

SFU Press Releases Collection

These archival copies have been generated from web press releases maintained and originally written by SFU Communications and Marketing. Where possible, an effort has been made to preserve the public comments left on the website as well as any included photos or other images. All textual content should be faithful to the original press releases; contact numbers have been removed but they have not otherwise been altered in any way. However, this collection of documents spans multiple generations of web authoring software and not all formatting will be exact.

Wosk Donation Launches SFU Surrey Campaign

Contact Yosef Wosk, [Phone removed], ywosk@sfu.ca

Terry Lavender, Media and Public Relations, [Phone removed], terry_lavender@sfu.ca

March 30, 2006

A \$100,000 gift from Yosef Wosk marks the first contribution to the \$3 million fundraising campaign for Simon Fraser University's expanded campus in the award-winning Central City development in Surrey. The donation from Wosk will directly support the Yosef Wosk Student Learning Commons, where students will find the networking, studying and counseling services and resources they need to achieve success in their academic and professional careers. "The new campus will be a centre of education and life for students, faculty and administrative staff," says Wosk. "This dynamic group of people will attract business to the area. Business attracts culture. In essence, by supporting SFU, I will be able to provide benefits to the entire community." "Yosef and his family have been large supporters of SFU for many years," says SFU President Michael Stevenson. "The Greater Vancouver area has already felt the impact and will continue to benefit from his intellectual, hands-on and financial commitment to the university. It is an honour to have a central facility at our Surrey campus bear his name." Wosk is an author, rabbi, businessman, and community leader in the arts, heritage conservation, libraries and education. He is also the director of interdisciplinary programs in SFU's department of continuing studies where he founded the Academy of Independent Scholars as well as the Philosophers' Café, one of the world's largest series of gatherings dedicated to public conversation. His father, the late Morris J. Wosk, was the driving force behind the creation of the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue at SFU Vancouver.

Wosk has received a number of awards including the Order of British Columbia, a Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and an Honorary Doctor of Letters from Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design. He was named as one of BC's top ten thinkers by The Vancouver Sun and one of the province's 25 power thinkers and most thoughtful citizens by BC Business Magazine. SFU's Surrey campus opened in 2002. The \$80-million expansion to the campus will officially open to students in September 2006 with more than 1,500 students.