



Amanda Palluck/The Register

'Disking and seeding' at Innovation Campus

A groundbreaking ceremony for a new Seed Technology Laboratory was sponsored Friday by the SDSU Department of Plant Science. Department Head Sue Blodgett (fourth from left in photo) said the building, which has been in the planning stages for 10 years, will be finished by July 2010.

Funded mostly by South Dakota agricultural commodity groups and private donors, the facility will cost \$6.5 million. It will house the South Dakota Improvement Association, the SDSU Seed Testing Laboratory, the SDSU Crop Quality Laboratory, a bio-containment facility and several molecular

biology laboratories. It will also have a greenhouse complex.

Above, project donors and planners share a laugh while getting ready for the ceremony. To break ground, Laird Larson, chairman of the seed technology group (pictured third from right), climbed aboard the John Deere tractor and disked the site for the new building.

To be located on the northwest corner of the Innovation Campus, the building is the second in the research park and will be joined by two others later this year.