INCREASE PROJECT BUDGET AND APPROVE DESIGN FOR BRUCE NESBITT AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER, URBANA

Action: Increase Project Budget and Approve Design for Bruce Nesbitt African American Cultural Center

Funding: Auxiliary Facilities System Revenue Bonds and Institutional Funds Operating Budget

In September 2015, the Bruce Nesbitt African American Cultural Center project was approved with a budget of $4.9 million. The campus also approved employment of Interactive Design Architects, Inc., Chicago, IL, as the professional services consultant for the project. The project is to be a new facility located at 708 South Mathews Street, Urbana, IL. This new building will be two stories, plus a basement, for a total of 8,000 gross square feet. The program will include many of the critical program spaces identified during the Cultural Engagement and Scholarship Project feasibility study including offices and related work areas to properly serve the unit’s core mission. Additional program support spaces will also be contained within the facility including a conference room, light commercial kitchen, music/dance studio, computer laboratory, multi-purpose room, and social gathering space. Many of the
programmed spaces are to receive audio visual amenities and functionally specific interiors. Demolition of the existing structure, site work, landscaping, and storm water management are also part of this comprehensive effort. Based on the schematic design submittal, the full program scope is included and it has been determined that an additional $600,000 will be required to complete the work.

Accordingly, the Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends that the Board approve an increase in the project budget to $5.5 million, an increase of $600,000.

Also, in order for the project to proceed, it is necessary to approve the design. The design meets all campus building standards, including Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility and applicable State and Federal standards and is within the approved budget.

Accordingly, the Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends that the design be approved.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.
Funds for the project are available from Auxiliary Facilities System Revenue Bonds, Series 2014A and institutional funds operating budget of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The President of the University concurs.