MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents
FROM: David L. Buhler
SUBJECT: University of Utah – Burbidge Athletic Academic Center Non-State Funded Project

Issue

The University of Utah (UU) requests authorization to proceed with a non-state funded project to construct an addition to the Kenneth and Sally Burbidge Athletic Academic Center.

Background

Regent policy R702, Non-State Funded Projects requires the Regents to review major construction or remodeling projects that will require State Building Board approval. State Building Board approval is required by state statute (63A-5-104) for “capital development” projects with more than $500,000 of new construction cost. The UU proposes to use donations and athletic revenues to add an additional 6,000 square feet to the existing Kenneth and Sally Burbidge Athletic Academic Center at an estimated cost of $2,000,000. No state appropriated funds will be used for the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of this facility.

The UU supports student athletes and encourages their academic success in part, through support services offered at the Kenneth and Sally Burbidge Athletic Academic Center located just north of the Huntsman Center in the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER) area of campus. The current facility is inadequate to meet the athletics program growing needs and to provide the necessary academic support for student athletes. The expansion will help to improve student success and provide additional support services for student athletes.

The University’s Board of Trustees approved this project on February 14, 2017. Included in the attachments are a letter from the University with additional project information and an artist’s rendering of the facility. Representatives from the University will be available to respond to questions at the March Board meeting.

Commissioner’s Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Board authorize the University of Utah to present the Kenneth and Sally Burbidge Athletic Academic Center expansion project to the Utah State Building Board for final approval.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

Attachments
March 6, 2017

Mr. David Buhler  
Commissioner  
Board of Regents Building, The Gateway  
60 South 400 West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1284

Dear Commissioner Buhler:

The University of Utah requests approval to construct an addition to the existing Kenneth & Sally Burbidge Athletic Academic Center. The current facility has served the University well but is inadequate in both size and function to provide necessary academic support to our student athletes. This expansion is essential in our continuing efforts to help our student athletes succeed academically and to help them prepare for life after sports. By design there are no study areas in any of the athletics facilities. This allows the student to be completely away from any athletic activities.

The proposed $2 million, 6,000 square foot addition will be constructed as a two-floor addition on the east and west ends of the current facility. The expansion will improve coordination between the student athletes and the administration and support staff. It will create an environment better suited for academic achievement and personal growth of skills needed for later in life.

No state funds will be used for this addition for the project cost, future O&M or future improvements. These are funded entirely with donations and other athletic revenues. This addition is consistent with the University’s approved master plan.

This project was approved by the University’s Board of Trustees on February 14, 2017. We request that this be presented to the Board of Regents for approval during the March 31, 2017 meeting.

Thanks, as always, for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

John E. Nixon  
Chief Administrative Officer

c: David W. Pershing  
   Dr. Kimberly Henrie  
   Richard P. Amon  
   Chris Hill
mid-size addition

PROGRAM:
LOWER LEVEL: 2,256 sf.

MAIN LEVEL: 2,256 sf.