



## CWI's near future promises two buildings for the Nampa campus

By: Teya Vitu July 21, 2016



A Health Sciences Building is the first structure CWI plans to add to its Nampa campus. Image courtesy of College of Western Idaho.

One building begets a second building, then a third building and eventually an entire college's worth of buildings.

That's the continuing story at the College of Western Idaho, the seven-year-old community college in Nampa that has grown to more than 20,000 students.

CWI's main, 135-acre Nampa campus has just one building now, the 65,354-square-foot Academic Building. It was originally built in 2005 as a Boise State University West Campus and was transferred to CWI upon its opening in 2009.

CWI acquired the 32.5 acres in July 2015 for \$815,000, but at that time had no immediate development plans for the property other than including it in the college's Nampa Campus Master Plan to support growth through 2040.

A year later, the college on July 13 unveiled designs for the first two additional buildings to start creating a quad with the existing Academic Building.

"The master plan contemplates many more buildings in the coming years," said Craig Brown, CWI's vice president of resource development

CWI now is scattered about Nampa and Boise in nearly a dozen leased locations. The college is working to consolidate its offerings on primary campuses in Nampa and Boise.

CWI intends to start construction within one year on a three-story, 80,000-square-foot Health Sciences Building directly across the canal from the Academic Building. The estimated \$32 million to \$35 million building is anticipated to be ready for students in fall 2019.



The CWI Health Sciences Building will sit across the canal from the Academic Building (rear). Photo by Teya Vitu.

Anchoring the south end of the future quad will be the 140,000-square-foot Student Success Center. Construction on the \$40 million project is foreseen for an early 2020 start with completion predicted for fall 2021, Brown said.



Craig Brown

With construction far along on new St. Luke's and Saint Alphonsus hospitals in Nampa, college President Bert Glandon noted the urgency for CWI to prepare students for health care jobs.

"The needs of those two hospitals in the next five to seven years are unbelievable," said Glandon, who has headed the college since near its beginning. "If we don't start now, we're going to be behind."

Among the offerings at the Health Science Building will be nursing, certified nursing assistant, phlebotomy, physical therapist assistant and pharmacy technician, Brown said.

Brown said CWI plans to pursue a bond measure in the November election to fund Health Sciences construction, but a dollar amount has not been determined.

The Student Success Center will be CWI's first equivalent of a student union, allowing students to congregate with



better dining and recreation options. The building will also house services such as counseling, tutoring, a veterans center, and space for clubs and organizations, said Brown, who described it as a "learning commons."

Chambers of commerce representatives from across the Treasure Valley attended the June 13 campus development unveiling event. Chambers have been closely allied with CWI since the beginning.





“The partnership of CWI with our chambers is critical to the success of the Treasure Valley,” Nampa Chamber of Commerce CEO Debbie Kling said. “We have gone so far but we have such a wonderful opportunity ahead of us.”

High school students routinely take community college courses.

“We have hundreds of kids who leave our schools with CWI credits,” said David Peterson, superintendent of the Nampa School District.

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**ABOUT TEYA VITU**



Teya Vitu is an Idaho Business Review reporter, covering commercial real estate, construction, transportation and whatever else may intrigue him in the moment.

