

The background image shows a large, historic brick building with a prominent clock tower. The building has multiple stories with arched windows and a dark roof. In the foreground, there are several large trees with vibrant yellow and orange autumn foliage. An American flag is visible on a tall pole to the right of the building. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

# Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center

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FY2021 State Funded Capital Development Project Request

Presented By: President Noelle E. Cockett

**UtahStateUniversity®**



# Mehdi Heravi Global Teaching and Learning Center

## THE PROJECT:

- Utah's increasingly global economy needs college graduates with advanced language skills
- Language learning is enhanced in purpose-designed space
- Immersive conversational comprehension occurs when languages learning, support and resources are combined into a single facility



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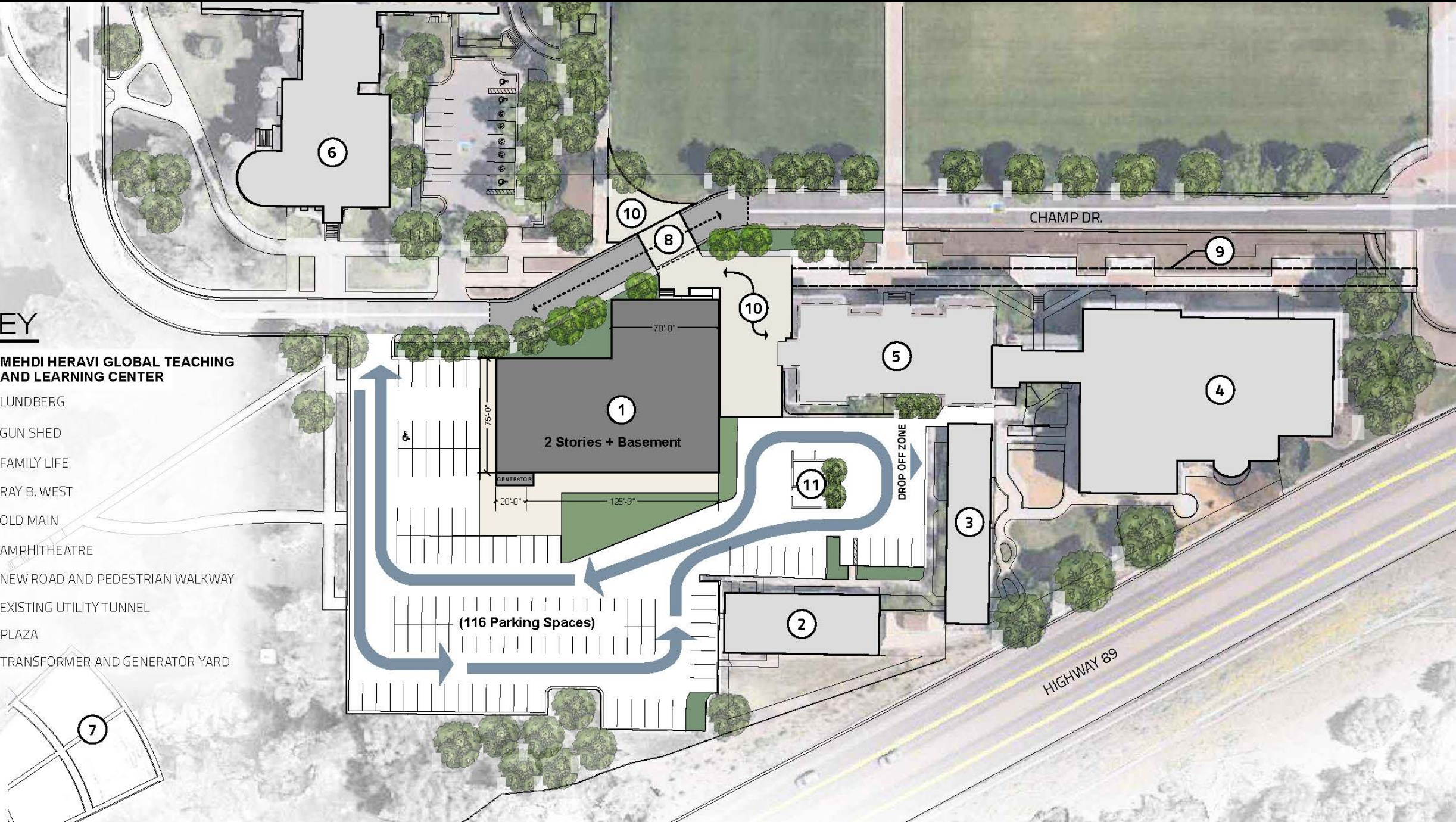
## SCOPE:

- Foreign Language units in the Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Communications Studies (currently in 4 buildings)
- Intensive English Language Institute (currently housed separately from Foreign Languages)
- Expanded teaching, conversational, and computer writing labs (currently 1,331 NSF, proposed 2,320 NSF)
- Centralized student advising, study, and tutoring rooms (currently 0 NSF, proposed 2,300 NSF)



