

# WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

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## COLLEGE OF NURSING

### **Wayne State University Board of Governors Approves Funding for New Simulation Lab at the College of Nursing**

**DETROIT, December 2008** – Construction documents have been sent out to solicit bids for a new, state-of-the-art simulation lab at the College of Nursing, scheduled to be fully operational by fall semester, 2009. The Wayne State University Board of Governors approved funding for the facility earlier this month.

Rooms 221 and 223 at the College, next to the Nursing Skills Lab, will be converted for the “sim” lab, with renovations to begin around March 1, says CON facilities coordinator David Barnett.

“The idea is to create a hospital environment that the students would see if they were actually on site at one of our clinical locations,” Barnett says. “The students will be able to go in there and run their procedures, and unlike the way it’s set up right now (in the Skills Lab), we will have the ability to capture how the student performs on video. They will be able to go back and look at what they’ve done, and their instructors will be able to critique them.”

The simulation lab will feature two separate modules – one with three beds, the other two – and a control center between them. There will be no access to either area from the Nursing Skills Lab.

The new lab will have the ability to transmit images from the modules throughout the Cohn Building, so that others may observe the activity there without physically being in the room. It also will have the capability to send video images beyond the College of Nursing for distance learning initiatives.

“This is pretty high-tech stuff, a very sophisticated environment, and a lot of work has gone into it,” Barnett says. Representatives from the College visited existing simulation labs at the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Wayne State, William Beaumont Hospital and the University of Michigan.

Barnett says he’s looking at a drop-dead completion date in late June or early July for the construction, so that faculty will have an opportunity to practice and familiarize themselves with the “sim” lab prior to the start of the fall semester.

In other Cohn Building news, Room 122 is being revamped as a conference seminar room. “We’re going to install technology so the room can be used for teleconferencing, seminars, that kind of thing,” Barnett says. “This construction will be going on simultaneously with the ‘sim’ lab. In fact, we’ll probably have it done by the time the simulation lab actually opens.”

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