Equipping the Future

Oxford College Science Teaching Equipment Fund
Oxford College of Emory University has a long tradition of excellence in science education, offering rigorous academics, close collaboration with faculty, and challenging research opportunities for students in the first two years of undergraduate study.

Thanks to Oxford’s many generous alumni and friends, construction funding has been raised to build a much-anticipated new science building, which is scheduled to be ready for classes in January 2016. A key attribute of the new building is a design that promotes and encourages collaboration and supports Oxford’s commitment to providing undergraduate students with closely mentored laboratory experiences.

To fully utilize the new facility, Oxford is raising the $750,000 needed to purchase necessary scientific and technological equipment for the building’s laboratories, classrooms, and research spaces, such as spectrometers, a microbial identification system, and thermal cyclers.

“An essential component of science education is understanding and developing skill in working with scientific equipment. This skill extends the precision and the scale with which observations can be made and is fundamental to how scientists create knowledge,” says Oxford Dean Stephen Bowen.

Donors of significant gifts to the Oxford Science Teaching Equipment Fund will have the opportunity to name spaces in the new building. Descriptions of the spaces and their associated naming-level gifts follow.
Donation Levels and Naming Opportunities

Teaching

3 LABORATORIES for cross-disciplinary faculty and student research—$120,000 EACH

Twenty-first century science is collaborative and cross-disciplinary. Scientists share approaches, materials, instruments, and knowledge as they work together on research questions. These centrally located laboratories will allow teams of Oxford students and faculty members to share equipment, instrumentation, and technology. These areas provide safe and inviting spaces where special projects can continue outside of standard instructional time.

9 LABORATORIES for biology, chemistry, physics, and environmental and field sciences—$100,000 EACH

These open and adaptable spaces will allow students to participate in authentic scientific studies. The laboratory design will facilitate teamwork and provide easy access to modern instrumentation, equipment, and technology. Because all students at Oxford are required to take a laboratory course, every student will benefit from the new facilities.

3 CLASSROOMS—$50,000 EACH

Most Oxford science courses combine case studies, problem-based learning, hands-on activities, and classroom discussion. The new classrooms are designed for diverse instructional approaches with the latest technology and furnishings.

5 LABORATORY PREPARATION AREAS—$30,000 EACH

Spaces close to laboratories maximize efficient preparation and enhance effective teaching in the important hands-on learning environment that laboratories provide.

INSTRUMENT ROOM—$25,000

Oxford students use instruments often reserved for science majors in their final years of college. The instrument room will be easily accessible to students in multiple laboratories.

IMAGING CENTER—$20,000

Visualizing molecules, cells, and microbes with microscopy cuts across all scientific disciplines. The imaging center will support and enhance the work of faculty and students in disciplines that require specialized microscopy, lighting, and photography.

3 SHARED-RESOURCE ROOMS—$20,000 EACH

Accessible to several laboratories, these centrally located spaces are for instruments, equipment, and materials that support teaching and faculty/student research programs.
Public Gathering Spaces

**ATRIUM—$350,000**
A large atrium near the building’s entrance will be furnished with casual seating for groups and individuals. This welcoming space will be the nucleus of activity, connecting laboratories, offices, and study spaces to an outdoor porch. This space also can be reconfigured for guest lectures, presentations, scientific symposia, and social events and receptions.

**OUTDOOR PORCH—$250,000**
An outdoor space for studying or socializing will overlook the green space on the north side of the building.

**BALCONY STUDY AREA—$25,000**
On the second floor, a balcony study area will overlook the larger public space. This space will provide an environment for students and faculty to study, socialize, or observe activities below.

Faculty and Staff Spaces

**FACULTY/STAFF BREAK ROOM—$25,000**
This room will be a space for faculty and staff to collaborate or socialize during lunch or over coffee.

**23 FACULTY/STAFF OFFICES—$10,000 EACH**
Faculty offices will be arranged in clusters to allow easy access to teaching laboratories, research space, and other collaborative spaces shared by faculty and students. The Oxford College faculty has a longstanding tradition of being available to students for questions, conversations, and mentoring. Oxford students often return to the laboratories to study, continue projects, and to participate in supplemental instruction, and faculty mentors are nearby to answer questions and provide guidance. Clusters of offices will allow faculty colleagues to collaborate.

**Collaboration and Study Spaces**

The new science building will include spaces for casual and organized study, conversation, and community building. These spaces will be different sizes, with a variety of furnishings, to meet the diverse needs of students as they solve problems, develop projects, create posters, and study in groups or alone.

**3 QUIET STUDY ROOMS—$15,000 EACH**
Students working in groups may choose a room with technology, writing boards, and the option to close the space for discussion, work, or study. These adaptable rooms also will provide private meeting space for faculty and study spaces for students after laboratory hours.

**4 OPEN COLLABORATIVE SPACES/CLASSROOM BREAKOUT SPACE—$15,000 EACH**
Open spaces with moveable and comfortable seating, technology charging stations, and writing boards will allow for laptop use, small-group collaboration, or simply retreats from the bustle of laboratory science. These areas can be used for breakout groups, studying, socializing, or faculty/student collaboration.
A facility that makes 21st-century science education possible.

Oxford College Science Teaching Equipment Fund

To learn more about supporting the new science equipment teaching fund, please contact Adam Meyer at adam.meyer@emory.edu or 770.784.4637.