



**Uniformed Services University**  
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## News Release

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### **USU Celebrates Historic Opening of New Academic Program Center**

**BETHESDA, Md.** — The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its newly constructed 50,000 square foot Academic Program Center Thursday, May 15. The event marks a historic day as the university celebrates its first major construction project on the USU campus since the completion of the original four buildings almost 30 years ago.

The new Academic Program Center will address urgently required classroom space as well as provide facilities for university-wide, mission-related and ever-expanding educational programs and support activities for the Military Health System (MHS).

The first floor of the new building will house the Graduate School of Nursing faculty and staff who have been located in leased space in Silver Spring, Md., since the establishment of the GSN in 1993. Also returning to the campus from leased space will be the USU Offices of Continuing Education for Health Professionals (CHE) and the Military Training Network (MTN); both offices manage MHS-wide educational and training programs; joining CHE and MTN on the second floor of the new building will be the Administrative Office for the MHS Graduate Medical Education (GME) Programs in the National Capital Area. The ground floor provides six flexible small classrooms, which can be opened to provide three larger classrooms, in addition to a 100-student capacity auditorium. The ground floor broadcast room and auditorium will be equipped for VTC capability in addition to conference rooms on the first and second floors.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Oct. 23, 2006, which was attended by Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Senator Paul S. Sarbanes, Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, and Congressman Chris Van Hollen, Jr. In addition to the USU community, the May 15 Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony will be attended by more than 50 distinguished guests, which include representatives for the Maryland elected officials, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) officials, and senior representatives from the Offices of the Surgeons General of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Located on the grounds of Bethesda's National Naval Medical Center and across from the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., USU is the nation's federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. Students are active-duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service. USU educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the United States Public Health Service. The university provides military and public health-relevant education, research, service, and consultation to the nation and the world, pursuing excellence and innovation during times of peace and war. Many of its graduates are supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering their leadership and expertise. Approximately one-fourth of all active-duty military medical officers are USU graduates.

Media interested in attending the ceremony should call the Office of External Affairs at (301) 295-1219.