Center Endowment Celebrated at the University of Florida

On April 20, 2001, the David F. Miller Center for Retailing Education and Research was endowed by David F. Miller, retired Vice Chairman of the Board and Chief Operating Officer of the JC Penney Stores and Catalog and Office of the Chairman. The endowment was marked by an appreciation dinner that brought friends and family of Mr. Miller together to reminisce about and to dream for the future of the Center.

This endearing celebration was hosted by the Warrington College of Business and the Center for Retailing complete with brief remarks by Dean John Kraft, Dr. Robert Lanzillotti, Dr. Bart Weitz and Bill Alcorn, Vice President, Controller, JC Penney Company.

The combined contribution to the Center for Retailing Education and Research is one of the business school’s largest endowments. “I am very honored to have my name associated with the Center for Retailing and appreciate the Penney Company’s substantial contribution,” said Mr. Miller. “The Center is doing a superior job preparing the future leaders in the retail industry. I also want to express appreciation to the managers of the Penney Stores whose contributions have supported the Center from its early beginning.”

Mr. David F. Miller retired as Vice Chairman of the Board and Chief Operating Officer of the JC Penney Stores and Catalog and Office of the Chairman. Mr. Miller retired in 1990 from JC Penney after thirty-seven years.

His career began with JC Penney in 1953 as a salesman in Jacksonville, Florida. After several promotions both within stores and corporate, Mr. Miller was elected in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2...
1979 as Senior Vice President and Director of JC Penney Stores. In 1983, he was elected as Company Director and President of JC Penney Stores, Inc., and Catalog. Mr. Miller became the Vice Chairman of the Board and Chief Operating Officer at JC Penney Stores and Catalog in 1987. Mr. Miller retired from the JC Penney Company on April 1, 1990. Currently, Mr. Miller is Owner and President, Amelia Service Center, Inc., a real estate development company. Mr. Miller serves on the Executive Advisory Board for the David F. Miller Center for Retailing Education and Research.

The objectives of the Center are to stimulate student interest in pursuing careers in retailing, to prepare students from entry-level positions, to provide continuing education opportunities for individuals currently in retailing, to improve communications between retailing practitioners and academics so that retailers can take advantage of new trends.
We are Macy’s East, the largest operating division within Federated Department Stores, the leader in premier retail department store operations. Established in the 1800’s, our founder Rowland H. Macy started his company as a single dry goods store, and expanded into our existing space at Herald Square in New York City in 1902. Today Macy’s East operates 107 stores on the East coast from Maine to Puerto Rico, with annual sales over $5.0 billion. Centering on our flagship store, Macy’s continues to challenge the status quo by creating new and exciting shopping environments for you, our best customer. Maybe you have visited our newest stores in West Palm Beach, FL, or even San Juan, Puerto Rico. Or, you can consider visiting us in 2002 in Orlando, FL. As you can see location plays a major role in making Macy’s a favorite shopping destination on the East Coast.

A large part of our unique tradition is providing events outside of our brick and mortar locations. Special events such as the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, 4th of July Fireworks, and the Spring Flower Show are an integral part of our heritage and growth. In addition, these events let us give something back to the communities that we serve. Our focus is on the people that make up our organization. Each member of our team has the unique opportunity to help shape their own career. Through a series of structured training programs new executives are able to develop their skills, not just read about them in theory. Whether you are running a multi-million dollar department in one of our stores, or working with a buying team in the corporate office, the focus remains on you and your career growth. Training is an investment, and Macy’s believes that you should have an opportunity to guide your professional development in whatever career path you choose. This is our way of valuing our best resource...our people.

Looking into the future, we see continued growth in technology and our stores. To accomplish all that we have set out to do, we need your knowledge and experiences. You will have an opportunity to pursue a career that best suits your needs. Along the way you will work with key executives and associates that are the lifeline of the organization. Whether it is in the central offices in New York City, or in one of our stores on the East Coast, our success is dependent on the people involved, their skills, and their teamwork.

We invite you to challenge us in building a career that is specifically for you. Where will your next step be? What do you want to do? Here is an opportunity to find out.

Go ahead...Explore the possibilities.

◆
perspectives arising in the academic community, and to undertake research on retailing issues. Through the efforts of the Center, the University of Florida is the number one source of management trainees for many top retailers.

Thank you, Mr. Miller. Through your kind generosity, you will ensure courses, workshops, advising, research, guidance, internships, and career information for students about retailing.