

Embargoed for Release by College of Nursing Until 8 a.m. ET on December 10, 2007

***See artwork attached.

***For questions, or to arrange an interview with Dean Martini, contact Stephanie Tanner at the University of XXX's College of Nursing, 123-456-7890, Stanner@nurs.OurColl.edu.

UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES NURSING COLLEGE BUILDING EXPANSION

Renovations and Expansion Project Greatly Advances Nursing Education

University City - The University of XXX's College of Nursing is growing! A groundbreaking ceremony for College's building renovation and addition will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2008. Updates and additions to the 30-year old structure will include offices, distance and on-site learning centers, a simulation center and an auditorium. The existing building is centrally located in University Health Sciences complex.

The first and second floors of the building will be dedicated to serving students and meeting their learning needs. The entire first floor will house the Nurse Training Simulation Center, a specialized facility designed to simulate an inpatient hospital environment complete with the latest technology and computerized patient mannequins. The second floor will house student learning space, showcasing a new auditorium and state-of-the-art classrooms. Floors three, four and five will be faculty and staff offices and workspace. The highly popular Mary Martin Nursing Research Center on the fifth floor will be expanded.

"The College is committed to providing leadership in our state and the midwest region in nursing education, research and practice," says Dr. Rosa Martini, Dean of the College of Nursing, "This building renovation will strengthen our leading position providing distance education and the integration of information technology into the curriculum.

"We're excited about the work because it will help us to fulfill that mission not only in our Bachelors, Masters and PhD programs, but also in our Centers for Excellence."

"The College of Nursing plays a critical role in our education and research programs," explains Dr. James Schmidt, the University's Senior VP of Health Sciences. "As XXX's Health Sciences and the School of Medicine celebrate our centennial year of preparing students in the arts of medical delivery, we're thrilled to begin this renovation of the College of Nursing building. This will help alleviate the nursing shortage and prepare our best nurses for tomorrow's demands."

“With the 30-year old superstructure is in excellent condition, we’re looking forward to the advances that updates to the building technology, office space and the simulation center will bring to our faculty and students. We are fortunate to have Dean Martini’s leadership at this time of growth and change.”

Janet Watanabe, a student who will be in the 2010 graduating class, the first in the new building, notes that, “With the only PhD program in the region, the College is working to address the nursing shortage and increase enrollment in all the nursing programs by preparing more nurse educators. I can't tell you what this means to the students. We feel there are no better nursing education opportunities around.”

Established in 1931, the College of Nursing has a distinguished history of excellence in nursing and gerontology education. The College is ranked 18th in funding by the National Institutes of Health, boasts nine endowed chairs and competitively secured one of the first VA Nursing Academies in the nation. The University of XXX College of Nursing is located at

###