

“Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.” — Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

— by Judi Engle

The Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine moved one step closer to fulfilling its vision of providing outstanding medical education facilities, when community leaders and friends of the medical school recently celebrated the opening of a new addition to White Hall—the first phase of the transformation to create a state-of-the-art Medical Education Center to train tomorrow’s physicians. Easily viewed from Colonel Glenn Highway, the Medical Education Center will provide a striking architectural focal point for the medical school. The completion of Phase I adds 18,000 square feet to the school’s primary teaching facility, White Hall, which was formerly called the Frederick A. White Health Center.

A centerpiece of the new addition is the Ramesh K. and Saroj Gandhi Auditorium, a 150-seat, 3,422 square-foot facility incorporating advanced technology, including a three-screen video projection system. Situated near the new entrance to the building, the auditorium will be used for community and academic lectures, as well as outreach programs. The auditorium also provides a much-needed second lecture hall allowing the medical school to hold simultaneous classes for Year I and II students.

Phase I also features the William A. Bernie Anatomy Learning and Surgical Training Center, a state-of-the-art laboratory, complete with wireless connections, designed to meet the educational needs of medical, nursing, and graduate students, residents, and the supplementary training needs of our community’s physicians. This space is flexibly equipped and easily adaptable for multiple uses. It features highly efficient ventilation and fiber optic lighting to accommodate as many as 18 dissection tables or as few as eight, and one half of the space can be converted into classrooms. The new gross anatomy facility will provide approximately one third more space than the former laboratory.

The new Herbert and Marion Morris Laboratory will be used by faculty and graduate teaching assistants for developing and teaching medical school graduate programs. The addition also includes faculty offices, the school’s Anatomical Gift Program, and space for cutting edge medical software development.

Phase II of the project will begin in late Spring, transforming the existing 59,000-square-foot building, which was originally constructed in 1981. The proposed completion date is set for the summer of 2008. The building will house medical education offices for student affairs, admissions, and academic affairs in one centralized location, and will provide ample 24/7 space for individual and team study as well as student life activities. Also included in the plans are computer

learning and testing laboratories, offices for IT personnel, and classrooms used for the Introduction to Clinical Medicine course. The pre-existing auditorium will also be renovated with new technology, thanks to a generous gift from alumnus Alan W. McGee.

Through their support of this project alumni and long-term friends of the school, including the Oscar Boonshoft family and many others, have made a significant investment that will foster the educational, research and scholarship activities of the medical school well into the 21st century. Once the renovation is completed, the Boonshoft School of Medicine will be an unparalleled community resource with a campus-based facility designed for tomorrow's medical education.

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To schedule a tour of the new facility, contact the Boonshoft School of Medicine Office of Advancement at (937) 775-2972.