

# Facilities Reinvestment Funding Proposal

## One-Time Non-Base Investment Proposal: Step 2

**Proposal Name:** Dental Simulation and Technology Lab  
**Department of Dental Hygiene**  
**Chair:** Lisa Fleck, RDH, MS **Co-author:** Lynnette M. Engeswick, PhD, RDH

### 1. Provide a description of the project being proposed. (5 points)

This proposal for FY2012 Facility Reinvestment is for an investment in the future of the MSU Dental Hygiene Program. The following bullet points describe the current configuration of the department and the proposed changes. Please see **current** department blue print and **proposed** department blue print for clarification of this section.

#### Simulation/Technology

A pre-clinical and clinical/lab simulator is a self-contained unit, which includes a simulated patient, dental light, dental air/water, dental hand pieces, suction and computer. Students can practice all instrumentation skills prior to working on a real patient.

- MH 21 (**current** clinical lab space/clinical lecture space) will be converted to a proposed new **simulation** lab.



#### Bio Materials Expansion

The current biomaterial lab space is housed within MH 21 classroom. When the classroom is in use for lectures, no lab work can be done. Moving the biomaterial lab out of MH 21 and into MH 20 and 20a provides for a dedicated lab space for teaching biomaterials. This lab will be available for all students with continual access to complete biomaterials course requirements.

- MH 20a (**current** storage room) and 20 (**current** single operatory) will be converted to the proposed state of the art biomaterials lab. The current lab is located in MH 21. This room will also include storage lockers for student dental materials and supplies.
- MH 18 (a **current** faculty locker room) is being eliminated and added to room MH 20/20a as part of the proposed new biomaterials lab and a locked nitrous oxide tank storage area.

#### Clinical Space Expansion

The dental clinic currently holds 12 chairs and is the central location of patient dental care. Both MSU Dental Hygiene and South Central College (SCC) Dental Assisting programs utilize this space for all clinical and pre-clinical courses. A portion of the sterilization on one side of the clinic (MH 7) and the other part of sterilization is housed across the clinic in MH 15. The redesign would allow the sterilization to be in one place reducing the threat of cross contamination and possible student/faculty injury from transporting sharp, unsterile instruments. Both central clinic dispensing and the sterilization areas are currently in the same room. This also increases the risk for cross-contamination. The proposal calls for central clinic dispensing and sterilization to be put in separate rooms. The current x-ray rooms (MH 9, 11, and 12) are housed within the clinic area (MH 23) making it nearly impossible to have a dedicated radiology lab while the clinic is in use, which is every hour of every day.

- MH 15 (**current** clinical operatory) will be converted to a **proposed** sterilization room. The **current** sterilization room is located in MH 7.
- MH 23 (**current** dental clinic) will be expanded to include MH 9, 10, 11, 12 to become the **proposed** area for four new clinical units/dental chairs.
- MH 10 (**current** darkroom) will be converted to a **proposed** expansion of MH 23.
- MH 13 and 14 (**current** student locker room and bathroom) will be eliminated and reconfigured as the **proposed** new radiology rooms.

- MH 7 (current sterilization) will be reconfigured for the proposed locker storage for student clinical instruments and supplies.
- MH 5 (current faculty office) will be converted to the proposed space for a digital panoramic unit and an additional clinical chair with x-ray unit.
- MH 6 (current faculty office) will be converted to the proposed technology hub and central dispensing to support the clinic.
- MH 2a, 2b, 3, 3a, 8, 15a, 17, will not change.
- MH 3b (current faculty workspace/storage) will become a proposed clinical storage room.

## 2. Describe how the project will drive positive transformational change. (10 points)

The Dental Hygiene Department at MSU supports MSU Strategic Vision 2010-2015.

