



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2015



Photo courtesy of the School of Dentistry

Vivian Lee, senior vice president for health sciences, and U President David W. Pershing join Andy and the late John Noorda, and Glen Hanson, dean of the dental school, on April 8, at the ribbon cutting of the new Ray and Tye Noorda Oral Health Sciences Building.

Noorda Family Provides a Home for the U's Dental School

Soon after marrying Ray Noorda, Tye Noorda accidentally slipped and fell one day, damaging some of her front teeth. Her recovery from the event was long and painful, and for one year, she didn't have enough money to have her teeth properly fixed. The event made a lasting impression on her. Many years later, when she and Ray had an opportunity to support a new dentistry building on the University of Utah campus that would train young dental students at a reasonable cost and, equally important, provide dental services to low income patients, the Noordas and their children stepped up and made a remarkably generous lead gift of \$30 million. Ray Noorda BS'49, who led software giant Novell, died in 2006; Tye passed away in April 2014, not long after the groundbreaking for the dental school; and John died soon after the dedication of the building. The kindness and vision of the two Utah philanthropists and their children were critical to the project's success.



On April 8, an appreciative crowd gathered on a snowy afternoon to celebrate the opening of the new \$36 million, 85,000-square-foot Ray and Tye Noorda Oral Health Sciences Building, located on lower Wakara Way in Research Park. Among those attending were U President David W. Pershing, Vivian Lee, senior vice president for health sciences, two of the Noorda's four sons, Andy and John, and throngs of enthusiastic dental students and faculty. Also there with the well-wishers were Glen Hanson, professor of pharmacology and interim dean of the dental school, and James Bekker, dentistry professor and senior associate dean for clinical affairs.

The facility includes a clinic with 62 dental stations, providing space for students who are monitored by faculty dentists, to work on patients. Dental student services cost half the typical price and most insurance plans are accepted.

"Thanks to the great generosity of Ray and Tye Noorda and their children, our School of Dentistry now has the facilities both to provide an outstanding education for future dentists and to advance discovery in oral health science," says Lee. "With the best dental students in the country, we expect to become one of the nation's top dental programs while serving the people of Utah and those who cannot afford dental care. We are honored to steward this mission."

The dentistry school joins the professional schools of pharmacy, nursing, health, and medicine to complete the University's offering of every aspect of a health sciences education. The school also will serve as a resource for Utah dentists by providing meeting space and assisting in their continuing education.

Recent Major Gifts

We thank the following supporters for their generous gifts received between April 1, 2015 and June 30, 2015.

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U Chamber Choir Named International Champion

The University of Utah Chamber Choir has won what is considered by some as the world championship of amateur choral art—the European Choral Grand Prix. The competition, held in Tours, France, in late May, included winning choirs from regional competitions held earlier in Hungary, Slovenia, Bulgaria, and Spain. An international jury included judges from six different countries. In addition to participating in the competition, the U choir performed in concerts in Paris, Normandy, and Barcelona.

Undeniably, the choir’s success on the international stage was made possible by the generous support of donors at home, particularly Carolyn and Kem Gardner. Their commitment and investment in the choir began in 2007 with their financial support for the instatement of the Ellen Neilson Barnes Presidential Endowed Chair for Choral Studies, which attracted the top talent of Barlow Bradford and secured him as the choir’s director. The prestigious endowment is named in honor and memory of Carolyn’s mother.

The Gardners have continued their support for the choral area by providing annual scholarships for every member of the choir. This generosity has helped to build a strong base from which Barlow has developed a choir ready to win on the international stage not once, but twice. In 2014 the choir won the esteemed *Florilège Vocal de Tours*, which qualified them to compete in this year’s European Choral Grand Prix.

“The Gardners are true champions. This wouldn’t have happened without them,” says Barlow.

Additional generous support for the international tour came from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, Zions Bank, and the Wheeler Foundation, which also supports scholarships within the School of Music.

“Being named the champions of the European Grand Prix was one of the most memorable moments of my college career,” says choir member Nathan Curtis. “I feel lucky to have received such an honor for the hard work we have put in together as a choir. I am so grateful for the funding we received that made this tour possible.”

The Gardners are equally impressed by the incredible success of the Chamber Choir. “We couldn’t be more thrilled for the choir,” says Carolyn. “We can’t wait to celebrate.”



