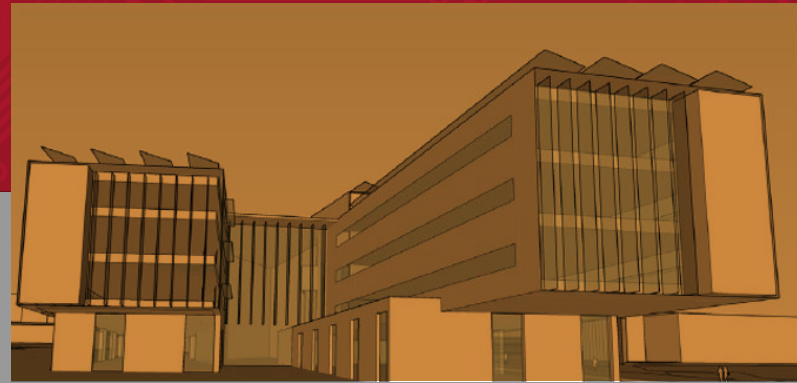# A BOLD NEW CAMPAIGN

THE INTERDISCIPLINARY COMPUTING BUILDING

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

VISIONARY DONORS

The College of Engineering is proud to announce a $15M lead gift from philanthropists and benefactors John and Marcia Price to build a new home for computer science. Pending approval of the University of Utah Board of Trustees, the building will be named in their honor.

"We are pleased to lend our support to this effort that is so crucial to Utah's expanding economy," said John Price. "The University of Utah has an international reputation for innovation in computer science, and Marcia and I want to help ensure that opportunity for this generation and all future generations of Utah students."

John Price is an American diplomat and former US Ambassador to Mauritius, Comoros and the Seychelles. He moved to Utah as a teenager and earned a bachelor's degree in geological engineering at the University of Utah in 1956. Price started his career as the founder of a construction company, which developed into JP Realty Inc. and was listed on the New York Stock Exchange in 1994.

Price is known as one of Utah's most prominent businessmen, with success throughout the intermountain region. He has also served on numerous local, state, and national boards, including the University of Utah's Board of Trustees from 1992 to 1999.

Marcia Price is a leader in the arts community, with a lifelong passion for the Utah Museum of Fine Arts where she serves as board chair. She has devoted herself to advancing the arts in Utah, serving as chair of the Utah Arts Council and later helping to establish Salt Lake County's Zoo, Arts and Parks tax. Price received an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from the University of Utah in 2006. The UMFA building, as well as the new Theatre Arts building and amphitheater are named in honor of the Price's contributions to the arts. Marcia Price also sits on the National Committee for the Performing Arts at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and serves as board member emeritus on the boards of the Utah Symphony and Utah Opera.

John and Marcia live in Salt Lake City, where they have raised their three children and continue to spend time with their eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

CAMPAIGN FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE

The University of Utah College of Engineering is about to undertake one of the most ambitious projects in its 125+ year history. With the university and the help of our friends, the college has launched a $30M private campaign toward a $120M building for computer science. This proposed 209,000 square-foot structure is the key to future growth for the School of Computing.

With more than 35,000 current job postings for technology-related professionals, the future of Utah's number one ranked economy hinges on the department's capacity to enroll and graduate more students. While the School of Computing will be the "anchor tenant" of this new building, other occupants will likely include interdisciplinary computing initiatives from across campus, in particular Health Sciences and the David Eccles School of Business.

For more than 55 years, the University of Utah has been synonymous with computer science innovation. Beginning in 1965 with faculty such as David Evans and Ivan Sutherland, the department produced generations of notable graduates who became the pioneers of the information age. Alumni like Alan Kay and Ed Catmull are Turing Award winners, while others like John Warnock and James Clark are industry giants. With founders such as these, the department has continued to excel in research, innovation and technology commercialization.

Today, the School of Computing produces 46% of the state system's BS, MS and PhD computer science graduates, 323 in 2020, with 1,683 enrolled majors. At the current rate of growth, computer science enrollment is projected to reach 2353 by 2030. Utah relies on these highly qualified graduates to fuel the economy.
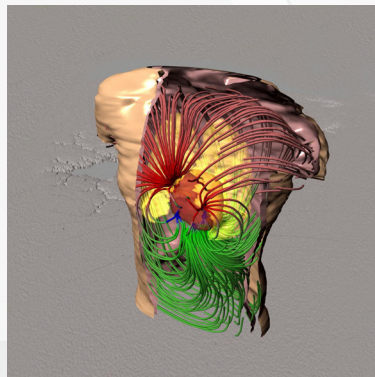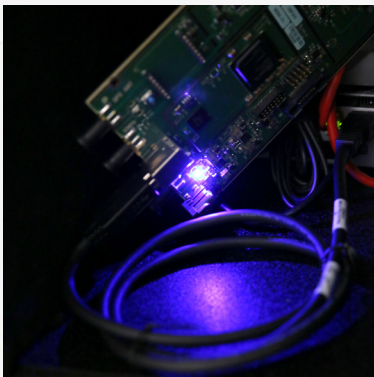
THE NEED

If the number one constraint to growth in the Utah economy is a shortage of computer science and computer engineering graduates, then the number one constraint to producing more graduates from the University of Utah is the severe shortage of space. The School of Computing currently occupies approximately 45,000 square feet of space on two floors of the 60-year-old Merrill Engineering Building. Severely over-capacity, this is not the appropriate environment for Utah's flagship computer science program. To meet existing and future needs, the School of Computing must expand its footprint significantly.