### Strategic Plan 1 – Change the world by collaboratively addressing our planet’s most challenging problems.

#### Green House Emissions addressed by this project

- Digitizing all patient records eliminates the usage of paper for the patient chart.
- Digitizing x-rays eliminates environmental wastes which include lead foil and poly packaging (parts of the film packet) and used fixer which contains silver, an environmental hazard. It will also eliminate hazardous processing fumes. The room that houses the x-ray processors does not have adequate air exchange, which makes fume levels very hazardous to employees, staff and students.
- The U.S. Government continues to move the National Health Information Infrastructure initiative forward toward the 2015 deadline. This initiative mandates that all medical and dental patient records be electronic by 2015. It is with this initiative in mind that we continue to move forward to instruct students with digital components and to digitize all of the dental records here at MSU.
- Centralizing the sterilization into one area instead of two decreases the requirement for using plastic barriers in transportation of contaminated instruments across the public clinic.

### Strategic Plan 4 – Reinvigorate our physical home and build the campus of the future.

The Department of Dental Hygiene was designed and built in 1969 with limited remodeling and space changes made within the last 40 years.

- Potential students touring our facility are comparing our program visually with other programs within the state.
- Currently there are 10 dental hygiene programs in the state of Minnesota. Seven of the ten have either been remodeled or significantly updated within the last 10 years. This fact may influence a student’s decision on where to seek a quality education.
- The Department of Dental Hygiene is a community clinic seeking to attract individuals who want care that is both affordable and of high quality. These updates will provide the community with visual confirmation of a facility that demonstrates an investment in quality dental care and provides an innovative patient education experience.
- Current maximum capacity for MH 23 is 12 as that is the number of dental chairs. Increasing the clinical space by five dental chairs will increase the clinical capacity to serve more members of the community. It will also allow for student remedial instruction and faculty practice. It also supports increased class size for dental hygiene in the future and the conversion of the SCC dental assisting program to a two year from an 11 month program. The SCC student load will increase from 24 to 48. The final 17<sup>th</sup> clinical chair is being gained in the resign of MH 5 (see radiology narrative).
- Currently the clinical space is used for pre-clinical as well as direct patient care. This does not allow for any expansion of classes or changes in scheduling as MH 23 (current clinic) is the only room that can be utilized for pre-clinical or clinical/lab instruction. The addition of a simulation lab will enable pre-clinical and clinical/lab instruction to be scheduled in MH 21 freeing up MH 23 for more direct patient care.

### Simulation/Technology

- Students currently practice pre-clinical and clinical/lab skills on each other. There is a certain amount of risk that goes with this type of practice. Simulation is most valuable when the process being duplicated is not reversible. This would encompass training with local anesthesia and clinical instrumentation.
- The teaching station in the simulation lab will allow each student to view the demonstration at a personal station. The demonstration can be recorded for students to view over and over for practice purposes. Faculty will be able to change patient cases thereby increasing pre-clinical experiences which will enhance a smoother transition from the pre-clinical to the clinical for all students. Simulation provides for education in medical emergencies, patient safety, support and reinforcement of ergonomics principles, varied patient experiences, documentation practice, critical thinking and reduction of student injuries.
- The simulation equipment is modifiable to support various aspects of dental hygiene curriculum. For example it could become a patient needing a new restoration, a patient with special needs, a child, and a geriatric patient to name a

few. Some studies with lab simulation have shown there is a decrease in the number of procedures that are required to reach competency. Lab simulation allows a student to have immediate feedback during the pre-clinical phase.

