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Lindenwood University - Campus News

LU to D2 Campaign Seeks \$1 million for Athletic Building

02/04/2011

Lindenwood University is in the final stages of an aggressive fundraising campaign called "LU to D2," seeking to raise \$1 million by March 1 in order to apply for matching funds from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation. All monies raised would go toward construction of a three-story athletic building to be built overlooking Hunter Stadium.

President James D. Evans said a committee led by Jim J. Shoemake and Ben Blanton, chairman and vice chairman of the Lindenwood Board of Directors, started meeting in December. Evans said he expects the LU to D2 committee will meet its fundraising goal and the university will apply for the Mabee Grant on March 1.

"We have a lot of money to raise in a short period of time," Evans said. "But we have the right people in place to get it done."

Lindenwood is leaving the NAIA at the end of this academic year and will play an independent schedule in 2011, joining NCAA Division II in the fall of 2012 as a provisional member. The university is moving 26 sports to the NCAA.

"We have some outstanding competition facilities at Lindenwood," Evans said. "But in order to be a model athletics program in the NCAA, we needed to invest in an academic support center and quality locker rooms and athletic training facilities. Our student-athletes play at a high level and deserve the finest facilities we can provide."

Evans hopes to break ground on the 43,450-square-foot building later this spring. Completion is expected in time for the fall of 2012.

Anyone interested in learning more about the LU to D2 Campaign should call Athletics Development Director Jane Baum at (636) 949-4427.