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**Sign unveiled for Mills Breast Cancer Institute; building completion on target**  
*Carle Foundation Hospital now seeking state approval for expanded research area*

The Carle Development Foundation today unveiled the outdoor building sign for Mills Breast Cancer Institute, a clear indication that this incredible new facility is progressing toward completion and is expected to open in mid-2008.

As part of this project, Carle is currently seeking state approval to expand the third-floor research area, which will allow for enhanced technology and improved translational research capabilities. Modifying the original plan to increase the research floor in size by 10,000 square feet to 27,777 square feet requires a supplemental permit from the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board (IHFPB) through its certificate of need process (CON). Carle Foundation Hospital is tentatively scheduled to present its modified plan at the IHFPB's January 15 meeting.

"This additional build-out of the research floor will allow us to lead breast cancer research efforts on a national level and address the needs of patients battling this often intractable disease," said Stephen Boppart, M.D., Ph.D., a noted University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign researcher and associate professor, who was named director of Mills Breast Cancer Institute in January 2007. "It will allow us to bring together academic researchers, clinicians and entrepreneurs to share new ideas and develop partnerships addressing new breast cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment strategies."

With the third floor build-out, Mills Breast Cancer Institute will become a model facility which incorporates the latest trends for increasing interdisciplinary interactions

between researchers and physicians conducting translational research. The Mills Breast Cancer Institute research floor will allow for:

- State-of-the-art biological and technological research labs.
- Clinical procedural work, tissue sampling and processing within the same facility.
- Research and patient imaging suites and resources.
- Reconfigurable and modular lab spaces.
- A microscopy lab, computer lab and library.
- Flexible multi-purpose conference room spaces with audio-visual projection systems.
- Additional office support spaces for faculty, research assistants, administrative support and technical staff.

When the Mills Breast Cancer Institute building opens in 2008, it will be a world-class facility dedicated to breast cancer diagnosis, treatment, education and research. Members of the Mills family and officials from Carle Foundation Hospital, Carle Clinic Association and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign broke ground on the new facility in April 2006. Mills Breast Cancer Institute was made possible by a generous donation from Linda and Doug Mills.

“This institute will not only serve local patients well, but will also serve as a new model for other centers to follow in approaching specific multi-specialty diseases,” Dr. Boppart said. “A cornerstone of this approach is to translate world-class research into innovative strategies for the prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.”

Mills Breast Cancer Institute is a collaboration of Carle Foundation Hospital and Carle Clinic. Services are currently being offered through Mills Breast Cancer Institute on the sixth floor of the North Clinic.

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