



Fast Facts on the Michael F. Sorrell Center for Health Science Education

The building is named in honor of Michael Sorrell, M.D., a UNMC physician world-renowned in liver disease and transplantation, and gastrointestinal disorders. Dr. Sorrell received his medical degree in 1959 at UNMC. He served as a general practitioner before pursuing additional training and joining UNMC faculty in 1971. He was instrumental in helping UNMC become one of the world's leading liver transplant programs and is responsible for recruiting some of UNMC's top physicians and researchers.

- The Sorrell Center opened in 2008. It is four levels and includes a total of 134,183 square feet.
- Although primarily serving medical students, it also serves nursing, allied health and pharmacy students.
- It was a \$52.7 million project and was funded entirely by private donations through the University of Nebraska Foundation.

Ruth and Bill Scott made the largest donation and even though the Scotts could have had the building named after themselves, they asked that the building be named in honor of their friend, Dr. Sorrell.

- Other principal benefactors include:
 - The Nebraska Medical Center
 - Richard D. Holland
 - Dorothy and Stanley M. Truhlsen, M.D.
 - The Lozier Foundation
 - UNMC Physicians
 - Dr. C.C. & Mabel L. Criss Memorial Foundation
 - UNMC College of Medicine Alumni Association
 - Karen and Jim Linder, M.D.
- More than 1,200 donors gave in support of the Sorrell Center, with nearly 1,000 of the donors being College of Medicine alumni. Twenty-two physicians contributed \$100,000 or more through the Edward A. Holyoke, M.D., Ph.D., Society. The society has continued to grow and now has nearly 100 members.
- The Sorrell Center houses interdisciplinary educational programs. It features:
 - 16 clinic skills laboratories;
 - an eight-bed hospital area, providing exposure to a hospital setting;



- large amphitheatres;
 - small-group interaction rooms (10-15 people);
 - conference space;
 - 500-seat special events center;
 - two 220-seat auditoriums; and
 - four 80-seat classrooms.
- The Sorrell Center has a variety of paintings, photographs and sculptures by Nebraska artists or artists with Nebraska ties. All the artwork was acquired with private funds or donated by art patrons. Featured artists include:
 - Stephen C. Roberts
 - Jun Kaneko
 - Ray Knaub
 - Karen Kunc
 - Keith Lowrey
 - Deborah Murphy
 - The Sorrell Center is the first building on campus to be certified by LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). LEED is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

Ruth and Bill Scott Student Plaza

The completion of the Michael F. Sorrell Center led to the creation and completion of the Student Plaza.

- The Ruth and Bill Scott Student Plaza can be found just north of the Sorrell Center. It was a \$5 million project and has been recognized as one of the cities' top community spaces by the Keep Omaha Beautiful Organization.
- This is the only location on campus named after Bill and Ruth Scott. It was made possible through gifts from the Scott family and friends of Bill and Ruth Scott. It features an ice rink and the Hope Tower, which was designed by internationally-renowned artist James Carpenter.
- The plaza extends from 42nd Street to 40th Street on the northeast side of the building and includes areas for students to interact and study.
- The student plaza joins major education buildings on campus and provides a space for interdisciplinary study, networking and fun.