Choir members visit a classroom near the Roman Catholic Church La Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.



Members of the University Chamber Choir gather in front of the Columbus Monument in Barcelona.

Karsten Scholarship Supports Students Aging out of Foster Care



Ellen and Siegfried Karsten

As a result of family substance abuse, Christina Adino became a foster youth at the age of 12 and was placed in state custody, where she remained until she aged out of the foster care system at 18. When kids age out of foster care, they lose their support system of caseworkers, therapists, and foster parents. Following high school, Christina attended Salt Lake Community College and in 2014 received an associate's degree in social work and a



Foster scholarship recipient Christina Adino

general education degree. After being accepted to the U this past spring, she learned she was eligible for the Siegfried and Ellen Karsten Foster Scholarship, which to date has benefitted 15 young adults who have aged out of the state foster care program. Christina and Mohammed Matthes are current scholarship recipients for the 2015-16 academic year.

"We do not have the privileges many traditional college students have to attend college because of the lack of parental support after leaving foster care," says Christina. "The scholarship has made it possible for us to receive the mentoring and funding we need to be successful as students."

Siegfried and Ellen Karsten began giving to the U in 1971. Their wide-ranging support has benefitted multiple programs, including Siegfried's home department of economics in the College of Social and Behavioral Science, as well as Red Butte Garden, the Natural History Museum of



Foster scholarship recipient Mohammed Matthes

Utah, and the departments of mathematics, chemistry, and ballet. But Siegfried and Ellen are most committed to supporting students through scholarships.

After creating their first endowed scholarship in 1999, the Howard-Karsten Graduate Fellowship/Scholarship Fund in the Department of Economics, which has been awarded to 13 students, they followed it up in 2003 with the Siegfried and Ellen Karsten Endowed Foster Scholarship Program.

Last year, in a new planned gift to give additional support to their foster scholarship, the Karstens also created new scholarships in the College of Social and Behavioral Science's departments of psychology, and family and consumer studies, as well as a new university-wide scholarship.

Siegfried and Ellen themselves have an extraordinary history. After experiencing the horrors of World War II and fleeing East Prussia, Siegfried and his mother, Maria Karsten, arrived in Utah in 1951. Ellen, living in Saxony, fled to West Germany in 1950. Siegfried and Ellen met through a mutual friend, Mary Howard, after whom the Howard-Karsten Graduate Fellowship Fund is partially named. They were married in 1967.

After serving in the U.S. Army, Siegfried attended Oregon State University and then transferred to the U, where he earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics, and a master's degree and a doctorate, both in economics.

In addition to the U, Siegfried has taught economics on the faculties of the University of Wyoming and the University of West Georgia. He was a Fulbright professor at Jilin University in China and at Ernst-Moritz Arndt University in Germany. Ellen has been active in community and cultural affairs, including membership in the League of Women Voters. During Siegfried's Fulbright professorship in China, she taught classes in English conversation at Jilin University.

The generosity of the Karstens, and people like them who act on their understanding that education can change lives for the better, is making college possible for young people who otherwise would not have the opportunity.

Major Gifts continued

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Osher Institute Delivers the Joy of Learning



A group of nature enthusiasts enjoys an Osher birding class.

Mary Jo Westien has been a member of the U's Osher Institute since the first academic year the lifelong learning program was offered (2004-2005). So far, she has taken 133 courses —more than any other Osher member at the U—ranging from *Tolstoy: Life, Philosophy, and Anna Karenina*, taught by U emeritus professor Gene Fitzgerald; to *The Way We Were: The 1940s*, taught by U emeritus professor Alan Coombs; to *Romantic Composers: A European Tour*, taught by retired Mount Union College professor Lew Phelps.

In fact, of all the students who are taking classes through the continuing education department, the top 50 are all members of the Osher Institute, which is one of several programs offered through the department.

In April, the Bernard Osher Foundation gave a \$1 million gift to the U's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute—the foundation's second \$1 million gift to the U's program in the past seven years.

The Osher Institute offers intellectually stimulating, affordable, non-credit classes and meaningful social engagement to people 50 and older. Since its inception at the U nearly 11 years ago, with just 50 members and 12 courses, membership has expanded to more than 1,300 individuals who choose from more than 150 courses. The membership fee and course tuition is modest. Osher membership also provides access to many extracurricular activities, ranging from unique community-based learning opportunities to short day trips.

