

# Updated with video: SUNY Broome celebrates opening of DLC

February 9, 2015

The new Digital Lounge & Commons opened Friday with the sounds of laughter, cracking pool balls and Mrs. Pacman fleeing a bevy of ghosts.

Located on the first floor of the old Science Building, the lounge features fast wifi, comfortable chairs and a wide array of arcade games, as well as air hockey, pool, a claw crane with fun prizes and vending machines.

Students visiting for the first time on Feb. 6 were treated to pizza, soda and quarters to play as many games as they liked for the first hour. The new lounge replaces the former SA Café.

SUNY Broome President Kevin Drumm wasn't familiar with most of the arcade games, joking that he came from the era of Pong and Pacman. The lounge, he said, is a great place for students to take a break from classes and exams – provided that they still get their studying done.

"It's clearly de-stressing, which you need to do now and then as a student," he said. "Tell your friends about it and come on by when you're all keyed up."

The lounge is now open from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. on weekends, Vice President for Student & Economic Development Debra Morello said.

"Come here and get to know each other. Mingle!" she advised students. And then she tried out a game herself, challenging Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer Francis Battisti to a game of air hockey.

Rachel Semonco, a first-year business and marketing major, racked up the pool balls for a game with her friends.

"I think it's a good idea," she said of the lounge. "It's somewhere to go to blow off some steam."

Frank Sassano, a Visual Communications Arts major, also took his turn at pool, air hockey and many of the other games. The lounge is a good alternative to the Ice Center's arcade, which is also popular with students, he said.

"Students can come here to relax, play games and hang out," he said.

SUNY Broome's DLC now available!



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