THE WIGTON HERITAGE CENTER

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES
UNMC’S RICH HERITAGE OF EXCELLENCE

From its roots as the Omaha Medical College in 1882, to its affiliation with the University of Nebraska in 1902, to a now thriving, vibrant academic health sciences center, the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) has a rich heritage of excellence. The people who have walked through these doors for generations — faculty, preceptors, students, researchers, administrators and community champions — have left their marks, and in doing so, have defined UNMC’s past, present and future.
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LONG-TIME FACULTY MEMBER PROVIDES LEAD GIFT

The Wigton Heritage Center will serve as a catalyst for understanding, experiencing and appreciating UNMC’s unique heritage. Gallery and digital exhibit space will articulate UNMC’s story and history through McGoogan Library’s vast special collections, artifacts, archives and rare books. An atrium exposing University Hospital’s historic façade and iconic columns will provide welcoming, comfortable space for alumni gatherings, visiting lecturers, delegations of visitors, new students, prospective students and others. Conversation, fellowship and engagement will continue in an outdoor garden plaza allowing for formal or informal gatherings.

Major funding has been committed by Robert Wigton, M.D., for the Wigton Heritage Center. The Wigton legacy spans three generations with several physicians within the family serving on the faculty of UNMC. Dr. Wigton, a 1969 alumnus of the College of Medicine, served as a professor in internal medicine at UNMC. During his career, Dr. Wigton held numerous academic and administrative positions at the College of Medicine, including associate dean for graduate medical education (1976 to 2013), associate dean for academic affairs and chief of the section of general internal medicine. He has been described as one of the pillars upon which UNMC’s history rests.

Funds raised for the project will first support building construction. Additional funds will support the continuing needs of the building, technology, curation of exhibits and support for McGoogan Library’s Special Collection.

"We shape our buildings; thereafter, our buildings shape us."

– Winston Churchill
The lobby for the Wigton Heritage Center will serve as the ground floor entrance and provide access to the north garden plaza and corridor gallery space. It is anticipated the lobby will be a busy thoroughfare and hub for students and employees.
Digital and archival display areas will connect Wigton Heritage Center visitors with UNMC’s past, present and future. Through these displays, McGoogan Library's special collections will come alive to educate, engage and enlighten visitors on topics like women in medicine, prominent alumni contributions and much more. Funds will support exhibit curating, the digitization of artifacts and materials, and other associated costs.
This beautifully manicured space, the Garden Plaza, is the ideal setting for conversations, fellowship and engagement. Flexible seating will allow for casual or formal gatherings, as well as everyday use for informal meetings of faculty, staff, students and others.
LEVEL 4 FLOOR PLAN
THE ATRIUM

The heart of the Wigton Heritage Center, the atrium, will be the main gathering space for visitors, alumni, students, prospective students and other guests. The 5,500-square-foot atrium will be the connection between UNMC’s past and future with the iconic columns of University Hospital as the backdrop. Banquet style seating allows for up to 150 guests.
Digital and archival display areas will connect Wigton Heritage Center visitors with UNMC’s past, present and future. The McGoogan Library’s special collections, artifacts and other curated exhibits will grace the Level 4 Main Gallery. Funds will support exhibit curating, the digitization of artifacts and materials, and other associated costs.
LEVEL 4 SAMPLE DISPLAYS

EBOLA DISPLAY

UNMC’s role in the Ebola crisis, along with other global contributions to health care, could be prominently featured. Funds will support exhibit curating, the digitization of artifacts and materials, and other associated costs.

CORRIDOR

Displays will tell the story of UNMC’s rich history of outstanding medical achievement. Each presentation will connect visitors and students to UNMC’s history through the exhibition of books, artifacts, images, oral histories and narratives.
LEVEL 5 FLOOR PLAN
A digital and archival display corridor, including the Rare Book Display, will flank one entrance into the balcony area that will provide seating in banquet, conference and/or soft styles. The view from the balcony will include an open area looking toward McGoogan Library on one side and the exposed University Towers on the other side.
LEVEL 5 RARE BOOK DISPLAY

CONCEPTUAL IMAGE
LEVEL 6 FLOOR PLAN
LEVEL 6 LOBBY AND GALLERY

CONCEPTUAL IMAGE
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