Osher class instructors are distinguished emeritus faculty, scholars, and experts from the community who share a passion for teaching and appreciation for all that mature students bring to the classroom. "If my regular teaching had been like this I would have taught for another 35 years!," says one professor.

The Bernard Osher Foundation, headquartered in San Francisco, was founded in 1977 by Bernard Osher, a respected businessman and community leader. Through its programs, the foundation strives to improve quality of life through support for higher education and the arts. The foundation supports a national lifelong learning network for seasoned adults on the campuses of 119 institutions of higher education throughout the country, including the University of Utah.

"A consistent standard of excellence and model of active member involvement have become the hallmarks of your fine program," wrote Mary Bitterman, president of the Osher Foundation, in awarding the gift. "We applaud too the University's leadership for its support of the program and for embracing the notion that—at its best—education is a lifelong pursuit that has the power to elevate, delight, and forge our connection to one another and to a larger world."

Earnings from the Osher Foundation gifts, combined with support from the University and member contributions, will ensure the sustainability of the Osher Institute at the U for generations to come.

A Word to the Water Wise

Red Butte Garden's Water Conservation Garden Under Way

With Utah being the second driest state in the country, and the National Weather Service predicting a continuing drought in the state, the timing couldn't be better for Red Butte Garden to break ground on its new three-acre Water Conservation Garden. Located on the slope immediately north of Red Butte's Children's Garden, construction has been under way since mid-April with the garden expected to open in summer 2016.

Funding for the \$6 million project comes from a generous lead gift from the *Alternative Visions Fund, based in Chicago, and a major contribution from the Dumke family. Additional major gifts from Fidelity Foundation, Barbara and the late Norm Tanner, and the Bill and Connie Timmons Foundation are also supporting this project, as well as donations from generous individual and corporations.

"Donors of the Alternative Visions Fund are delighted that construction of the new Water Conservation and Education Garden has begun," says a representative of the fund. "We are enthusiastic about being a lead partner in the building of this new garden because it will inspire, educate, and beautify our community and at the same time educate students, botanists, scientists, gardeners, and the general public about design strategies and drought resistant plants appropriate for Utah gardens."

The garden will include 10 major spaces, each showcasing a different design theme, and will display a variety of water-wise or drought tolerant plants, including both native and non-native species sourced from nurseries locally, regionally, and abroad. The garden also will display some of Utah's threatened, endangered, and rare plants. Classes offered by garden specialists throughout the year will inform horticulturists—amateurs to experts—on tips for planning and maintaining their water-wise home gardens.

"The new water conservation garden will make it possible for us to fulfill our responsibility, which we take seriously, to demonstrate and teach audiences—amateur and expert—about the exquisite and fascinating plants that can be grown successfully in dry landscapes," says Greg Lee, executive director of Red Butte Garden. "We couldn't be doing this without the support of the many private donors who recognize the need to wisely use our limited water resources and are supporting this project."

*The Alternative Visions Fund does not invite applications nor have a website. They choose the projects they fund.



THE 10 GARDEN SPACES

Each will showcase a variety of native and non-native, drought-tolerant species.

Water-wise Border: Plantings with four-season color and texture will include a range of plant types, such as Serbian yarrow and lavender.

Adaptive Beauty: Plants will help tell the story of water-conserving adaptations, such as summer dormancy, through bitterroot and sego lily; and succulence, through yucca and prickly pear cactus.

Environmental Exchange: Water-wise alternatives to commonly used plants that require more water will include giant sacaton grass instead of maiden grass; and sulfur buckwheat instead of basket of gold alyssum.

Water Saver: Five different water zones will contain plants with different water requirements, ranging from twice a week to a zone with no supplemental water provided after plant establishment.

Stable Slope: Plants that stabilize hillsides will range from trees and shrubs, to grasses, perennials, and groundcovers.

Groundcover Tapestry: Colorful groundcovers will demonstrate a range of heights, bloom times, and traffic tolerance on the west-facing slope.

Prospect Point Pavilion: An adjacent terrace planted with lilac, daylily, and ninebark will include a rain garden that receives excess rainfall collected from the terraces above.

