



DATE: August 16, 2013

SUBJECT: Ruhl Student Center,  
Penn State York

TO: Architectural Firms

Much has changed at Penn State York since it first opened the doors of the Multi-Purpose Building (now called the Joe and Rosie Ruhl Student Community Center) in 1968. The campus and its student enrollment have grown considerably and the facility is no longer able to meet the demands of our athletic programs and the need of our student body to have a modern wellness, recreation and exercise facility. With that in mind, we commissioned Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects to do a feasibility study which developed a program and established the scope of a project that would enable the facility to meet our current and projected needs.

The proposed scope includes an addition of approximately 12,000 GSF including a group fitness center, fitness classrooms, faculty offices, group study rooms and an auxiliary gymnasium. Renovations will include demolition of the existing antiquated locker facilities replacing them with new locker rooms, upgrades to the existing gymnasium, creating accessible bathrooms, inclusion of an elevator and entrance/vestibule, kinesiology classrooms, student services offices, concession area and consolidating and updating the HVAC system. The total project budget is \$10,500,000. Design is expected to commence immediately with occupancy in June 2016.

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 issues that are important in the design of a project of this type.

Please submit to my office eight hard copies of your response by noon on September 17, 2013 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 Adam Dent, Project Manager at [afd101@psu.edu](mailto:afd101@psu.edu).

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 October 4, 2013. The RFPs will be due in my office at noon on October 29, 2013. Three firms will be chosen from the RFP respondents and interviewed during the week of November 18, 2013. The results will be announced at the Board of Trustees meeting on November 22, 2013 and posted to this website.

Sincerely,

David Zehngut

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cc: Screening Committee