Donation: The Wimbledon Café

The Hilary J. Boone Foundation has graciously made a $100,000 gift to name the café in the new College of Design building. Samuel A.B. “Alex” Boone, a 1982 UK alum who serves as a director of the foundation established to honor his late father, said the space on the main level will be named The Wimbledon Café in a nod to his father’s farm of the same name.

Boone’s interest in the College of Design continues his family’s legacy of facilitating collaborative spaces, like they did with the former Hilary J. Boone Faculty Club. “The Wimbledon Café goes back to that same theory of providing a gathering space for everyone from students to professors, where everyone’s equal and has a place to exchange ideas,” said Boone. “It will be a space to build bridges and learn some statesmanship.”

With the College coming together in one building, Boone feels like the future of design education will have the opportunity to flourish. “I like the fact that the programs are coming together through a much more complementary unit of education,” he said. “Reynolds is a great opportunity to create an organic atmosphere, and the Wimbledon Café will go right along with that.”