



For Immediate Release

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DMACC Provides Land and Services for FFA Enrichment Center

FFA Leadership Development Center to be Built at DMACC Ankeny Campus

ANKENY, Iowa – February 22, 2005 – An agreement between the Iowa FFA Foundation and Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) will allow the FFA Foundation to build The FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC campus in Ankeny. The project was announced today during a news conference overlooking the new site. The Iowa FFA Foundation will own the facility, which will be built on land provided by DMACC.

“It’s a true win-win situation. The experiences of FFA members and students will be enriched by this partnership,” says Ed Wiederstein, chairman of The FFA Enrichment Center’s Capital Campaign Committee. “That’s why National FFA Week is an appropriate time for this announcement. The 2005 National FFA Week theme – Learn. Lead. Succeed. – is especially appropriate as The FFA Enrichment Center will enhance opportunities for Iowa FFA members to focus on leadership development, personal growth and career success.”

Approximately 52,000 square feet of the 72,000-square-foot center is being designed by Walker Architects of Des Moines to meet specific educational and leadership training needs of Iowa FFA members and agricultural education instructors. The facility will feature small meeting and large conference rooms, the Pioneer Agriscience Computer Laboratory, the Cargill Communications Center with fiber optic connectivity, recreation/exhibition facilities, as well as offices for state FFA officers and the Iowa FFA Foundation staff. A second floor will house DMACC’s Agribusiness programming and related disciplines.

“This is the FFA’s facility and DMACC sees its role as helping the FFA dream become reality. Out of this desire grew a collaborative arrangement that works because of the natural compatibility between DMACC’s agricultural programs, the curriculum offered in secondary agricultural education and statewide FFA activities/contests,” says DMACC President Rob Denson. “DMACC can benefit from additional space to expand its growing agricultural

programs, and the FFA will benefit from an exceptional facility and the ability to share on-going operating expenses to enhance learning opportunities for its members statewide. Our arrangement allows both parties to reach their goals and fulfill their missions.”

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