

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Approval of Pennington Foundation Grant

MEETING DATE: December 1-2, 2016

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

The WNC Aspen Building, which houses the Department of Biophysical Sciences and Cadaver Labs, was constructed in 1990. The 26-year-old science labs have become outdated and in disrepair following many years of high-volume student use. Over the years, the labs have developed capacity, accessibility, functionality, and safety issues for students, potentially placing the college at risk.

Remodeling the science labs became a high priority for the college. The Board approved the science labs remodel project as a 2017 Capital Improvement Program Proposal at its March 2016 meeting, however, the State Public Works Board did not select the project following its September 2016 meeting.

In October 2016, the WNC Foundation submitted a proposal to the William N. Pennington Foundation to renovate the Biophysical Sciences and Cadaver Labs in the WNC Aspen Building at a cost of \$1,446,040, including planning, design, construction, and equipment. The WNC Foundation received notification on October 26, 2016, from the Pennington Foundation that its board had agreed to fund the project, and that it would meet again on November 15, 2016, to review a final contract between the foundation and the WNC Foundation. Work on the project is expected to commence as soon as the contract is executed.

The project and the grant to fund it are consistent with the requirements of Tithe 4, Chapter 10, Section 9.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

President Chester Burton and the WNC Foundation request approval of William N. Pennington Foundation grant to the WNC Foundation in the amount of \$1,446,040 to renovate the Biophysical Sciences and Cadaver Labs in the WNC Aspen Building.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

The 26-year-old science labs have become outdated and in disrepair following many years of high-volume student use, and remodeling the science labs became a high priority for the college.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- See the attached Grant Request.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

None.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

Do not renovate the science labs at this time.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 10 Section # 9
<input type="checkbox"/> Amends Current Board Policy: Title #_____ Chapter #_____ Section #_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #_____ Section #_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Impact: Yes_____ No_____
Explain:_____



Western Nevada College

FOUNDATION

~ Choose to make a difference ~

October 10, 2016

Ms. Racquel Bridgewater
William N. Pennington Foundation
Southwest Professional Center
P.O. Box 7290
Reno, NV 89510-7290

Dear Ms. Bridgewater:

Attached you will find a proposal to renovate the Biophysical Science and Cadaver Labs located in the Western Nevada College Aspen Building. This exciting project will yield a significant return for both the college and the community. As STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) classes continue to increase in importance, Western Nevada College will be able to provide the high-quality learning environment our students and our community demand.

WNC Foundation respectfully requests support from William N. Pennington Foundation in funding a complete renovation of the Biophysical Science and Cadaver Labs located in the Western Nevada College Aspen Building. These labs have not been updated since 1990 and are inadequate in providing a safe and effective learning environment for students pursuing careers in science and health fields. This project has been determined to cost \$1,446,040 including planning, design, construction and equipment.

WNC Foundation is pleased to propose this important project to William N. Pennington Foundation for grant funding and partnership in making a significant difference in the lives of students and faculty. With this proposal, William N. Pennington Foundation will significantly impact our community's ability to prepare students for successful careers in science and healthcare fields.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of this proposal. If you would like more information on this project, please do not hesitate to call Niki Gladys at 775-445-3239 or email at Niki.Gladys@wnc.edu.

Sincerely,

Niki Gladys
Executive Director, WNC Foundation

Chester Burton
President, Western Nevada College



Western Nevada College

FOUNDATION

~ Choose to make a difference ~

William N. Pennington Foundation

Grant Request:

Western Nevada College

Biophysical Science and Cadaver Labs Remodel Project

October 10, 2016

Submitted by:

Western Nevada College Foundation and
Western Nevada College Biology & Chemistry Department
2201 West College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89703
Phone: 775-445-3239 Fax: 775-445-4472

www.wnc.edu/foundation

Contact: Niki Gladys, Director of Development (Email: Niki.Gladys@wnc.edu)

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I. Organization Information:

- a. **Western Nevada College:** Established in 1971, Western Nevada College (WNC) is a comprehensive community college located in Carson City, Nevada with satellite locations in Fallon and Minden, Nevada. In addition to on-site classes, WNC offers a combination of interactive video and online classes to serve residents in the rural communities within our service area. WNC is one of four community colleges within the Nevada System of Higher Education, and it is accredited by the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities.

WNC Mission Statement: Western Nevada College inspires success in our community through opportunities that cultivate creativity, intellectual growth and technological excellence, in an environment that nurtures individual potential and respects differences.

