AT DICKINSON STATE UNIVERSITY

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Since its 2022 move to new offices in Dickinson State University's Lowman Walton Hall, the Theodore Roosevelt Center has rapidly grown to take advantage of its increased space, and has become an attraction both for North Dakotans and for distinguished visitors from much further afield. The support the TRC receives has allowed it to educate thousands, build strong relationships with partners like the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, and increase the global reputation of DSU.

Through its expanded archival storage space, staff offices, and work areas, the TRC has become better equipped to handle the tasks of a physical archive, and has been able to involve students from DSU's campus through student work opportunities and internships. These increased capabilities have allowed the TRC to partner with the TRPL to provide storage space and processing capacity for the Presidential Library's growing collections. This cutting-edge archival work will lead directly to exhibits at the Presidential Library and enhancements to the Center's digital library. In this way, the TRC plays a key role in the tourism, research, and economic growth of western North Dakota.

As the saying goes, however, "if you build it, they will come." For all this impressive growth in the initial expansion of the TRC, the center is already reaching the bounds of its current space, and there is an opportunity to do even more with strategic expansion. The proposed renovation of Stickney Hall offers a huge number of potential benefits to the Center, to its partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, to DSU, and to North Dakota as a whole. These include:

- Growing the capacity to house and safely store archival collections. Increased storage space will allow for a more robust partnership with the TRPL, as DSU and the TR Center can become a world-class repository for both its own Roosevelt-related items, and for those that the TRPL collects from around the world. Larger space would give the TRPL greater freedom to collect and use these artifacts.
- Expanding the visitor center and exhibit space. Combined with a rich program of events, more exhibit space would allow the many items collected by the TRC and TRPL to be better showcased and interpreted, helping students connect with Roosevelt and attracting more visitors to DSU's campus.
- Putting the Theodore Roosevelt Center at the heart of DSU's campus. By relocating to Stickney Hall on the main campus drive, the TRC will be more easily accessible, and will offer more opportunities for visitors to interact with the university as a whole.

The TRC already serves as the premier digital library for all things Roosevelt and aspires to aid western North Dakota's drive to be the national and global epicenter of all things Roosevelt. Further expansion at DSU will allow us to build new opportunities and realize this ambition as we work alongside the Presidential Library.