Looking up four stories from the ground floor inside the new L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute’s atrium, pharmacy students and professors in white lab coats are seen lined up along the railings of each level, all of them watching the dedication program below. Skaggs family members, donors, students, faculty, and friends gathered on April 12, 2013, for the dedication of the long-awaited L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute.

The new facility includes two buildings—one old, one new—as well as the atrium, which connects them. Skaggs Hall was built in the 1960s with funding from Sam Skaggs for construction of the building, named for his father, L. S. Skaggs, Sr. The new L. S. Skaggs, Jr. Pharmacy Research Building is named after Sam, who once again stepped forward, along with charitable entities he created, including The ALSAM Foundation, with more than $60 million to help build it. The two buildings, with the connecting atrium, comprise the new L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute.

In addition to the Skaggs Family, a key donor to the building is John A. Moran, who, as a young investment banker, had early business dealings with Sam Skaggs. Their professional relationship led to a lasting friendship. John, a U alum, has served as a
George S. Eccles Student Life Center

The University of Utah celebrated the groundbreaking of the new $50.4 million George S. Eccles Student Life Center, named in recognition of a generous lead gift from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, and to be located centrally on campus, north of the Donna Garff Marriott Honors Community. The 190,000-square-foot facility, named the George S. Eccles Student Life Center, is expected to open in 2015 and will house the University’s National Advisory Council, the UPCC (University of Utah Poison Control Center), the L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute, and new student and faculty spaces.

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Pharmacy students and faculty line up along the railings in the new atrium to watch the building dedication program below.

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L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute Cont.

director of more than 30 corporations and philanthropic organizations, including the U’s internationally recognized vision center that bears his name—the John A. Moran Eye Center. He also serves as a sustaining member of the U’s National Advisory Council.

Pharmacy students and faculty, once scattered in eight buildings across campus, now can gather in one physical location to conduct interdisciplinary research, exchange ideas, and engage in the spontaneous interactions that move science forward. The 150,000-square-foot, $75 million, world-class facility will support the College of Pharmacy as it continues to recruit the best faculty and students and ensures that the school keeps its place among the nation’s top programs.

The new research building is designed to encourage collaboration and creativity, with the primary goal to make groundbreaking discoveries that bring new medications to people around the world. It features open labs with natural light where researchers can easily interact with team members. The new research building also houses the Utah Poison Control Center, a program of the College of Pharmacy. Located in a secure suite on the fourth floor, the center is staffed around the clock by registered pharmacists, nurses, and physicians who take calls from people throughout Utah. Since it was established in 1954, the UPCC has responded to more than 1 million calls for assistance.

The atrium connecting the old and new pharmacy buildings establishes an atmosphere of collegiality with a café, lounges, and places to converse. Display shelves along the walls hold artifacts relating to the history of pharmacy at the U. The open-cut design of the wood paneling on the atrium's railings brings to mind sections of sea sponges, representing the marine life that Chris Ireland, pharmacy dean, and other U pharmacy researchers study to find compounds for drugs. Other designs in the wood panels symbolize DNA—the genetic “blueprint” of life that is critical to pharmaceutical research.

The exterior of the research building is stunning, sheathed in glass and terra-cotta colored tiles from Portugal. The goal for the building is to attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification, which is awarded for sustainable strategies for energy, water, lighting, and materials use in building design.

The tradition of giving that Sam Skaggs began in the 1960s when he provided the funding for Skaggs Hall lives on today in the L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute. Adjoining one another, the two buildings are a lasting tribute to a father and son, past and present, and a legacy of generosity that has positioned the College of Pharmacy for a bright and exciting future of bringing new medicines to life.

Campus Celebrates Groundbreaking for George S. Eccles Student Life Center

“What does the University of Utah need in order to create the engaged campus of the future?”