Institutional Goals:

- i. *Student Success:* Students graduate with a degree or certificate and engage in a meaningful college experience.
- ii. *Institutional Excellence:* Western Nevada College strives to be the educational institution of choice in western Nevada by creating high quality academic programs with the goal of fulfilling the needs of the community. WNC achieves this by creating an exemplary system of governance, management and institutional sustainability.
- iii. *Accessibility:* WNC serves many communities by promoting access to higher education in western Nevada. WNC serves as a catalyst for personal and community enrichment, promoting community connections.

Western Nevada College was recently ranked in the top 19%, at #156 of 800 community colleges, making it the top ranked community college in Nevada, by WalletHub's annual nationwide survey: 2016 Best Community Colleges.

Western Nevada College is particularly known as having a strong ability to prepare students for careers in healthcare. The Biophysical Science program at Western Nevada College prepares students who are pursuing nursing, pre-x-ray, pre-respiratory therapy and pre-dental hygiene through the WNC Nursing and Allied Health Academic program.

WNC's Associate Degree Nursing Program is intended for students who seek careers as registered nurses. The curriculum is sequenced and progresses in

complexity. It integrates knowledge from the bio/social sciences and is intended to prepare graduates to pass the national licensure examination (NCLEX-RN) and to function as registered nurses in diverse care settings. Upon completion of the Associate Degree Nursing Program, students will be awarded an Associate of Applied Science degree. Graduates are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-RN. 95% of WNC students pass this exam on their first attempt. The nursing program is approved by the [Nevada State Board of Nursing \(NSBN\)](#) and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

The nursing program has strict guidelines in accepting nursing students, ensuring that only the most qualified students are part of the program. WNC prepares students for acceptance into the nursing program by offering quality prerequisites through the Department of Biophysical Sciences.

In most cases, WNC nursing graduates stay in the area after graduation, continuing to contribute to our local community. Twenty of the 41 nursing students who graduated in spring of 2016 went to work for Carson Tahoe Healthcare (CTH) in Carson City, Nevada.

- b. **WNC Foundation:** The Western Nevada College Foundation was founded in 1992 and exists to maintain and enhance the quality of life in western Nevada by developing funds for support of the educational, cultural, and service goals of Western Nevada College. The Foundation recognizes the strong ties that the college has to our community and the families we serve through programs like Nursing. As a result, the Foundation makes a concerted effort to support these programs through fundraising.

II. Proposed Grant

- a. The Aspen Building, which houses the Department of Biophysical Sciences and Cadaver Labs, was constructed in 1990. Parts of the building have been updated. However, the 26-year-old science labs have become outdated and in disrepair following many years of high-volume student use. Over the years, the labs have developed capacity, accessibility, functionality and safety issues for students, potentially placing the college at risk.

The Biophysical Science and Cadaver labs currently consist of a group of four poorly configured rooms used in the following manner:

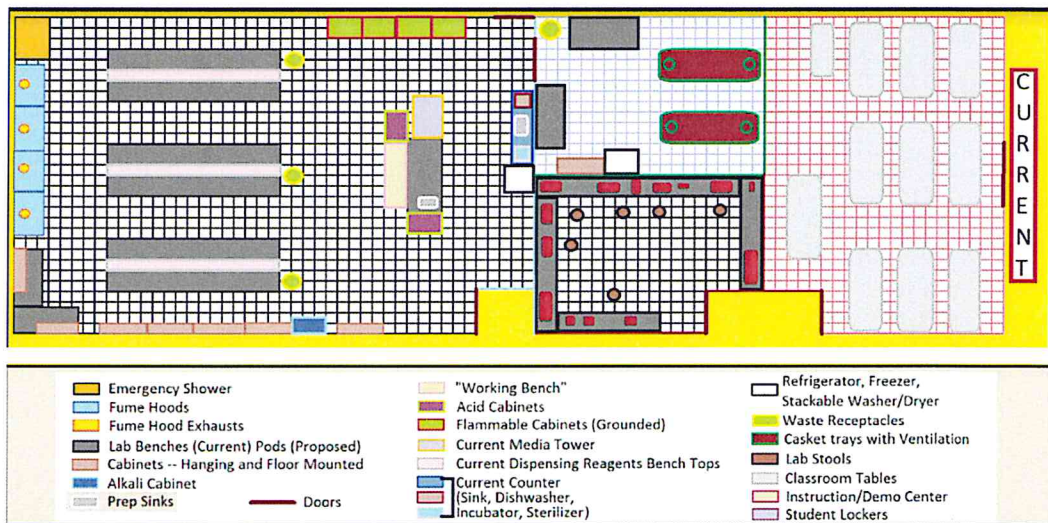
- 1) Chemistry Lab used for Chemistry 121, 122 and 220 classes as well as some biology classes. This room is larger in size and is the most frequently used classroom. Due to the current configuration, capacity for effective teaching in this classroom is only 24 students at one time.



