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Auraria Campus Science Building FACT SHEET

- The Science Building, built in the early 1970s, accommodates students in all three institutions in programs that include anthropology, biology, chemistry, environmental studies, earth atmospheric science, math and nursing.
- The current science building presents health and safety hazards because of overcrowding and outdated HVAC systems. Two labs have had to be closed due to dangerous levels of chemical fumes and inadequate ventilation.
- AHEC has already begun construction of the Science Building, based on an appropriation from the state for fiscal year 2007/08. If state funding doesn't come through this year, the project is placed in serious jeopardy and will – at a minimum - result in very costly delays.

- Total project cost: \$120,386,156 which includes \$8,950,000 of furniture, equipment, AV and finishing academic labs (which is being paid for by the institutions).

Total funds requested from state: \$111M; Initial \$50M request for FY 2008/09 was reduced to \$37.5M as the institutions had to bring another \$12.5M of funding to the project

Construction costs approximately \$83M

- The AHEC Science Building supports the training of future science and technology workers. The new science building, with students from all three institutions, will educate more future scientists of color than any other location in the state and support the state's economic development.
- The student population on the AHEC campus has grown 250% since the campus opened in 1976 and now serves 39,000 students.
- One fifth of all public higher education students in Colorado attend classes at Auraria. The number of students has doubled since Auraria opened, with only a 15% increase in space and 8.9% of the capital construction funds distributed to higher education institutions in the past 10 years.
- Colorado has the highest concentration of high-tech workers in all 50 states. The new science building on the Auraria Campus will help support Colorado's fast-growing high-tech/science industries, enhancing Colorado's economic development.
- If funding is received the addition will open in the Fall of 2009 and the renovated existing Science Building will open in the Fall of 2010.