- During radiology labs when using dental film for x-rays, students expose the film and then go to the darkroom to process the film. There is time lag between the exposure action and the final product which can lead to a disconnect in problem solving. With digital x-ray, the student exposes the sensor and immediately the image is visible on the computer screen. The student can turn around and observe the exact position of the sensor in relation to what is seen on the monitor and critically problem solve and self-correct. Digital x-rays reduce radiation exposure to the patient by 50-90%. There is also a residual cost savings as film, processing chemicals, and environmental capturing of the hazardous waste is eliminated.
3. **Describe the impact this project will have on students and/or others whom we serve. (10 points)**
- The current facility allows for two teaching spaces for two dental programs (MSU Dental Hygiene and SCC Dental Assisting). The remodel will allow for four teaching spaces. The spaces will include the dental clinic for direct patient care, the simulation lab, a designated x-ray space and a biomaterials lab. All of this is being accomplished without the addition of any square footage.
  - During the 2009 accreditation site visit a citation was given due to existing faculty/student ratios. The accreditation standard originally set a 6 to 1 faculty/student ratio. The new standard is 5 to 1. Due to facility constraints (a 12 chair clinic) and already having accepted 24 students, we were unable to meet the standard until the following year when we had to reduce our class size to 20.
  - The redesign and addition of the simulation lab are expected to increase Regional Board Exam success rates, enhance treatment presentation and education to patients, increase digital software competency in radiography, and increase proficiency for digital record keeping.
  - Teaching students with digital technology prepares them for the workforce of the future. Currently all dental offices are converting from paper to digital medium. With today's competitive job market and challenging economic environment, employers are looking for new employees that have learned on the latest equipment so the employers do not have to send the new employee for training before they can even start seeing patients.
  - The Dental Hygiene Program would like to become a shining star among the Dental Hygiene programs in Minnesota by having the newest, most up to date technology available. The department plans to use this as a marketing tool to attract new students to MSU who not only seek a four year degree in Dental Hygiene, but want to learn by using the latest technology. Students of today are heavy users of technology and are comfortable using it. State of the art equipment and cutting edge technology and simulation will attract today's student.
  - MSU and South Central College have an ongoing partnership whereby the students in the SCC Dental Assisting program receive all clinical training in the MSU dental facility. SCC will be converting the current 11 month program to a two year program this coming fall. This will double the class enrollment from 24 to 48 and also require additional facility resources. This redesign would aid this transition and provide flexibility in scheduling for all students, in addition to supporting the existing partnership.
  - Patient satisfaction and a positive impression of the facility will enhance usage of the clinic by community members. It also will provide seamless sharing of patient records with the dental community.

4. **Identify the "SMART" outcomes for the project (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound). (5 points)**

**Simulation/Technology**

**Outcome 1:** Demonstrate pre-clinical and laboratory skills through the use of live faculty presentations at every student workstation during dental hygiene pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 2:** Demonstrate pre-clinical and laboratory skills through the use of PC or video presentations at every student workstation during dental hygiene pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 3:** Provide access to immediate student remedial in pre-clinical and laboratory skills by on demand reviewing of previous PC or video presentations at every student workstation during dental hygiene pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 4:** Provide two-way audio communication through the use of a teaching communication network connecting every student workstation to the simulation teaching center during dental hygiene pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 5:** Support student concentration on the most complicated technical content of the exercise, without disturbance and stress through the use of a teaching communication network connecting every student workstation to the simulation teaching center during dental hygiene pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 6:** Support individual student learning, by use of the help-button, monitor, loudspeaker, or headset, directly from the teaching workstation during pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 7:** Measure student competency on technical content of exercises/skills through the use of video communication connecting every student workstation to the simulation teaching center during pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

### **Bio Materials Expansion**

**Outcome 1:** Demonstrate dental lab skills through use of a dedicated dental laboratory with increased individual work space during pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 2:** Support student acquisition of dental lab skills with increased individual work space through the use of dedicated dental laboratory for bio materials courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 3:** Increase student access to the dental laboratory through an increased number of non-dedicated laboratory hours for teaching to support completion of laboratory and clinical laboratory requirements beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 4:** Support student learning and concentration on the most complicated technical laboratory exercise(s), without disturbance and stress, by increasing remedial hours outside of pre-clinical and laboratory courses beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 5:** Reduce workplace mechanical noise by moving the dental laboratory out of an open bay laboratory to a dedicated room with door beginning Fall 2012.

### **Clinical Space Expansion**

**Outcome 1:** Meet accreditation standards of a clinical teaching ratio of 5-1 by increasing from 12 clinical chairs to 17 clinical chairs beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 2:** Increase dental hygiene class size from 20 to 24 by increasing from 12 clinical chairs to 17 clinical chairs beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 3:** Increase availability of patient appointments in the MSU Dental Clinic through increasing from 12 clinical chairs to 17 clinical chairs supporting junior clinic, senior clinic, and restorative functions clinic beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 4:** Provide access for clinical remedial instruction by using additional clinical chairs when not being utilized during regular clinical hours beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 5:** Provide a private or quiet clinical operatory for special needs, infectious, and pediatric patients unable to be seen in an open bay clinical setting beginning Fall 2012.

