Sonoma State University recognizes that its first obligation is to develop and maintain excellent programs of undergraduate instruction grounded in the liberal arts and sciences. Instructional programs are designed to challenge students not only to acquire knowledge but also to develop the skills of critical analysis, careful reasoning, creativity, and self-expression. The capital outlay program accommodates these principles through the construction of new or renovated facilities designed to support the academic program.

The Darwin Hall Renovation project will achieve two critical objectives: (1) renew the life cycle of all major building components and systems, and (2) modernize its instructional and research space to serve the science curricula for present and future generations of students. The combination of efficient remodeling and improved space efficiencies will add 1,800 assignable square feet for program use.

This project will renovate seriously outdated classrooms and laboratories, correct health and safety deficiencies, ensure compliance with ADA and building codes, and optimize the energy efficiency of the building systems. Darwin Hall was originally constructed 35 years ago for biology instruction. Over the decades, the nature and delivery of science instruction have changed substantially. The addition of new departments and programs has increased the need for appropriate space for efficient delivery of science and technology instruction. The renovated building will offer laboratories with facilities for faculty and student research in biochemistry, DNA sequencing, seismology, and other important fields in modern science education.

This project will allow Sonoma State University to maximize learning by creating a positive environment that will support its evolving curriculum and technology. This capital project works in conjunction with the community’s generosity to support the academic programs. Agilent Technologies donated one million dollars and W. M. Keck Foundation gave a $400,000 award to enhance our campus laboratories. These gifts will help students become involved in projects with strong application in high-tech industries and related graduate programs.

These donations are not only generous for our students, but also thoughtful toward a future where higher education and industry support one another.
STATE

PROJECTS IN BUDGET YEAR

Renovate Darwin Hall  PWC  $26,012,000
This project will correct deficiencies in the HVAC system, ensure compliance with codes, and optimize the building’s energy efficiency. At the same time, it will address capital renewal needs for a building that is 35 years old. The building houses the School of Sciences and Technology and requires modernizing the laboratories to redistribute the level of instruction and provide laboratories for new programs. The space layout will be reconfigured to improve space efficiencies by increasing square footage by 1,800 ASF and its capacity by 266 FTE in lecture space and 10 new faculty offices. It will also redistribute the teaching lab space to reflect enrollment trends resulting in +72 FTE in LD laboratory space and -50 FTE in UD laboratory space, for a net total increase of 22 FTE in laboratory space. The future cost for equipment is $3,414,000.

NON STATE

PROJECTS IN BUDGET YEAR

None

Sonoma State University is launching an Entrepreneur-in-Residence program for its Wine Business curriculum. Funded in part with support from the Chalone Wine Foundation, the new program will bring wine industry entrepreneurs to the university for a semester of teaching, working with faculty, and enriching student experiences.