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May 13, 2015

Lindenwood University will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for its planned \$21 million Library and Academic Resources Center at 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, at the construction site, off First Capitol Drive, adjacent to the Welcome Center on the St. Charles campus. The public is invited.

In May 2014, the Board of Directors approved plans for the 100,000-square-foot building. Elizabeth MacDonald, Dean of Library Services, said the building will have more space for all the current library functions, including archives, as well as better access to technology and more collaborative spaces and group study areas. The LARC will replace the 36,000-square-foot Margaret Leggat Butler Library, which was built in 1929.



The new building will bring together a variety of student services under one roof, including the Writing Center, Student and Academic Support Services (SASS), Career Services, English as a Second Language, the Office of International Students and Scholars, and Lindenwood Online, all of which were involved in putting together the proposal for the new structure. The building will also include classroom space and an expanded coffee shop.

"We're very excited," MacDonald said. "More than anything, this is the opportunity to move the library into the 21st century, to meet the students where they live. Today's library supports collaboration. The intent is for the space to be conducive toward students needing assistance and students involved in serious scholarship. It goes along with our mission to serve the whole student."

Completion is expected in the latter part of 2016

"This building will surely rank at the top of our list of spectacular buildings," said Julie Mueller, Lindenwood vice president for operations and finance. "The three-story glass feature designed with linden trees is very unique. There is no doubt that people will know they have arrived at Lindenwood when they see the building."

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