

# UNI INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER MODERNIZATION

UNI's Applied Engineering Building, formerly called the Industrial Technology Center, houses programs that educate students for management, manufacturing, construction, graphics and technology education fields—some of the fastest-growing sectors in Iowa. The department attracts students seeking the technical know-how and management skills required to become industry leaders, and programs address the gap between two-year technical programs and specialized engineering programs. Iowa industry relies on the graduates of the Department of Applied Engineering & Technical Management for its workforce, as the vast majority of graduates work in Iowa. The Industrial Technology Modernization Project also aligns with the Iowa Department

of Education's initiative Career and Technical Education program by preparing the teachers who would prepare secondary school students and to educate the workforce in industrial and construction fields.

Built in 1974, the existing building is programmatically obsolete and undersized for the program demands. The project would expand the building by 48,000 gross square feet and renovate over 52,000 gross square feet. This project would also eliminate \$10 million in deferred maintenance costs. Of the \$40.5 million in funds appropriated from the state to this project from FY 2021 to FY 2023, the 2023 General Assembly authorized the Board of Regents to "expend such amount (from the UNI Industrial Technology Center Modernization project) as the Board determines for

purposes of steam tunnel repairs at the University of Northern Iowa" (SF 577). That amount of funds was \$3.85 million.

In December 2022, UNI required emergency repairs to their Steam Distribution System. UNI staff, through their due diligence with preventive maintenance, identified the steam issue quickly, avoiding an on-campus catastrophe. Specifically, design problems were found with steam pipe and associated pipe support brackets across a mile and a half of steam tunnel. To resolve the issue, steam pipe and associated support brackets were replaced at a cost of \$3.85 million.

The University of Northern Iowa requests \$3.85 million in FY 2025 for this project to recover the cost of the emergency steam repairs, which were redirected from this project.

Rendering of final completion: Summer 2024

Construction progress: August 2023