This was the question asked of U students a decade ago, and their answer was loud and clear: a full-service recreation and wellness center! Fast forward to April 19, 2013, when a lively gathering of students, faculty, staff, and friends of the University celebrated the groundbreaking of the new $50.4 million George S. Eccles Student Life Center. The 190,000-square-foot facility, named in recognition of a generous lead gift from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, will be located centrally on campus, north of the Donna Garff Marriott Honors Community.

The project has been led and inspired by U students since the beginning, when they stepped forward and approved a student fee to help fund the building’s construction and ongoing operations. Working side-by-side since then with the U’s administration, student leaders have been integral in the planning process, providing insights into the building’s design, working with the Utah State Legislature on bond funding, traveling to other campuses nationwide to capture the vision for the facility, and participating in fundraising.

“...what the University of Utah needs is a facility that is more than just a gym—there are so many different things that go into creating an engaged campus of the future. The George S. Eccles Student Life Center will provide a space for students to come together, to interact, to build relationships, to develop their creativity, and to collaborate with their peers. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our students, and I’m grateful that we were able to make it happen.”

President Pershing lauded the efforts of Student Life Center Campaign co-chairs Jim Macfarlane and Chase and Grethe Peterson, along with their committee members Sue D. Christensen, Stephen B. and June W. Nebeker, Conrad D. Anker, and Mario R. Capecchi. He also expressed appreciation to the two additional major campaign donors—Kem and Carolyn Gardner, and the University Federal Credit Union—for their generous commitment to “creating a vibrant campus community.”

President Pershing acknowledged Eccles Foundation directors Spence Eccles, Lisa Eccles, and Bob Graham for their support of the new center, and other campaign leaders.

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The foundation's goal in supporting the center is to invest in the success of the students, who will become the leaders of tomorrow and make a positive difference for Utah, the nation, and the world. —Spence Eccles

The George S. Eccles Student Life Center will be the campus hub for fitness training, intramural sports, and outdoor recreation. As the premier location for the campus community to gather and develop lifelong healthy habits, it will feature multiple gyms, climbing walls, cardio and weight training areas, and several pools. It also will house a new home for the U’s Outdoor Recreation Program. The facility will offer innovation in energy efficiency as the U is pursuing U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for this project. The facility is scheduled to open in December 2014.

and the unparalleled impact of their support on all facets of campus life. “From academics to athletics, and from the health sciences to cultural venues, every aspect of U student life has been enriched, expanded, and elevated by the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation’s generosity.”

Addressing the students at the groundbreaking, Eccles Foundation chairman & CEO Spencer F. Eccles said, “I hope you know how proud we are to partner with you. You’ve given this project your 110 percent effort, and we are tickled to be able to play off your ball!” He paid tribute to the students’ perseverance over the past decade, stressing that the Foundation’s goal in supporting the center is to “invest in the success of the students, who will become the leaders of tomorrow and make a positive difference for Utah, the nation, and the world.”
A New Home for Hartland Partnership Center

University Neighborhood Partner’s new home is located in a renovated bank building at 1578 West 1700 South. “The opportunity to purchase a building for the Hartland Partnership Center represents the work of many partners, residents, and donors over the past eight years,” says Rosemary Hunter, director of the U’s University Neighborhood Partners (UNP). Hartland, a program of UNP, brings together U faculty and students, non-profit organizations, and residents of Salt Lake City’s west side neighborhood to address economic, linguistic, and social barriers for community residents and populations new to the area.

Inside Hartland, walls are painted tangerine orange, turquoise blue, and sunny yellow. The pièce de résistance is a large mural made of clusters of square ceramic tiles, each designed and painted by different groups that partner with UNP to offer classes and programs. The main floor provides space for administrative offices; the lower level has rooms for all kinds of activities. In one, a Karen woman who came to Salt Lake City from a refugee camp along the Thailand-Burma (Myanmar) Border sits on the floor weaving by hand on a large loom with many bright colored threads; in another, high school students are preparing to take a dance class; and in one more, young children are having their faces painted to celebrate the opening of the center.

