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LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY RECEIVES SIGNIFICANT SEVEN-FIGURE GIFT FROM THE ROBERT W. PLASTER FOUNDATION

April 8, 2015

Lindenwood University received a significant seven-figure foundational gift to name the Robert W. Plaster School of Business and Entrepreneurship and to serve as a lead gift in the construction of a new \$21 million Library and Academic Resources Center on its St. Charles Campus.

"As a university committed to teaching students, Lindenwood is grateful that the Plaster Foundation has recognized our dedication to the student experience in the liberal arts and business," said President James D. Evans, PhD. "This gift is a great support for the thousands of young people who will earn degrees at Lindenwood this next year and in the future."

"We are so pleased to be involved in this project," said Dr. Dolly Clement, executive director of The Robert W. Plaster Foundation and daughter of Mr. Plaster. "My father grew up in poverty and wanted a college education because he knew it would give him a better start toward improving his life. Once Dad had some success in business, he wanted to help students like himself, who wanted an education but could not afford it. He knew that by helping universities with their capital needs he could not only help provide wonderful facilities for students but also help those universities keep tuition lower for the students. Because of Dad's interest in business and belief in the free enterprise system, one of our highest funding priorities is business schools. We are so proud to have Dad's name on Lindenwood's School of Business and Entrepreneurship, and associated with the Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise."



The Robert W. Plaster School of Business and Entrepreneurship at Lindenwood University enrolls over 2,000 students annually and also is the headquarters of the Hammond Institute for Free Enterprise.

"We are delighted and honored to have our business school named after a great entrepreneur and business leader," noted Roger Ellis, dean of the Robert W. Plaster School of Business.

Lindenwood expects to begin construction on the 100,000-square-foot library complex in the spring of 2015 and have it up and running for student use in the 2016-2017 academic year. The new building will contain the new university library, 15 classrooms, a Center for Teaching Excellence, as well as a host of student services such as career placement, first-year student programs, and Lindenwood's International Students and Scholars program.

"We are thrilled about this cornerstone gift that will facilitate great service to our students," said Elizabeth McDonald, dean of library services. "This gift will help Lindenwood provide more state-of-the-art learning space and easily accessible resources for student study and work."

The library facility will be open to Lindenwood's students, alumni, faculty, and staff, as well as university friends and invited colleagues in higher education. The general public will also be welcomed to special programs at the site.

Events surrounding the naming of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship will take place in May.

Founded in 1827, historic Lindenwood University is a dynamic liberal arts university enrolling 16,000 students annually at two campuses and 11 regional centers. Lindenwood offers values-centered programs leading to the development of the whole person—an educated, responsible citizen of a global community.

The mission of The Robert W. Plaster Foundation is to promote expanded educational opportunities, pride in America, and belief in the free enterprise system, for the benefit of America's youth, through named capital projects.


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