A team of Percheron horses and a sense of anticipation accompanied scores of guests and members of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine at the June 15 dedication of Gladys Valley Hall.

With the opening of this essential classroom building, the school is about one-third of the way toward realizing its $354 million long-range facilities plan.

Gladys Valley Hall is the instructional heart of the emerging veterinary campus in the Health Sciences District, which includes the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital with its clinical education programs and instructional laboratories, the Vet Med 3A building under construction, and several other facilities.

“Gladys Valley Hall will serve as a home for lifelong learning, providing both a contemporary environment for DVM and MPVM students and a welcoming center for alumni events and continuing education,” says Bennie Osburn, dean.

The two-story building will accommodate large-scale lectures, classroom discussions, computer study sessions, student volunteer activities, informal faculty-student exchanges, and alumni gatherings.

The building features two large auditoriums, five classrooms and four seminar rooms, several conference areas, and a computer classroom/office suite for the Master of Preventive Veterinary Medicine program. It also contains rooms for the study of diagnostic imaging and clinical practice.

An alumni gallery, four quiet zones for individual or group study, space for student organizations, and homerooms for each of the first three class years are among the special features. A mother's room, seven showers and 450 lockers round out the list of amenities.

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Construction costs totaled $27 million and came from university and other public funds as well as private sources. Alumni and other friends of the school gave nearly $2.7 million to expand the facility by 12 percent and provide additional upgrades and instructional equipment.

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