

## BREAKING NEW GROUND

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### Rivier begins construction on library addition



On Friday, May 4, Rivier College held a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction at Regina Library. The 11,513 square foot addition will serve as an academic gathering place, including group study space, a cyber café, and an electronic classroom. The project also incorporates renovations to the existing library, which will have more open space and improved handicapped accessibility.

“The new library will be the center of this campus,” said President William Farrell. He said that the ceremony also served to thank the Conway family, who initiated the project with a \$2 million pledge to the College to expand Regina Library.

“Bill Conway is a man of leadership, vision, and commitment. We are grateful for that leadership and vision. Previous boards brought the College to this position—future boards will steward your gift,” said Dr. Jamison Hoff, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Rob Prunier, VP Business Development for Harvey Construction, Dr. Hoff, Dr. Farrell, Dan Spiedel, Director of Regina Library, and William Conway donned hard hats and dug their shovels into the earth (*photo below on the next page*). Construction of the library addition is expected to continue throughout the summer and fall. Once the addition has been completed, the older portion of the library will be renovated. Harvey Construction Corp. will serve as construction manager; Al Corzilius of Corzilius Matuszewski Krause Architects, P.A. is the architect.

“We’ve made sure to involve students, faculty, staff, and the library staff in particular in the planning process,” says Dan Speidel. “We’ve taken into account what students have been asking for and tried to design those types of spaces.”

The addition's design is characterized by flexible space that is not closed in by walls, says Dr. Farrell. Libraries used to be places to store books, with some space for students in carrels by themselves—today's libraries are different, he says. "Materials are accessible by web, students study in groups and take classes in the library. The new addition will provide different ways in which people can interact."

Students are particularly excited about the cyber café, says Michael Gorvin, President of the Student Government Association for 2007–2008. "We're glad the College has taken this on—we're looking forward to completion," he says. ■



Above: President Farrell, members of the Conway family, and Dr. Jamison Hoff, Chair of Rivier's Board of Trustees, at the ground-breaking ceremony. At left: The foundation for the addition.