BE BOLD
THE CAMPAIGN FOR UM-FLINT
It is time.

Time to honor our history.

Time to tell our story.

Time to celebrate our community.

And time to create our future.

At the University of Michigan-Flint, we combine the University of Michigan’s tradition of academic excellence with our community’s relentless enthusiasm to create a learning environment unlike any other.

At the University of Michigan, being a victor has always extended beyond the athletic arena to mean standing for something, standing with someone, and, above all else, standing together.
IT’S TIME TO BE BOLD

UM-Flint was born out of the drive and vision of university leaders and the determination of this community.

Community leaders first made the case for why there should be a University of Michigan campus in Flint—and even developed a bond issue to fund it. That effort was helped along by Charles Stewart Mott, who pledged $1 million—if the proposed $1.6-million bond issue was approved, which voters did in June 1950.

The subsequent gifts of land, buildings, and dollars from the C.S. Mott Foundation, more than 60 million dollars over nearly 65 years, have allowed the university to grow and occupy its current location downtown. That kind of vision and generosity is a hallmark of the relationship between the community of Flint and the university.

From the beginning, donors made UM-Flint possible. As a regional comprehensive university, we are a “place of purpose.” We are a community of diverse learners and scholars committed to advancing our local and global communities. In the University of Michigan tradition, we value excellence in teaching, learning, and scholarship; student centeredness; and engaged citizenship.

The people of Flint and the entire region have pushed and pulled us into being: lobbying on our behalf, committing time and resources to their vision of a university that serves our students.

Because UM-Flint is community founded and community funded, we remain committed to providing student support, engaged learning, and bold ideas to support the public good. We are committed to: significantly increasing the number of students
earning degrees; supporting faculty to be at their best in teaching, scholarship, and engagement of students; and investing in the diversity of Flint and Genesee County.

Our faculty are deeply committed to academic excellence and engaged learning. Through education and public service, they seek to create a learning environment that allows students to develop critical-thinking skills, become excellent in their discipline, learn problem-solving through hands-on research and public service, and address issues that impact our region.

Our partnership has never been more important. The university, the community, and donors like you can now move boldly to create our tomorrow. We are on the cusp of another huge shift in the life of the university. There was our founding, then the move downtown, and now it is time for the next bold step.

To make that step, we again turn to the community, to our alumni, and to our friends to help us raise $40 million. It’s a bold goal, but with those who have believed in UM-Flint before and continue to believe in us, we can succeed.

I envision the Flint of the future to be a college town and the UM-Flint of the future to be thriving as a result of being a college town. I think there should be more on-campus housing, more student involvement, and more opportunities for students to step outside of their comfort zone.

Alicia Gillman
Health Sciences
Students are the heart of our university. Ensuring students have opportunity and access to a Michigan education is the highest priority in our Victors for Michigan campaign.

With you, we will invest in student scholarships and support in a way that both rewards merit and assists with need. UM-Flint students who are caught in a cycle of working, going to school, and borrowing can sometimes hit very small snags that cost them the opportunity to finish their education.

Nearly 70 percent of our students currently receive some sort of financial aid, and more than 40 percent of our students qualify for Federal Pell Grants. The average UM-Flint student loan debt is about $31,000 for undergraduate and more than $47,000 for graduate students—despite the fact that many students are employed while working to earn their degrees.

Imagine if UM-Flint were able to provide financial aid to meet all of a student’s need. Increasing financial aid is a critical factor in increasing student success.

It is time for us to ensure that students are able to attend UM-Flint regardless of financial situation. We will invest in our local community by providing more scholarship opportunities to high school students in Flint and throughout Genesee County.

Alumni, community partners, faculty, and friends have provided support in many ways, including creating 230 scholarships that benefit our students every year. Those scholarships are changing lives and creating futures for our students. A few examples of such scholarships are on the following page:

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GENESEE EARLY COLLEGE CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Genesee Early College is a partnership between UM-Flint and the Genesee Intermediate School District. A five-year high school with classes held on the UM-Flint campus, Genesee Early College helps students prepare for further study in health-related and medical professions, as well as STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) careers. Genesee Early College students simultaneously attend high school and enroll in UM-Flint courses, earning credits toward graduation and reducing the cost of a college degree. Chancellor Susan E. Borrego expanded this scholarship in 2015 from a one-year scholarship to one that provides tuition assistance for all four years.

JUAN E. MESTAS SCHOLARSHIP FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Established by Chancellor Emeritus Juan E. Mestas in 2005, this scholarship honors UM-Flint students who have demonstrated high academic excellence and distinguished themselves through community service. After receiving this scholarship, awardees continue to participate as students in efforts to improve the quality of our community and region.

GHASSAN AND MANAL SAAB SIGNATURE BLUE SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is for individuals who would not be able to attend the University of Michigan-Flint without significant or complete financial support in the form of a scholarship. Awardees have distinguished themselves for their community engagement, either as a student or an individual participating in activities that address the needs and issues of their community or society in general.

