

# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO

## FAMILY VALUES

After discovering her Asian heritage in the College, a scholarship recipient helps others give back to UChicago.

Photography by Peg Skorpinski

**T**ammy Spath, AB'96, hopes one day to endow a UChicago scholarship in honor of her mother, a South Korean who didn't continue her education beyond elementary school because of the Korean War and came to the United States in 1971. A single mom, Yong Hwa Spath regularly told Spath and her brother, "No one can take your education away from you."

Without a generous financial aid package on top of grants, loans, jobs, and her mother's contributions, Spath could not have attended UChicago. A year's tuition "was significantly more than my mother made

each year," she says. "I can still remember the day I opened the letter from the College and thinking, 'Wow, I can really do this.'"

Arriving on campus, Spath knew no Korean; as a fourth-year she translated Korean texts for her thesis. "At UChicago," she says, "I discovered my Asian heritage." Majoring in East Asian Languages and Civilizations, she took every class she could with her eventual thesis adviser, Norma Field, the Robert S. Ingersoll distinguished service professor in Japanese studies.

For the past decade Spath has worked in university development, first at Stanford,

then at UC-Berkeley, and now at UChicago, where she engages alumni, parents, and friends in California and the Pacific Northwest.

Spath already makes annual gifts to the College and has set up a real-estate trust benefitting the University. Knowing that her own real-estate trust will help future College students, Spath enjoys connecting other donors with the University. "**I've seen firsthand,**" she says, "**how happy donors are to hear from students they've supported and about the programs they've launched.**"

To learn more visit [giftplanning.uchicago.edu](http://giftplanning.uchicago.edu).

## Q&A

# RICHARD BUMSTEAD

Associate Director of Campus Environment

The University's landscape architect since 1983 discusses an upcoming Law School garden, plants that grow well in a former marsh, and how the main quads have changed over 30 years.

**What major projects are you working on now?** One of my favorites is the modern garden to be installed at the Law School this autumn. It is part of the Julie and Parker Hall Botanic Garden Endowment, which funds gardens across campus—Botany Pond, Hull Court, Regenstein Entry gardens. Different from any other garden on campus, where the manipulated ground plane is the primary feature, the modern garden is very appropriate at the Eero Saarinen Law School building.

Another project that started this summer is the 58th Street east and west streetscapes, where we have worked with the city to vacate small sections of the street to extend the main quadrangles pedestrian environment.

**How do you work with architects and other planners to make new buildings mesh with the rest of campus?**

President Zimmer sees the campus landscape as the fabric that knits the entire campus together. I ask landscape architects who are part of the design teams to walk the campus, understand the work that has been done in the past, the plants and materials that have been used, and to use them as a basis for design. Then I work with these firms to ensure their proposed "plant palette" will thrive in the campus microclimates.

**How does the University work storm and climate resiliency into its plans?**

The campus was originally a marsh, and the soil is pure sand. With the push to use "native" species in landscapes, it wouldn't be very popular to create a campus landscape based on marsh plants. But we have been developing a palette of tree species in particular that thrive in these soils along the lakefront.

I am also investigating the use of bioswales, which remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water, and I've been working with the city to see how we can use some captured roof water for landscape irrigation. This issue will grow as we deal with increasing instances of severe weather.

**What technologies do we use that weren't available 30 years ago?**

Smart irrigation systems, controlled by computers that have real-time data about weather conditions and soil-moisture readings, as well as more precise sprinkler heads. These have led to tremendous water savings. Also, we have just completed a tree survey and placed it on the Botanic Garden website ([botanicgarden.sites.uchicago.edu](http://botanicgarden.sites.uchicago.edu)), where you can look up the tag number—every tree on campus has a blue tag attached to the trunk—for specific information about the tree.

**How much time do you and your staff spend on landscape upkeep?**

Steve Frank, supervisor of landscape services; Brandon Rux, assistant supervisor; and their 18 groundskeepers take care of the 217 campus acres on a daily basis. Weekly tasks include lawn care, weeding—a huge issue this summer—pruning, irrigation system repairs, edging beds, mulching.

**What part of campus has changed the most in your 30 years here?**

From a landscape perspective, I would say Campus North. When I arrived, campus literally stopped at Regenstein's front door along 57th Street. From a land-use standpoint, certainly Campus West with the growth of the BSD and PSD facilities. And Campus South has come alive with the construction of both new residence halls and the Logan Center, not to mention the Midway gardens. But for full campus impact, it has to be the transformation of the main quadrangles into a pedestrian zone—that has completely transformed the way that iconic space feels and functions.

**Do you have a favorite space on campus?** Botany Pond. I'm just so happy to work at a place with such a perfect little garden. Another jewel on campus that many people never see is the courtyard at International House. It's been recently restored and is just a perfect space.

To support future landscape efforts contact us at [giftplan@uchicago.edu](mailto:giftplan@uchicago.edu).



