**Meeting:** 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP X1, MAA General Contributed Paper Session, I

1003-X1-430 **G. Alan Cannon*** (acannon@selu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA 70402, **Mark Farag** (mfarag@wagner.edu), Department of Mathematics & Computer Science, Wagner College, 1 Campus Road, Staten Island, NY, and **Lucyna Kabza** (lkabza@selu.edu), Department of Mathematics, Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA 70402. *Centers and Generalized Centers of Nearrings.*

Let $N$ be a right nearring. Denote by $C(N)$ the multiplicative center of $N$ and by $N_d$ the set of left-distributive elements of $N$. In general, $C(N)$ need not be closed under the addition of $N$. However, the generalized center of $N$, $GC(N) = \{a \in N \mid an_d = n_d a \text{ for all } n_d \in N_d\}$, is always a subnearring of $N$ containing $C(N)$. We study the problem of determining when $C(N)$ is a subnearring of $N$. We show that, for certain classes of nearrings, $C(N)$ is a subnearring of $N$ if and only if $C(N) = GC(N)$. Nearrings studied include distributively generated nearrings, nearrings of functions, and nearrings of polynomials. (Received September 14, 2004)