HEALTH SCIENCES FACILITIES

The Doctor C. C. and Mabel L. Criss Health Sciences Complex is made possible largely through the generosity of the late Mabel L. Criss, whose gift commemorates her late husband, Dr. C.C. Criss. Dr. Criss was a Creighton alumnus; the couple founded Mutual of Omaha and United of Omaha.

The Criss Complex provides teaching, medical laboratory space, and facilities for the research activities of the faculty of the School of Medicine. Two separate units (Criss II and III) provide classroom and laboratory facilities for instruction of the freshman and sophomore students in the preclinical medical sciences, as well as office and laboratory space for the members of the preclinical faculty. Newly renovated, twin two-level amphitheaters, the connecting link between the two units, form the hub of the academic activities. Multipurpose laboratories, classrooms, and seminar rooms are conveniently distributed throughout the facility. In addition, the Criss Health Sciences Complex accommodates the administrative support area for the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions as well as lounge and meeting space dedicated to the students. The administrative offices of the School of Medicine and School of Nursing are located in the Criss Health Sciences Complex, as are the offices of the Vice President for Health Sciences.

Another unit (Criss I) provides medical research facilities for the faculty. As part of an ongoing process to upgrade and modernize Health Sciences facilities, a complete renovation of Unit I of the Criss Complex was completed in February 1994. The Beirne Research Tower adjoins the Criss Health Sciences Complex. This six-story medical research facility was made possible by a gift from Doctor Gilbert A. Beirne and his brother, Doctor Clinton G. Beirne. The Beirne Research Tower provides approximately 13,000 square feet of space for laboratories and offices. The modern, functional research laboratories house the regulatory peptide research program, the infectious disease and microbiology program, a bone biology research program, the molecular biology core facility, and an allergic diseases research program.

The Hixson-Lied Science Building is connected to both Criss and Rigge and provides expansion space for functions of the Vice President of Health Sciences, administration and faculty offices of the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, offices for the Department of Preventive Medicine, classrooms, common use areas, Arts and Sciences administrative functions, and offices and classrooms for undergraduate science departments.

Creighton University Medical Center, an ultramodern regional health-care facility with state-of-the-art technology, serves as the major affiliated teaching hospital for the Creighton University School of Medicine.

The School of Medicine, since its founding, has been affiliated for educational purposes with CUMC. This affiliation is in accordance with the provisions made by John A. Creighton, a benefactor of both institutions, and formalized in written agreements to define cooperation for the attainment of mutual and generally inseparable goals of good patient care, research, and medical education. A major regional and community facility, the hospital maintains programs in each of the major clinical services with the active staff appointed from the faculty of the School of Medicine. The close working relationship of the two institutions is continually reinforced by regular meetings of the joint management committee involving the top executive officers of both the hospital corporation and the University.

The Boys Town National Research Hospital, constructed and operated by Father Flanagan’s Boys Home, is physically connected to the teaching hospital. A unique national resource, the Hospital has assembled a highly specialized staff to develop inpatient and outpatient programs for children with communication disorders resulting from physical or sensory defects. The St. Joseph Service League Center for Abused Handicapped Children, established at the Hospital, is designed to assist in the detection, assessment, treatment, and prevention of abuse and neglect of children whose handicaps impair their communicative abilities.

Since 1973, the School of Dentistry has occupied a facility containing 150,000 square feet of space (excluding interstitial mechanical areas). It is a three-level structure with grade entry to the first two. Beginning in Fall 1993, this building has been shared with the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy programs. A five-year renovation of all classrooms, laboratories and dental clinic operatories was completed in 1998. The first floor consists of student services and lounge, classrooms, Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy administrative offices, clinics and research laboratories. The adult dental clinic and dental departmental faculty offices occupy the second level. The third level is occupied by the children’s dental clinic, basic and dental science laboratories, research space, seminar rooms and dental administrative offices.

The Creighton University Bio-Information Center, which opened in the summer of 1977, brings to the health sciences campus a focal point for modern and innovative learning and research. The services provided are available for students and faculty of the University, hospital staff, and the health sciences community of the Omaha area. They include the Health Sciences Library, the Learning Resource Center, and the Media Services Center. Media Services provides technical services such as photography, graphic design, computer imaging, television production and classroom services. Classroom Services provides audio visual support for the University as well as educational service to assist in the identification of instructional priorities and attainment of educational goals.

The Health Sciences Library/Learning Resources Center (HSL/LRC) is open 104 1/2 hours a week. Over 200,000 items of print and non-print materials are available. Access is provided to many, bibliographic and full-text databases such as MEDLINE, Micromedex, pharmaceutical abstracts, etc. The Learning Resources Center adds a multimedia dimension to the facility. It provides such resources as video disks, CD-ROMs, models, videotapes, and audiocassettes. In addition, a state of the art computer lab is equipped with Pentium PCs and Macintosh computers. Over 600 study seats are available for students, faculty, and staff.