Enrollment soars

OCC to build high-tech center

Buile Rollins Singer

Work should begin soon on the foun-dation of a niw high technology center at Oakland kommunity College's Au-burn Rills calpus west of Rochester. The boar, of trustees Thursday unanimosity approved a \$2,52-infilion contract to thein on the \$27,000-square-foot building "We're relity excited about getting this building going, because it is just not goasible p have a robolics program io are curret building." said Dr. Mar-ion Rice, protest at Auburn Hills.

ion Rice, preset at Auburn Hills. SOME 560 to 700 students presentiy are studying/obdics at the college. OCC President Robert Roclofs said with the addition of the new center, OCC will have the best technological program in the state. In a report, Rice said plans for a ro-bolics currillum got under way three years ago, rhen auto plants in Michi-gas began/installing the mechanical derices. At first, Rice thought the program cold be tyught in the existing techni-cal building, bot a huge influx of stu-derits provid that unfeasible.

The

of solar energy at any lime — day or night. Trustee David Hackeit expressed concern about how the building would be used should the interest in robotics decline in several years. THE NEW high technology center will have two laboratories for the ro-botics technology program (electrical and bydraulic-pneumatic). It will also ouse tecnnology program (electrical and hydraulle-pneumaile). It will also have a demonstration center, which will serve as an display area for the latest robotics equipment. " "The field is changing so rapidly that all be latest equipment," Rifes said. "So we came up with the unique idea of having a demonstration center where we would get manufacturers to donate or lend us robots. We've gotten good -feedback on the idea. We'll be able to expose our students to the latest equipment in the industry and to manu-iscturers of the equipment." Ho be used for industry-related conference abort term intensive training pro-gram, Rice said.

Rice assured him that it could be used for various computer programs as well as high technology.

well as high technology. In fact, a laboratory on its second floor will be devoted to computer-aided design and computer-aided manufac-turing programs, for students interest-ed in obtaining a two-year associate de-gree in the field. In addition, students

actually will design and program ro-bots and verify the results.

TARGET DATE for the lab construc-on is Aug. 15, 1983. If it is not com-Llog tion is Aug. 15, 1983. If it is not com-pleted, the contractor, Spence Brothers of Sagnaw, will be fined \$100,000, the amount of money OCC estimates it would lose in tuition fees if it couldn't enroll all students who want to take the class. The contractor has until Dec. 15, 1983 to complete the demonstration area.

area. "We've got to have this building ready for September classes," Rice said.



THE BUILDING itself will be an ex-ample of high-technology construction, also said. It will have passive solar techniques for heating and cooling. In addition, it will have monitoring devices visible to students in the alternate energy pro-gram so it can illustrate the actual use

This winter, Oakland Community College will offer its first class broad-cast on television. Data Processing 101 will be televised on Channel 56 for students to view in leif own homes, OCC President Hob-ert Roelofs announced last week. It is a syndicated, paekaged course, Because of the drawbacks of not hav-

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