

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Koury Oral Health Sciences Building

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University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill Koury Oral Health Sciences Building

"Our school is fortunate to be an integral part of a highly respected research university. Our faculty has a tradition of working with industry leaders to bring new knowledge, products, and devices that enhance dental practice."

Dr. James Beck, Associate Dean for Research

The UNC School of Dentistry is performing groundbreaking dental research looking at the relationship between oral and overall health – investigating the relationship between dental diseases such as periodontal (gum) diseases and many other conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and other systemic aspects. The school received more than \$11 million last year in grant funding from organizations like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct oral health research.

The addition of the Koury Oral Health Sciences Building has opened the door for significant growth in these research programs and will allow UNC to continue being a leader in dental education and research.



"The new dental sciences building provides an impressive gateway for the university — the school's mission of education, research, and service will benefit tremendously from the broad array of facilities that this building adds to our dental complex."

Dr. Ken May, Vice Dean

This state-of-the-art instructional space provides flexible and efficient research environments to accommodate current and future technologies. The environment connects with the university's adjacent research and clinical spaces for maximum dialogue and collaboration among disciplines, while respectfully working within the scale and character of the historic core of the academic precinct. This addition to the UNC School of Dentistry greatly enhances the school's ability to accommodate not only larger class sizes, but to educate more effectively and respond to

21st century opportunities, discoveries, and advancements in the field.



"The atrium really is the heart of the dental school now. I go out on the balcony and look down and I can't help but just smile. It's full of student activity all the time. What a tremendous space."

Al Elsenrath, Director Support Services-Dental School

The Dental Commons, a soaring sky-lit atrium on the first floor, serves as the complex's major social center, housing a café, a living room area, dining area, and ample tiered seating to easily accommodate assemblies and events. The atrium is the hub of all student activities and provides a communal place for communication and interaction among the various disciplines within the building.







"It's an incredible space, and everyone is enjoying the new communal and classroom spaces. This is a huge enhancement for our experience at UNC. We all feel fortunate to be able to learn in this kind of environment."

Matt Scheske, D.D.S. Class of 2015 class president

New features that allow for an improved education and research experience include improved technology for teaching and collaborative research, larger lecture rooms and meeting spaces for inter-class collaboration, the Kirkland Auditorium that accommodates 220 people, and an expanded 105-seat simulation laboratory. This new facility will help recruit top-tier students and faculty, while furthering the development of a health sciences precinct on campus.





"We want to see Carolina remain at the top of dental education, and this building allows us to use innovation to its best advantage in new educational methodology."

Dr. Janet Guthmiller, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

The new research laboratories create a flexible and efficient research environment and connect the research precinct and adjacent clinic spaces for maximum dialogue and collaboration among disciplines. The laboratories feature moveable casework allowing different arrangements as the research changes and centralized, shared support rooms for fume hoods and equipment.



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"This is an exciting time for the UNC School of Dentistry. The Koury Oral Health Sciences Building will allow us to continue as a leader in dental education and research for many years to come."

Jane Weintraub, Dean

The building is designed to be flexible and adaptable to accommodate growth and refinement of the school's mission in the future, including research space that can accommodate expansion and contraction of research projects as needed. The Koury Oral Health Sciences Building will allow the school to collaborate with biotechnology and oral healthcare entrepreneurs in the translation of scientific knowledge created in the academic research labs into new business ventures, some of which are located in the Research Triangle Park (RTP).

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