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New Library Building Open with Fall 2017 Semester

September 18, 2017



On Saturday, Sept. 16, Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Mo., officially cut the ribbon for its new Library and Academic Resources Center, marking the end of more than two years of construction.

The university broke ground for the new three-story, 100,000-square-foot building in spring of 2015. In addition to providing a more spacious and modern library facility than the 36,000-square-foot Butler Library, which was built in 1929, the new building also pulls together many of the university's student services, including the Writing Center, English as a Second Language, Lindenwood Online, Veteran Services, Student and Academic Support Services, Career Services, and others.

The new building houses the university's Mary Ambler Archives, virtual reality equipment, a multi-media area with individual editing suites, traditional and electronic book stacks, and a host of electronic resources for students needing assistance with their studies to those involved in serious academic research. The building provides a variety of spaces designed for student collaboration, a fully digital theater, and a Starbucks coffee shop.

Liz MacDonald, Lindenwood University's dean of library services, said the proposal for the building was years in the making and the result of the efforts of numerous people from the various centers that are now located in the building.

“I get asked a lot if in a digital age libraries are really relevant,” MacDonald said. “Libraries create access to information and resources and spaces and technology and people that inspire educational creativity that results in something tangible and usable that represents the innovation and potential of the diverse communities that we serve, and it is truly wonderful.”

Photo cutline: *Lindenwood University System President Michael Shonrock, Ph.D., speaks at the opening ceremony for the university’s new Library and Academic Resources Center Saturday, Sept. 16.*