**Outcome 6:** Provide a faculty practice clinical operatory for community patients requesting dental hygiene care and emergency dental care beyond the skill level of dental hygiene students beginning Fall 2012.

### **Digital Radiographic Space**

**Outcome 1:** Enhance digital radiography instruction and remediation to junior dental hygiene students and dental assisting students by utilization of the designated radiography teaching space in Fall 2012.

**Outcome 2:** Provide immediate feedback to all students through the use of digital technology in Fall 2012.

**Outcome 3:** Support transfer of digital records in a timely manner to community dental partners by utilization of digital radiography and digital records in Fall 2012.

### **5. Discuss what this project will do for the university that warrants the investment. (5 points)**

There have been planning and pre-designs done for a new clinical arts building for the college of Allied Health and Nursing at MSU. All of the equipment provided in this proposal is transferable to the new building thereby defraying future investment costs. When comparing the MSU dental hygiene program to the other dental hygiene programs within MNSCU, the MSU dental hygiene program provides the only four year degree in addition to utilizing a software package for clinical records. Through this redesign we will be transitioning away from away from traditional films to all digital and implementing simulation in pre-clinical and laboratory education. This redesign will provide MSU students with all the latest technology available in dental hygiene education. MSU dental hygiene will not only be offering the latest in teaching technology, but this proposal will also put MSU in compliance with federal law stating all medical records must be digital by 2015.

### **6. If applicable, explain how the project addresses significant deferred maintenance. (5 points)**

Our current facility is 40 years old and has the potential for future maintenance demands that would actually be quite extensive. This redesign project reduces future maintenance problems in MH 21 Current Lab/Classroom.

#### **Simulation/Technology Space**

- Currently, MH 21 *student lab benches* are the originals from 1969. They are in need of total replacement.
- The new simulation lab would provide for new student work stations that would provide decades of function with minimal maintenance as the working parts of the simulation head has removable dental models (the teeth) that could individually be replaced. Our current dental models have been utilized for 10 years.
- The new simulation lab equipment is self contained delivery system that does not require additional vacuum/suction/water from the facility.

- All simulation equipment will be initially supported by product warranties.

**Biomaterials Space**

- Currently, MH 21 *wet lab* cabinet/counters/storage/sinks/model trimmers were part of a 2004 remodel project.
- The cabinetry system was purchased from Innovative Laboratory Systems and is high quality industrial grade modular cabinets with counter tops that are chemistry lab quality.
- The entire cabinetry will be relocated in MH 20/20a.
- Minimal annual maintenance is provided by MSU plumber to insure the plaster traps are open and functioning.
- The model trimmer maintenance is supported by the dental hygiene/dental assisting faculty which involves replacement of the trimming wheel.

**7. Describe how the activities generated by this project would be sustained after one-time funding has ended, or if applicable, explain why the project does not need to be sustained. (5 points)**

Sustaining the equipment in the remodel areas for the **Clinical Space and Biomaterials Space** would be part of the general Department of Dental Hygiene operational budget.

**Simulation/Technology Space**

- Currently, MH 23 is a MSU IT satellite lab, which means the computers are maintained by IT.
- All computers are replaced on a three year rotation
- The Department of Dental Hygiene is scheduled for summer 2012 for replacement of clinic computers.
- All technology costs to support the computers in the additional 5 new dental units and the 20 simulation lab stations are supported by student technology fees.
- Lisa Fleck, Chair of Dental Hygiene, held a planning meeting on December 1, 2011 with Dawn Leech and Matthew Clay to discuss continued IT support for the existing clinical computers and the expansion of the simulation lab.
- IT is in total support of the project.

