Center of the University

Veale’s $20 million commitment launches much-anticipated project

“This is a project that is literally and figuratively at the heart of our campus,” President Barbara R. Snyder says. “The university center means so much to our campus and to our students. This gift announcement is truly a momentous occasion.”

Students and administrators alike have agreed on the need for additional space for campus clubs and resources. In 1998, Case Western Reserve’s campus master plan identified the construction of a new university center as a priority. Upon her arrival, Snyder affirmed the importance of such a structure, and the development of a strong, vibrant and diverse campus was named a key goal in the university’s strategic plan, Forward Thinking.

Veale, whose name already graces the university’s convocation, recreation and athletic center as well as the natatorium, says he is grateful to be able to help the university that gave him his start.

“I was so honored that Case helped me get an education and did things for me,” says Veale, who has given to Case Western Reserve every year since he graduated. “This center is going to be for everybody. It doesn’t matter if they’re doctors, lawyers, dentists or engineers, they will all get together and get to know each other.”

In 1960, Veale and his associates formed Alco Standard Corporation. The success of Veale’s strategy was based on buying small, privately owned companies with cash and Alco Standard stock and making the proprietors his partners. Within eight years of opening its doors, Alco had acquired 52 companies.

The Tinkham Veale University Center will be a bustling hub for students, faculty and staff to congregate and collaborate. It will be centrally located on campus, at the corner of East Boulevard and Bellflower Road, near Severance Hall and adjacent to the university’s Kelvin Smith Library.

“This space will host classes, meetings, meals and more. In short, it will be a place where students, faculty and staff consistently come together.”

—President Barbara R. Snyder

(Left and Right) Outgoing Undergraduate Student Government President Duwain Pinder (CWR ’10) presents Veale with a commemorative “Thank You” shirt, signed by grateful Case Western Reserve students.

(Top) Students gather around Tinkham Veale II to thank him for his foundation’s commitment to create a university center.