

Vet Med III B Challenge

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due to insufficient or technically inadequate laboratory facilities.

Vet Med III B will dramatically increase research productivity. The school's role in keeping California at the forefront in advancing animal, human and environmental health is limited only by the need for facilities fully designed for the task.

The total cost of Vet Med III B is projected to be \$95 million. Most of the funding will come from state, university and campus sources. Yet \$12 million must come from private gifts.

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“Fundraising for Vet Med III B began in 2005, and the school has received a conditional \$5 million pledge from a private foundation. It is up to the school to raise the remaining \$7 million for the pledge to be fulfilled,” says Dean Osburn.

“To date we have generated \$2.2 million toward the \$7 million goal, but we face a significant challenge—the remaining \$4.8 million must be secured within the next 16 months.

“I have made funding for Vet Med III B the school's number one priority,” says Dr. Osburn. “For the next 16 months, the school will be working to raise private funds to help pay for the building. The goal is to begin construction in 2008 and complete the building by 2011.

“Last year, 93 percent of private support for the school was directed to student scholarships, research programs and endowments, graduate student fellowships, equipment, and new programs. This is our time for facilities.

“It took nearly 30 years for the campus, university and state to invest in upgrading School of Veterinary Medicine facilities. We must use the \$4.8 million challenge and funding opportunity to further our ability to train the next generation of biomedical scientists and educate the world's finest veterinary professionals.”



Vet Med III A lab classrooms are directly across from Gladys Valley Hall and the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.

Professor Dennis Wilson tours the Vet Med III A tower's first floor, dedicated to teaching pathology and anatomy. The upper floors contain research laboratories.



Vet Med III A Emphasizes Interaction

Vet Med III A, a pair of buildings that will support and enhance veterinary medical education on the UC Davis campus, is nearing completion in the Health Sciences District.

The five-story tower will integrate teaching programs with clinical and diagnostic services. The openness of the facilities will foster interaction among faculty members and residents, collaborative research, and cross-training of graduate students in different laboratories.

The attached two-story structure, located across from Gladys Valley Hall and the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, contains four large teaching laboratories—classrooms that can hold 80 students at a time arranged in pods of four students per workstation.

The new Vet Med III A classrooms will replace antiquated student labs in Surge III for courses in anatomic and clinical pathology, microbiology, immunology and virology. The classrooms interconnect with preparative laboratories designed in a standard benchtop configuration.

Dr. Dennis Wilson, chair of the Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, says, “The Vet Med III A pathology facility is designed to be a teaching environment with lots of space for direct interaction. Students will be able to easily follow a case originating in the clinics that is evaluated by pathology or ends up in necropsy, and talk directly with clinicians. The student laboratory classrooms are right there, and in Valley Hall we already see interactions between the first-, second- and third-year students. These classes have been separated from the clinics for 30 years.”

“The tower will integrate resident training and laboratory research, making it easy for the resident pathologist to observe and interact with academic veterinary medicine,” says Dr. Wilson. “Building an interest in academic careers is an important goal of the school.”

“We also have unique, forward-looking programs of translational research—developing new diagnostic tools with research instruments for hospital patients,” he says.

The first floor of the tower comprises a modern veterinary student teaching facility for pathology and anatomy where students on rotation in the Pathology Service will be in contact with clinicians in the Necropsy and Biopsy Services. It includes large and small animal necropsy floors and a conference room for clinical and veterinary student rounds, a separate necropsy room for infectious or zoonotic disease cases and a room for decontamination.

The second floor is dedicated to the J.D. Wheat Orthopedic Research Laboratory. Faculty in anatomy, surgery and radiology will address cellular, structural and clinical aspects of bone disease and small animal surgery.

The top three floors are dedicated to disease research. Interactive groups of pathologists, microbiologists and immunologists with common interests in various aspects of comparative veterinary disease will occupy regions of large, open laboratories, with graduate group and departmental offices at each end. In the center of each floor are shared rooms for cell culture, special equipment and controlled environments.

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