**8. Budget (5 points):**

	FY12	FY 12 Matching Funds	FY13	FY 13 Matching Funds	FY14	FY13 Matching Funds
<b>Personnel</b>						
Unclassified Salary (in-load, overload)	na	na	na	na	na	na
Classified Salary	na	na	na	na	na	na
Fringe <sup>a</sup> (Classified and Unclassified)	na	na	na	na	na	na
Graduate Assistant Salary	na	na	na	na	na	na
Graduate Assistant Tuition Reduction/Waiver <sup>b</sup>	na	na	na	na	na	na
<b>Non-Salary</b>						
Student Help	na	na	na	na	na	na
Purchased Services/Travel Expenses	na	na	na	na	na	na
Supplies and Materials						
Building Improvement/Construction Costs	48,750.28	na	na	na	na	na
Equipment	643,117.98	na	na	na	na	na
<b>Total Budget Requested</b>	<b>691,928.26</b>	<b>69,192.83</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>na</b>

**Budget Narrative:**

**Building Improvement/Construction Costs** were based on the estimate of the square footage requiring removal of walls and construction of walls at \$100.00 per square foot.

**Equipment Costs** were based on two preliminary quotes from **Henry Schein (HS)** as evidence of real costs of the equipment to support the redesign project. The equipment bid *includes professional installation* of the equipment. A detailed proposed budget is available by request from Lisa Fleck.

**Building Improvement/Construction Costs**      **48,750.28**  
**Simulation/Technology HS Quote**              **503,154.00**

Clinical Resign HS Quote	115,023.98
Sterilization Cabinetry	<u>25,000.00</u>
Total Estimated Budget	691,928.26

**South Central College Match**

Lisa Fleck, Chair of Dental Hygiene, has presented the budget proposal to W. C. Sanders, Dean of Business and Health, South Central College. SCC will support clinical equipment that is not included within this project budget.

**9. Identify any special considerations or needs required for this project (e.g. physical space, contractual obligations, IT support, or collaborations with/implications for other units). (5 points)**

**Morris Hall HVAC Renovations Abatement**

- It is important to address the fact the Morris Hall is scheduled for HVAC Renovations Abatement during summer 2012. It will be important to have good initial communications and coordination regarding the University ***Morris Hall HVAC Renovations Abatement Timelines and the Redesign Timelines.***
- The scheduled HVAC Renovations Abatement is at an opportune time to provide installation access to physical support structures that are currently in the Morris Hall ceiling for installation of the new clinic and simulation equipment.

**Physical Space**

- This redesign project does not require any additional physical space as it is a redesign of existing physical space.

**Contractual Obligations - South Central College, Department of Dental Assisting**

- As a shared physical space partner with the SCC Dental Assisting it is critical that open and transparent communication is maintained in the re-planning, planning, and implementation phases.
- Initial conversations have included Karon Metz, Director of Dental Assisting and Jenny Dumdei, Dental Assisting faculty member in all pre-planning and design phases. They have been invited and did participate in an external visit to the NEW Metro Dental Therapy Clinic and in the MSU planning meeting with the Henry Schein Representatives Michael Minor, Regional Equipment Manager and Shawn Bengtson, Equipment Sales Specialist.
- The partnership agreement between MSU and SCC is ongoing. See letter of support from W. C. Sanders, Dean of Business and Health, South Central College.

