



Conceptual renderings

## Community rallies around Health Sciences Education Building

The University of Nevada, Reno is an outstanding community resource that enhances the quality of life for many Nevadans. The private support of dedicated businesses, foundations and citizens creates opportunities for teaching, learning and outreach that would not otherwise be possible.

While the William N. Pennington Foundation provided the lead gift of \$10 million for the new Health Sciences Education Building (*see back cover*), many other community partners contributed major gifts for the facility's construction. Donations of \$2.5 million from the Nell J. Redfield Foundation and \$1 million from the Thelma B. and Thomas P. Hart Foundation, plus other major gifts from the Robert Z. Hawkins Foundation, the John Ben Snow Memorial Trust, the Frances C. and William P. Smallwood Foundation, Mrs. Jean Tobman and others,

provided the matching funds the University needed to secure Nevada legislative support.

The 59,000-square-foot William N. Pennington Health Sciences Building will be constructed to meet environmentally friendly building standards and will include classrooms, laboratories and simulated patient-care settings where students will participate in educational role-play with trained patients and faculty observers. Funding of \$3 million for planning was allocated by the 2007 Nevada State Legislature and \$31 million in construction bonding has been approved as part of the 2009 Nevada Legislature's capital improvement project budget, with an additional \$15 million in private matching funds.

Through its medical research, innovative curriculum and community outreach, the University of Nevada, Reno is developing programs and ideas that help individuals,

businesses and institutions continually revitalize life in the Washoe Valley, the nation and the world. In spite of an increasingly difficult health care economy, the Division of Health Sciences has remained a leader in and contributed to the acceleration of biomedical knowledge, technology and nursing education. Thanks to the generosity of numerous individuals and foundations, the new William N. Pennington Health Science Education Building will strengthen and enhance that leadership role and help ensure that the Nevada School of Medicine and Orvis School of Nursing remain at the forefront of academic excellence.



University of Nevada, Reno  
Foundation

**For more information on supporting the Division of Health Sciences, please contact Director of Development Stefanie Scoppettone at (775) 682-9143 or [scops@unr.edu](mailto:scops@unr.edu).**

# William N. Pennington Foundation provides \$10 million for Health Sciences Building



The William N. Pennington Foundation has committed \$10 million to the University of Nevada, Reno Foundation for the purpose of a new Health Sciences Building. Construction on the \$49 million William N. Pennington Health Sciences Building is scheduled to begin in early 2010 just to the east of the Pennington Medical Education Building, with completion anticipated in fall 2011.

"This gift will have an important, lasting impact for our state," says University President Milton Glick. "Nevada continues to face a shortage of doctors and nurses. The expansion of these teaching programs will go a long way toward addressing the shortage. Ultimately, this generous gift will improve the quality of healthcare for generations to come."

The new facility will allow the University of Nevada School of Medicine to expand its class size from 62 to 100 students, for an eventual, total enrollment of 400 medical students. The number of Orvis School of Nursing students will double for an eventual,

total enrollment of about 300 students.

The concept of the William N. Pennington Health Sciences Building reflects the increasing trend toward interdisciplinary healthcare teams.

"Optimal health care is achieved when medical and healthcare professionals come together as an interdisciplinary team," says John McDonald, vice president of the University's Division of Health Science. "The Pennington Health Sciences Building will be the cornerstone of this new focus on comprehensive, interdisciplinary care. Students, faculty and staff in medicine and nursing will work, study and train together in this learning environment."

A longtime supporter of the University, William Pennington was named a Distinguished Nevadan by the Nevada System of Higher Education in 1997 for his outstanding contributions to higher education in the state. He received an honorary degree from the University in 2008. In addition to the contributions to the Pennington Medical Education Building, the



*The 59,000-square-foot William N. Pennington Health Sciences Building will be adjacent to the existing Pennington Medical Education Building.*

William N. Pennington Foundation also funds medical and undergraduate scholarships.

"Mr. Pennington is a generous individual, a visionary and a highly respected industry leader," says Glick. "It is fitting that this innovator and pioneer is advancing medical and nursing education—fields that are dramatically impacted by new advancements and technologies. This building will be transformative for this University, our community and the citizens of Nevada."

—Jane Tors '82 and John Trent '85/'87, '00M.A.