- 2) Cadaver Lab used for Biology classes related to human anatomy. This is a very small room housing two human cadavers. Capacity is limited to only 10 people (9 students and 1 professor) at one time. Additionally, the classroom location is very restrictive. It's positioned inside the chemistry lab as a sort of closet. As a result, biology classes and chemistry classes cannot be taught simultaneously. The tight space allotted for working on human cadavers combined with poor lighting can be quite awkward for students and teachers alike.



- 3) Lecture Hall used infrequently to teach lecture-only aspects of both biology and chemistry classes. This classroom can hold no more than 20 students at one time.
- 4) Computer Lab houses outdated equipment and is very rarely used for anything other than storage.



Classes are currently populated with up to 32 students. However, the chemistry lab cannot effectively handle more than 24 students at one time. The Biology Lab can only handle ten (10) students at one time with room for only two (2) cadavers. Both labs cannot be used simultaneously due to the layout of the space.

Less than 20% of this space is compliant with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines, significantly reducing accessibility to disabled students. Technology, including teaching aids and safety features, is out-of-date.

b. Grant Statement: WNC Foundation respectfully requests support from William N. Pennington Foundation in funding a complete renovation of the Biophysical Science and Cadaver Labs located in the Western Nevada College Aspen Building. These labs have not been updated since 1990 and are inadequate in providing a safe and effective learning environment for students pursuing careers in science and health fields. This project has been determined to cost \$1,446,040 including planning, design, construction and equipment. As WNC's partner in this project, WNC welcomes William N. Pennington Foundation's guidance in naming the new Biophysical Science and Cadaver Labs following the remodel.

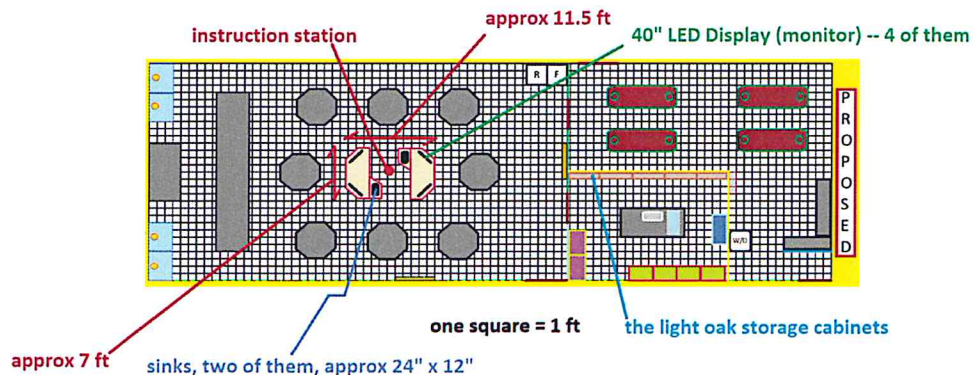
c. Project Description and Justification:

Renovating the space and reconfiguring the layout of the science labs while upgrading outdated technology and adding in ADA safety requirements will allow the current space to house state-of-the-art biophysical science and cadaver labs that will more effectively educate Western Nevada College Students, as they pursue careers in various science and medical fields.

The lab area must be completely re-configured, eliminating infrequently used space (the computer lab and lecture hall) while maximizing space for the Biophysical Science lab and the cadaver lab. In this way, the current area can be fully used to create a much more functional and effective learning environment for students.

The newly designed layout within the classrooms will creatively enhance learning. Preliminary designs have provided for a "theater in the round" teaching approach in combination with video monitors that are easily viewed by all students in the classroom. This approach allows students direct, visual access to demonstrations and lectures. The open concept design encourages student interaction and creates a positive learning environment.

With this innovative plan conceived by WNC Professor, Dr. Steve Carman, student capacity increases significantly. The chemistry lab improves from a per class cap of 24 students to 32 students. The cadaver lab will double in capacity from 2 cadavers to 4 cadavers with space for up to 18 students at one time.



Solving Problems: By increasing student capacity in the classes taught in the biophysical science and cadaver labs, the pathway to producing qualified nurses through the WNC Nursing program and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) secondary instructors through WNC's partnership with Nevada State College becomes much wider.

