



Please Sign In and use this article's on page print button to print this article.

BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

University of Memphis establishing stock trading lab

By Michael Sheffield
Senior Reporter, Memphis Business Journal
May 27, 2014, 11:17am CDT

The University of Memphis is receiving a \$1 million donation for the establishment of the Cook Trading Lab, which will be located in the Fogelman College.

“Our goal at the Fogelman College is to reduce the gap between what is taught in the classroom and what actually happens in a professional environment,” [Rajiv Grover](#), dean of the Fogelman College, said in a statement. “The Cook Trading Lab will help us achieve this goal by allowing students to work real-world scenarios with timely and accurate market data. It will be an outstanding resource for the college and the community.”

[Michael Cook](#), founder and CEO of SouthernSun Asset Management, provided \$1 million for the center. Cook also pledged \$500,000 in matching funds. SouthernSun was established in 1989

and is a research-driven investment management firm. Construction on the center, which will be located on the first floor of the Fogelman College, will begin in June, and the first classes will begin during the 2014-15 school year.

“Memphis has a world-class business industry and we are striving to continue this legacy,” Cook said in a statement. “But we can’t just talk about being the best; we have to act upon our words. Through this lab, our hope is to sharpen talented young minds so that they will be equipped to steer our community toward a more positive and profitable future.”

The lab’s design is based on a Wall Street trading firm with glass walls and tickers that provide real-time financial data, similar to professional financial firms. Courses taught at the lab will include Stock Portfolio Management and Financial Reporting. Courses for majors including accounting, supply chain management, economics and international business will have access to the lab and will benefit from the resources provided.

“Michael Cook’s remarkable generosity will have profound and enduring impact on the lives of our students and the broader Memphis community,” David Rudd, president of the University of Memphis, said in a statement. “It’s a gift that provides a solid foundation for an innovative, cutting-edge educational experience that will help prepare our students and develop the skills necessary for a highly competitive job market. It’s another example of the tremendous support from the Memphis community for our great university.”

By Michael Sheffield
Senior Reporter, Memphis Business Journal
May 27, 2014, 11:17am CDT

Back to Top 

MEMPHIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

[User Agreement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

[Your California Privacy Rights](#) | [Ad Choices](#)

© 2019 American City Business Journals. All rights reserved. Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our User Agreement (updated 5/24/18) and Privacy Policy and Cookie Statement (updated 5/24/18). The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of American City Business Journals.