

**Global Animal Health  
Building, Phase I  
(CVM, School for  
Global Animal Health)**



***WSU suggests \$10 million in stimulus funding would match the \$25 million Gates Foundation gift to accelerate construction of a \$35 million Global Animal Health Phase I facility for WSU's College of Veterinary Medicine. With early funding, initial construction on the 22,840-square foot building could begin in April, 2009.***

The proposed facility addresses WSU strategic priorities and supports the activities of the Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Animal Health Research Center, Safe Food Initiative, Unified Agriculture Initiative, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal Disease Research Unit within the College of Veterinary Medicine. This facility will allow WSU to:

- **addresses multiple state priorities of government relating to “*health, security, economic vitality, safety, and natural resources*” (OFM Priorities of Government)**
- **directly assist the mission of the State Department of Health to protect Washington State citizens from diseases transmitted from animals to humans (for example, bird flu, West Nile Virus, Salmonella and other agents potentially found as contaminants to our food supply).**

Timely project completion will also enable the State of Washington, WSU, and the College of Veterinary Medicine to meet stakeholder expectations for

- **infectious disease surveillance to protect our people and our animals**
- **rapid response to high-risk disease outbreaks**
- **meeting international laboratory accreditation standards required for participation in disease surveillance and emergency response programs, and**

- **teaching and enhanced research collaboration involving rapid diagnostic testing and vaccine development**

**History of the Project in the State Legislature:** This request arises from an update to a previously-requested capital project developed as part of a comprehensive plan to meet the long-term space needs of the WSU College of Veterinary Medicine. The original project was a combined research and diagnostics facility called the Animal Disease Research and Biocontainment Facility. Subsequently, a \$25 million challenge grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation was received for the research component of this facility (now termed *Global Animal Health Building Phase I*). The Gates grant requires a matching commitment of \$10 million to fully fund the \$35M Phase I project; thus, the requested \$10 million state investment immediately leverages a \$35 million project that can put people to work this year

This reduced the overall state cost for construction of the combined facility (the remaining *diagnostics* and *surveillance* component has been also been updated as a wholly state-funded project termed *Global Animal Health Building – Phase II*. This project was funded for pre-design in the governor’s 2009-2011 capital construction budget.)

**Why would the state want to contribute the \$10 million match?** Not only will the \$10 million stimulus investment leverage an immediate \$35 million construction project, as the centerpiece for the newly created School for Global Animal Health ([www.globalhealth.wsu.edu](http://www.globalhealth.wsu.edu)) this project will also provide long-term economic benefits through increased research and development activities.

The School for Global Animal Health is unique among North American institutions of higher education with its mission to “*provide innovative solutions to global infectious disease challenges through research, education, global outreach, and application of disease control at the animal-human interface*”. No other university has taken such a bold step to address some of the most significant health issues worldwide through intervention at the animal/human interface. Through the School, WSU will leverage the current preeminence of global health in the State of Washington to enhance alliances that truly make our state the global leader in this area, leading to significant economic benefit locally as well.

The potential for long-term economic benefit is further leveraged through partnerships with the University of Washington, Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center, Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, Infectious Disease Research institute, PATH, and PNNL – all members of both the Global Health Alliance and Washington Vaccine Alliance. Little of this long-term benefit can accrue, however, until the Phase I Global Animal Health Building is completed.

For more information: Larry Ganders, Assistant to the President, 360-280-6320