

Winthrop opens its newest building, Carroll Hall

Real-world learning environment at Carroll Hall

By Shannon Greene - sgreene@heraldonline.com

Students are better equipped for the future thanks to a graduate from Winthrop University's past.

Vivian Carroll, a 1973 math major, returned to her alma mater Friday to celebrate the opening of Winthrop's newest building, the Vivian Moore Carroll Hall.

The \$7 million facility, which features cutting-edge technology in a real-world learning environment, was made possible by a \$1.25 million gift by the Carroll family.



Melissa Cherry

Winthrop dedicated its newest building, Carroll Hall, on Friday. The College of Business Administration building features a stock ticker around the perimeter, world clocks and a nine-screen data wall. To read more about the Carroll Hall dedication, click [here](#).

Calling Carroll Hall's opening a watershed event for the 114-year-old campus, Roger Weikle, dean of Winthrop's college of business administration, said the new facility will be integrated into the fabric of Winthrop's community.

"It is a stunning place with lots of curb appeal, and the technology is spectacular," Weikle said. "The building is not (just) about technology — it is about using technology to provide information and opportunities to students, to faculty and to the business practitioners and economic developers."

University officials tout it as a place to give students experience in real-world situations, in turn enhancing their value in the job market after college.

The new facility features the Carroll Capital Markets Training and Trading Center, which connects 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, along with Bloomberg, Telemet and Morningstar data to use in trading simulations.

"We get data from Europe, India, China and Japan," Weikle said. "We get data about stocks, bonds, commodities like oil and metals and agricultural products from corn to pork bellies and chicken feet. It's amazing how blips in those markets impact each other."

"Students will learn to make connections between world events, markets and daily life, at work or at home," he said.

The 20,000-square-foot facility also includes a 198-seat auditorium, two seminar rooms, a 48-station sub-dividable computer lab, an office and six break-out collaboration spaces, said Walter Hardin, associate vice president for facilities management.

As many as 400 students will use the new center a day. The computer-equipped classroom will allow for more student engagement in courses such as management information systems, public finance, marketing research, digital commerce and international studies. The market trading center will be used in a variety of finance and economics courses.

The goal is to provide students with the latest technology.

"Winthrop has a track record of being on the edge of the [technology] wave on many fronts," Hardin said.

"For the last 20 years, the faculty and staff have been encouraged to always think forward and push the envelope. Our facilities, program offerings and graduates' success in life are a testament."

Shannon Greene803-329-4033

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