

Mammel Hall going up green

The College of Business Administration's new facility, Mammel Hall, will be a green building. Designed to meet the standards of the Leadership in Energy and Design (LEED) green building rating system, certification will mean the new facility achieves specified levels of energy efficiency.

LEED certification mandates best-practice standards in materials and resource usage, indoor environmental quality, water efficiency and sustainability. A rigorous third-party commissioning as part of the certification

process guarantees that the highest standards of environmental responsibility have been met.

"'Going green' is the right thing to do," says Dean Louis Pol. "LEED certification demonstrates to our constituents, specifically the Mammels, Scotts and taxpayers of Nebraska, that the College of Business Administration is a respectful steward of the resources provided to us."

According to the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED-certified buildings:

- Lower operating costs and increase asset value;
- Reduce waste sent to

landfills;

- Conserve energy and water
- Provide a healthier and safer environment for occupants; and,
- Reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

The LEED process will be used as a teaching tool, one that is well-suited to future leaders of the business community. "One reason we are pursuing LEED certification is to demonstrate to our students the importance of managing scarce resources responsibly over the long term," says Pol. The construction and maintenance of Mammel Hall will serve as a laboratory for students in business administration

and in architecture and engineering.

Mammel Hall will be the first LEED-certified building on the UNO campus and one of only four across the University of Nebraska system. LEED certification is one more element differentiating UNO's CBA from other business schools. "Going forward, business must focus on sustainability as a component of responsible business practice," says Pol. "CBA is leading by example by investing precious resources in this priority. LEED certification will provide evidence of our commitment, and we expect it to help attract top-tier students, faculty and staff to our college."

UNO Web site a boon to economic teachers

UNO's Center for Economic Education plays a key role in helping K-12 teachers across the globe identify and adopt high-quality teaching materials about economics.

The Center administers a new Web site, <http://EconEdReviews.org>, designed to serve teachers seeking first-rate, "proven" materials for economics-related lessons. UNO's Center collaborated with the National Council on Economic Education to create the website. Its development and maintenance are funded by a grant from the Calvin K. Kazanjian Economics Foundation, which owns the site.

EconEdReviews.org was developed as a resource hub for teachers seeking age- and topic-appropriate materials for K-12 economic education. The site includes online materials from numerous sources, including the National Council on Economic Education (NCEE), state economic education councils and centers, the national JumpStart Coalition's clearinghouse, the Foundation for Teaching Economics, JA Worldwide, the Federal Reserve Banks, AP Economics, and others.

Research found that teachers value resources organized by economic concept, national and state standard, grade level, and course subject, so the Web site is searchable by each of these criteria.



Pictured, from left: CBA Professor Emeritus Kim Sosin, Amy Burk, teacher and contributing reviewer from R.M. Marrs Magnet Center, and CBA's Mary Lynn Reiser.

In its second year of the three-year project, the Center for Economic Education is recruiting teachers to review materials to "seed" the site, helping other teachers make informed decisions about materials provided. Reviews also assist the source organizations revise and develop more effective teaching materials. Anyone may use site reviews but teachers must register

before they can submit reviews.

Director of the grant project is Dr. Kim Sosin, professor emeritus of economics in CBA and webmaster of the Center of Economic Education's widely utilized website, <http://ecedweb.unomaha.edu>. Co-director of the grant is Mary Lynn Reiser, co-director of UNO's Center and recipient of a 2008 YWCA Tribute to Women Award.