

Groundbreaking for Multipurpose Student Center Set for April 11



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The public is welcome to attend the groundbreaking for the Multipurpose Student Center at USF St. Petersburg on Monday, April 11 at 11 a.m.

The groundbreaking will take place on the Harborwalk at USFSP at 2nd Ave S and 6th St S. Light refreshments will follow a short ceremony. Complimentary parking is available in the USFSP Parking Garage, 250 5th Ave S.

The 81,000 square-foot building will include dining services, meeting spaces, a ballroom and a residence hall.

The six-story residence hall, the second such facility for USFSP, will have accommodations for 196 students. The university's first residence hall, built in 2006, accommodates 351 students and has been at capacity for three years. The estimated project cost for the new center is \$20 million.

"This is a major step forward. Our new facility will give students the space needed to build on our dynamic university culture," said James Scott, student government president. "Members of the university's leadership have been invaluable partners in this effort – we're grateful for their hard work on the students' behalf."

Plans are to open the building for occupancy at the start of the Fall 2012 semester. The building will be located on the south side of 6th Avenue South, between 2nd and 3rd streets south.

"The Multipurpose Student Center will be transformational for USF St. Petersburg," said Debbie Sembler, USF Board of Trustee and chair of the USFSP Campus Board. "This building was made possible by a tremendous effort throughout the university, especially among the student leaders who worked tirelessly on behalf of their peers."

The building will add space to the campus for student meetings, events and housing while providing a revenue source through rentals for community organizations, businesses and the general public. The building will be the latest addition to the Harborwalk at USFSP corridor, also home to the LEED-certified Science and Technology Building which opened in January 2010.

For additional information about the groundbreaking, call (727) 873-4842.

Please notify the Special Events Office at (727) 873-4842 if a reasonable accommodation for a disability is needed.

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