

Micron donates \$2.5M to CWI

**Community college will name
new tech building for company**

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NAMPA — The Micron Foundation donated \$2.5 million to the College of Western Idaho toward building a \$16.9 million Professional Technical Education Center in Nampa. In recognition of the generous donation, the College announced that the new center will bear the Micron name.

"The Micron Foundation is committed to advancing technical education and supporting the communities where our employees live and work. This gift supports both missions as we work together with the College of Western Idaho to build on its reputation of excellence and attract a new generation of professionals to the Treasure Valley," Micron Foundation Executive Director Dee Mooney said.

The former Sam's Club building initially purchased by the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation and later gifted to College of Western Idaho Foundation has been under remodel since May 2011.

The 176,000-square-foot center at 5727 E. Franklin Road will offer training in nine disciplines — from small engine repair to heavy duty truck repair.

The new center will give the professional-technical programs some much needed growing room, more than doubling their current available space, according to Steve Rayburn, head of the diesel technology program. In addition to allowing more students to enroll, the new center will have space for more machinery and equipment to help students train for future careers, he said.

Recent reports indicate that more than 90 percent of the College's Professional Technical students who complete the course are employed in their field.

Bert Glandon, CWI's president, said the gift will impact every student on campus and provide local businesses a much needed technical training facility resource. College of Western Idaho's growth amidst the economic downturn has presented several challenges in its ability to facilitate increased demand and maintain state-of-the-industry programs, he said.