ROTARY CLUB OF FLINT SCHOLARSHIP

For students who have graduated from a Flint or other Genesee County high school and have demonstrated involvement in community service, the Rotary Club of Flint has generously sponsored a scholarship to provide assistance to incoming students at UM-Flint.

CHANCELLOR SCHOLAR AWARD

Established by Chancellor Borrego, this award currently provides a fully funded, four-year scholarship to the top student from each of five Flint-area high schools: Northwestern High School, Southwestern Classical Academy, Hamady High School, Beecher High School, and E.A. Johnson High School in Mt. Morris. It’s our goal to add a scholarship for each high school in Genesee County in the years to come. Each scholarship is valued at over $9,000 per year and covers both tuition and fees.

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In addition to providing scholarship support that enables students to enroll and succeed, donors can ensure that students have the best possible experiences during their UM-Flint education.

HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES
Knowing that an educational experience goes beyond the classroom, UM-Flint provides important resources to meet the needs of its students. Through the use of internships, peer mentors, and similar programs, we not only attract students to campus, but increase retention and graduation as well. Specialized programs such as the foster youth initiative, MPowering My Success; the Student Veterans Resource Center for military personnel returning to civilian life and the pursuit of an education; and our Counseling, Accessibility, and Psychological Services Center (CAPS) make a critical difference in helping our students succeed.

Through the use of internships, peer mentors, and similar programs, we not only attract students to campus, but increase retention and graduation as well.
Donors who want to directly support students can fulfill their philanthropic passion by adding to one of our existing scholarships, creating their own scholarship, or supporting a program that helps students thrive on campus.

VIBRANT STUDENT LIFE
Our students’ collective energy, interests, and ambition make this community an inspiring place. We must provide them with the means and the spaces to come together to live, work, learn, and grow as individuals. As part of the Victors for Michigan campaign, we seek to expand and renovate campus spaces such as the University Center, Recreation Center, and University Pavilion to make our residential community more complete.

CAMPUS HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE
In 2008, we ended our commuters-only era with the opening of the first campus residence hall. Since that time, our enrollment continued to increase, especially among international students, many of whom prefer to live on campus. Having outgrown our space, we need to create additional living and meeting spaces that students can use for community, leadership development, student government, and recreation.

FOSTERING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
UM-Flint’s Innovation Incubator, known as [IN], provides creative space for students to collaborate with each other on entrepreneurial pursuits and local experts, inspiring ideas and community engagement. Currently, more than 40 associate businesses are using [IN] resources, and eight student businesses are being provided office space at no cost.

First Street Residence Hall provides the best all-round college experience. It enables me to interact with other students, both domestic and international. Through living in the Residence Hall, I have had the opportunity to experience a perfect mix of American culture and various cultures from all over the world.

Tobi Adebisi
Honors Program in Computer Science
One area that has surprised me most about UM-Flint is the amount of resources and opportunities available to students. I have been doing so much on campus simply by reaching out and discovering what is possible. The availability for students to strive to their full potential, get the hands-on experience they need, and the one-on-one help from faculty gives us the tools that are needed to succeed.

Noelle K. Looney
Applied Psychology
REAL-WORLD, ENGAGED LEARNING

At UM-Flint, we are expanding the Michigan education far beyond the classroom walls, providing students with out-of-classroom experiences where they apply the facts and theories they’ve learned to real-life, hands-on situations. “Engaged learning” gives them the skills and experiences they need to be effective leaders and the confidence to innovate in a constantly changing, diverse world. This kind of learning, a pragmatic and scholarly endeavor, creates useful results for communities and adds to knowledge.

Community involvement is not new to us. UM-Flint is one of the leading engaged universities in the nation, earning the prestigious Carnegie Classification for Civic Engagement, as well as receiving the Engaged Campus Award from the Michigan Campus Compact.

Engaged learning is an opportunity to develop students who have the mindset and real-world skills to get out in their communities and help make them better.

Donors can support this life-changing education in a number of ways.

WORLD-CLASS FACULTY
We must attract and support the most talented faculty and provide them with the resources to do their best work. We must sustain the remarkable community of researchers, teachers, and learners, who are the engine of all we aspire to be and do. Endowed faculty positions allow UM-Flint to integrate discovery and education by providing the resources for groundbreaking research as well as enhanced student experiences in the classroom and laboratories.

RICH UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCES
At UM-Flint, we believe “learning by doing” is the best way to prepare our students for life after the classroom and is a critical component to the Michigan education.

UM-Flint is one of the leading engaged universities in the nation, earning the prestigious Carnegie Classification for Civic Engagement, as well as receiving the Engaged Campus Award from the Michigan Campus Compact.
Programs such as the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) support collaborations between our undergraduate students and faculty researchers. UROP allows students to earn paid (or volunteer), hands-on research experiences by working alongside our outstanding faculty on cutting-edge projects. Additionally, faculty have the opportunity to mentor enthusiastic and talented students, a definite draw when we are recruiting the best faculty.