**IT Support**

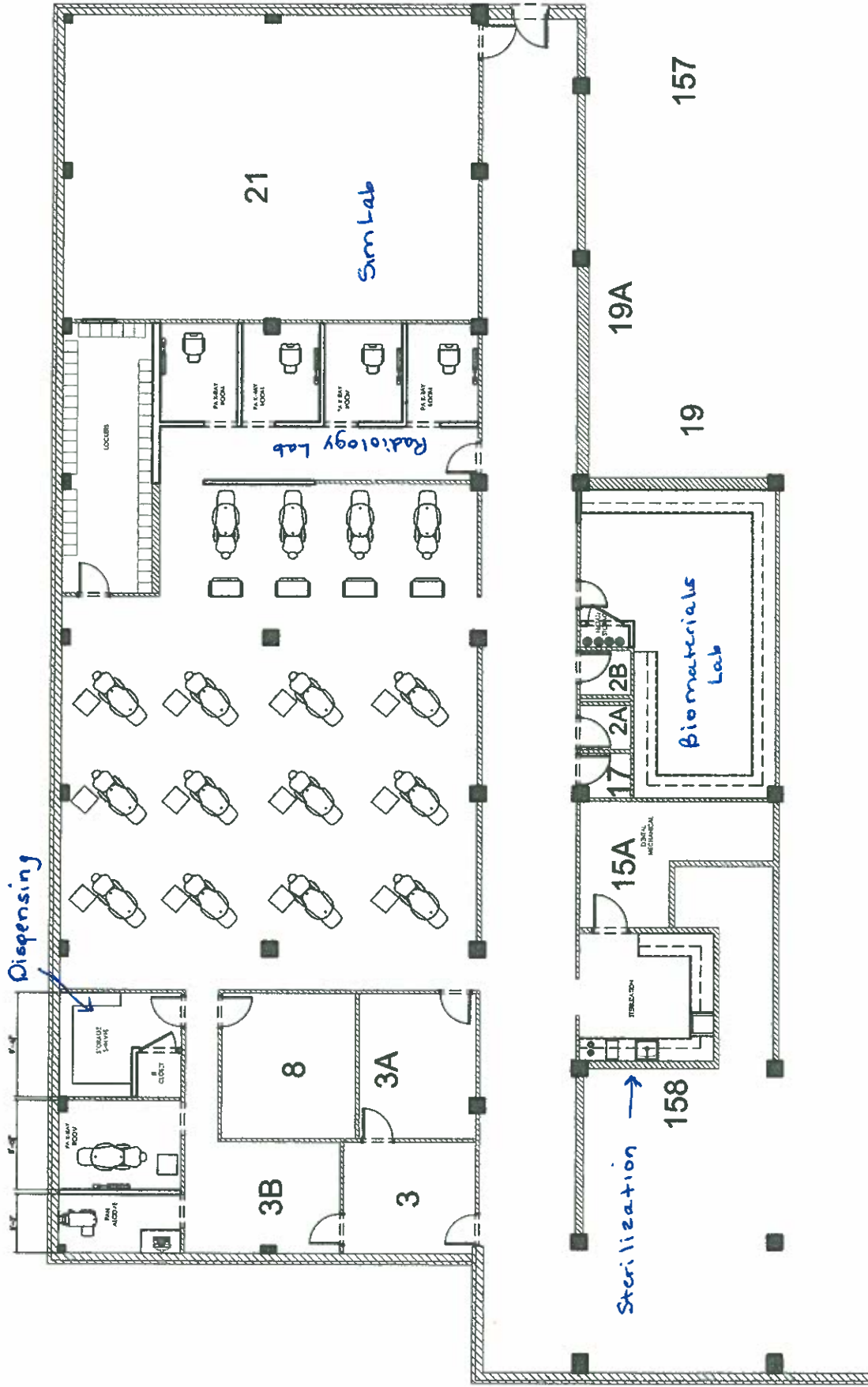
- This project does require planning and communication with MSU IT and the simulation vendor.
- The college of Allied Health and Nursing has a new individual that is dedicated to maintenance of the Nursing simulation lab and would also be maintaining the dental simulation lab.
- Once the simulation equipment has been installed, discussions will be needed to support the integration of the simulation equipment, faculty teaching station, and clinic/simulation computers.
- Prior to the beginning of the academic year, it will be critical to schedule faculty and staff training on the new simulation equipment to allow for faculty integration of this new way of teaching into Fall 2012 syllabi.

