**WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Library Retrieval System-Offsite Storage**

**2013– 15 Request: $4,900,000 Project Type: Intermediate-**

 **(Replacement/Growth)**

 **Project Phase: Design/Construct**

 **Institutional Priority: #8 Gross Square Ft: 10,000**

Washington State University’s Holland Library is out of space for storing collections and is in need of major renovation. This project would provide a permanent remote storage facility and would free up space in Holland Library for the planned major capital renovation of Holland (built in 1950 with limited improvements to date) at a later time.

The Holland Library is located in the central core of the Pullman campus. With increased enrollments and heavy demands for academic space, the construction of the storage facility is a critical first step toward creating more productive space for library and other academic uses.

The physical collections of the WSU Libraries continue to grow even though WSU is one of the leaders in the national Association of Research Libraries in the percentage of funding that supports “digital” collections. Certain published material is still only available in print or, in some cases, superior in print. WSU’s Manuscripts, Archives and Special Collections unit in particular continues to increase its print collections. These collections are being digitized but the printed record is in many cases unique and must be preserved. In fact, WSU has not accepted certain collections simply because of space concerns.

To get by, the university has invested in compact storage within its buildings but this shelving is extremely expensive and its load characteristics make it usable in only a few areas. Many libraries have found it less expensive to build storage buildings with standard industrial shelving than to invest in the expensive compact shelving. Shelving in Holland and Terrell was added in 2008-09, but at the expense of student study space.

In order to handle the growth of the collection, provide appropriate student study spaces and be in a position to renovate Holland Library, building the Library Remote Storage Facility is critical. The storage building would hold materials that are less frequently used. These materials would be available upon request and would be delivered to the faculty, staff or students who need them. This would allow WSU to balance library collection-related needs with the space and service-related needs and also to repurpose valuable core campus space for other academic uses.

A remote storage facility was part of the predesign and planning for the major renovation of Holland Library (predesign study on file with OFM). The Holland library houses library collections, study spaces, library workspaces and offices as well as library storage space. The building has undergone minor improvements over the years but has not been updated since it was built in 1950. The Holland Library cannot be renovated until this project is constructed.