**K-12 PARTNERSHIPS**

A strong community needs excellent schools at every level. Success at a university begins well before a student’s freshman year. UM-Flint is proud to partner with school districts across southeastern Michigan to provide unique opportunities for K-12 students. From our groundbreaking, dual-enrollment programs to exciting events such as Super Science Friday, UM-Flint faculty and staff work collaboratively with teachers and administrators to offer these unique programs to youth in the state. The results of these rich partnerships are students who are academically prepared for the rigor of higher education, and an increase in the number of area high school students pursuing their degree at UM-Flint.

Join us. It is time for us to take a bold next big step as a leader in engaged learning. Help us prepare graduates to go out into the world ready to engage in new endeavors, eager to take on very different challenges, and destined to succeed.

Engaged learning is an opportunity to develop students who have the mindset and real world skills to get out in their communities and help make them better.

“UM-Flint caters to students seeking engaged learning projects. My off-campus study in dance physical therapy was the epitome of engaged learning. UM-Flint staff and faculty helped guide and mentor me, and there are multiple resources on campus that support student research and projects—from financial assistance to literature reviews.”

Alison Martin
Physical Therapy
When UM-Flint moved to downtown Flint, it had a transformative impact on both the university and the city. Now, almost 60 years later, we face another opportunity to make bold, strategic investments that will have the same transformative power. This campaign will change the lives of students, faculty, and the community.

Let’s seize the opportunity to partner with the city as we continue to transform Flint—to bring more students, faculty, and staff downtown, to create campus life opportunities that will enliven our “corner.”

We seek partners who want to invest in big, bold ideas that will have an exponential impact on our campus and our community, ideas that create innovative collaborations, an enriched student experience, impactful engagement with our community, and path-breaking leadership in addressing the pressing challenges that touch us all.

**A 21ST-CENTURY LIBRARY FOR 21ST-CENTURY STUDENTS**
Printed books still play a critical role in supporting learners, but digital technologies offer additional pathways to learning and content acquisition. We will turn our Frances Willson Thompson Library into a technology-enriched academic learning commons—a space to accommodate both quiet study and group activity, with expanded hours of operation, and services such as a computer lab, writing center, and coffee shop. Additional entrances will provide much-needed access for our students and a welcoming environment for our community. We will do this while also preserving the finishes and character of one of our campus’ most iconic buildings.

**STEM ENHANCEMENTS**
UM-Flint has a long history of involvement with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. The world, however, is rapidly changing, so we seek Victors to help us enhance our STEM programs and equip our graduates for the demands of a high-tech society. Plans to enhance our STEM offerings include new academic programs, targeted student recruitment and retention efforts, innovative K-12 partnerships, with our region’s schools, and expanded initiatives intended to draw sponsored research and sustainable partnerships with local industry.

**URBAN COMMUNITY RESEARCH CENTER**
The proposed Urban Community Research Center will be a multidisciplinary applied research center focused on the needs, problems, and solutions that arise in urban areas with a special emphasis on Genesee County. The center will focus on innovative research regarding urban change and social issues, providing faculty expertise to our region’s community-based organizations, governments, and other entities, and creating opportunities for students to receive training through involvement in applied research projects.
WELLNESS AND ATHLETICS AS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE CAMPUS VISION

Athletics provide an opportunity for us to further enrich the student life experience, for us to cement Flint as a college town, and for us to provide new opportunities to our growing student population. UM-Flint already has a robust club sport program, but we need to enhance the recreation opportunities for all students. This initiative strategically overlaps with that of our community partners. Developing a field house north of the river will allow for new student and community opportunities. This construction will include an NCAA track, four soccer fields, and two softball fields for university athletics and club sports. This investment will also provide huge opportunities for youth sports and recreation in Flint as the fields and field house would be open for public use as well.

With your help, and the help of other victors like you, we will turn these bold ideas into reality. We’ve made great strides, but we’re only getting started.

We seek partners who want to invest in big, bold ideas that will have an exponential impact on our campus and our community.

"UM-Flint is always improving—expanding, starting new projects, getting new students and staff. I see a UM-Flint of the future as a school that is nationally recognized. A school that is interchangeable between academics and community."

Janelle Manuel
Health Sciences
BE A VICTOR FOR UM-FLINT

The Victors for Michigan Campaign involves the entire University of Michigan community—Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Flint. Each campus, school, college, and unit has joined in the campaign, each pursuing its own objectives and priorities, but all united by a shared vision and purpose.

To support students.

To invest in real-world teaching and learning.

To be bold.

We ask you to join us. We ask you to make an impact.

We ask you to change the life of our students, our community, and our region.

We ask you to invest in this moment and these opportunities.

Together, we will build on our past so that students of today—and tomorrow—will achieve, lead, and succeed.

Be a Victor for UM-Flint.