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LINDENWOOD

Lindenwood, SCC Announce Plan for Nursing

March 21, 2013

Dardenne Prairie, Mo.—Lindenwood University and St. Charles Community College have agreed in principle on a collaborative initiative that will help launch the new LU/SCC Center for Nursing and Allied Health Sciences.



Dr. James D. Evans (center) signs a collaborative agreement establishing the LU/SCC Center for Nursing and Allied Health Sciences at a ceremony March 21. Also picture are (from left) Greg Prestemon, president and CEO of the St. Charles County Economic Development Center; Jim J. Shoemake, chairman of the Lindenwood University Board of Directors; Dr. Ron Chesbrough, St. Charles Community College president; and Ryan Robertson, president of the SCC Board of Trustees.

AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENT:

Dr. Peggy Ellis
Dean of the School of Nursing
and Allied Health Sciences
Lindenwood University
pellis@lindenwood.edu
(636) 627-2907

Patti Williams, MSN RN
Dean of Nursing and Allied Health
St. Charles Community College
pwilliams@stchas.edu
(636) 922-8567

Chris Duggan
Public Relations Coordinator,

Lindenwood University
209 S. Kingshighway
St. Charles, MO 63301
636-949-4913

The Center will be located at #1 Academy Place in Dardenne Prairie, former site of Barat Academy, a 69,000-square-foot building purchased by Lindenwood in September 2012. The boards of both institutions approved terms of the agreement last week.

Lindenwood will offer post-associate degree coursework in nursing for students who already have a two-year nursing degree. SCC will move its entire associate degree nursing programs to the site, as well as its Licensed Practical Nursing, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Health Information Technology and Health Occupational programs. SCC will lease approximately 26,000 square feet of the building's space under terms of the agreement.

"This is a unique public-private arrangement that could be a model for the future," said Lindenwood President James D. Evans, PhD. "I appreciate the progressive leadership and the foresight of both boards in helping put this together."

The agreement centers on ease of transition, affordability, and accessibility for students who plan to pursue advanced degrees.

"This agreement has been a year in the making," said SCC President Ron Chesbrough, PhD. "We are excited to add Lindenwood University to our list of four-year partners in the nursing and allied health fields in this very unique and enterprising collaboration."

As part of the collaboration, SCC will move its state-of-the-art simulation lab to the new location and expand the space to create a "virtual hospital" that will provide the ability to offer concurrent simulations.

"This added feature will provide opportunities for multi-disciplinary simulations and afford both programs a way to reduce some of the constraints related to securing clinical sites and increase program capacity," said Patti Williams, SCC dean of nursing and allied health.

Lindenwood's post-associate degree coursework in nursing will start in August at the Center, said Dr. Peggy Ellis, dean of the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences at Lindenwood. "We hope to eventually offer other health management degree completion programs such as occupational therapy, health information technology, EMT, and allied health.

"Successful communities work together to prepare the workforce of the present and the future," said Greg Prestemon, president and CEO of St. Charles County Economic Development Center. "This partnership between two indispensable institutions will not only change the lives of the students and patients, it will help to transform our local economy. I believe that 10 years from now, people will mark this partnership as a pivotal event in the growth and development of St. Charles County."

Press Release Contact:

Public Relations
Lindenwood University
publicRelations@lindenwood.edu

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