**10. Provide a project timeline outlining key tasks, milestones and dates for completion. (5 points)**

Date	Task	Person Responsible
March/April 2012	• Faculty review of simulation equipment, dental clinic equipment, and supporting supplies.	• Dental Hygiene Faculty • Lisa Fleck, Chair • Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair • Bonnie Malterer, OAS
March 2012	• Equipment Bids: simulation equipment, dental clinic equipment, and supporting equipment supplies.	• Lisa Fleck, Chair • Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair • Bonnie Malterer, OAS
Mid/March 2012	• Planning Meeting - MSU IT leadership and Sim Lab equipment needs	• IT Leadership • Lisa Fleck, Chair • Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair • Bonnie Malterer, OAS
March 2012	• Construction Bids	• MSU Facility Planning

April 15, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ordering of simulation equipment, dental clinic equipment, and supporting supplies <b>6-8 weeks required</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lisa Fleck, Chair</li> <li>Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair</li> <li>Bonnie Malterer, OAS</li> </ul>
May 1, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ordering supporting computers to support Sim Lab equipment needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IT staff &amp; leadership</li> </ul>
May 7, 2012	<b>Department Available to begin demolition of MH 18, 20, 20a, 21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU Construction Team</li> <li>Electricians/ Plumbers</li> </ul>
May 7, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove and store existing MH 21 dental lab wall cabinets, counter/under cabinets, and island for use in MH 18, 20, 20a.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU Construction Team</li> <li>Electricians/ Plumbers</li> </ul>
May 28, 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin Construction of MH 18, 20, 20a.</li> <li>Install existing MH 21 dental lab wall cabinets, counter/under cabinets, and island.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU Construction Team</li> <li>Electricians/ Plumbers/Painters</li> </ul>
June 1, 2012 SSI completed	<b>Facility vacated by students and staff</b> Relocation of Office Administrative staff Relocation of Dental Assisting Director Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals staff and faculty offices involved</li> <li>MSU facilities</li> </ul>
June 1, 2012	Demolition of MH 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU Construction Team</li> <li>Electricians/ Plumbers</li> </ul>
June 25, 2012	Construction of MH 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU Construction Team</li> <li>Electricians/ Plumbers/Painters</li> </ul>
July 16, 2012	<b>Installation of Simulation and Dental Equipment</b> <b>8-10 business days required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dental Supply Company</li> <li>Lisa Fleck, Chair</li> <li>Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair</li> <li>Bonnie Malterer, OAS</li> </ul>
July 16, 2012	<b>Installation of IT computers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IT staff &amp; leadership</li> <li>Lisa Fleck, Chair</li> <li>Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair</li> <li>Bonnie Malterer, OAS</li> </ul>
July 23, 2012	Facility clean up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU Facilities Staff</li> </ul>
July 30, 2012	Faculty and staff relocate offices to department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU facilities</li> <li>Individuals staff and faculty offices involved</li> </ul>
August 20, 2012	Faculty training on simulation equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sim Rep. Trainer</li> <li>Dental Hygiene Faculty</li> <li>Lisa Fleck, Chair</li> <li>Lynnette Engeswick, Past Chair</li> <li>Bonnie Malterer, OAS</li> </ul>
August 27, 2012	First Day of the Semester	<b>Implementation</b>

