

DeVry University opening branch at Westgate in Glendale

by Carrie Watters - Apr. 1, 2010 04:42 PM
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Westgate City Center is adding a university to its mix - DeVry University.

The higher education tenant should be a boon for the 4-year-old commercial complex next to Jobing.com Arena off Loop 101 and Glendale Avenue.

The university will be able to accommodate as many as 500 students, providing a stream of foot traffic to Westgate's shops and restaurants.

"I am greatly looking forward to expanding on that number," said Jeff Blake, dean of the new Glendale school.

Classes are expected to begin in July, offering undergraduate degrees in business and management and engineering and information services. DeVry's Keller Graduate School of Management will also offer master's degree programs in business and technology.

Blake estimated the school will open with 25 to 40 professors and staff, depending on enrollment.

DeVry will occupy 18,000 square feet on the first and third floors of Building E, which counts Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville among its tenants. Nearby office tenants include a realty company and the Phoenix Coyotes corporate offices.

Steve Ellman, chief executive of the Ellman

Cos., which created the Westgate development, said university staff and students will add "incredible synergy" to the mix.


"A university tenant furthers our goal of creating a true city center, and we know that students and staff will absolutely love being part of our dynamic and energetic atmosphere, just steps from major sporting and concert events," he said in a released statement.

Glendale's economic development director, Brian Friedman, said the university complements the city's higher ed line-up, which includes the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Midwestern University, Glendale Community College and the Arizona College of Allied Health.

Friedman spoke of the "power of bringing higher education to our community in order to provide our residents with the ability to diversify their job skills and remain competitive in today's economy."

Westgate will be DeVry's fourth location in Arizona.

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