



DATE: October 16, 2014

SUBJECT: Chemical Engineering/Biomedical Engineering Building,
University Park

TO: Architectural Firms

Fenske Laboratory and Hallowell Building, the facilities currently housing the Departments of Chemical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering respectively, can no longer support their educational and research goals in a manner consistent with today's expectations and their vision of the future. In order to address this situation, the University intends to demolish Fenske Laboratory in its entirety and build a new state-of-the-art research and instructional laboratory building on the same site. In order to develop a program and establish a scope for the project, the University commissioned Bohlin Cywinski Jackson to perform a feasibility study which was completed in 2013. Results of that study will be shared with the firms that advance to the long list stage.

This new building will house both departments and will include faculty and administrative offices, a large lecture hall, several smaller classrooms, instructional labs and fume hood intensive research labs. The goals of the project include the following:

- Create new faculty, staff and student spaces to enhance departmental and inter-departmental community and efficiency.
- Establish laboratory suites to support research clusters and sharing of resources.
- Upgrade utility infrastructure to the building, including connecting to the campus chilled water system.
- Provide a large lecture hall of 180 seats, along with several smaller 25-seat classrooms, to address the ever-increasing number of students in both programs.
- Contribute to and enhance the quality of the surrounding site.
- In keeping with our commitment to environmental sustainability, we expect that this facility will, at a minimum, attain USGBC's LEED Certified Level.

This project will be completed in a single phase, with all occupants of the building moved to other locations during construction. It will include demolition of the entire structure and construction of a new 188,000 GSF building. The total project budget, including soft costs and FF&E, is \$150,000,000.

Review and verification of the program will be the first step to be completed by the selected A/E firm, followed by the design phase. We anticipate contract award in March 2015, with a construction start date of January 2017 and occupancy in January 2019.

If your firm is interested in pursuing this project, please submit the following:

1. A brief statement detailing your firm's unique qualifications for designing facilities of this type and scope. Include a sampling of your previous relevant experience and graphic examples representative of your architectural designs.
2. Your firm's vision of what, beyond purely functional issues, constitutes the essence of this type of facility. To indicate to the Screening Committee your understanding of the uniqueness of this project, discuss some of the key issues that are important in the design of a project of this type.

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Please submit to my office ten hard copies of your response by Noon on November 20, 2014 and limit your submission to five, single sided, 8-1/2 x 11 pages. Please include the name and email address of your firm's contact individual for this project. If you have any questions regarding this request please contact me or Dwayne Rush, Project Manager at dcr13@psu.edu or 814-865-6475.

The University will use a qualifications based selection process with long list, short list and interviews. The Screening Committee will select a long list of approximately ten firms from the respondents to this letter. A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be posted to this website by December 11, 2014. The RFPs will be due in my office at Noon on January 27, 2015. Three firms will be chosen from the RFP respondents and interviewed in early March, 2015. The results will be announced at the Board of Trustees meeting on March 20, 2015 and posted to this website.

Sincerely,

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University Architect
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cc: Screening Committee