Flowering Shrub Hillside: Colorful massings of water-wise shrubs will include smoke bush, rock spirea, and currant.

Gravel Garden: Small herbaceous or succulent plants such as globe flower, sand sagebrush, and beardtongue will be featured.

Desert Harvest: The terrace will provide an example of efficient water and resource use in an edible garden.

Like all the gardens at Red Butte, the Water Conservation Garden will evolve and change as additional water-wise plants become available in the trade.

Major Gifts continued

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- Zions Management Services Company

* Deceased donors (listed if the University of Utah continues to receive support from their foundations, trusts, or estates).

Daniels Fund Supports Alzheimer's Caregivers



Photo by Cole Sax

Dr. Norman Foster says the Brain Health Learning Center is a critical resource for patients and families to improve their knowledge about causes, diagnosis, and management of cognitive impairment and dementing diseases.

Utah is experiencing the greatest growth of any state in the country in the number of people with Alzheimer's disease at 127 percent. Although there is no cure, its symptoms are most optimally managed by the right medications and providing education and support to caregivers, including family members. According to Norman Foster, a geriatric neurologist and director of the University of Utah's Center for Alzheimer's Care, Imaging, and Research, "Individuals with dementing diseases can expect to enjoy a good quality of life throughout their entire illness. New approaches of proactive and individually sculpted care incorporate a plan for family support."

The center's Cognitive Disorders Clinic, where knowledgeable social workers help families move through fear and confusion to an action plan for the future, is an example of that approach. "The more education and support the patient and family have the better," says one woman, whose husband has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. During his steady decline over the past 16 years, she has been his primary caregiver. "Losing a little bit of a loved one each day is a difficult situation to face. It's comforting to know that we can call the clinic and get not only answers, but also some empathy and understanding."

With 132,000 Alzheimer's caregivers in Utah, treating the disease necessitates treating the caregivers too. Unfortunately, this supportive care often is not covered by medical insurance. In an effort to address this obstacle, the center recently applied for and received a generous three-year grant from the Daniels Fund. Established by Bill Daniels, a pioneer in cable television known for his compassion for people and unwavering commitment to ethics, the Daniels Fund provides grants and scholarship in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

A portion of the assets will be used to support an upgrade of the physical space of the clinic's Brain Health Learning Center and enhance the education

materials for patients and their families, including kiosks, a lending library, and a pager system. The majority of the funds, however, will enhance education and family support for elderly individuals with cognitive concerns by subsidizing some of the costs incurred by caregivers who meet with the clinic's medical providers, and would otherwise have to pay out-of-pocket for those services.

"Our founder, Bill Daniels, believed it was important for seniors to maintain their dignity and independence as long as possible," says Linda Childears, president and chief executive officer of the Daniels Fund. "We are delighted to support the University of Utah's efforts towards this end."

The Center for Alzheimer's Care, Imaging and Research welcomes the Daniels Fund as a new partner in achieving its shared vision to enhance self-determination and maximize the independence of the growing number of Utah citizens with cognitive impairment and their caregivers.

The fund's decade of support for additional campus initiatives includes significant gifts to the David Eccles School of Business, financial aid and scholarships, and diversity programs.



Photo by Cole Sax

Dr. Foster consults with a caregiver in the Brain Health Learning Center. Eighty percent of dementia patients nationwide live at home.

Rio Tinto Kennecott Scholars Program Celebrates 25 Years

Kendal Bergman is a mining engineering student at the U who also finds time to play on the women's softball team, volunteer at an elementary school garden, and regularly help at annual campus events, including Engineering Day, Science Day, and Plazafest.

During the 2011-12 academic year, Kendal was named Outstanding Freshman by the Department of Mining Engineering. The following fall, she was invited to be a teaching assistant, an unusual assignment for someone who so recently completed their freshman year.

"Having parents with geology degrees, I was able to combine my interests in engineering with my parents' academic backgrounds. Best decision I ever made!" says Kendal.

In the spring of 2013, Kendal was one of 11 undergraduate students to receive a coveted Rio Tinto Kennecott Scholarship.