Proposed redesign



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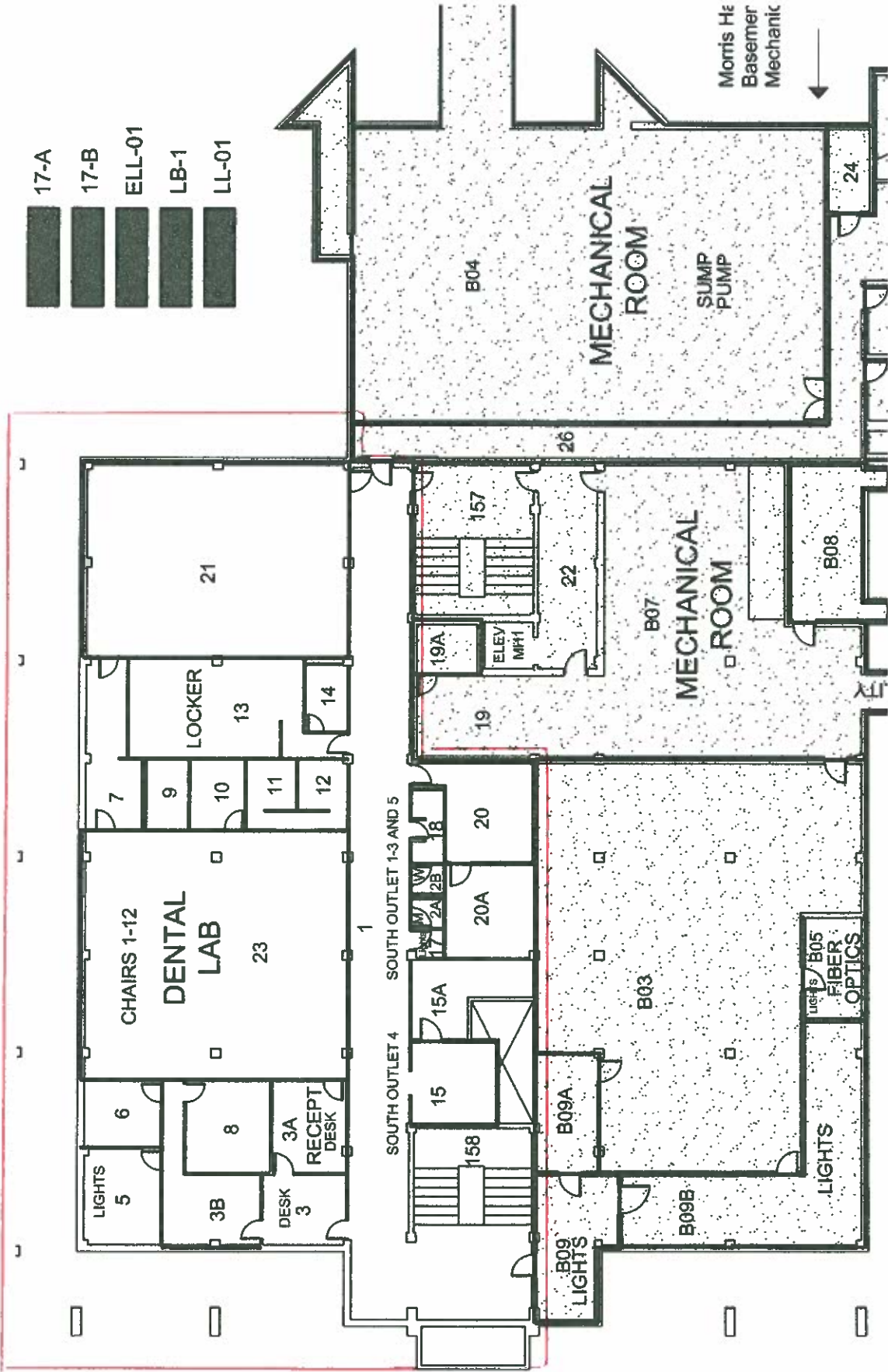
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PRELIMINARY DESIGN

**HENRY SCHEIN®**  
**DENTAL**



Current Space



### Letter of Support

Dean Project Committee Members,

My name is W.C. Sanders, Dean of Academic Affairs, at South Central College. I am writing on behalf of South Central College in support of the Dental Hygiene Remodel proposal.

I have reviewed the proposal and believe this project would enhance the service to students from both Dental Assisting (SCC) and Dental Hygiene (MSU, Mankato). This project would also create more efficient environments for teaching and learning in the following ways:

- Increase student numbers, which would enable groups to be in session simultaneously.
- Increase laboratory space for additional skill practice and teaching with dedicated outside classroom space.
- Allow for the expansion of the SCC Dental Assisting program to enroll additional students in the new two-year program design.
- The addition of digital technology and simulation will bring both programs to the forefront of laboratory practice and simulation in an effort to meet the current and future needs of industry.

In addition, this new space will send a message to our local industry leaders that our programs and institutions are making a statement that values dental education. A statement to our external community that we want to serve you as students and patients in cutting edge treatment facilities and to the MnSCU system that our programs will continue to be collaborative.

Again, it is with great excitement that I write this letter of support for the Hygiene Remodel Project.

Sincerely yours,



W.C. Sanders  
Dean of Academic Affairs

[www.southcentral.edu](http://www.southcentral.edu)

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