With support from local and national corporations, foundations, and private donors, funds were first raised for the purchase of the property in 2011 with a generous lead gift of $300,000 from Goldman Sachs. Additional substantial gifts were made by Salt Lake City, the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, and Zions Bank. Contributions also were received from American Express.

Renovations to bring the building up to code were started in fall 2012 and completed earlier this year. The total cost was less than $1 million, with approximately $150,000 still needed to complete fundraising efforts.

At the dedication of the building on April 16, Abdulkhalil Mohamed, manager of the center, commented that, “As a former participant in the programs offered at the Hartland Center, I’ve seen how all groups involved benefit from this unique, joint effort.” Events throughout the afternoon included a performance by young adults in traditional Pacific Islander clothing who braved the winter-like weather and presented dances—in bare feet—from Tonga, Samoa, and Tahiti on an outdoor stage under a tent.

Hartland first opened in 2004 and originally was housed in two apartments in the Hartland Apartment complex (now called the Seasons at Pebble Creek), located adjacent to the new building. At that time, the center provided apartment residents—75 percent of whom were immigrants or refugees who were non-native English speakers—with the tools necessary to succeed in the community. Space quickly became scarce at the apartments and UNP was approached by the owners of a building adjacent to the complex who were preparing to sell it. After an extensive feasibility study and many discussions with residents and partners, UNP launched a capital campaign in 2010 to purchase and renovate the 10,000-square-foot structure.

Hartland provides important assistance to refugees and immigrants who are acclimating to a new community, addressing issues such as learning the English language, family financial literacy, citizenship, employment skills, health care education, and life skills training. Now, with the new building and expanded space, Hartland is doing its part to bring together University and west side resources for reciprocal learning, action, and benefit... a community coming together.
In Memoriam

Cleone P. Eccles | 1935 - 2013

The University of Utah mourns the loss of Cleone Peterson Eccles, who passed away April 5. Her innumerable contributions and generosity of spirit have made the University and the state of Utah a better place. A graduate of the U, Cleone served her alma mater in numerous capacities, including on the boards of KUED and Red Butte Garden, and more than a decade as vice president of the Alumni Association and member of the Board of Trustees. The 2005 naming of the Spencer F. and Cleone P. Eccles Health Sciences Education Building recognized a landmark gift from Cleone and her husband, and her compassion will continue to benefit others through the Cleone Peterson Eccles Center for Breast Health at Huntsman Cancer Hospital. The recipient of an honorary doctorate in 2004, Cleone defined dignity and devotion. Her legacy will forever be felt on our campus, and we will miss her ever-gracious presence.

L. S. “Sam” Skaggs | 1923 - 2013

The University of Utah has lost a great friend in Sam Skaggs, who passed away March 21. His generosity and unwavering commitment in support of the University of Utah, especially the College of Pharmacy and the Department of Biology, is unsurpassed. A behind-the-scenes man, he did not seek publicity for what he did. He preferred to work in quiet ways, to improve and enhance those organizations that he became involved with. Sam received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the U in 1970, and an Alumni Association Honorary Alumnus Award for Outstanding Achievement in 1968. The Skaggs family has been a generous and long-time supporter of the U. Their most recent contribution enabled the new L. S. Skaggs Pharmacy Institute, which was dedicated in April.

Beverley Taylor Sorenson | 1924 - 2013

Beverley Taylor Sorenson, a generous friend and alumna of the University of Utah, passed away May 27 of natural causes. Throughout her life, she worked with passion to ensure that the arts were integrated into the education of Utah’s children. The Beverley Taylor Sorenson Arts and Education Complex, now under construction and scheduled for completion by the end of 2013 will formally cement the link between the two disciplines, ensuring that her dream becomes a lasting reality. Beverley’s lifelong commitment to teaching and learning is an inspiration to educators here at the U and across the state of Utah. She recognized that arts enrich the lives of Utah children and we are proud to continue her legacy through the programs and facilities for which she advocated.

Major Gifts cont.

