

**WISCONSIN NEEDS NIMBLE, FUTURISTIC TEACHERS.
IT'S TIME TO FINISH CLOW**

Ten years ago UW Oshkosh embarked on a major renovation of its Clow Social Science Center and the Nursing/Education building. These connected buildings are the heart of the UW Oshkosh campus that house classrooms, teaching labs and instructional and support spaces for our College of Nursing, College of Education and Human Services, and College of Letters and Sciences.

The project was approved in 2011, but split in two to accommodate other System priorities. Phase I was completed in 2016 and created a state-of-the-art facility to train and teach nurses, including interactive learning spaces and simulation labs.

Phase II concentrates on teacher education and adds active learning classrooms, a science education lab, a distance learning lab, outreach workspace and gathering spaces for student collaboration. Right now this collaboration takes place in hallways, in stairwells or on the floor.

Phase II was expected to begin when Phase I ended, and the project was listed as a high priority.

Approval was expected in both the 2013-15 and 2015-17 biennium budgets. As UW Oshkosh moved through the litigation issues related to the Foundation, the Budget Committee removed Phase II from the 2015-17 list. Those issues are now behind us. In the 2019-21 budget, UW Regents bumped the project down the priority list. However, the project is now high in the Regents' 2021-23 priorities.

UW Oshkosh is not only ready but anxious to finish this hands-on, high-impact learning environment that will help lead Wisconsin forward. Currently our education students aren't exposed to modern learning environments until they begin their student teaching in a K-12 district. As we emerge from the pandemic, we see and hear the demand for K-12 talent loud and clear: Wisconsin needs more and better-prepared teachers, particularly to help deliver critical STEM, English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) and special education curricula and disciplines. These teaching leaders must be as engaging and effective online as they are in physical classrooms.



Clockwise from left: A water heater original to the building (1970); a rusted steam line connection; and rust on a steel structure on the building roof.



Clockwise from top: Exposed insulation on an air handling duct; rusting water on pipes; and a rusted steam conduit, all in the Nursing Education building.

We need your help to address the teacher shortage that is especially evident in rural and urban school districts. Wisconsin is investing millions of dollars in STEM to strengthen our economy, yet we lack an investment in the education and development of the teachers who will be training future STEM students.



Teacher education has been part of UW Oshkosh's mission since its founding 150 years ago. We graduate more than 200 teachers each year, but our classrooms were built for dated methods of instruction—a podium, a platform and seating arrangements designed for students to sit, listen and learn. When the building was constructed in 1970, it had blackboards, a darkroom and projectors.

The buildings themselves have good bones, and that's why we're not talking about new construction. We want to make the most of the space we have with this \$27 million* renovation project, addressing everything from outdated classrooms and technology to the removal of asbestos tiles and building systems updates and accessibility concerns.

UW Oshkosh needs exemplary instructional facilities that accommodate shifting technologies and learner demands. Modernizing our instructional space will not only model high-quality instruction but will allow us to integrate the research tools needed to advance instructional understanding for future educators. The upgrade will improve our delivery of online education.

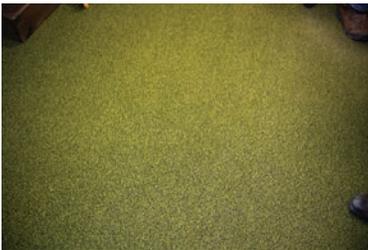
It's time our campus that excels at preparing the teachers of tomorrow offers its students the technology of today, learning environments that enhance student success and lab experiences that help stretch their minds so they can inspire their students.

It's time to get this project done.

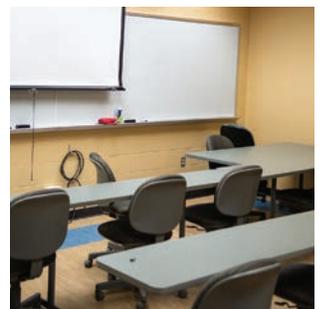
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* Spring 2021 updated project estimate



Clockwise from top: A blackboard and asbestos floor tiles in a classroom; original 1970s carpet in an office; ceiling damage from leaking heating equipment; wall damage from leaking windows; patched asbestos floor tiles; asbestos tiles; and 1970s carpet.



From left: Asbestos floor tiles with original baseboards and a partially renovated classroom with repurposed furniture.