

Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center





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In June 2019, we officially opened the doors of our new Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center. We are proud that this is the largest new building solely dedicated to biomedical research at an American medical school.* Northwestern is the fastest-growing research enterprise among all U.S. medical schools—climbing from 39th to 15th in National Institutes of Health funding since 2002. The new center provides much-needed biomedical research space to continue our projected growth.

New Home for Discovery in Chicago

“The Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center is an inspired new home for discovery on Northwestern University’s Chicago medical campus,” says Eric G. Neilson, MD, vice president for medical affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

“Inside this modern building, scientists will pioneer breakthroughs that will impact the practice of medicine and transform human health. Here, we will accelerate the pace of lifesaving medical science that fuels the local and national economy, near world-class campus partners and in a global city with unrivaled opportunities for biomedical commercialization and entrepreneurship.”

The new 12-story building, with striking curved-glass exteriors and light-filled laboratory neighborhoods, adds more than 625,000 square feet of research space to the Chicago academic medical campus. The building is designed for a future expansion that can more than double its size vertically, with up to 16 new floors in the second phase of construction.

The medical school has principal investigators in cancer, cardiovascular diseases, neurosciences, epigenetics, nanotechnology and biomedicine, epithelial biology, infectious diseases, and more, and some of those programs are in the new building. Each floor in the new building can house 23 principal investigators and their teams. Principal investigators, support staff, and newly hired scientists began moving into the building in late April 2019.

By locating so many of the world’s top scientists and physicians in close proximity to each other, the research center promotes conversations and deliberate interactions that could lead to new discoveries in the fights against heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer’s disease. For instance, scientists based in the building are trying to better understand how glaucoma occurs and develop new drugs to treat it. They are pioneering efforts to develop a bioengineered kidney and pancreas that could grow blood vessels. And they are at work on a promising new treatment for muscular dystrophy, to name just a few examples.



“The Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center is the centerpiece of our efforts to double our research enterprise and rise in the competitive pantheon of research-intensive medical schools. This magnificent facility will be transformative for our research mission and will attract and retain the best faculty in the country. Over the next decade, Northwestern University and Northwestern Medicine will invest more than \$1 billion toward research, education, and clinical care. But this is just the beginning. We hope you will join us in supporting this important vision for the future.”

Eric G. Neilson, MD, Vice President for Medical Affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean,
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine



Northwestern University already brings in more than \$700 million in total sponsored research funding annually. The new facility will enable Northwestern to increase that by \$150 million annually or \$1.5 billion in the next 10 years with the additional space and investigators. It will also create 2,000 new high-paying, full-time jobs in the new space and is expected to generate an additional \$390 million a year in economic activity in Chicago. In the building's first phase, it created more than 2,500 construction jobs.

The Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center, named in honor of Northwestern Trustees Louis A. Simpson '58 and Kimberly K. Querrey, was designed in direct response to the original 1925 campus master plan, which maximizes the use of limited urban land resources. Added greenery and open space at the street level along with an airy glass lobby create permeability and transparency in a dense urban neighborhood.

Flexibility is Critical

The lab plan on each floor of the Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center is designed around the idea of flexible "research neighborhoods," with the goal of creating a vibrant hub for scientists and their teams. Each floor also has deliberate interaction space in the center to promote cross talk among the three lab "neighborhoods" and promote collaboration.

