

**ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES**

**Resolution No. 2026.05/22  
Authorization for Design and  
Construction Services for  
Science Laboratory Building  
Annex (SLB-A)**

**Resolution**

Whereas, Illinois State University (ISU) Felmley Science Annex (FSA) opened for classes in 1963 and is a four-story, 80,784 gross square foot STEM facility that houses spaces for Geology/Geography, Health Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and General Classrooms, and

Whereas, FSA has been modified numerous times during the past 60 years, but not in a planned or comprehensive manner. As a result, changing university pedagogical requirements, aging, failed and obsolete infrastructure, and changing codes have resulted in the building not functioning as designed or required, and

Whereas, FSA is currently performing well below ISU requirements. Subsequently, several ISU biology and chemistry labs in FSA are not fully functional, resulting in reduced ISU College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) laboratory teaching capacity, and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University authorizes University expenditures not to exceed \$27,401,173 for all necessary design and construction services for the Science Laboratory Building Annex (SLB-A) and directs university administration to establish the project budget and appoint architects, engineers, and other necessary project consultants in accordance with University procedures.

Board Action on:	_____	Postpone:	_____
Motion by:	_____	Amend:	_____
Second by:	_____	Disapprove:	_____
Vote:	Yeas: _____ Nays: _____	Approve:	_____

ATTEST: Board Action, May 8, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary / Chairperson

**Board of Trustees  
Illinois State University  
Authorization for Design and Construction Services for  
Science Laboratory Building Annex (SLB-A)**

**Background**

Felmley Science Annex (FSA) opened for classes in 1963 and is a four-story 80,784 gross square foot Illinois State University (ISU) STEM facility that houses spaces for Geology/Geography, Health Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and General Classrooms. FSA has been modified numerous times during the past 60 years, but not in a planned or comprehensive manner. As a result, changing University pedagogical requirements, aging, failed and obsolete infrastructure, and changing codes have resulted in the building not functioning as designed or required. Therefore, FSA is currently performing well below university requirements. Subsequently, several biology and chemistry labs in FSA are not fully functional resulting in reduced College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) laboratory teaching capacity.

**Justification**

Consistent with the 2018 Campus Master Plan, the location of the proposed STEM Building has been reevaluated and relocated to better support Illinois State University's College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) programs and long-term academic objectives. The revised location provides enhanced programmatic capacity and reduces project risk. Specifically, the relocated STEM Building will provide eight (8) teaching laboratories and recitation rooms – an increase over the previous configuration – and will add two (2) large instructional spaces, including one 250-seat tiered lecture hall and one 68-seat classroom.

The relocation of the site for the new STEM Building enables the development of a cohesive Science Complex, which also includes the construction of Research and Teaching Greenhouse Facilities and the Science Laboratory Building Annex (SLB-A). The proposed SLB-A will include four (4) teaching laboratories, four (4) recitation rooms, six (6) research laboratories, and six (6) research offices. The annex will also provide a universal toilet room, which the existing building currently lacks, and a second elevator to improve accessibility and building circulation.

The SLB-A will further provide swing space necessary to support a future Felmley Science Annex renovation project.

In summary, the SLB-A, combined with the new STEM Building and greenhouses, will provide necessary instructional capacity, modern research and teaching facilities, improved accessibility, reduced project risk, and alignment with Illinois State University's long-term strategic and academic priorities.

**Science Laboratory Building Annex (SLB-A) Project Plan**

The project scope involves constructing a 3-story 24,810 square foot building addition (8,270 SF per floor) to the existing Science Laboratory Building. STANTEC and ISU worked collaboratively to develop a preliminary concept plan and a budget to implement all the necessary project components to implement a new "Science Complex" – Science Laboratory Building Annex, Research and Teaching Greenhouse Facilities, and STEM Building Project.

This resolution requests the Board of Trustees to authorize Illinois State University expenditures not to exceed \$27,401,173, for all necessary Science Laboratory Building Annex project construction services.

**Science Laboratory Building Annex (SLB-A) Project Plan**

Design Fees Total	\$	1,442,997
Construction Total		20,463,560
FF&E Total		2,984,165
Contingency		2,344,773
Owner Cost		165,698
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Total SLB-A	\$	27,401,173

**Source of Funding**

The University will issue debt to finance the project and use Academic Enhancement Fee (AEF) revenue to repay the debt.

A comprehensive debt issuance resolution will be brought to the July 2026 Board of Trustees Meeting.