Photography by Jason Smith





# ACTIVE PHILANTHROPY

A financial planner encourages clients and alumni to give beyond their families.

Photography by Phil McCarten

**S**ean Yu, AM'02, is grateful for the critical thinking skills he learned at UChicago. Based in Pasadena, California, Yu founded a group at Morgan Stanley that provides wealth-management services to high-net-worth Chinese and Taiwanese American clients. His master's degree in international relations, he says, "helps me to understand the world from a social, economic, and political standpoint."

**Philanthropy has always been at the top of Yu's own investment goals.** When he joined Morgan Stanley in 2003, he was donating \$100 a year to the University of Chicago, despite his share of student loans. Giving back "is what made this society so strong," he says. "A value system that will move you to give something—even five bucks—means a lot."

His value system comes from personal experience. When Yu's parents separated after emigrating from Taiwan to California, money was tight. He studied business and political science at California Polytechnic State University, and then his grandmother and uncle encouraged him to apply to UChicago. "I was lucky enough to get in," he says, "but without a fellowship had to take out several loans—including a personal loan with a very high interest rate."

Now Yu helps provide students with the kind of support that would have lowered his loan burden. In May 2012 he established the Sean Yu International Relations Fellowship by directing a gift from his donor-advised fund, and this past June he named that fund the beneficiary of his 401K- and Morgan Stanley-deferred compensations. Although he's provided for his family through personal accounts, he's chosen a different approach for his retirement funds. "If my wife and children were the beneficiaries on my 401K or IRA account," he says, that money would be taxed. "Instead, **designating the University or other nonprofits as beneficiaries ensures that the full value of my account will be utilized.**"

Most of his Asian American clients, Yu notes, want to leave all their money to their family, a cultural tradition he wants to help change. "There should be some inheritance to children and heirs," he says, "but not more than what is reasonably needed to get by." He hopes to inspire classmates and clients to cultivate a philanthropic value system. "I can teach people techniques to save money on taxes and encourage them to donate," he says, "but I can't stimulate values that aren't there to begin with."

**Yu does CrossFit with his Morgan Stanley colleagues. He also founded the Taiwan Center basketball team.**

## SEAN'S PHILANTHROPY TIPS

- 1 Talk to the right individuals: Office of Gift Planning, CPA, a trusted lawyer, or a financial adviser with expertise in philanthropy.
- 2 Evaluate your assets.
- 3 Explain your goals to your family.
- 4 Think about your values and interests—then share them. Only then can a financial adviser or gift-planning officer help you support your passions.
- 5 Consider different vehicles for giving, like a 401K, IRA, or a donor-advised fund.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN MAKE A BEQUEST, VISIT [GIFTPLANNING.UCHICAGO.EDU](http://GIFTPLANNING.UCHICAGO.EDU)

Photography by Jason Smith



## CHANGE AT THE MOLECULAR LEVEL

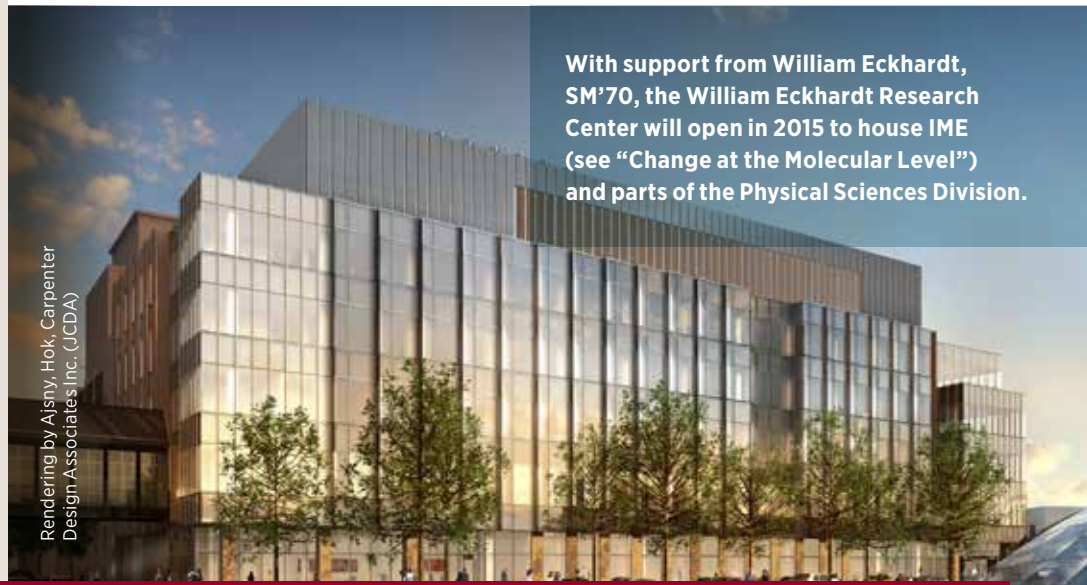
At a Sunday brunch during Alumni Week-end, members of the Class of 1963 listened to **Matthew Tirrell** discuss the progress and promise of the Institute for Molecular Engineering, where he is the Pritzker director. Participants learned about the University's collaboration with Ben-Gurion University and Argonne National Labs to develop technologies to make clean, fresh drinking water more accessible and plentiful by 2020 and to use it more effectively in agriculture and other industries.

