



Jeff Cook/QUAD-CITY TIMES FILE PHOTO

A model of Western Illinois University Quad-Cities Riverfront Campus

WESTERN VIEW

Ribbon-cutting, tours mark today's opening of WIU's Riverfront Campus

This morning, 22 months after this model of the new Western Illinois University Quad-Cities Riverfront Campus was shown to the public, it will have its grand opening.

The \$18 million project will be shown off with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and program, as well as tours beginning at 10 a.m. today at the campus, 3300 River Drive, Moline. Gov. Pat Quinn is scheduled to be in attendance.

Visitors are asked to park at the wireless Center lot, 1201 River Drive, and take shuttle buses that will begin running at 9:15 a.m.

The first building on the Riverfront

Campus, the former John Deere Tech Center, supports the College of Business and Technology, including the School of Engineering that was housed in the Caxton Building in downtown Moline. The building is also home to academic and student services as well as university administration.

The \$18.2 million first phase of the project has 60,000 square feet. It includes 14 classrooms and four meeting/conference rooms.

The second phase, including five connected buildings, is expected to cost \$42 million and have 90,000 square feet.

Those buildings will include the colleges of arts and sciences, education and human services, fine arts and communications, as well as the campus library.

Classes are scheduled to begin at the new site this morning.

— Times staff