## KEY

- ① MEHDI HERAVI GLOBAL TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER
- ② LUNDBERG
- ③ GUN SHED
- ④ FAMILY LIFE
- ⑤ RAY B. WEST
- ⑥ OLD MAIN
- ⑦ AMPHITHEATRE
- ⑧ NEW ROAD AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
- ⑨ EXISTING UTILITY TUNNEL
- ⑩ PLAZA
- ⑪ TRANSFORMER AND GENERATOR YARD





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## **TIMELY COMPLETION:**

- Over 2,200 students enroll in 1000- and 2000-level languages classes each year
- Nearly 2/3 of students in lower-division language classes are non-humanities majors
- Commitment from department to add upper-level language courses specific to majors (Engineering, Health Services, Business, Agriculture)
- “Immersive comprehension” will occur in a languages-focused building



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## **CAPACITY:**

- The new facility will house language majors (~300 students ) and minors (~900 students) in Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, Arabic (pending R401), German, French, Russian and Japanese
- Language needs of students in programs outside the department (~1,000) will be served
- International students will be connected with other USU students learning their language
- Consolidation of language faculty will allow temporary space to revert to previous uses (7,900 NSF)



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## **AFFORDABILITY:**

- Project scope is dramatically scaled back from FY19 request and now focuses only on essential space for language programs (38,500 GSF)
- Project budget is modest (\$17M) but still meets critical needs
- State support is reduced because a major donor has indicated a willingness to make a significant contribution



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## PROJECT BUDGET:

PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE	\$17M
TOTAL PROJECT SPACE (GSF)	38,429
New space (GSF)	38,429
Remodeled Space (GSF)	0
Space to be demolished (GSF)	0
Net/gross ratio	44%
INCREASE IN STATE FUNDED O&M	\$332,113
OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING	\$2.5M
STATE FUNDED REQUEST	\$14.5M







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## WORKFORCE:

### What Foreign Languages Mean for U.S. Employers

**9 out of 10**   
rely on employees with  
language skills other than English

**56%**   
say their foreign language demand  
will increase in the next five years



#### Most In-Demand Foreign Languages Reported by U.S. Employers



#### The Foreign Language Skills Gap\*

 **1 in 3**  
foreign language-dependent U.S.  
employers reports a language skills gap

 **1 in 4**  
U.S. employers lost business due to  
a lack of foreign language skills

\*A foreign language skills gap occurs when an employer has foreign language needs that are not currently met by its employees.

Summary from the 2019  
report “Making Languages  
Our Business: Addressing  
Foreign Language Demand  
Among U.S. Employees”  
(Commissioned by The  
American Council on the  
Teaching of Foreign  
Languages)



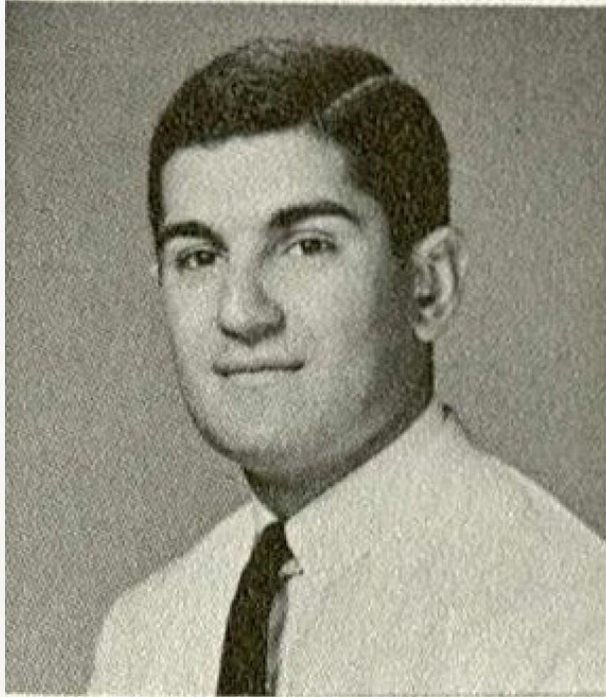
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## **WORKFORCE:**

- Businesses across Utah, especially on the Wasatch Front, are increasingly global in scope
- Returning missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints will expand language skills from cultural conversation to technical and written comprehension in their majors
- Leadership of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints are supportive of the educational expansion for languages



## Dr. Mehdi Heravi



- 1963 – Bachelors Degree in Political Science, USU
- 1964 – Master's Degree in Political Science, USU
- 1967 – PhD, American University School of International Service
- 1967 – Tennessee Technological University – teaching position
- 1973 – Vice President at National University of Iran
- Philanthropist - supports an orphanage located in northern Iran, supports several organizations related to cerebral palsy.



# Dr. Heravi Receives USU Honorary Doctorate Degree



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“I have faith in humanity. And hopefully I will continue to have good health so I can achieve the things I want to achieve. Having a low aim in life is a crime. The sky is the limit and humanity is the priority.”

- Dr. Mehdi Heravi