space on the River Campus. Additional classrooms, offices, and spaces designed to support the professional development of teachers and educational research and reform work will fill the other three floors.

“My family and I are honored to be part of this new facility,” says R. Wayne LeChase, a University trustee. He and his wife, Beverly, made a $3.5 million commitment to the University in recognition of the role education plays in improving lives and strengthening the community.

The building will be named in honor of LeChase’s father, the founder of LeChase Construction Services, who was a Rochester construction pioneer, a noted philanthropist, and a dedicated supporter of education.

Raffaella Borasi, dean of the Warner School, says the new building will provide opportunities for Warner faculty and students. “This building will create an environment that will not only support teaching and learning, but allow us to work collaboratively with each other and the community to research complex education problems and forge effective solutions.”

The fastest growing academic division at the University, the Warner School has seen its student enrollment double over the past decade.

During the same span, the school’s support from state and federal grants has more than doubled, and its overall budget and the number of fully funded doctoral students have tripled.

The school currently has more than 600 full- and part-time graduate students and 60 faculty and staff members. The new building is expected to allow for up to an additional 20 percent growth.

Rochester businessman E. Philip Saunders has funded programs to study neuromuscular diseases and other initiatives.

A Medical Center facility that’s home to the Clinical and Translational Science Institute as well as several research and academic programs has been named in honor of Rochester businessman E. Philip Saunders.

The Saunders Research Building was formally dedicated in April at a ceremony attended by New York’s lieutenant governor and former Rochester mayor Robert Duffy, State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, and other supporters of the project. The naming recognizes decades of support from Saunders for the Medical Center—including a $10 million gift announced in April to support research programs in muscular dystrophy, cancer, and translational medicine.

The building, which will feature a display to honor those who have served in the country’s armed forces, will serve as a hub of clinical and translational medicine for both the Medical Center and a network of researchers across the state.

“This facility was created with the understanding that the future of medicine will be driven by institutions that assemble the

CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

Saunders Research Building Opens

NAMESAKE: A longtime supporter of the Medical Center, Saunders has funded programs to study neuromuscular diseases and other initiatives.

teams and create the environment necessary to follow through on discoveries and make them relevant in terms of improving health,” says Bradford Berk ’81M (MD/PhD), CEO of the Medical Center.

—Kathleen McGarvey