On October 13, three of Oregon’s top universities broke ground on a unique project that will combine the resources of these nationally respected institutions to benefit all 96,000 square miles of the state. The OUS/OHSU Collaborative Life Sciences Building will place portions of Oregon Health & Science University, Oregon State University, and Portland State University under one roof. In doing so, the facility will extend partnerships between the universities, create new employment opportunities, and expand the schools’ teaching facilities, class sizes and research activities.

The 480,000-square-foot building will include lecture halls, classrooms, labs, specialty research centers, offices and a state-of-the-art facility for the OHSU School of Dentistry. The Collaborative Life Sciences Building will foster collaboration in undergraduate and graduate education between students and instructors from multiple institutions.
What’s inside?

- Skourtes Tower: New cutting-edge learning space and clinic for the OHSU School of Dentistry to replace aging facilities on Marquam Hill
- PSU’s biology and chemistry lectures and laboratories
- Education space for OHSU’s medical students (MS1-2) and dental students (DS1-4), physician assistants and radiation technologists
- OSU’s College of Pharmacy (3rd year of joint OSU/OHSU program)
- A state-of-the-art simulation center where clinical teams (doctors, nurses, PAs, staff) train side-by-side
- OHSU Center for Spatial Systems Biomedicine
- Labs for research in basic and applied science and engineering
- Shared instrumentation labs with electron microscopy, NMR and other specialized, sophisticated instrumentation
- Ground floor retail space for lease

OHSU program impacts

- Increases medical school class from 120 to 160 students
- Increases dental school class from 75 to 90 students
- Provides capacity to increase physician assistant program class size from 40 to 50 students
- Provides capacity to increase in the pharmacy program from 90 to 115 students

Timeline

Groundbreaking: October 2011
Opening: August 2013 for PSU Fall term
Full completion by Spring 2014 for OHSU and OSU research and academic programs.

Construction jobs

Approx. 250 full-time jobs
Up to 500 on-site on a given day

Finances

Construction of the building is being funded by a unique public-private partnership model:

- Tri-Met: $10 million
- State Bonds: $110 million
- OHSU Philanthropy: $83 million
- OHSU Institutional Funding: $92 million
- Total: $295 million