John C. Jackson
Duane E. and Kaye W. Jeffery
Emma Eccles Jones Foundation
Cary D. Jones and Kristin Hopfenbeck
Megan and Christopher A. Jones
David and Annette Jorgensen Foundation
Rio Tinto Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation
Lewis A. Kingsley Foundation
Komerstone Guaranty Insurance Company
B Lilly and Company
The Estate of Gladys Madsen
J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation
Philip and Sandra McCarthy
Meldrum Foundation
Peter and Catherine Meldrum
Mark and Kathie Miller Foundation
Gail Miller
Harold and Lois Milner Foundation
William A. and Elizabeth B. Moncrief Foundation
Mitchell and June Morris Foundation
Muscular Dystrophy Association, Inc.
North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society
O. C. Tanner Company
Alexander J. Okland
Brett J. and Kristen Okland
James B. and Jenny Lynn B. Okland
John C. and Lauren C. Okland
William R. and Kaci L. Okland
Donald B. and Joyce C. Olsen
Adelle Parkinson Trust
Parr Brown Gee & Loveless
Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. - Petrobras
Petroleum Geo-Services ASA
Philadelphia Retina Endowment Fund
Price Automobile Museum, Inc.
Primary Children’s Medical Center Foundation
Rocky Mountain Power
Florence C. Rothman
Salt Lake City Corporation
Schwarzeneg Graham Family Foundation
The Shellenberger Family Foundation
Shell International
W. Scott and Kathleen Shuler
David E. and Melinda Simmons
Harris H. and Amanda P. Simmons
L. S. Skaggs Family Trust II
Xiaoxin Chen and Florian Solzbacher
The Sorenson Legacy Foundation
Statoil Research Centre
Sam and Diane Stewart Family Foundation
Clark L. Tanner Foundation
O. C. Tanner Company
Norman C. and Barbara L. Tanner
The Warnock Family Trust
I. Ray and Elizabeth Thomason

- 5 -
The experience the Reids had with this young football player changed some of their preconceived ideas about student athletes. "It was a paradigm shift for me," says Debbie. "These students often face difficult financial struggles, particularly first generation high school graduates and first generation college students. There are also significant demands on their time and resources beyond their course of study at the U. Before personally meeting our student athlete I would have thought athletics was always their top priority. I soon realized how important his education opportunity was to him personally, and to his family."

From that moment on, the Reids knew what they wanted to do—make a real difference in the lives of student athletes, as well as students pursuing a degree in education. For the Reids, being charitably minded is paramount. They are regular donors to the Crimson Club Excellence Fund, and they have established a planned gift of life insurance too. Each time a student athlete puts on a uniform and competes for the U, Todd and Debbie can see the immediate impact of their charitable giving, while knowing that the proceeds from their planned gift will provide for future generations of students.

As a financial and insurance advisor, Todd understands the power of doing what you can afford now and finding ways to leverage future charitable giving. "There are powerful strategies, particularly with highly appreciated assets and wealth replacement techniques that can supercharge the impact of a person's charitable giving," he says. "Planned gifts are scalable to each family's situation."

Both Todd and Debbie come from families dedicated to education. They believe strongly in giving their time, as well as their resources. Debbie serves on the College of Education Advancement Board and Todd serves on the Crimson Club Board. He enjoys working to help build interest in and support for other sports that may not have such a high profile as football or basketball. A former baseball player himself, Todd has been working with the U’s baseball coach to increase attendance at the games. As a result of their efforts, crowds have grown from 300 per game to more than 2,000. Of Pac-12 baseball, Todd says, "You don't get better than that. It is an exciting privilege athletically and academically to play in that environment. It is the best conference in the country."

The Reids' planned gift will provide support for men’s basketball, football and baseball, and scholarships for students pursuing a degree in the College of Education.

As a Michigan native, Thomas Sabin traveled halfway across the country for his U experience. At the time, he didn't know anyone on campus, but was excited for the experience ahead of him. Many memories and new friends later, Thomas graduated with a degree in civil engineering in the spring of 2012.