In effect, by increasing the students through the Biophysical Science Department, the number of qualified nursing program applicants who can be accepted to the program will also increase. This is a critically important point as the country faces an impending shortage of nurses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment Projections 2012-2022 released in December 2013, Registered Nursing (RN) is listed among the top occupations in terms of job growth through 2022. The RN workforce is expected to grow from 2.71 million in 2012 to 3.24 million in 2022, an increase of 526,800 or 19%. The Bureau also projects the need for 525,000 replacement nurses in the workforce bringing the total number of job openings for nurses due to growth and replacements to 1.05 million by 2022 (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecopro.t08.htm>).

The "United States Registered Nurse Workforce Report Card and Shortage Forecast" published in the January 2012 issue of the American Journal of Medical Quality, a shortage of registered nurses is projected to spread across the country between 2009 and 2030. In this state-by-state analysis, the authors forecast the RN shortage to be most intense in the Western region of the country (<http://ajm.sagepub.com>).

In addition to facing a shortage of nurses, Nevada State education leaders are gravely concerned about the teacher shortages across the state with particular concern around STEM programs. In October 2015, the president of the Nevada State Board of Education described the state's teacher shortage as "horrific" and warned that absent improvement "we're going to all sink."¹ WNC has worked with Nevada State College to address the teacher shortage by creating a partnership that allows students to easily work toward their bachelor's degree in the sciences using NSC resources remotely.

Safety: Lastly, lab space within the Aspen Building will be renovated to meet ADA requirements. Current space does not easily accommodate disabled students. Required science lab showers are not currently available (a make-shift solution is in place) and access for students bound to wheelchairs or on crutches is also a challenge. The remodel takes all of this into consideration with showers and workstations that appropriately support disabled students according to ADA guidelines.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education and Enrollment in Teacher Preparation Programs (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Education, 2015)

The plan to renovate the Biophysical Science and Cadaver Labs, turns current space in the Aspen Building into a more functional, effective and safer learning environment for WNC students. The plan will be tightly managed with all aspects of the remodel being completed in 2017.

Timeline: The project is planned to begin in the fourth quarter of 2016 and end during the third quarter of 2017. While spending on equipment and planning will begin immediately, the majority of construction will occur during the summer of 2017 while most students are out of the building on summer break.

The following timeline was developed by Paul Cavin Architect LLC in collaboration with Kevin Gaffney, WNC Facilities Manager in reference to this remodeling project.

Paul Cavin Architect LLC

**Preliminary Project Schedule
Western Nevada College – Science and Cadaver Lab Remodel**

10/7/16

The Preliminary Project Schedule is as follows:

Approved Proposal / Notice to Proceed with Design / PO issued:	November 7, 2016
Start of Design and Documents:	November 7, 2016
Thanksgiving Holiday:	November 24 and 25, 2016
Schematic Design Documents Due:	December 5, 2016
First Progress Billing (can occur on a monthly basis):	December 5, 2016
Christmas Holiday:	December 25, 2016
New Year's Holiday:	January 1, 2017
Design Development Documents Due:	January 16, 2017
100% Construction Documents/Permit Documents Due:	February 27, 2016
SPWD and SFM Plan Reviews (4-6 weeks):	February 27 – April 10, 2017
Plan Review Response and Resubmittal (2 weeks):	April 24, 2017
Bid Documents Due:	April 24, 2017
Bid Advertising (4 weeks):	April 24 – May 22, 2017
Bid Opening:	May 22, 2017
Construction Contract Award / Notice to Proceed:	June 12, 2017
Construction Duration (4 months):	120 Days
Substantial Completion:	October 10, 2017

d. Biophysical Science and Cadaver Lab Project Budget

The budget for the science labs project was developed collaboratively considering information contributed from Paul Cavin Architect LLC, head of the WNC Biophysical Science Department, Dr. Steve Carman and WNC Facilities Director, Kevin Gaffney. The budget was thoughtfully crafted, taking into consideration all aspects of the project.

