



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **PANTHER RIDGE EXPANSION HELPS DAVENPORT UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATE GROWING STUDENT POPULATION AT W.A. LETTINGA CAMPUS**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 10, 2017** – Davenport University is working with a developer to build two additional apartment-style residential buildings at the Panther Ridge complex on the corner of 60<sup>th</sup> and Kraft Avenue SE, increasing the University’s residential student capacity by 130. To be completed for Fall 2017, the project will expand the Panther Ridge complex to three buildings housing 194 students.

“We are continuing to attract increasing numbers of new, traditional students who desire the full residential campus life experience,” said Dr. Richard Pappas, President of Davenport. “Expansion of Panther Ridge helps us to accommodate this growth. Over the past four years, by adding Panther Woods and Panther Ridge to our housing inventory while also providing some students the option to double up in residence hall rooms and reduce their costs, we have nearly doubled our capacity.”

Panther Ridge is the second apartment-style complex for Davenport, with Panther Woods located on 68<sup>th</sup> Street SE next to the University’s Farmers Insurance Athletic Complex accommodating 178 students. With 72 rooms in residence halls doubled up to reduce rates, the W.A. Lettinga Campus can now accommodate 932 students. The University anticipates all rooms to be filled this fall and is launching a new program to offer students housing over the summer months, whether or not they are enrolled for classes.

Panther Ridge is connected to the W.A. Lettinga Campus via a paved walkway along Kraft Avenue, which will now be extended down 60<sup>th</sup> Street to a second entrance. One of the two new buildings will include a community room for use by all Panther Ridge residents. Like Panther Woods, Panther Ridge is reserved for upper classmen, as all incoming freshmen are placed in South Hall, DU’s largest residence building complete with a dining hall.

#### **About Davenport University**

Founded in 1866, Davenport is a private, non-profit university serving nearly 8,000 students at campuses across Michigan and online. With tuition among the lowest of all private universities in the state, Davenport provides high academic quality, small class sizes, conveniently located campuses, faculty with real-world experience and more than 80 dynamic undergraduate and graduate programs addressing in-demand careers in business, technology, health professions and urban education. More information is available at [www.davenport.edu](http://www.davenport.edu).

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