

**Innovation Campus breaks ground 'incubator'**  
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**From University Relations SDSU**

Groundbreaking for the first building on the joint Brookings community/South Dakota State University Innovation Campus will be held Thursday, Nov. 15, at 1 p.m. on the 22nd Avenue North site.

"The Innovation Center will appropriately be the first building constructed in this cooperative business incubation effort between SDSU and several city and county, private and government, entities," said David L. Chicoine, president of SDSU and president of the non-profit Growth Partnership that oversees the Innovation Campus.

The center will be located in the southwest quadrant of the Innovation Campus, a research park for start-up businesses and entrepreneurs that will rely heavily on research expertise of SDSU scientists and faculty experts along with SDSU undergraduate and graduate students.

The 28,000-square foot building will house Innovation Campus administrative offices, as well as provide space for incubator companies working on the edge of new ideas and well-established research and development companies. Construction is expected to be completed the end of October 2008.

"We're excited to break ground for the Center which will become the first visible manifestation of this innovative partnership that will benefit not only the Brookings and SDSU communities, but also the entire state," said Teresa McKnight, director of the Innovation Campus.

"Not only is the focus on start-up business and entrepreneurs, but the Innovation Campus will also be a place where people and ideas come together and partnerships form between university, business, industry and government," continued McKnight.

The groundbreaking will include a brief program with comments from various partners and will conclude with a short social time.

"The Innovation Campus is a vital component of our economic development strategy for the Brookings region, and BEDC is excited by the results and future prospects of this important partnership," said Al Heuton, Brookings Economic Development Corporation executive director.

For more information, contact McKnight at 690-5363.