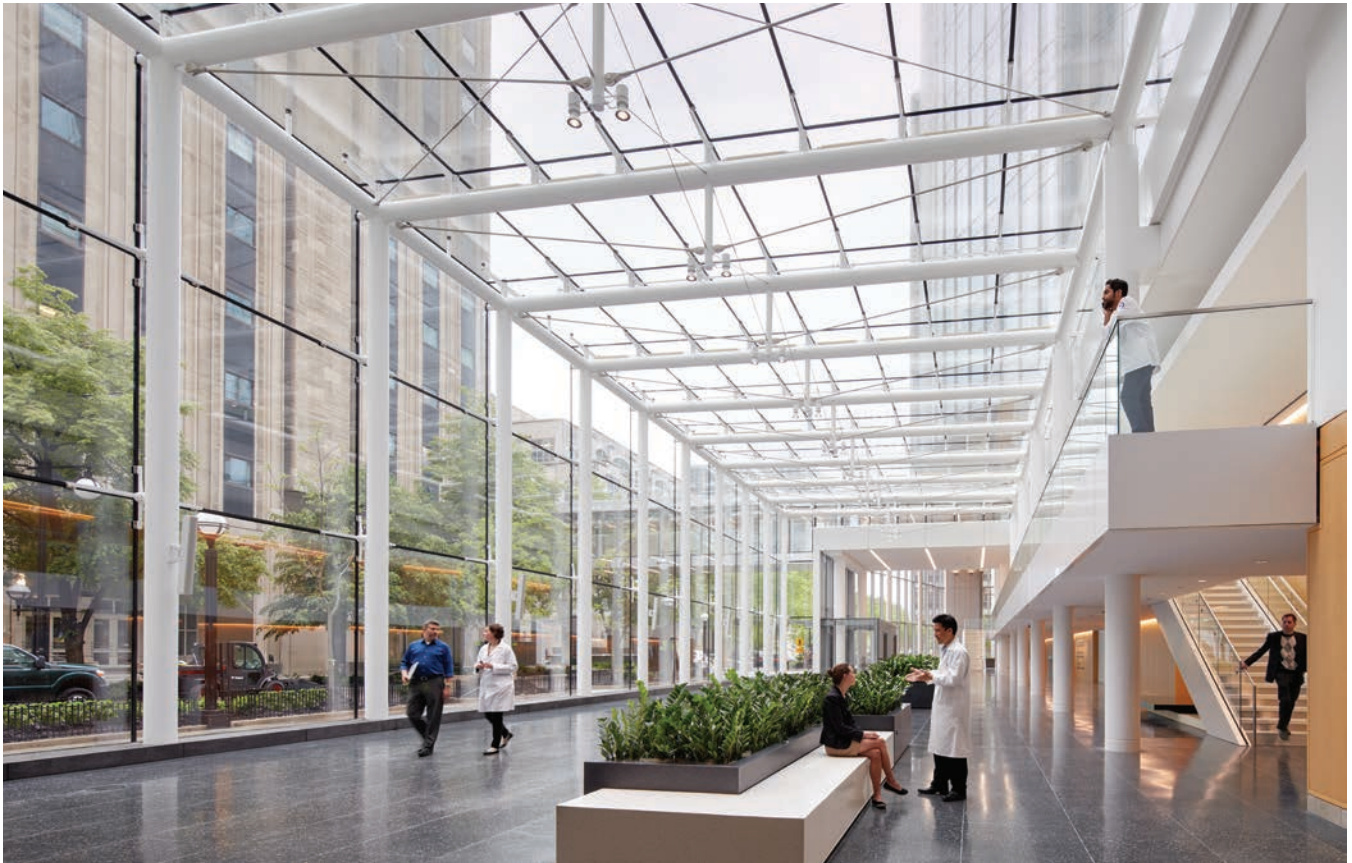
Flexibility is critical. "Research groups grow based on new discoveries and new funding," said Elizabeth McNally, MD, PhD, director of the Center for Genetic Medicine and the Elizabeth J. Ward Professor of Genetic Medicine.

"What you want is space that is much more open to expand and contract to follow where the science is going. That's what the new Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center gives us."

A Connected Campus

The new building brings physicians and scientists from the Feinberg School of Medicine, McCormick School of Engineering, and Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute together with top-ranked clinical affiliates Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, and Shirley Ryan AbilityLab—all in one academic medical district. The building includes floor-by-floor connections with the University's Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center as well as a new skybridge connection to the Searle Medical Research Building.

The Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute at Lurie Children's will occupy four floors of the new building, allowing investigators in pediatrics to share the same research space as Northwestern scientists across disciplines for the first time. Additionally, the Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center features new public spaces, such as the Potocsnak Family Atrium, the 160-seat Simpson Querrey Auditorium, the Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg Gallery, the Kabiller Student Commons, and the Senyei Conference Center, with five conference rooms on the mezzanine level. The building is on track to be LEED Gold Certified, signifying a strong commitment to sustainability and energy efficiency.



With its curved glass exteriors, light-filled laboratory neighborhoods, and critical connections to existing buildings and hospitals on campus, this new center for discovery is enabling scientific innovation and collaboration to thrive on our campus.

Please Join Us as Partners

Discoveries pioneered inside the new Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center have the potential to transform medicine and improve human health. We ask interested individuals and groups to please join us in embracing the promise of this new center for scientific innovation through gifts of endowed and outright funds.

Now that this phase of the building is constructed, our next challenge is to provide sustainability for the high-impact research programs that are housed within this state-of-the-art research facility. The potential for breakthroughs is immense, as is the need to support our talented investigators and their pursuit of new research knowledge for the benefit of patients and families everywhere. For this reason, our philanthropic priorities focus on endowments to sustain and support professorships, fellowships, and scholarships for student research, as well as research funding for new faculty, ideas, and teams. We also are seeking funds for lectureships and new equipment and technology.



**Source: Association of American Medical Colleges, New Buildings, Research list.*