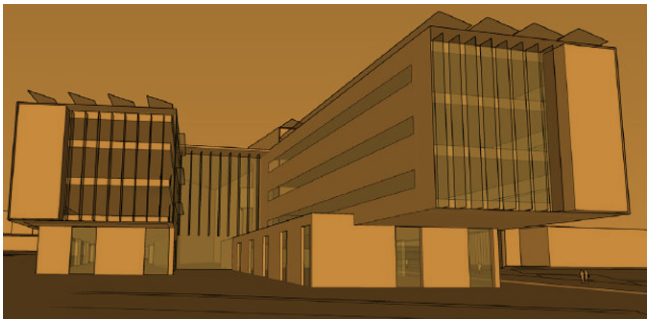

The University of Utah is seeking $90M in one-time funds for a 209,000 sq. ft. Interdisciplinary Computing Building (ICB). The total estimate for the project is $120M.

- The College will raise $30M in non-state funds to make up the balance. A building campaign committee has been formed with John Warnock, Ed Catmull and Shane Robison serving as honorary co-chairs.
- The College of Engineering has received a $15 million commitment to the project from the John and Marcia Price Family Foundation, contingent upon legislative funding.
- The University of Utah's School of Computing produces 46% of the BS, MS and PhD computer science, data science, software development, computing, and computer engineering graduates in the USHE system. The feasibility study projects that the building will house 3,200 students when it is opened.
- These highly-skilled technical graduates are needed to sustain Utah's 8,000 tech businesses, which are adding more than 6,375 tech jobs a year to their current tech employment total of 153,000. Tech related job postings in Utah are at 35,000, according to CompTIA 2021 Cyberstates report.
- With 58 faculty members and a growing enrollment, the School of Computing has outgrown its current location in the 60-year-old Merrill Engineering Building. The last time the department had a significant upgrade in facilities was the early 2000's.
- Computing is now highly interdisciplinary and pervasive across campus. The ICB will serve as a bridge to other computing initiatives across campus, specifically, business, science, and biomedical and nursing informatics.
- A building site between the James L. Sorensen Molecular Biotechnology Building and the Warnock Engineering Building has been identified for a six-story 209,000 square foot structure that would allow the university to expand its offerings in data science, cybersecurity, fintech, machine learning and AI, human-centered computing, and bioinformatics. Students will occupy 88% of the space.
- While remote learning will continue to have a place in course delivery, studies during the pandemic have shown that students learn better and actually prefer in-person instruction. Some courses require physical access to specialized facilities. The ICB will provide an environment where students can develop the interpersonal skills that employers most value, such as flexibility/adaptability, problem solving, teamwork, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- The long-term viability of Utah's number one economy will rise, or fall, on the U's capacity to increase the number of computer science and engineering graduates.