

June 8th, 2009

Riverfront Research Park moves forward with expansion plans

At the June meeting of the State Board of Higher Education, the University of Oregon received approval to enter into a long-term lease agreement and break ground in August on a new 80,000-square-foot LEED silver building in the Riverfront Research Park.

With 29 current tenants and more than 400 employees, the Riverfront Research Park companies are expanding the regional economy in diverse fields including neuroscience, informatics, biotechnology, nanotechnology, optimization technology, behavioral science, disability research and healthcare. These companies are addressing important societal concerns by developing products sold worldwide, including brainwave sensor nets used to diagnose medical conditions including stroke, epilepsy and monitor neonatal activity; marker genes used to target tumors in breast cancer research; and assays testing cell reaction to improve the development of new drugs with fewer side effects.

The new building to be built on a four-acre parcel of land at the west end of the Research Park, near EWEB, will be occupied by Oregon Research Institute (ORI) and the Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC). ORI was founded in 1960 by UO faculty members. The non-profit research center conducts research and develops products focusing on adolescent depression, tobacco and drug use and prevention, chronic pain, and diet and exercise. The other new tenant will be the Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC), a UO spin-off, that consults with school systems nationwide on ways to modify and improve high school curriculum to better prepare students for the transition college.

TC Eugene, LLC, a single purpose entity of the Trammell Crow Company (TCC), is developing the building. The \$17-million privately-funded building and landscape project will create immediate jobs and resulting economic stimulus in the Lane County area. The facility is scheduled to be completed and ready for occupancy by September 2010. UO plans to construct a public street and related infrastructure in the summer/fall of 2009.

For more information, contact Diane Wiley, Riverfront Research Park director, at 541.346.5566 or visit

<http://researchpark.uoregon.edu/>.

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