

Teaching and Research Building News

Funds for the new **Teaching and Research Building** are growing. Since August, an additional \$2.5 million has been raised for the building. The total funds raised stand at \$32.5 million, representing two-thirds of the estimated building cost of \$48 million.

Several new significant gifts for the new building include:

Mrs. Ethel Carruth, a 1943 graduate of Penn's School of Education, of Houston, Texas made a gift of \$1 million for a laboratory to support the work of the Center for Infectious Diseases and Food Safety Research. Mrs. Carruth and her late husband, Buddy, a 1942 graduate of the Wharton School, have supported the Veterinary School and the University for many years. They established an endowed scholarship, the Ethel G. and Allen H. Carruth Dean's Scholarship, in 1992. Mr. and Mrs. Carruth bred and raised Santa Gertrudis cattle on their ranch in Texas. Mr. Carruth served for many years as president and chairman of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and both were very active with the Houston SPCA.

The late **Mary M. Opsuth** of Trenton, N.J., through her estate, provided at least \$500,000 for a laboratory for medicine clinicians in the new building. This laboratory will enhance the interaction between clinical faculty and researchers in the basic sciences. Mrs. Opsuth was a long-time client at VHUP. She brought her poodles in many times to be seen by Meryl Littman, V'75, associate professor of medicine. Mrs. Opsuth so appreciated the care her pets received by Dr. Littman and the VHUP staff that she made the provision in her will, "Because of and as an expression of my sincere appreciation for the exceptional caring talent of Dr. Meryl Littman in the practice of small animal medicine, and in my memory, I give, devise and bequeath... the remainder and residue of my estate to the School of Veterinary Medicine." Mrs. Opsuth died in 1999 at the age of 89. The laboratory will be named in her memory.

Board of Overseers member, **Patricia Billhardt**, completed her pledge of \$250,000 for a classroom within the new building. Mrs. Billhardt, a prominent boxer breeder and exhibitor, and her husband, Jack, are long-time supporters of the School and have established four endowed scholarship that

bear her name. Billhardt has served on the Board of Overseers since 1996.

Mrs. Emilie deHellebranth, through her estate, contributed \$100,000 for the new Teaching and Research Building. Mrs. DeHellebranth, for many years, enthusiastically supported the work of Dr. Peter Dodson, professor of anatomy. She provided funding for his dinosaur excavation expeditions to Montana and helped underwrite the dig in Egypt that yielded the humerus of *Parallatitan stromeri*, a giant sauropod.

Planning is proceeding for the new Teaching and Research Building as faculty are refining their needs for the much-anticipated teaching and research spaces.

\$48 million goal

\$32.5 million raised



The Teaching and Research Building site is bounded by 38th Street, Woodland Avenue, and Baltimore Avenue.

Veterinary School Buildings in Philadelphia



Quadrangle Building
1907



Gladys Hall Rosenthal Building
1963



Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
1981



Site of Teaching & Research Building Planned Groundbreaking
2003