

Authorization of New Capital Improvements Projects – The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

The Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte has requested the authority to establish five new capital improvements projects.

The first project constructs a backup server room in the College of Health and Human Services building for the university's information technology systems. The new server room will connect to the campus fiber backbone, have new electrical circuits to power servers, and be provided with a redundant back-up power system including an uninterrupted power source (UPS), batteries, and a generator. The project, estimated to cost \$1,300,000, will be funded from a combination of facilities and administrative receipts and carry-forward funds, which are operating funds unexpended on June 30 and, pursuant to state law, are “carried forward” into the next fiscal year to support one-time expenditures.

The second project will convert the old, 5,029-square-foot theater in Rowe Hall into a modern lecture hall. The theater space is no longer needed because of the opening of the performing arts spaces in Robinson Hall and lecture hall space is in very short supply. Conversion of the theater will include removal of the stage, installation of new classroom seating for 335 students, new lighting, and "smart classroom" audio visual systems. The project, estimated to cost \$1,500,000, will be funded from a combination of carry-forward funds and facilities and administrative receipts.

The third project will significantly improve pedestrian flow and safety on campus by adding sidewalks, stairs, and lighting between the Library, Student Activity Center, and the Cone University Center. The project will create a vibrant outdoor space for students and faculty. The project, estimated to cost \$900,000, will be funded from a combination of carry-forward funds and facilities and administrative receipts.

The fourth project will replace the existing bleacher seating at the intercollegiate softball stadium with approximately 400 stadium seats, including required ADA seating. A brick wall around the back of the new seating will greatly enhance the aesthetics of the stadium. The project, estimated to cost \$700,000, will be funded from private gifts.

The fifth project replaces deteriorating vinyl siding on nine residence halls built in 1980. This project will also correct any structural deficiencies found in the wood frame of the buildings when the old siding is removed. New siding will significantly improve the appearance of these residence halls. The project, expected to cost \$1,100,000, will be funded from housing receipts.

All five projects were approved by the UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees on July 23, 2006.

It is recommended that these projects be authorized and that the methods of financing as proposed by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte be approved.