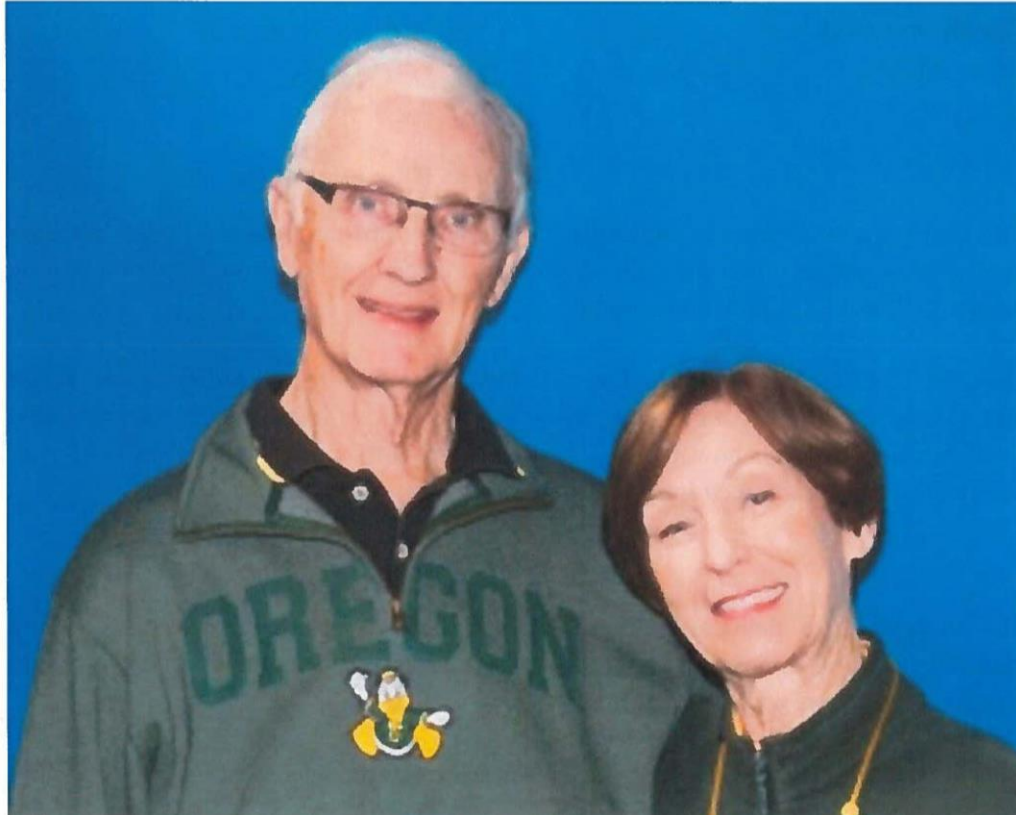


University of Oregon fortifies clinic that helps Eugene-Springfield families

\$2 million grant will help hire a new clinic director



Keith and Julie Thomson contributed \$2 million to an endowment that will allow the University of Oregon to consolidate the therapies it offers to Eugene-Springfield families under a single, new clinical director. (University of Oregon)

BY DIANE DIETZ

The Register-Guard

JAN. 19, 2017

The University of Oregon is consolidating the array of therapies it offers to Eugene-Springfield families under a single, new clinical director whose compensation will be augmented by a \$2 million endowment.

The HEDCO Clinic offers free or low-cost therapy to families with depression, stress and anxiety, children with language, speech and cognitive impairments, children who need tutoring to learn how to read, and children with autism who need help with behavior, social communication and academic skills.

The therapies are delivered by graduate students or interns, increasingly on a "teaching hospital" model, in which patients are assisted by faculty and clinicians and also by UO students who are learning.

"Based upon my experience at Oregon Health & Science University, we are confident

that a collaborative teaching hospital model will be successful at the (HEDCO Clinic)," said Keith Thomson, retired vice president and Oregon site manager for Intel Corp. who also has served on the OHSU governing board.

The UO announced Tuesday that Thomson and his wife, Julie, contributed \$2 million to an endowment that will spin off income to help pay the salary of a new clinic director to oversee the combined enterprise.

The UO expects to conduct a national search to fill the new position of clinic director.

"We are very grateful to the Thomsons," UO President Michael Schill said in a prepared statement. "This gift marks an important milestone for the HEDCO Clinic that will help make an even greater impact in our community."

The clinic will be able to increase the number of families served, accelerate learning by UO students, and shorten the time it takes to move research into practice — called the "translational gap," said Randy Kamphaus, dean of the College of Education, in which the HEDCO Clinic is housed.

Kamphaus said he envisions "a modern, full-service and well-coordinated educational and social-emotional 'teaching hospital.' "

The clinic will combine the Center for Healthy Relationships, the Speech-Language-Hearing Center, the Center on Teaching and Learning, and the Autism Applied Behavior Analysis Clinic.

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HEDCO CLINIC

The HEDCO Clinic is at 1655 Alder St. in the UO College of Education building.

Center for Healthy Relationships: 541-346-0923

Speech-Language-Hearing Center: 541-346-0923

Center on Teaching and Learning: 541-346-4314

Autism Applied Behavior Analysis Clinic: 541-346-4404