Sustain the great tradition of Welch Hall by investing in renovation efforts.
WELCH HALL HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE IT OPENED ON THE 40 ACRES. NOW THE EYES OF TEXAS ARE UPON IT.

One of UT Austin’s largest academic buildings, dating back to 1929, Welch is someplace nearly every living Longhorn remembers from their days on campus. Home to the University of Texas at Austin’s top-ranked Chemistry Department, Welch also hosts 10,000+ UT students every day for classes, seminars and labs. The award-winning chemistry faculty based in Welch attracted research awards that generated $14 million in 2014 alone.

When was the last time you were in Welch? Be it the '50s, the '80s, or last year, you likely noticed excessive wear and tear, aging infrastructure, and classrooms, teaching labs, and research spaces in need of updating. The 1929 wing is preparing to undergo significant renovations to include new classrooms, modern research and teaching labs, as well as dedicated labs for the Freshman Research Initiative, and a critical modernization of the HVAC and air-handler systems. In total, 19,000 square feet of space will be refreshed and updated. The first significant step in the College of Natural Sciences five-year Master Space Plan.

The renovated Welch Hall will be a beacon and an intellectual home for the best faculty and students, dedicated to improving the world through their science.

Your gift makes the next chapter of innovation possible.

Alumni and corporate partners have an opportunity to leave their mark on this historic building. Please consider adding your name to the list of catalysts whose support will inspire future generations of students at The University of Texas at Austin.

NAME A SPACE

Make a gift to permanently name a space in historic Welch Hall—from spaces as large as a lecture hall, to research labs, to dedicated Freshman Research Initiative space.

GIVE AN OUTRIGHT OR PLANNED GIFT

Gifts of any size are always welcome. Friends who make an outright or planned gift of $5,000 or more will be recognized on a donor wall within Welch Hall.
WELCH 1929 NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

1929 WING

One of the oldest and most architecturally significant buildings on UT Austin campus, the 1929 wing of Welch Hall is a campus landmark. Decades of student use have left its beauty and usability eroded, but the planned renovation will rejuvenate and repurpose this original facility for modern-day chemistry, teaching and research. The entire building will retain its name, Welch Hall, named after famed chemist Robert A. Welch. The 1929 Wing is available for naming within Welch.

1 @ $10,000,000

STUDENT FACILITIES

TEACHING AND INSTRUCTIONAL LABORATORY

For chemists, teaching and instructional laboratory space is one of the most important venues for advancing student education. Hands-on learning and the ability to run experiments in a safe environment build skills, knowledge and experience. Welch’s modernized teaching labs will be the “chemistry classroom” for both major and non-major students and will allow for increased student project space, interactive environments for students to work with their professors, and natural light from the 6’ tall historic windows.

Analytical Teaching Lab: 1 @ $650,000 (Floor 4)

CLASSROOMS

The renovation of the 1929 wing will include the addition of five dedicated natural sciences classrooms, designed to provide a 21st century learning environment. Concentrated on the first and second floors, modern classroom space will enhance student interaction, increase community, and incorporate the latest innovative education best practices, like flipped classroom capability.

Suite of 3 adjoining classrooms: 1 @ $650,000 (Floor 2)
  • Individual Classrooms within Suite: 3 @ $225,000
Suite of 2 adjoining classrooms: 1 @ 400,000 (Floor 2)
  • Individual classrooms: 2 @ $225,000

GRADUATE STUDENT OFFICES

Graduate students are one of the most valuable assets in the Natural Sciences ecosystem, serving as researchers, undergraduate mentors and partners to our faculty. Six graduate student office hubs will be located on the third and fifth floors of Welch Hall, creating space that will allow for interdisciplinary research, exchange and interaction.

Graduate Student Hub: 2 @ $100,000 (Floor 3 and Floor 5)
Graduate Student Office: 2 @ $40,000 (Floor 3 and Floor 5) and 3 @ $75,000 (Floor 3)

FRESHMAN RESEARCH INITIATIVE FACILITIES

FRESHMAN RESEARCH INITIATIVE LABORATORIES

The Freshman Research Initiative (FRI) has become a national standard in science education, engaging freshmen in cutting-edge research experiences within science cohorts. The Department of Chemistry has been a leader in the creation and delivery of FRI education, but faculty leaders have been forced to set up FRI lab space “in the corner of another lab” or in otherwise used space ill-matched to researchers’ needs.

Two dedicated and modern research labs have been designed into the Welch 1929 renovation to house chemistry-centric FRI Research Streams. These labs will be in constant use by dozens of undergraduate scientists, their faculty advisors, research educators and graduate mentors. No university in the country has dedicated space like this and UT Austin intends to be the leader in establishing undergraduate research as a key example of research-enhanced education.

FRI Labs: 2 @ $300,000 (Floor 2)

FRI INSTRUCTOR OFFICE

One of the overwhelming reasons FRI Research Streams succeed in educating undergraduate science students is the involvement and leadership of the graduate students and post-doctoral researchers who mentor, coach and teach these undergraduates. Co-locating dedicated office space for these important teachers next to their FRI Labs will allow the mentors to stay close to the research activity, allowing for student-teacher meeting space.

FRI Office: 1 @ $50,000 (Floor 2)

RESEARCH FACILITIES

FACULTY RESEARCH LABORATORIES

Twelve laboratories will be modernized and expanded to provide intensive research space for top chemists in Welch. It is in these faculty research labs where graduate students and post-doctoral researchers partner with faculty to make cutting-edge discoveries. Research conducted in these new labs will range from inorganic to high-synthesis to analytical chemistry laboratories. In Welch’s current facilities, which are research limiting due to HVAC and other structural deficiencies, chemistry faculty conduct approximately $14 million in annual research. Imagine the research potential in these renovated and high-capability laboratories.

4 @ $225,000 (Floor 3 – Synthesis and Analytical)
3 @ $225,000 (Floor 4 – Inorganic and Biochemistry)
4 @ $250,000 (Floor 5 – Synthesis and High-Fume Labs)

FACULTY OFFICES

Modest offices will be woven into the third and fifth floors for faculty members whose labs will be in Welch 1929.

5 @ $25,000 (Floor 3 and 5)

COMMUNITY SPACE

CONFERENCE ROOM

New conference space has been designed into the second floor teaching area of Welch Hall. This conference room will serve as an extension of the learning environment and allow for meetings, gatherings, lectures, seminars and community space for faculty, students and visitors.

Teaching Hub Conference Room: 1 @ $60,000 (Floor 3)

THE OLD LIBRARY SUITE

The library, with its historic value to Welch, will remain a key hub in the building for student learning and space for congregating. Renovating and refreshing the library, located on Floor 2, will create bright and open community gathering spaces, including rooms for faculty meetings, tutoring and enrichment, and technology utilization.

Original Welch 1929 Library: 1 @ $250,000
Library Offices: 2 @ $30,000
Break Room: 1 @ $30,000
Library Conference Room: 1 @ $50,000