Through his support of the Margaret S. Borg Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship for civil engineering students, Thomas is now helping to ensure that current U students have the same opportunities and experiences he feels fortunate to have had.

Thomas is a leading example of young alumni giving back to the U. While studying here, he worked at the U’s phone-a-thon, calling alumni and asking for annual support. This experience helped him understand the importance of giving back, but it was his overall U experience that impacted his decision to support student scholarships.

As a U student, in addition to support from his family and working while in school, it was the scholarships he received that made it possible for him to be in a position to give back. Thanks to the one-to-one matching scholarship program within the College of Engineering, which matches scholarship gifts from $1,000 up to $2,000 of the total gift, Thomas is making a significant impact in the lives of current engineering students at the U.
ACCESS Program for Women in Science and Mathematics Receives Grant from Chevron

The College of Science’s ACCESS Program for Women in Science and Mathematics was highlighted at an event in January to announce an award to the program from Chevron. ACCESS, established in 1991 to address the problem of gender inequity in mathematics and the sciences, offers approximately 40 women each year extraordinary opportunities and experiences in science at the University of Utah.

ACCESS students work on real-world problems through assigned projects taught by some of the U’s most celebrated professors, and are given the opportunity to work as laboratory research assistants in the field of their choice. They receive a $3,500 tuition stipend.

“Chevron appreciates the ACCESS Program and the University’s commitment to programs that target underrepresented groups,” said Mark Sullivan, then manager of the Chevron Salt Lake Refinery. “We are proud to provide a $240,000 grant to the ACCESS Program in support of increased efforts to expand the program’s outreach to young women in underserved communities in Utah, and to increase awareness of the program and participation by qualified students.”

Lieutenant Governor Greg Bell emphasized the importance of these opportunities to young women in the state of Utah. “Governor Gary Herbert and I are dedicated to achieving the goal of seeing 66 percent of Utahns with a higher education degree, or certification, by the year 2020,” said Bell. “Part of meeting this challenge is ensuring that underserved residents have a pathway to prosperity, which benefits all of us. I applaud Chevron for helping young women achieve their dreams of having a career in science or mathematics.”

Rosemary Gray, director of the ACCESS program added, “Helping young women realize there is a place for them in the scientific community has been immensely rewarding.”

Since its inception, the U’s ACCESS program has supported more than 500 young women. Of those who have graduated, 76 percent earned a degree in science or a science-related field, with 15 percent receiving an advanced degree in a science-related field. ACCESS students have continued on to careers in medicine, science, and engineering.

“As members of the higher education community, our primary responsibility is to ensure that talented young women be given every opportunity to achieve success in the sciences,” says Pierre Sokolsky, dean of the College of Science. “Here at the University of Utah, the ACCESS program provides a demonstrably successful path for many such women.”

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U Alumni in New York Help Celebrate U Piano Centennial

More than 50 University of Utah alumni living in New York attended a reception on April 2, with U President David W. Pershing, to kick off a year-long celebration of the centennial of the U’s piano program in the School of Music.

A Century of Piano at the U celebrates the 100-year legacy of piano education at the U with a yearlong series of public and private concerts and community events showcasing the important role piano plays in our state, and marking the start of a five-year campaign to raise $500,000 to ensure that the next century remains as successful as the last.

The reception was held at the 3 West Club in Manhattan. Scott Clegg, president of the U Alumni Association’s New York Chapter, welcomed those who attended, including Pierre Sokolsky, dean of the College of Science, and Raymond Tymas-Jones, dean of the College of Fine Arts.

The University of Utah, the first to be awarded the distinction of being an All-Steinway School in the Intermountain West, has seven Steinway Artists on its faculty, among the highest number in the country. Two alumni of the U’s piano program, Karén Hakobyan BMu’06 MMu’08 and Michael Stewart BMu’11, performed at the reception.