

What a Waste of Money!!

Here is a picture provided by a reader that is reported to be a first quarter photograph of The Rock taken during the 29-Nov-2014 blowout of the Golden Eagles by UAB.



In spite of the fact that the football team has managed to win four games in three years, and attendance is at record lows, USM proposes to spend, [and the IHL has blessed](#), an estimated \$1.74 million dollars to “renovate” the football locker room.

8. USM – IHL 208-330 – Football Locker Room Renovation

Project Request: The University of Southern Mississippi requests approval to initiate a project, Football Locker Room Renovation and to appoint AECOM as the design professional.

Proposed Design Professional: AECOM

Purpose: The project will facilitate a much needed renovation to the current football locker room. The project will completely gut the interior spaces of the locker room, the lounge, the wet areas, and the hallways leading to the locker rooms. A new prominent entrance off of the main hallway will be designed to create an entrance statement and represent the commitment to the program. The locker room will be reconfigured in its layout along with new custom carpet, ceiling treatment with integrated branding, and will include new custom lockers that reflect the blue collar nature of the program but with a modern flash that is appealing. The locker room will be organized in a way that maximizes the number of lockers for the team but also integrates a lounge in to the large open area within the locker room. This open area will double as both an area for congregation on an everyday basis, but will serve as a potential area to address the team either pre-game or post-game. The open area will also open up to a new entrance to the team meeting room creating a contiguous team space when necessary. The goals of the project are to create a functional locker room that has a wow factor, while providing recognition for past and current players and creating a home away from home for the players.

The University of Southern Mississippi is seeking to initiate the project and appoint the design professional in accordance with Board Policy §904(A), Board Approval, that requires each institution to bring all new projects to the Board for the approval of the project initiation and the appointment of a design professional, as required in Board Policy §902, Initiation of Construction Projects.

Project Initiation Date: January 22, 2015

Date of Original Construction: N/A

Date of Last Renovation: First Major Renovation

Proposed Project Budget:

<i>Estimated</i>	
Construction Cost:	\$ 1,500,000.00
Architectural and Engineering Fees:	90,000.00
Miscellaneous Project Costs:	0.00
Furniture & Equipment Costs:	0.00
Contingency:	<u>150,000.00</u>
Total Project Budget	\$ 1,740,000.00

Proposed Funding Source(s): USM Athletic Foundation (\$1,740,000)

Staff Recommendation: Board staff recommends approval of this item.