

News Release

Corporate Communications

MEDIA

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Wells Fargo supports Chadron State College building project through its Environmental Grant Program

VALENTINE – Nov. 16, 2010 –Wells Fargo Housing Foundation announced today it is extending a \$15,000 grant to Chadron State College to support green aspects of its planned Rangeland Agriculture Center and Pavilion.

Wells Fargo will award the money in a check-presentation ceremony at **1:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 18**, at the company's banking location in Valentine.

The Rangeland Agriculture Center and Pavilion is a facility where the college plans to consolidate its rangeland and agriculture courses, expand programming and provide appropriate laboratory and classroom space. The facility is a key part of the college's plan to provide more "hands-on, boots-on-the-ground" rangeland and agriculture degree offerings.

Wells Fargo's donation is a result of the company's environmental grant program, which supports renewable energy, greener buildings and sustainable agriculture through national and local environmental organizations. In 2009, Wells Fargo made environmental grants in more than 30 states across the country.

"The new facility will incorporate renewable energy systems and serve as a model of effective use of renewable energy to the state and the region," said Justin Hammond, Community Banking president for Wells Fargo in Valentine. "At Wells Fargo, we know that environmental stewardship is directly linked to the success of our communities, so we're excited to make this investment in the college, our community and the region as a whole."

The new facility will house a two-year research project that will examine how various watering patterns and amounts will improve the rooting depth in establishing buffalo grass sod. In addition, the college will

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work toward earning certification for the building in the U.S. Green Building Council's national program for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, more commonly known as LEED.

“We at Chadron State are extremely grateful that Wells Fargo has invested in our project to improve student and faculty resources, and prepare future generations of agriculture professionals,” said Dr. Janie Park, Chadron State president. “We, like Wells Fargo, understand the importance of agriculture in the region and will continue to do our part to keep the industry strong.”

About Wells Fargo

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