Aspen Building Science Labs Remodel Project Budget	
A. Design	
Mechanical Engineering	\$28,000
Electrical Engineering	\$13,900
Architecture	\$52,500
Design Contingency	\$9,440
Total Design Expense	\$103,840
B. Permit Fees	
	\$20,000
C. Construction	
Demolition	\$30,000
Architectural	\$190,000
Mechanical/Plumbing	\$350,000
Electrical	\$157,000
General Contractor Conditions (4 months at \$25k per month)	\$100,000
Total Construction Expense	\$827,000
D. Lab Equipment, casework and Furniture	
	\$375,000
E. Construction Contingency (10% of Construction and Equipment Costs)	
	\$120,200
Total Project Budget	\$1,446,040

e. Plan to sustain new lab facility

Western Nevada College has an annual maintenance budget for the science labs which will carry over to sustain the newly renovated Biophysical Science and Cadaver labs. These funds are derived from student fees for technology, lab equipment/supplies and capital improvements. Additionally, the State funds from the deferred maintenance budget are used to maintain all WNC facilities.

f. Statement of Approval & Application Acknowledgement

I, Niki Gladys, have read the William N. Pennington Foundation information for Grant Applicants booklet and followed the guidelines to the best of my ability. I have worked with Dr. Steve Carman, Director of the Biophysical Sciences department and Mark Ghan, Vice President of Administrative and Legal Services/General Counsel in identifying the current needs of the Biophysical Science Department's laboratory in light of the William N, Pennington Foundation goals. Additionally, this proposal has been reviewed and approved by Chester Burton, President of Western Nevada College.

Niki Gladys, WNC Foundation Director

Date

III. Attachments

- a. IRS verification of 501 (C) (3) status:

Internal Revenue Service

Date: August 22, 2007

WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE
FOUNDATION
2201 W COLLEGE PKWY
CARSON CITY NV 89703-7316

Department of the Treasury
P. O. Box 2508
Cincinnati, OH 45201

Person to Contact:
Miss Csinsi 17-56980
Customer Service Representative
Toll Free Telephone Number:
877-829-5500
Federal Identification Number:
88-0283783

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of August 22, 2007, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

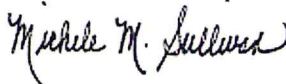
In July 1992 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a school under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Michele M. Sullivan, Oper. Mgr.
Accounts Management Operations 1

b. Board of Directors

WNC Foundation Board of Trustees		
Name	Board Position	Affiliation in the Community
Kelly Kite	Chair	Douglas County Business Council and Western Nevada Resource Conservation and Development District
Sean Davison	Secretary/Treasurer	Director of consumer Credit and Risk Management for Harley-Davidson Financial Services
Amy Clemens	Vice Chair	Financial Advisor for Wadell & Reed
Jeff Brigger	Board Member	NV Energy
Lisa Granahan	Board Member	Economic Vitality Manager, Douglas County
Darcy Houghton	Board Member	Estate Planning Lawyer Hawkins, Folsom & Muir Law
Kathy Huber	Board Member	Project Manager for the Nevada Industry of Excellence
Dorothy Ramsdell	Board Member	Community volunteer work. Facilitates parenting classes at homeless shelter.
Larry Goodnight	Board Member	Faculty Emeritus at Western Nevada College
Cheri Glockner	Board Member	Executive Director, Healthcare Guidance Program
Jamie De Vega	Board Member	Regional Manager, United Federal Credit Union
Michelle Ketten	Board Member	Financial Advisor for Merrill Lynch
Rochelle Tisdale	Board Member	Administrator, Oasis Academy
Kerstin Plemel	Board Member	VP Marketing of Greater Nevada Credit Union
Roger Williams	Honorary Board Member	Senior Partner, Williams & Associates
Harold Jacobsen	Emeritus Trustee	Former Mayor of Carson City
Virgil Getto	Emeritus Trustee, Deceased	Nevada Legislature, 24 years

IV. Conclusion

WNC Foundation is pleased to propose this important project to William N. Pennington Foundation for grant funding and partnership in making a significant difference in the lives of our students and faculty. With this proposal, our community's ability to prepare students for successful careers in science and healthcare fields dramatically improves.

This exciting project will yield a significant return for both the college and the community. As STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) classes continue to increase in importance, Western Nevada College will be able to provide the high-quality learning environment our students and our community demand.

Western Nevada College's ability to attract quality students from the local high schools increases dramatically with this project which will, in turn, prepare students for teaching, nursing and other healthcare careers. The increased the student capacity of prerequisite biology and chemistry classes following the lab remodel, will improve the student nursing and teaching applicant pools, better preparing our community for the impending nursing and teacher shortages. Retention and class completion rates will increase with a more inspiring and functional learning environment. Disabled students will have access to these labs as they become ADA compliant. Finally, improving the safety of the classroom reduces risk to students and ultimately the college.