

DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Blueprint for the Future

Private Gifts Needed for CALS, CVM Facilities

Improving campus facilities through private funding or a combination of public and private funding for construction and renovation can enhance the quality and depth of the Mississippi State educational experience. MSU needs private gifts to advance two Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine projects—a renovation of the Lloyd-Ricks facility for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) and the construction of a new off-campus referral center for the College of Veterinary Medicine.



Lynn Reinschmiedt



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The Lloyd-Ricks Renovation Project

Located in the heart of MSU's campus is the Lloyd-Ricks building with its treasure of architectural features. An ongoing renovation of the facility, one of the CALS' main buildings, will enrich the learning experience for students.

"The renovation of the Lloyd-Ricks building will afford MSU the opportunity to compete and maintain a competitive edge as it prepares students to be innovative leaders in a global society," said Melissa Mixon, interim vice president for the division, who is also serving as dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "Today, competition for the best and brightest faculty and students requires state-of-the-art facilities."

The expansion will accommodate growth for the academic units currently housed in the facility—the School of Human Sciences and the Department of Agricultural Economics. The renovation also will return many of the building's original architectural features. Lloyd-Ricks was built in 1929 and expanded in 1939.

While the federal government and the state are supplying much of the funding for the project, a significant amount is being raised through private gifts. Renovations of Lloyd-Ricks are scheduled for completion Fall 2010.

"The total project budget is \$12 million, with \$2.8 million in federal money and approximately \$9.2 million in state funds," Mixon said. "The private funds will help us enhance specific areas of the building."

Offices and conference rooms will occupy the renovated first floor. The second floor of the facility will remain home to the School of Human Sciences, which boasts the largest enrollment of the college and focuses its academics on areas from preschool teaching to consumer economics. The Department of Agricultural Economics, housed on the third floor, is widely recognized for its analyses of complex problems facing agriculture. Many of its graduates have become leaders in developing national public policies.

The renovated basement area will house four new classrooms, two of which will be equipped to provide distance-learning courses to students throughout Mississippi and the nation.

Outright gifts and five-year pledges of future support may be designated for the project. Naming opportunities are available with commitments ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Donors may name classrooms, conference rooms, offices, lounges and laboratories in honor or in memory of family, friends or mentors.

The College of Veterinary Medicine Referral Center

The College of Veterinary Medicine is expanding its reach beyond the university's Starkville campus. Private support will pave the way for the college to become a cooperative partner in the operation of a referral specialty practice near Jackson. The venture will expand CVM's medical and surgical services to benefit clients in central and south Mississippi and enhance student learning opportunities.

In July, construction of a 5,200-square-foot emergency and referral clinic began in the suburb of Flowood. Once completed in early 2010, CVM will operate the referral component of the facility. A second phase of the project, which is expected to take up to 36 months, will be the construction of an adjoining referral center. The proposed addition of 8,000 square feet will expand the referral center and provide a library, classrooms and living space for veterinary students rotating through the facility as part of their 3rd and 4th year clinical experience.

"The new specialty practice will enhance teaching and clinical services currently provided on our MSU campus," said Kent Hoblet, dean of veterinary medicine. "Our very presence in this partnership should assure the public that we are committed to working with veterinarians to provide the highest level of emergency and specialty care for companion animals. The public support in Mississippi that CVM has received is phenomenal, and we want to continue to show that we appreciate their trust."

The strategic alliance will be a win-win situation for the CVM and the Jackson area. Students will experience hands-on referral case management and emergency care for patients at the new complex and interact with staff at the Mississippi Veterinary Research and Diagnostic Laboratory in nearby Pearl. Additionally, over time, pet owners will have access to other board-certified specialists, including surgeons, internists, dermatologists and ophthalmologists.



Tom Thompson

"The college seeks to acquire private funds to construct an adjoining addition to the Referral Center. The new facility will operate as the MSU Animal Emergency and Referral Center," said Lee Tyner, CVM special projects director.

The opportunity to name the new referral center requires a minimum \$3 million commitment to the university. Select features within the facility are available for varying amounts. An imaging unit may be named with a \$500,000 commitment. The facility's surgery unit, critical care unit or medical suite will require separate gifts of \$250,000. A library area or individual classrooms may be named for \$150,000 each. Dorm rooms require gifts of \$100,000. A private gift of \$6 million will create a naming opportunity for the entire complex. All commitments are payable over a five year period.

Gifts of any amount for these facilities are welcome and may be made in the secure online environment of the MSU Foundation at www.msufoundation.com.

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