The Kennecott Scholarships were founded in 1991 to promote and recognize exceptional academic achievement by students from the colleges of Engineering, Mines & Earth Sciences, and the David Eccles School of Business. The application process is rigorous and requires two rounds of interviews, maintaining a 3.0 grade point average, and involvement in community and school service projects. Each scholar receives an award of \$6,000 and is eligible to apply to live at Kennecott House in Fort Douglas, the academic residence for Kennecott Scholars since 1994. They also have an opportunity to be considered for a paid summer internship with Rio Tinto Kennecott.

Hoping to receive a summer internship with the company, Kendal asked her teachers for letters of recommendation, updated her resume, and submitted her application. "I had some mining classes under my belt but no work experience, and I had never spent a prolonged period of time in a mine. Who was going to hire me as an intern?" says Kendal.

In the summer of 2013, Kendal received an internship and served as an operations engineer in the Production Support Department at Kennecott Utah Copper's Bingham Canyon Mine. "I never would have fully understood my passion for mining engineering if it hadn't had been for that internship," says Kendal.

This past April, Kendal was the student speaker at the 25th annual Celebration of Scholars awards program honoring the newest group of Rio Tinto Kennecott Scholars who start this fall. The 19 undergraduate student leaders—nine women and 10 men—met with U administration, including President David W. Pershing, Ruth Watkins, senior vice president for academic affairs, and key Rio Tinto Kennecott leader.

"We are proud to support hard-working students like Kendal who are achieving academic excellence in engineering and business," says Nigel Steward, Rio Tinto Kennecott managing director. "Our support will continue to develop the pipeline of talent that our industry will require and reward students for their tremendous achievements."

During the past 25 years, Rio Tinto Kennecott has given nearly \$2.5 million to its scholarship recipients, many of whom have gone on to gain employment with the company.

In addition to the scholarship program, Rio Tinto Kennecott has supported numerous important initiatives on campus for the past 50 years, including significant gifts to the Natural History Museum of Utah, the College of Engineering Kennecott Building, the School of Medicine, and the Frederick A. Sutton Building for Geology and Geophysics.

Our support will continue to develop the pipeline of talent that our industry will require and reward students for their tremendous achievements.

—Nigel Steward

Managing Director, Rio Tinto Kennecott



Kendal Bergman speaks at the 25th annual Celebration of Scholars awards program in April, honoring the newest group of Rio Tinto Kennecott Scholars.

Photo by Trevor Muhler



Kennecott Scholars 2015-16. Top row, left to right: George Chapin, Jan Mees, Greg Krumel, Jerry Zhao, Doni Esmay, Kendal Bergman, and Nicole Burnett
Bottom row: Jaxon Roller, Breanna Sanders, Polly Creveling, Abigail Campbell, Rebecca Novy, Diego Barajas, Christopher Zegarra, and Tyler Peck

Photo by Trevor Muhler

President's Club Donors Making an IMPACT

Ongoing annual support is the foundation upon which the University provides students a signature experience. While every gift to the University is gratefully received, we recognize our leadership level annual donors with membership in the President's Club.

Membership in the President's Club is open to all donors making annual contributions totaling \$2,500 or more to any area of campus, and lifetime recognition is extended to donors whose cumulative giving meets or exceeds \$100,000. President's Club members are supporting their passions such as academics, the arts, health sciences, and athletics, at a leadership level.

For questions or additional information about the President's Club, please contact Peter Moes, director of annual giving, at 801-581-3229 or peter.moes@utah.edu.

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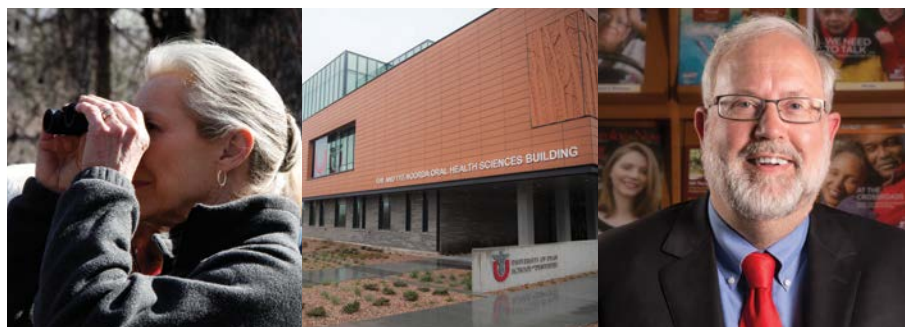
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