TOP PRIORITY: SCIENCE PHASE II - $66.4 MILLION

Science Phase II completes a project conceived and launched more than 15 years ago. Science Phase I was completed in 1999; Science Phase II received predesign funding in 2009-11 and design in 2011-13. Now CWU seeks $66.4 million to construct the long-awaited, second phase of this project, which will house three high-demand STEM programs:

- The Department of Physics, including the Physics-Engineering dual degree program
- The Department of Geological Sciences
- The Center for Excellence in Science and Math Education

Science Phase II will provide modern classroom and laboratory space in a single facility. STEM programs now are located in some of the oldest, least technologically current buildings on campus, including Lind Hall, built during the Truman Administration (1948) and Hebeler Hall, built during the Great Depression (1938).

There is no elevator to the third floor of Lind, which lacks women’s bathroom on the second floor and restrooms of any sort on the third floor. Both Lind and Hebeler lack modern infrastructure, such as de-ionized water, high-pressure air, modern climate control, and stable, low-vibration foundations. These features are required to support state-of-the-art instrumentation and laboratories, which, in turn, are a critical component of student education and preparation for competing for jobs and admission to graduate schools. Science II will update facilities so that students can work with modern equipment they will find in the professional world.

Science II will be vastly more energy efficient than the old facilities it replaces. It is designed to be LEED-Gold certified and will contribute to state and university goals for energy conservation.

Science Phase II will increase degree production in STEM fields. Science II adds capacity for modern class and lab space required to increase degrees in engineering, physics, and geology, and to produce more K-12 teachers in STEM fields. Since 2007, physics majors have quadrupled. Physics enrollment at CWU is now capped, due to insufficient capacity.

Science Phase II will build the K-12 STEM pipeline by creating exciting new opportunities to introduce K-12 students to the possibilities of a science degree. The building also will serve key K-12 outreach programs:

- The Watershed Activities to Enhance Research in Schools (WATERS), which infuses K-12 curriculum with real watershed research.
- The Science Talent Expansion Program (STEP) generates excitement about the sciences among high school seniors, particularly those under-represented in postsecondary education.
- The Center for Excellence in Science and Math Education (CESME) improves math and science education by directly engaging students and families in hands-on science activities and crafting new approaches to teaching and learning in K-12 classrooms.

For more information contact Linda Schactler, CWU Director of Public Affairs, at 509-963-1384 or Schactler@cwu.edu.

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Science II will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of science education, which now employs inquiry-based learning. This approach integrates the lecture and lab. Students don’t simply perform routine experiments, but think about the results they collect and what they mean. In addition to having been demonstrated to improve student learning, this approach makes much more efficient use of faculty and capital resources.

Science II will consolidate programs that are currently scattered in four buildings across campus. Unitig these programs in a single, modern facility allows collaboration among students and faculty. Science II is the next step in developing the “Science Neighborhood” of facilities that will allow the shared use of lab, class and office space in other science buildings, including Dean Hall, Science I, and, in the future, Health Sciences.

**SCIENCE II SUPPORTS STATE GOALS**

- “A Skilled and Educated Workforce 2011 Update”: address the gap of more than 700 between demand and supply of engineers at the baccalaureate level.

- E2SHB 1795: Increased degree production generally and STEM degree production in particular.

- Washington State Priorities of Government: (2.1) Increase the educational attainment of Washington adults. (2.3) Expand opportunities for Washington students in the new economy.

- 2012 Higher Education Performance Plans: Improve time to degree, degree production, and STEM degree production.

- 2010 update to the Strategic Master Plan for Higher Education: Increase the capacity of higher education to serve more students. “Grow capacity in high employer-demand areas of study, recognizing they carry higher costs.” Maintain commitment to access for low-income students. Define and develop K-12-to-postsecondary program pathways. Focus on high employer-demand majors and careers, including the STEM fields.

**CWU’S 2013 - 2015 CAPITAL REQUEST**

Following are other capital projects for which CWU has proposed funding in the 2013-2015 biennium.

**Priority 2. Samuelson Communication and Technology Center - $60 million (Construction)**

This preservation project returns an 80-year-old bookstore to service as an Integrated Communication Technology Center. The facility will house the Departments of Public Affairs, Communications, and Information Technology Services. The project received design funding in 2011-2013 and seeks construction funding in 2013-2015.

**Priority 3. Health Sciences - $3.96 million (Design)**

This project provides modern, scientific and academic space for the Department of Nutrition, Exercise & Health Sciences (NEHS), one of CWU’s fastest growing, but most fragmented departments. The lack of sufficient space and appropriate instructional facilities caused the department to cap enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year. The number of NEHS majors has risen more than 400 percent over the past decade.

**Priority 4. Peterson Hall - $4.9 million (Design-Construction)**

The project replaces Peterson Hall, constructed in 1950 as a motel. The deteriorating facility houses the nationally recognized Army and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps programs.

**Priority 5. Brooks Library - $4.9 million (Design-Construction)**

The project refocuses and preserves this 40-year-old state resource by upgrading lighting, electrical, insulation, data systems, and heating, ventilation, data and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. The project also will configure space to accommodate the way students find and use information in the 21st-century.