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LINDENWOOD

Ground broken for \$12 million campus center at LU

Lindenwood University officials have broken ground on a 112,000-square foot campus center. The \$12 million structure will take nearly two years to complete.

The campus center, which will be called the Spellmann Center in honor of Lindenwood President Dennis Spellmann, is part of the most aggressive building campaign in Lindenwood's 173-year history. Two new residence halls, also part of the campaign, are near completion and will be open for students in the fall. The new campus center will be followed by two additional residence halls.

Spellmann said the construction is needed because of Lindenwood's rapid growth over the past several years. About 2,200 residential students are expected this fall, and Lindenwood will have nearly 11,000 students in the 2000-01 academic year.

The new campus center, designed by the architectural firm of Hastings and Chivetta, will be on a hillside overlooking Lindenwood's athletic stadium with a four-story atrium. It will include a selection of thoroughly modern features on the inside, but the outside will be designed to complement the neoclassical architectural styles of Lindenwood's Heritage Campus, with red brick construction and gabled roofs.

Plans for the campus center include Internet and satellite capabilities, meeting rooms, a spacious dining hall and a food court, a communications center and the university's communications division facilities, as well as radio station KCLC. The building will also expand and enhance the university's instructional capabilities with a series of smart classrooms.

The primary focus of the campus center will be its third-floor Aneheuser-Busch Leadership Center, which will help prepare students for critical leadership roles in the community. It will feature Career Development services, Work and Learn, Community Work Service and Leadership Development.

In order to break ground on the campus center, Lindenwood had to match a \$1 million challenge grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation of Tulsa, Okla.

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