In addition to a surging enrollment, total faculty in the School of Computing is now 54, with even more yet-to-be filled new positions. In addition to teaching students, these additional faculty are technology innovators who have helped to increase the volume of research expenditures in everything from data analysis to cyber security to $17.7 M in 2020, up from $4.9M in 2004. The School of Computing must have more space for these additional faculty and the students they will inspire.

The new computer science building will ultimately strengthen the college overall by freeing more space in the Merrill Engineering Building for the other six departments. Engineering learning today is experiential, where students work in teams to complete laboratory assignments that correspond with and reinforce classroom instruction. Many of the existing labs are over-capacity and currently in use around the clock to accommodate increasing student demand.

In 2020 the College of Engineering was 36th in the nation in the number of BS computer science degrees awarded (208).
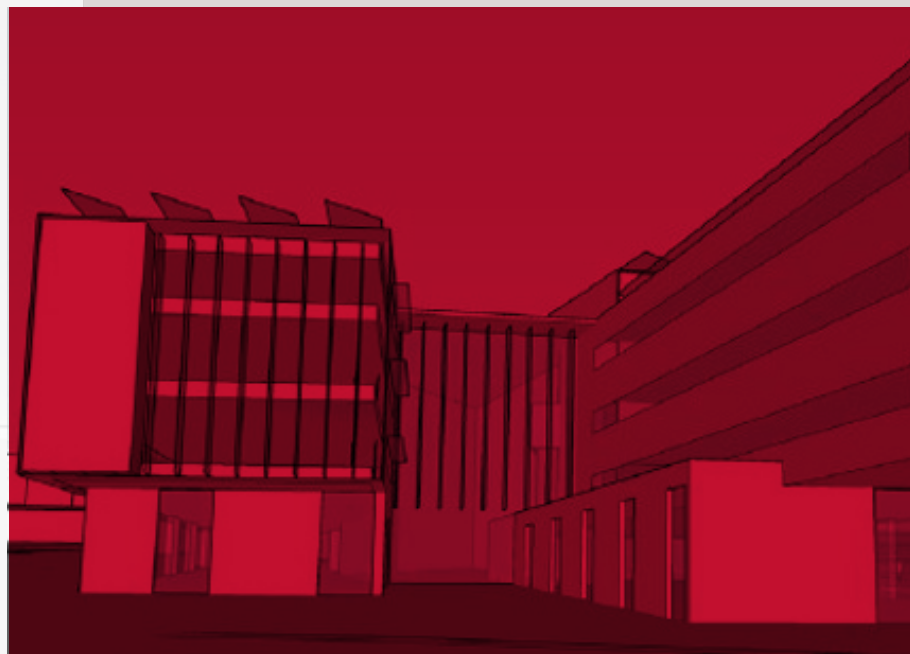
THE SOLUTION

The University of Utah has identified a new building for computer science as its capital request for the 2022 legislative session. A building site to the west of the James L. Sorensen Molecular Biotechnology Building and east of the John and Marva Warnock Building was identified in a 2020 feasibility study. A structure of at least 209,000 square feet and $120M is the current estimate for a building that will house the School of Computing and allow for expanded offerings in data analytics, cybersecurity, fintech and potentially others.

When completed the six story building will include:

- 100 Faculty and Staff Offices
- 70,000 sq. ft. of Research Space
- 400-seat Auditorium
- 12 Classrooms
- Open Collaboration Space
- 15 Conference Rooms
- Event Space

A large, centralized atrium will visually connect all the floors in the building, creating a dynamic and vibrant space, including a café on the second floor. Transparency will dominate the first two floors, providing more visibility to programs and more public space, while the upper levels will provide a more solid and light-controlled atmosphere for offices and labs. There also exists the potential for an industry partner, or partners, to have a presence in the building. An office suite or shared collaborative space could provide a more direct relationship with students and faculty.
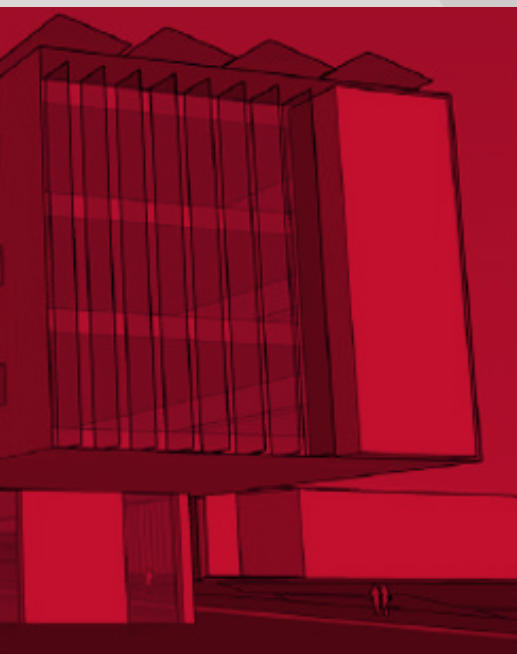
THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Among the lessons learned in a year of remote learning is that the majority of students learn better, and actually prefer in-person instruction, along with some flexibility for a hybrid model. The new computer science building will provide an environment where students can develop the interpersonal skills that employers expect.

