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W&M Law School gets expansion OK

Improvements will cost \$14 million

Taryn Rothstein

The College of William and Mary's Law School got approval for a \$14 million expansion and renovation when the college Board of Visitors met Friday at the school.

Citing an enrollment increase of nearly 20 percent and the need for additional space to accommodate students, the school sought the approval to add to the law school's South Henry Street building.

Donations from alumni, private contributors and revenues from student fees will fund the project, which is already in the design phase.

Davison Douglas, dean of the Law School, said the school's expanded commitment to highlight the practical skills training of law students gave rise to the idea.

"Our students often are here from early in the morning for classes until late in the evening for study," Douglas said, explaining the need for additional seminar rooms, a legal clinic, legal writing spaces and a new multipurpose food, dining and assembly space that will accommodate more of the 600-plus law students than the 40-seat dining area now in the building.