



## **QUICK FACTS ABOUT SUE AND BILL GROSS HALL: PROPOSED CENTER FOR STEM CELL RESEARCH BUILDING AT UCI**

The University of California, Irvine (UCI) proposes to construct a free-standing building on campus to provide research and administrative space for the Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center, where researchers using human stem cells can explore their potential for curing diseases and assisting in the repair of the human body. The proposed “Sue and Bill Gross Hall” would provide a dedicated, cutting-edge environment for existing stem cell research and clinical initiatives at UCI. The building will also enhance UCI’s ability to attract new scientific talent and bring additional research dollars to Orange County by housing its stem cell research program under one roof.

### **How will the proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall benefit the community?**

Research done by Sue and Bill Gross Center researchers strives to improve and save lives. The proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall building would expand UCI’s current stem cell research program and create opportunities for the study and use of stem cells to find new treatments for neurodegenerative conditions such as Parkinson’s, multiple sclerosis, Huntington’s disease, spinal cord injuries and Alzheimer’s. The proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall would also accelerate research in other critical diseases areas such as eye disorders, hearing loss, diabetes and cancer. Finally, the building project will also help UCI develop new intellectual property that can be commercialized by biotechnology or medical device companies.

### **How long will it take to construct the building? How much will it cost?**

It is estimated that it will take approximately two years to construct the facility from the time of funding. UCI is adept at the rapid construction of high quality research facilities. The total building cost is estimated at \$80 million.

### **Will Federal funds be used to construct the proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall?**

No Federal funds will be used in connection with the Sue and Bill Gross Hall building project (e.g., to construct the building, staff it or purchase equipment for research conducted in the building).

### **What will be UCI’s funding sources for the proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall?**

UCI will seek funding from:

- The California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, created by the passage of Proposition 71, which oversees the allocation of \$3 billion for California-based stem cell research; \$300 million of these funds are earmarked for facilities projects;
- Private support;
- Corporate support.

In addition, UCI is extraordinarily thankful for the support of the Gross family, who pledged \$10 million to this critical stem cell research building project in July 2006.

### **How much of the total cost of the building will UCI need from private and corporate sources?**

Applicants requesting building funds from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine must cover at least 20 percent of the building’s cost. Thus, UCI seeks at least \$16 million from private and corporate sources.

### **Where will the building be located?**

The proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall would be located in the Biomedical Research Center in the College of Health Sciences complex on campus, providing a natural link to UCI's other scientific programs.

### **What are the main features of the building?**

The proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall will have the following features:

- It will be three stories tall;
- It will be constructed from cast-in-place concrete, using shear wall construction;
- It will offer 52,300 square feet of assignable work space, comprising nearly 40,000 square feet in laboratory space, a general clinical research center, a vivarium, and office and administrative space; the building plus basement will make up 81,575 gross square feet;
- It will have a flexible laboratory space capable of hosting scientists for short-term research projects or longer-term projects involving a wide range of stem cells;
- It will be a "mirror image" of Hewitt Hall in the College of Health Sciences complex (see image above).



The proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall will be a mirror image of Hewitt Hall (shown here).

### **What is the basic plan of the building?**

The basic plan of the proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall is as follows:

- Open plan laboratories will be arrayed along a central corridor containing open shelving and spaces where faculty can meet informally;
- Faculty office space will be arranged to promote interaction among researchers;
- The ground floor will contain an outpatient clinic for therapy, rehabilitation and clinical research;
- The basement will contain core facilities.

### **Who will provide scientific leadership to the Sue and Bill Gross Center?**

UCI plans to recruit a scientist of international renown to serve as the Sue and Bill Gross Center's director, as well as fill other senior and junior faculty positions in the area of stem cell research.

### **How many stem cell researchers will work in the proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall?**

It is anticipated that approximately 15 principal researchers will work in Sue and Bill Gross Hall; however, many more will access the facility through the core laboratory and flexible visiting scientist space.

### **What scientific programs will be conducted in the proposed Sue and Bill Gross Hall?**

Research in Sue and Bill Gross Hall will encompass three principal areas:

- A **Basic Research Program** will explore new methods to isolate stem cells and understand their fundamental properties;
- A **Drug Discovery Program** will support efforts to identify and develop stem cell-based therapies;
- A **Regenerative Medicine Application Program** will study the efficacy and safety of these new therapies and apply them in a clinical setting.