

# NEWS from

Information Services

## ST. CLOUD STATE COLLEGE

ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA 56301

Phone (612) 255-3151

(First of a two-part story on St. Cloud State College's new Learning Resources Center.)

ST. CLOUD, Minn., Aug.--No one visiting St. Cloud State College for the first time could miss the large, red-brick structure. Centennial Hall, the new learning resources center, is at the hub of the campus.

It was so named because construction on it began during the college's 1968-69 centennial year, not, as some students and faculty jokingly say, because the college has needed such a building for what seems like a century.

Kiehle Library, built in 1952 to serve a maximum of 2,000 students, was bursting at all corners last winter trying to handle 10,000 students. This spring the move to Centennial Hall came, and though all new equipment won't be in until this fall, all services offered in Kiehle are now available--along with a lot more space.

The five-floor, \$4 million structure is the base for Learning Resources Services, which encompasses all media and technology used in the college's instructional program. This includes curriculum materials, equipment for preparing and using non-print media and the usual library service functions.

By the time the building is in full operation, the special Centennial Hall features of a random remote access information retrieval system and rear screen projection also should be ready.

But it's the spaciousness of the facility that most impresses the center's staff and visitors. The building has a capacity of 470,000 volumes now and is designed so that two more stories can be added in the future.

On the fourth floor alone, in the circulation area, there are as many square feet as in all of Kiehle Library.

One of the obvious advantages of having so much space is the ability to make more library holdings easily accessible, according to Anthony Schulzetenberg, assistant to the dean of Learning Resources Services.

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"We're one of the few college libraries, for example, that has its special collections in an open room," he said. "Before we had everything in this area under lock and key."

Dr. Luther Brown is dean of Learning Resources Services. His staff consists of two assistants and 29 other professionals in the areas of public services, technical services, production services and instructional services. The center also houses 10 janitors and 24 other civil service employees.

Public services, with facilities on four floors, encompasses all library functions involving the public. This includes the card catalog of all library holdings on campus and a cassette tape duplicator on the first floor.

On the second floor is the special collections area, with rare books, documents, maps and other historical works. The curriculum area on this floor includes records, pictures and a curriculum materials laboratory.

Reference and periodical holdings are stored on the third floor. Many of the periodicals are on microfilm, so there are 30 microfilm readers and a microfilm duplicator here for student use.

"Space again lets us store the microfilm out in the open, where it's easily accessible," Schulzetenberg said. Conference rooms and typing rooms also are available here. The circulation area is on the fourth floor.

Technical services, concerned with acquiring and processing materials and cataloging holdings, has facilities on the bottom two floors.

Production services, located on the ground floor, houses the facilities for the new random access system. There also are a recording studio, a media preview room, a darkroom and an equipment repair shop here.

Instructional services, including the department of library and audiovisual education, has facilities on the first and second floors. The department offers an undergraduate minor and a master of science degree major in information media. All St. Cloud students planning to become teachers must complete an information media course.

In Centennial Hall, this branch of the operation is separate from the rest of the library so that students can more easily get to and from classes in the building and classes can meet even if the library is closed.

Instruction takes place in the building's five classrooms and two laboratories. Three of these are equipped with rear screen projection equipment and one is a 120-seat auditorium for all-campus use.

Information media students learn how to use machines in an equipment laboratory and also have a darkroom for use on the second floor. The college's computer services operation is on the lower level.

Schulzetenberg cited three unique features of the architecture of Centennial Hall. One is the presence of leisure reading areas on each floor--sunken, carpeted and complete with cushioned chairs.

A circular stairway from the basement to the fourth floor is another unique feature, Schulzetenberg said. Finally, there is an open reading area on the lower level that lets even those in the basement view the outside.

Tours of the air-conditioned building are available to groups requesting them, according to Brown. In the lobby a map of the center and a continuous sound-slide presentation introduce visitors to the center.

Dedication of Centennial Hall will be sometime after the remaining equipment arrives and all facilities become operational, Brown said.

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Tomorrow: Two Unique Features of Centennial Hall

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ST. CLOUD, Minn., Aug.--It's referred to in Centennial Hall as the random access system or the RRAIR. Officially, it's the remote random access information retrieval system and work has begun to make everyone at St. Cloud State College familiar with it.

Basically, a shortage of space made a new learning resources center necessary at St. Cloud. But the random access system and rear screen projection facilities are two added benefits of this spring's move from Kiehle Library to Centennial Hall.

The random access system uses a computer to program material and make it accessible to students at stations throughout Centennial Hall. Eventually campus classrooms and dormitory rooms also may be served.

Potential exists for dialing still and motion pictures, video and audio tapes and even live network programming.

Dial access programming is becoming more common throughout the country, but St. Cloud is one of the first with a system capable of both video and audio random access, according to Dr. Luther Brown, dean of Learning Resources Services.

Object of the system at St. Cloud is "to place at the users fingertips the maximum amount of quality information to supplement the college's curriculum," Brown said.

When the system becomes operational this fall, students will be able to dial a program from any of 36 terminals in classrooms, clusters or study carrels throughout Centennial Hall. The group and classroom terminals provide color pictures; the rest show black and white.

The random access facilities can store 96 fifteen-minute audio programs and 1,800 visuals, according to Allan Foreman, who will supervise the programs that go into the system.

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At first a student will be able to dial only audio programs. After he knows which program he wants, he can dial it from any terminal. Within 30 seconds a 15-minute program will be taken from one of the programs on master tapes and transmitted to the student. At his terminal the student then will have complete control over the program and can stop it or review parts of it any way he wants to.

Visuals will be directly accessible to the student, too, but he will have to dial the control center and request special video programs. Students also will be able to request audio programs by calling the control center on any touch-tone telephone, Foreman said.

Programs plugged into the system will be changing continually. As programs are replaced, some will be filed for later use.

Anyone wanting a copy of an audio program in the system can use a cassette duplicator available in the lobby. A cartridge is placed into the machine, a program is called and transmission again is completed in less than 30 seconds.

The production services area, headquartered on the ground floor of the learning resources center, is responsible for the random access system.

The instructional services area is primarily concerned with the other new educational feature available in Centennial Hall. Rear screen facilities exist in three classrooms, one of them a 120-seat auditorium with four random access terminals.

In a classroom with rear screen facilities, cameras are located behind the screen in such a way that two slide projectors, a filmstrip projector, 16 mm video and audio tapes and phonograph records could all be used simultaneously.

This could be done without having distracting machines in the room, without needing to turn off lights in the room and with the aid of remote control.

The process is not computerized so someone wanting to make such a multi-media presentation would have to prepare it ahead of time. But separate facilities are available for each of the three rooms.

Both the random access system and rear screen projection should be in operation this fall, according to Dr. Luther Brown, dean of Learning Resources Services. Centennial Hall then will have its dedication. In the meantime, tours of the building may be arranged, Brown said.