ACTIVITIES
The key function of the building is to facilitate connections within the DU community. Specifically, the focus will be on student career development, employer engagement, and alumni activities. Situated at a key nexus on campus between the traditional core and the growing urban edge, the Pioneer Career Achievement Center is meant to draw people in to learn more about how to best engage with the DU community and potential employers. Students can learn how to best engage in a life of purpose, employers can interact with potential job seekers, and alumni can connect with their peers in an inspiring building that reinforces the best qualities of the region. The facility would be staffed by members of Career & Professional Development, Employer Engagement, and Alumni Relations.

CHARACTERISTICS
The building and site is focused on creating “sticky spaces,” areas that encourage users to linger and interact. As one moves up the floors of the building, the meetings gradually become more intentional and focused. Throughout, there is a spectrum of places for meeting, from open lounge settings to enclosed interview rooms. A central atrium draws users up through the building, celebrating the variety of connections within the community. At the top floor, an events space spills out onto a roof deck with spectacular views to campus, city and mountains.

STEWARDSHIP
Targeting LEED Platinum and Net-Zero readiness, the facility seeks performance 60% below baseline for similar buildings. Extensive daylighting models were employed to maximize views, thermal comfort and payback from the mechanical usage. The building is considering a combination of evaporative cooling and radiant heating and cooling for thermal needs, and a “performance tower” that would fit into the DU heritage of beacons on campus. The performance tower would draw fresh air through the building and act as a visual statement about DU’s commitment to environmental stewardship. The team is reviewing geo-exchange in concert with solar photovoltaic panels to supply energy.

KEY FACTS: 30,000 sf / $10.5 mil / To open fall 2020
Lake | Flato Architects - Architect of Record
Shears Adkins Rockmore - Consulting Architect
Didier Design Studio - Landscape Architect
PCL - Construction Manager / General Contractor
Mark Rodgers - DU University Architect
Keith Conner - DU Project Manager