On the evening of April 7th, the groundbreaking ceremony for The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute building took place during the annual UC Irvine School of Medicine's Science Under the Stars gala. Although the group who gathered to literally and figuratively break new ground comes from many different disciplines, they share their talents, skills and vision to work together toward a common goal—building a world-class eye institute, the first and only one of its kind right here in Orange County.

“The vision of The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute is to advance the global standard for innovative eye care, research and training. It is so much more than just a building—it’s the catalyst to help us achieve that vision,” said Roger Steinert, MD, Director of The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute and Chair of Ophthalmology at UC Irvine.

Joining Dr. Steinert onstage was eye institute namesake Gavin S. Herbert, Sr., Chairman Emeritus of Allergan and visionary entrepreneur. “With ophthalmic companies and UC Irvine, we have more researchers here than anywhere in the world. And now with The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute, this will cement Orange County as the leading place for eye care in the world,” said Herbert.

The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute is a $37 million, 70,000 square-foot building that will feature operating rooms outfitted with the latest technologies and allow doctors and researchers to collaborate under one roof, all working together toward the goals of improving patient care and discovering sight-saving treatments. Herbert’s generous initial contribution of $10 million and an additional $18 million in community donations, including the recent $5 million gift from Julia and George Argyros (see story on page 3), has helped this dream to take shape.

Steinert said, “We’re lucky enough to be the ones up here with the shovels, but we represent hundreds who have devoted themselves to making this day a reality. We thank you all.”

Read more on the groundbreaking ceremony and gala on the next page.
With the groundbreaking of The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute, we have raised an astounding $28 million—which is three-quarters to our goal of $37 million. This world-class facility, designed by DES Associates and to be built by Hathaway Dinwiddie Construction, will serve the people of Orange County and accelerate our contributions to the medicine and science of ophthalmology globally. We are close to the end of our momentous journey, and this eye institute would not be possible without your continued support.

Sincerely,

Roger Steinert, MD
Chair, Department of Ophthalmology

Please call Janice Briggs, Senior Director of Development, Academic Health Centers at (949) 824-0091 for more information on how you can help.
A GENEROUS GIFT FOR SIGHT

A philanthropic Orange County couple recently brought The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute an enormous step closer to achieving its $37 million goal.

Julia and George Argyros/Argyros Family Foundation donated $5 million to establish the Julia & George Argyros Ambulatory Surgery Center in the state-of-the-art eye institute that will include multiple patient exam and waiting areas, an optical center and physician office space.

As a former U.S. ambassador to Spain, George, along with his wife Julia, have a long history of public service. Over the years, their generous support and commitment to UC Irvine and the community have helped to improve the lives of people here in Orange County.

To make a contribution to building The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute, visit www.eye.uci.edu and go to the Campaign Overview page in the Philanthropy section. At the bottom of the page, click on To make an online donation, and follow the instructions.

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TO CONTACT FACULTY MEMBERS OR TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL 949-824-2020 (IRVINE) OR 714-456-7183 (ORANGE)
A GLIMPSE INTO

WHAT’S IN SIGHT

By reaching The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute groundbreaking milestone, the moment we’ve been waiting for is closer than ever before. The architectural design renderings by DES Associates give us a peek into the exciting moment when the eye institute will finally be completed.

Demonstrating the innovation and collaboration that will happen within its walls, The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute building will provide:

- A strong sense of presence, visibility and permanence derived from the building’s response to its surroundings, contextual architecture and natural material palette
- A unifying architectural design within the UC Irvine campus
- An oval-shaped piazza drop-off to facilitate vehicle and pedestrian traffic, and connect two future clinic buildings and the parking structure

The main entrance to The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute features a floor-to-ceiling all-glass front wall. The clean, modern look will allow the light to shine through, conveying the hope of our patients seeking sight-saving therapies.

The architectural design renderings by DES Associates give us a peek into the exciting moment when The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute will be completed.
A cross-section of the four-story building shows the operating rooms, patient reception areas, optical shop and main lobby with a coffee shop.

A close-up of two rooms in the eye institute: main lobby entrance with three-story ceiling (right), and the top floor space adjacent to the major conference facility (left).

View of top floor prefunction space.

View of main lobby entrance.

Building renderings continued on next page.
The state-of-the-art Julia & George Argyros Ambulatory Surgery Center was made possible through a generous $5 million gift by the philanthropic Orange County couple (see story on page 3).

From a side view of the building, the main entrance can be seen at the right and the Argyros Surgery Center covered patient drop-off area is on the lower left.

The oval-shaped piazza is the centerpiece of the medical plaza, which includes the eye institute. The Healing Garden will provide solace and a respite for patients and their families.

The eye institute Atrium is depicted at night, a beacon of inspiration and innovation in the midst of the UC Irvine campus.
OUR VISION OF A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute meets the building requirements for a LEED Gold Certification, representing very high levels of energy efficiency and minimizing environmental impact.

(Continued from page 3)

The supporters and faculty of The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute show their solidarity and commitment at the annual UC Irvine Science Under the Stars.

Dr. Roger Steinert and Mary Munday, a donor to The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute.

Baruch Kuppermann, MD, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology and Biomedical Engineering; Chief of the Retina Service; Vice Chair of Clinical Research, Department of Ophthalmology; with Chancellor Michael V. Drake.
Every year, the Foundation Fighting Blindness provides a unique journey of taste, sound and touch—all in the dark. The annual Dining in the Dark gala recognizes local visionaries for their contributions to protecting sight. Following the awards, dinner is served in total darkness so guests can get a glimpse of what it feels like to be blind.

On March 17, 2011, about 300 gathered at the Fairmont Hotel in Newport Beach to honor Baruch Kuppermann, MD, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology and Biomedical Engineering at UC Irvine and Chief of the Retina Service at The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute, and J. Andy Corley, co-founder of Eyeonics and Surgical Strategy Advisor for Bausch + Lomb. "I was flattered to receive the Visionary Award. It was very meaningful to have it presented to me by Gavin Herbert, a person I hold in the highest esteem as a true visionary leader in our field," says Kuppermann, who researches drug delivery systems to treat blindness and is lead investigator on many clinical trials. "His transformational gift in building The Gavin Herbert Eye Institute will help Orange County patients to receive the best vision care possible."

After the awards, the lights were dimmed until the banquet hall was completely dark. Blind volunteers served as waiters, using ropes and pegs attached to seats to navigate around tables. As the lights rose at dinner's end, there were many guests with a new appreciation for the Foundation’s work.