BUDGET AND TIMELINE

The current budget estimate anticipates a 208,926 GSF building at $441.62 per sf which yields an overall construction cost of $92,266,000 (Escalation through 2023 at 4.2% is included). With soft costs, the total project cost is approximately $120,000,000.

- Programing to be completed prior to the 2022 Utah Legislative Session
- Eleven Months for Design and Construction Documents
- Code Review and Bidding Completed for a June 2023 Construction Start
- Twenty Month Construction Schedule
- Open for Summer Semester 2025

THE CAMPAIGN

A committee of visionary individuals, led by John Warnock, Ed Catmull and Shane Robison, has joined Dean of Engineering Richard Brown and the university in leading the $30M campaign. Significant naming opportunities are available for gifts beginning at $10,000. Gifts may be pledged over multiple years. Gifts of $1,000 or more will be included on a permanent donor wall.

Please join us in launching this exciting new chapter for the School of Computing. To continue its legacy of excellence in computer science teaching, research, innovation, and technology commercialization, the School must have a building that supports its mission.

For additional information regarding the campaign, contact Josh Grant at: josh.grant@utah.edu or 801-585-7173.

A LETTER FROM THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

In the late 1960's and early 1970's, something remarkable was happening at the University of Utah. The faculty in the university's fledgling computer science program, including David Evans and Ivan Sutherland, were mentoring the pioneers of the information age. Computer science graduates from that storied era went on to create entire industries in fields as wide-ranging as graphics, desktop publishing, human-computer interfaces, the internet, film animation, scientific computing and visualization.

The approach that Dave and Ivan took to support graduate students and create such an innovative environment was unusual and extraordinarily effective. Utah is uniquely positioned to build on this legacy. The results have already proven to be a foundation of a vibrant community that will propel Utah forward in economic and technical development.

We were privileged to be part of that "Camelot Era" in computing at the University of Utah. Since then, the College of Engineering has graduated thousands more engineering and computer science graduates who have had great impact for good on the State and the Nation. Today, those graduates are fueling the Utah economy as technology leaders and innovators.

That's why we support the vision of College of Engineering Dean Richard Brown and University of Utah President Taylor Randall in their request for a new building for computer science. The support given by the State to the College of Engineering through the Engineering Initiative has enabled the tremendous student body growth in computing and helped make the U a magnate for talent. But the technology leaders of tomorrow should not be receiving their education in the same building we learned in more than 50 years ago.

When we were graduating from the U, California offered the best job opportunities in the technical fields. Today, Utah's economy is ranked number 1 in the nation. Its 8,500 tech businesses rely on the U's capacity for producing the premier engineering and computer science graduates.

In computer science, there is an intense, world-wide competition for talent. In order to attract and keep the best and brightest at the U, we need to provide them with a world-class environment. At a time of rapid technological change, and when others are competing for talent, Utah can continue to make major contributions in computing and many other fields by investing in the expansion of our computer science facilities.

We can and will continue to make the U a foundational school for the advancement of technology, its applications, and impact on local businesses. In 2000, we came together to support the construction of the student-centric Warnock Engineering Building. We encourage you to join us now in thinking boldly about the future.

HONORARY CHAIRS

John Warnock
Co-Founder and Board Chair
Adobe Systems, Inc.

Ed Catmull
Retired - President
Pixar and Walt Disney
Animation Studios

Shane Robison
Senior Technology Advisor
Former - Chief Technology and
Strategy Officer, HP

MEMBERS

Jeanette Haren
VP of Product Assessment and Talent
PowerSchool

Cary Jenkins
EVP, Strategy
Visible Equity

Kristiane Koontz
EVP, Director of Banking Transformation
Enterprise Technology & Operations
Zions Bancorporation

John LaLonde
CTO and Co-Founder
Abstrax Inc.

Paul Mayfield
Director of Product Management
Qualtrics

Steve Parker
VP of Professional Graphics
NVIDIA

John Sutherland
Information Security & Compliance Officer
Tula Health

"At a time of rapid technological change, and when others are competing for talent, the University of Utah can continue to make major contributions in many fields by investing in the expansion of our facilities. We can and will continue to make the U a foundational school for the advancement of technology, its applications, and impact on local businesses."

Ed Catmull
Retired - President Pixar and
Walt Disney Animation Studios