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Opening of Carroll Hall a Watershed Event

Quick Facts

- Larry and Vivian Carroll donated \$1.25 million for the building's cutting-edge technology and for student and faculty development.
- The building's 195-seat auditorium would be named the Whitton Auditorium for the late David Whitton Inman.



ROCK HILL, S.C. – The generosity of Winthrop University's donors will help the new [Vivian Moore Carroll Hall](#) excel in educating business students about financial literacy, university officials said at the building's opening.

A dedication was held Friday, Sept. 25 at the College of Business

adjacent to Thurmond Building. [President Anthony DiGiorgio](#) unveiled a portrait of Larry and Vivian Carroll of Charlotte, N.C., who donated \$1.25 million for the building's cutting-edge technology and opportunities for student and faculty development.

“Through the generosity and example set by the Carrolls, Winthrop will be better equipped than ever to prepare future business leaders who have a 21st century blend of highly specialized technical training skills, strong wealth management values and a global perspective on the ever changing world financial markets,” DiGiorgio said.

Larry Carroll, president of Carroll Financial Associates, said during the ceremony that he and his wife couldn't have made it as far as they have without education. “We hope this facility gives the same opportunity to lots of folks across the geographic area,” added the Rock Hill native.

University officials also announced that the building's 195-seat auditorium would be named the **Whitton Auditorium** for the late **David Whitton Inman**, who graduated from Winthrop in 1993 and worked for the Carroll's family business. His mother and stepfather, **Elaine Whitton Davis and Eric Davis**, donated \$500,000, plus a testamentary gift, to establish the **Whitton Endowment for Business Excellence**.

The gift will be used to provide scholarships, graduate assistantships and activities to promote synergies

between the College of Business Administration and the greater Rock Hill business community.

A second area within Carroll Hall will carry the name of a deceased prominent York County citizen, **Sue Kirsh**, wife of long-time S.C. Rep. Herb Kirsh of Clover, S.C. The **Suzanne Kirsh Community Service Student Lounge** is located on the second floor. Known as a community servant, businesswoman and constant companion of her husband for nearly 60 years, Sue Kirsh also served on Winthrop's Board of Visitors.

The building features the **Carroll Capital Markets Training and Trading Center**, which will connect students to global markets through interactive technology. The center is equipped with a stock ticker that runs around the perimeter, world clocks and a nine-screen data wall, for cable news feeds and Bloomberg, Telemet, and Morningstar data to use in real world trading simulations. The center accommodates 24 students and has a second-level mezzanine for viewing the activity.

[Roger Weikle](#), dean of the College of Business Administration, said the opening of Carroll Hall is a watershed event for the university.

“There is tremendous technology here but it is the means, not the ends. Technology is how data can be received quickest because markets move fast. Student will learn how to make connections between world events, markets and daily life, at work or at home. The ability to do this, make connections, understand trends, and find root cause and effective relationships is what college is all about,” Weikle said. “The technology also serves as a way to engage students.”

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