



NEWS RELEASE

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M.E. DAVENPORT FOUNDATION GIVES \$2.5 MILLION TOWARD DAVENPORT UNIVERSITY'S NEWEST ACADEMIC BUILDING

The Robert W. Sneden Center to be named in honor of former Davenport president

The M.E. Davenport Foundation is giving Davenport University a \$2.5 million gift towards the newest academic building on the W.A. Lettinga Campus – the Robert W. Sneden Center. This gift of \$2.5 million is the largest charitable gift in the university's history and will help fund the construction of the \$8.5 million project. The Robert W. Sneden Center, part of the original master plan for the university, will be built to the west of the existing Richard M. DeVos and Jay Van Andel Academic Center at 6191 Kraft Ave.

The Sneden Center will enable Davenport to expand student enrollment and services at the W.A. Lettinga Campus and increase access and opportunities for business, education and the greater Grand Rapids community. The new facility will enhance the learning environment for students and also be a valued resource for business and community organizations. This new facility will be completed in fall 2010.

"We are honored by the generosity of the Davenport and Sneden families and share their pride that this is the largest gift in Davenport's history," said Dr. Richard Pappas, president of Davenport University.

Robert W. Sneden Center Highlights

41,000-square-foot building

7 high-tech classrooms

220-seat auditorium
Boardroom

Meeting conference rooms, faculty offices, student services and other staff offices
The university opened South Hall this fall, which consists of a 120,765-square-foot building, including a 12,000-square-foot dining hall and offers four floors of apartment-style accommodations. Currently 3,528 students are enrolled at the Lettinga Campus with approximately 400 students living on campus in residence halls.

About Davenport University

Davenport University – the only West Michigan-based private university specializing in business, technology and health professions – serves an enrollment of approximately 12,000 students at its W. A. Lettinga Campus in Grand Rapids, at campuses throughout Michigan and online. Davenport focuses on innovative, practical and affordable education and offers graduate and undergraduate programs.