Brown to lease space in proposed Innovation Center

PROVIDENCE – Brown University and the Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC) have signed letters of intent to lease space in an Innovation Center being developed by Wexford Science & Technology.

The letters of intent to lease were announced by Wexford in collaboration with the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation and the I-195 Redevelopment District Commission, which voted on Monday, December 12, to authorize incentives from the state’s I-195 Redevelopment Fund to support the $158 million project.

As envisioned, Phase I of the multipart Wexford project would include a 191,000-square-foot Innovation Center with Brown and the CIC – an incubator and co-working facility that assists entrepreneurs in launching new products and companies – as anchor tenants.

Brown would lease 50,000 square feet of space for a period of 15 years for its School of Professional Studies, which includes a program leading to an executive master of healthcare leadership.

In addition to creating an expanded student presence in the Jewelry District, a new home for the School of Professional Studies will allow for additional programs, significant enrollment growth in existing programs, and the potential for collaboration between CIC startups and Brown student, faculty and alumni entrepreneurs.

Brown’s total investment in the project is expected to exceed $35 million between lease payments, capital improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment. Wexford and its partners will continue work on project financing and design and expects to break ground in the second quarter of 2017 with completion and occupancy targeted for the first quarter of 2019.

Bryant School of Health Sciences awarded $2.5M grant from Alpert Foundation

SMITHFIELD — Bryant University has secured a $2.5-million challenge grant from the Warren Alpert Foundation in support of its School of Health Sciences. Gifts contributed by June of 2017 up to $2.5 million will be matched by the Foundation. The grant will help Bryant University advance the growth of the School of Health Sciences and develop innovative approaches that address challenges in the health care industry.

Increasing demands for high-quality care at manageable costs drive the need for businesses and practitioners to think and operate innovatively. Developing the best health care delivery systems for the future will require providers and administrators to function interdependently to improve outcomes and create sustainable growth.

Bryant University established the School of Health Sciences in 2014 with the launch of its first clinical program, the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies, which will graduate its first class in March 2017.

Bryant is now in the process of developing an integrated Health Care Management program. DAVID FINE, PhD, health care industry executive and scholar with more than 30 years of leadership experience, has joined Bryant’s administration and faculty to help develop an integrated best-in-class curriculum.