

News Release

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St. Cloud State University learning resources center to be named in honor of prominent local businessman

ST. CLOUD, Minn. – The name of prominent local businessman James W. (Jim) Miller will grace St. Cloud State University's new high-tech learning resources center when it opens this fall. The facility will be called the James W. Miller Learning Resources Center.

SCSU also announced that Jim and his wife Marion have donated over \$3 million to the university to establish an ongoing endowment. The gift will be used for a technology endowment, and for Miller Scholarships to help Central Minnesota students attend SCSU and support advanced development for faculty.

Miller, who has played a key role in the growth and development of the St. Cloud area, said the gift is in recognition of the positive impact SCSU has had on the entire community. The lifetime St. Cloud resident founded Miller Construction in 1955. The company was purchased by sons Dan and Tim Miller in 1990 and is now known as Miller Architects and Builders.

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The James W. Miller Learning Resources Center St. Cloud State University's library for a new century

St. Cloud State University will enter the 21st century with a new, state-of-the-art learning resources center that will be the focal point for campus and community study, learning and exchange of ideas. It represents a giant step toward realizing the university's vision for the new century, continuing its tradition of excellence and opportunity.

When the doors open in the fall of 2000, the James W. Miller Learning Resources Center will be on the cutting edge of global technology. As the new community hub for learning, the library will allow access to Internet and other cyberspace networks through hundreds of high tech user workstations. Students, faculty and the community will be linked to the exploding variety of information available in an increasing variety of forms.

Most importantly, the James W. Miller Learning Resources Center is being built with the flexibility and capacity to respond to rapidly developing technology and continue to be an important resource for the community throughout the 21st Century.

- Groundbreaking for the 235,000-square-foot learning resources center was held in the fall of 1998.
- The Minnesota Legislature provided \$30 million for building the new facility. Another \$6.5 million has been raised for technology and a technology endowment to ensure future expansion of electronic information sources.
- New distance learning classrooms will help SCSU take its faculty to every corner of the state and the world, meeting the needs of students, communities and companies far beyond the boundaries of its campus.
- A 185-seat auditorium will provide space for lecture classes, academic presentations and public events to enhance opportunities for faculty, students and community residents.
- An expanded Center for Teaching Excellence will provide cutting-edge technology, allowing faculty to tap into optimum resources for developing better instructional methods and expanding knowledge of academic fields.
- An InforMedia Services Center will provide a variety of services, including guidance in the most effective use of software for students to produce high-tech course projects and for faculty to create optimum learning experiences.