



## Western Michigan University medical school receives \$100 million donation, leaves rival CMU far behind in fundraising

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Courtesy

Plans for the future College of Medicine building on Central Michigan University's campus, designed by Cambridge, Mass.-based architecture firm Ellenzweig, show the southwest view of the campus' \$24 million, 60,000-square-foot addition to the Health Professions Building. Another illustration shows a rendering of one of the building's auditoriums. College officials plan to host courses for the developing medical school in fall 2013.

Central Michigan University and Western Michigan University are in similar stages of developing medical schools, but the Kalamazoo-based school is miles ahead of its rival when it comes to funding.

WMU announced a \$100 million donation to the medical school -- the largest cash gift given to any Michigan school and the 15th largest in the nation, **reported** The Kalamazoo Gazette.

In February, CMU officials **reported** the university has about \$1 in its \$25 million capital campaign for the College of Medicine.

According to the Kalamazoo Gazette, WMU President John Dunn said a year ago the medical school needed a \$175 million to \$300 million

endowment, student tuition and financial support from two local hospitals to operate.

CMU formed a **corporation** in December with Synergy Medical Education Alliance, Covenant HealthCare and St. Mary's of Michigan to manage education and training.

The CMU College of Medicine is scheduled to **open** in 2013, and the WMU in 2013 or 2014.

In February, CMU President George Ross said officials are negotiating with possible donors and expect significant contributions in coming months.

"There is a process of awareness and educating future donors," said Board of Trustees Chairwoman Sarah Opperman last month. "It takes time."