College of Engineering. The NERS department has consistently maintained top rankings of graduate nuclear engineering programs and is growing in faculty, students, and research. This project includes a comprehensive renovation of the building, and new space for flexible research laboratories, testing areas, offices, support spaces, and mechanical equipment. The scope of this project includes the architectural, mechanical, and electrical work necessary to accomplish these improvements. Although there will be a temporary loss of some adjacent parking spaces during construction, there will be no permanent impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is $11,400,000. Funding will be provided from College of Engineering 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 18 on-site construction jobs. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2015.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the schematic design for the Nuclear Engineering Laboratory Renovation project as presented at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

December 2013