CLARION UNIVERSITY CAPITAL PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS 2015-2016

Campus Accessibility Improvements (Previously Approved; Release of Funds Request)

\$5 Million

Several campus buildings are underutilized or largely inaccessible to students with disabilities; certain uses housed in these buildings do not lend themselves to be relocated to accessible locations. For instance, one of the campus' original buildings, Moore Hall, built in 1890, is primarily 'mothballed' because of its inaccessibility. With the installation of an elevator, bathroom upgrades, and other improvements the building could serve a variety of functions. Similarly, classroom buildings serving unique curriculum and uses are largely inaccessible. For instance, the Special Education building could be far more utilized with the installation of an elevator and bathroom upgrades. The two buildings serving Sculpture and Ceramics, classes for which cannot be offered at another campus location, are completely inaccessible. Finally, the Venango College library scores at the bottom of a scale developed by the campus master planning consultants. All or any of these projects would greatly improve our services to students, faculty, and staff with disabilities and represent the most urgently needed accessibility improvements.

Office Consolidation Project

\$8.4 Million

This project starts with the renovation of the historic, soon to be vacant Egbert Hall, now serving as offices, to be re-used for current offices in Carrier Hall, which would be demolished. Carrier's lot would be landscaped as a plaza at a key entrance to the campus. Also, the project will include renovation of the soon to be vacant Admissions building to serve the Public Safety department, which is in totally inadequate quarters presently. Two more buildings will be demolished after this move. The project will substantially reduce operating costs, space surplus, and deferred maintenance.

Carrier Hall, constructed in 1971, has never had a comprehensive renovation. It is recommended for demolition rather than rehabilitation by the master planner since rehabbing is more expensive than replacing. Not only is the building in significant disrepair but it is very unattractive at a key location on campus and detracts from first impressions for potential students and their families.

By comparison, Egbert Hall also has never had a comprehensive renovation and is in need of significant renovation but is an historic, attractive building in the center of campus. It has significant ties to alumni and the alumni association asked during the campus master planning process that we do not consider tearing it down.

Public Safety is currently housed in totally inadequate quarters in a former house. The department would be relocated to the soon to be vacant Admissions building. The added space and facility condition will positively affect department certification and operations. Two former houses, Thorn I and Thorn II would be demolished as part of this phase.

A number of accessibility deficiencies in the facilities to remain cannot be remedied without a major renovation. Existing substandard air quality and air distribution deficiencies will be remedied and building systems will be upgraded to current code requirements.

The project reduces operating costs by at least \$150,000 per year, reduces deferred maintenance by over \$8M, and reduces the space inventory by 25,839 gross sq. ft.