After the talk, the discussion turned to addressing the challenges ahead. James Sison, IME's director of development, suggested, since the institute does not have any alumni, that IME could simply recruit members of the Class of 1963 to help spread the word. "What a lovely idea!" said Nada Stotland, AB'63, MD'67, who hosted the brunch at her home in Hyde Park. **"I think it's a good way for alumni to get involved in the future of the University."**

Founded in 2011, IME is an engineering research institute aimed at solving complex problems with global impact by accelerating scientific discovery and developing breakthrough technologies in industries such as water, energy, information technology, and health care.

**You don't have to be a member of the College Class of 1963 to learn more about IME's initiatives. Please visit: [ime.uchicago.edu](http://ime.uchicago.edu). Share your thoughts and join the conversation. Contact James Sison: [jsison@uchicago.edu](mailto:jsison@uchicago.edu).**

Rendering by Ajsny, Hok, Carpenter Design Associates Inc. (JCDA)



With support from William Eckhardt, SM'70, the William Eckhardt Research Center will open in 2015 to house IME (see "Change at the Molecular Level") and parts of the Physical Sciences Division.

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- Ways to include the University as a beneficiary of a retirement account or a life insurance policy.
- Ways to include the University in my estate plan.

### I HAVE PROVIDED FOR THE UNIVERSITY IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS BUT HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED THE UNIVERSITY OF MY INTENTIONS:

- I have included a bequest to the University in my will or living trust.
- I have named the University as a beneficiary of an outside trust arrangement.
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### OTHER REQUESTS, COMMENTS, OR SUGGESTIONS:

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You can also contact us by e-mail at [giftplan@uchicago.edu](mailto:giftplan@uchicago.edu).

All replies will be held in confidence.

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This newsletter is intended to provide general information that we hope will be helpful to you in your tax, estate, and charitable planning. It is not intended as legal advice and should not be relied upon as legal advice. Figures, calculations, and tax information are based on federal tax laws, regulations, rulings, and rates applicable at the time such information was prepared. Individual state laws may have an impact on the availability of gift annuities. For advice or assistance with your particular situation, you should consult an attorney or other professional adviser.

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## The future of the University depends on thoughtful gifts from you.

Chicago is grateful to alumni, faculty, staff, and friends who provide support for its programs, students, and faculty through planned gifts.

## IN MEMORIAM

The Office of Gift Planning would like to recognize the following individuals who made significant contributions to the University through planned gifts. Their legacies of generosity and commitment to academic excellence will live on through the programs they supported.

**HUGH M. MATCHETT, LAB'30, JD'37**, made a final gift to support scholarships to the Law School.

**MARGARET E. SAUNDERS, AM'49**, a longtime supporter of the University, left a gift to the School of Social Service Administration for its unrestricted use.

**RUTH SAPPENFIELD STORY** left a bequest to support the School of Social Service Administration for its unrestricted use.

**BARBARA MCKENNA WILLIAMS, AB'57**, a former International House resident and longtime supporter of the University, left a gift to the Humanities Division for its unrestricted use.

## OFFICE OF GIFT PLANNING STAFF

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# PLAN AHEAD

CELEBRATION OF LEADERS IN PHILANTHROPY  
CHICAGO, THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2014

## ATTEND A HARPER LECTURE!

Phoenix Society members and a guest can attend Harper Lectures for free.  
A list can be found at [alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/harperlectures](http://alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/harperlectures).



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## IN THIS ISSUE

- » **Tammy Spath, AB'96**, discovered her Asian heritage.
- » **Richard Bumstead**, details plans for campus landscaping.
- » **Sean Yu, AM'02**, hopes to change inherited cultural norms.

## AVOID THE 3.8 PERCENT MEDICARE SURTAX WITH A CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

**The new tax, which takes effect this year, applies to individual taxpayers with an adjusted gross income of more than \$200,000 and married couples making more than \$250,000.** Because it is a surtax, it can be especially costly because it comes on top of other taxes owed. For example, it can effectively raise your capital gains rate from 15 percent to 18.8 percent, a 25 percent increase. A charitable remainder unitrust (CRT) is exempt from the new Medicare surtax. Property that has appreciated significantly can be transferred to a CRT and then sold without the imposition of the 3.8 percent tax. **Other benefits: you will be entitled to a charitable deduction up front, receive an income stream for life, and create your UChicago legacy with the remainder gift.**

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