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Teaching and Research Building News
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While it has been forty years since the School of Veterinary Medicine added a new teaching and research building to its Philadelphia campus, dreams are beginning to become reality on this critically needed project. The first visible sign of the new construction is the placement of barricades around the site to mark changes in the roadways. Revamping the traffic patterns in December is necessary, as the utilities that run under the building site must be moved prior to excavation.

The design process of the Teaching and Research Building is approaching the finer details, such as materials and finishes. The new facility will be four stories above ground and will have a vivarium floor below ground. The enclosed area of the structure is 125,000 square feet. A groundbreaking is planned for April 17, 2004.

Fundraising continues as the total project cost is $54 million. Of this, $47.3 million is already in hand. “The response of alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations has been remarkable,” says Mark Stuart, assistant dean for alumni relations and development.

“Of the current construction projects at Penn, this effort ranks among the very best in percentage of philanthropic support toward total costs.”

Gifts and commitments of note:

Elizabeth R. Moran pledged a commitment of $1 million given in the form of a challenge to the equine community.

We received a gift of $100,000 from Dr. James Buchanan, Emeritus Professor of Cardiology.

Mrs. Gloria Cochrane, longtime friend of the School, pledged $100,000 for the Dr. Josephine Deubler Bridge that will connect the new building to the existing Quadrangle Building.

We have applied to the National Center for Research Resources—part of the National Institutes for Health—for a $4 million grant to fit out 19,462 gross square feet of the building. This includes nine laboratories and related support space to accommodate growth of ongoing research programs in stem cell biology, infectious disease, and comparative medical genetics.

This will enable the School to place seven research faculty members with complementary interests into a modern, integrated laboratory space; provide space for hiring two researchers to join a nationally regarded stem cell biology group; provide a flexible open laboratory facility that will promote collaboration and efficient use of major equipment; and promote a flexible and interactive environment for training students and postdoctoral fellows.

Veterinary School Buildings in Philadelphia

Quadrangle Building 1907

Gladys Hall Rosenthal Building 1963

Matthew J. Ryan Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania 1981