



UTAH SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Dedicated Capital Development Project Request

2023 General Session Authorization for Fiscal Year 2024

Utah State University
Huntsman Experiential Learning Center

New space	47,239 Sq Ft
Remodeled space	Sq Ft
Total Project space	47,239 Sq Ft
Demolished space	18,516 Sq Ft

Project Cost	\$29,000,000
Anticipated Dedicated Funds	\$10,000,000
Other Funds	\$19,000,000

Describe source and amount of other funds; attach letter(s) of commitment from donors that cite timing and amount of any donations

Beyond the \$10,000,000 requested funds, the Huntsman School currently has specific donor commitments totaling \$12,500,000 and is committed to funding the remaining \$6,500,000 through other donations in hand.

Letter(s) of commitment attached

Threshold requirements for capital projects: refer to R741-4 for instructions; ensure criteria are fully addressed

1. Cost Effective and Efficient Use of Resources

Effective, efficient, and functional design is inherent to cost effectiveness. Energy costs will be lower than industry standards by construction of a new building that conforms to the state’s high performance building requirements and to USU’s LEED silver requirement. This project is considering the innovative building structural system of mass timber. This system makes use of resources that are locally sourced, utilizes by-products of the wood industry, and eliminates the issues of excessive cost and lead times in the current market associated with sourcing steel products. The project site is on land already owned by the university and directly adjacent to existing infrastructure. It will benefit from the university's centralized utilities, which will be directly available for connection on the north edge of the new building site. The site is also directly adjacent to the other buildings occupied by the Huntsman School

of Business, maximizing operational efficiencies for the College. The land use efficiency will be enhanced by the project through increased density of development and eliminating an aging building. The re-configuration of this part of campus maximizes the potential for the addition of academic space within the highly desirable but limited area remaining in the central core of campus. The new building will also create an efficiency of function, by creating space that is right-sized and configured for the intended use. The design will ensure that the correct amount of square footage is provided for the specific program requirements.

2. Consistent with Institutional Role, Mission, and Master Plan

Utah State University is the land-grant institution in the State of Utah and is therefore directly responsible for the provision of excellent educational programs to students throughout the state. In support of USU's role in the state economy, the purpose of the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business is "to be a career accelerator for our students and an engine of growth for our community, the state, the nation, and the world." The proposed new building will fill a vital and honored place on campus in Logan in connection with the Jon M. Huntsman Hall (primarily a classroom building) and the George S. Eccles Business Building (primarily an office building). The new building will house the co-curricular experiential learning and leadership activities of the Huntsman School of Business and will serve as a "Center of Centers." Great care and planning over a multi-year period have gone into the development of each center, to provide experiential learning programs that create direct, career-enhancing training for students. Ultimately, these centers contribute to the preparation of students for high-paying jobs in a variety of general and technical business fields throughout the state. In addition, the building will feature state-of-the-art internship and common spaces and will be designed to meet the beautiful and exacting standards of Huntsman Hall and the George S. Eccles Business Building. This proposal is a core part of the Huntsman School's 2030 Learning By Doing Campaign, which seeks to raise over \$50 M for the new building and related student programs. Campaign goals include: (a) growing to 3000 undergraduate students by 2030, (b) growing the Huntsman Scholar Program from 400 to 600 students per year, (c) closing the gap in the number of female and male graduates in the Huntsman School, (d) ensuring that every student has access to high-quality experiential learning opportunities that lead to placement in high-caliber jobs. The placement of the new building to the east of the existing building complex has been formally included in USU's latest Central Core District Plan, completed in 2022. The district planning process has been a multi-year collaborative effort involving dozens of USU leaders, stakeholders, and extensive outreach efforts to the entire campus community. The District Plan has been formally adopted as an extension of the USU Master Plan. While the plan outlines a variety of short and long-term construction projects, the current project falls within the highest-priority, immediate timeline. The near-term (0-5 years) capital development priorities of USU, which include the new Huntsman Experiential Learning Center, were approved at the June 24, 2022 USU Board of Trustees meeting.

3. Fulfillment of a Critical Institutional Need

The Huntsman Experiential Learning Center will provide space for critical programs that are currently constrained by existing facilities. The existing spaces provided for these programs in existing buildings are a small fraction of what is needed, and do not have any capacity for expansion. The Huntsman School of Business has taken a keen interest in ensuring the quality

of education provided and in positioning students for success in the workforce. The spaces provided in the new building will serve existing students' needs for hands on learning experiences that are provided outside the classroom, but tied to the academic curriculum and service learning requirements of the university. Each of the centers housed in the building are dedicated fully to space for students at Utah State University, both within the College and outside of it. Research has shown that students who have the opportunity to engage in hands-on experiential learning are more likely to both obtain work after graduation and be engaged and excited about their jobs. This project, along with two others that will replace housing and parking, will all contribute to a significant improvement within the central core of campus. The university has defined a need to replace three aging residence halls that are at the end of their useful life in this district. These have significant deferred maintenance and are deficient in many code categories and ADA. The three projects have been master planned together to maximize the functional use of the site and enhance the quality of the environment within this prominent part of the Logan campus. Significant donations for the programs to be housed in the new building and for the building project itself have been either pledged or received, which further demonstrates prioritization by the Huntsman School of Business and the institution as a whole towards this initiative.