

assistant professor and international scholar positions there.

High school sweethearts from Mumbai, India, the Dahods moved to the United States in the 1970s. Shamim Dahod is a primary care physician and board-certified internist in Chelmsford, Mass. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the College of Arts & Sciences, worked as a researcher in a MED lab for five years, and earned a medical degree from MED in 1987. She was a University overseer before being elected to the Board of Trustees in 2013.

She says she doesn't recall visiting the Castle as an undergraduate, largely because she was already married and living off campus. "I was very mindful of my train timings; I rushed in and out," she says. But as Hall led the Dahods on a tour during their visit, both she and her husband were fascinated by the building's many unusual design features, from ornate moldings to hidden staircases. "You have to restore its beauty and its culture," she says. "How appropriate for it to be an alumni center."

Ashraf Dahod, a computer engineer turned entrepreneur, holds degrees from the University of Mumbai, the University of Michigan, Stanford University, Northeastern, and Harvard Business School. His mobile wireless infrastructure company Starent Networks was acquired by Cisco Systems in December 2009, and he is now president and CEO of another mobile technology company, Altiostar Networks.

Shamim Dahod isn't the only BU alum in the family, and in fact, the Alumni Center would be an appropriate spot for a future family get-together: one of the couple's daughters and Ashraf Dahod's sister also have degrees from BU. A niece graduated from MED and one son-in-law is a second-year student there; their other son-in-law, a

cardiologist, did his residency at Boston Medical Center.

Brown sees a metaphorical tie in the physical connection of the Dahod Family Alumni Center to the admissions reception building next door, the Alan and Sherry Leventhal Center, which won a preservation award in 2015. That connection will provide handicapped access to the Castle via the Leventhal elevators.

"Usually the first building a prospective student enters is the Leventhal Center," Brown says. "Having the alumni and admissions centers side by side and physically connected shows that there's much more to joining this community than the four years of on-campus experience—it physically symbolizes the lifelong connection of our students to the University."

Hall says plans for the Castle include kitchen and catering facilities for event catering and a revived faculty and alumni lunch program on the first floor.

The project is designed by the Boston firm Finegold Alexander Architects, Inc., which also designed the upcoming second phase of the Kilachand Hall makeover.

The 26-room Tudor Revival Castle, at Bay State Road and Granby Street, was built in 1915 by businessman William Lindsey, Jr., as a home for his family. In January 1939, Oakes and Blanche Ames, then the owners, sold the mansion, along with most of its furnishings, to BU trustee William Chenery (Hon.'38). Chenery donated the house to BU, which used it as the home of its president. Two BU presidents, Daniel Marsh (STH'08, Hon.'53) and Harold Case (STH'27, Hon.'67), lived in the mansion with their families until it became a University function facility in the late 1960s. More recently, it has appeared in the films *The Social Network* (2010) and *Ghostbusters* (2016). JOEL BROWN

## Celebrating BU in San Francisco



### Next steps: Philadelphia and Chicago

With 135,000 donors—and counting—the Campaign for Boston University has been a broad-based, flourishing effort. And to recognize the generous contributions of so many donors from across the United States, President Robert A. Brown has hosted celebrations in six cities—Boston, New York, Palm Beach, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., with Philadelphia and Chicago on the agenda this spring.

More than 200 Terriers and friends turned out for November's San Francisco event, held at the de Young Museum, where guests gathered for cocktails in the museum's Hamon Observation Tower, with 360-degree views of the city skyline and Golden Gate Park. They listened to a TED talk-style presentation by Brown, who detailed BU's rise in the rankings and the University's goals for the rest of the campaign and beyond. Members of the audience also had the opportunity to ask questions, which touched on financial aid, STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education, and the University's efforts to foster a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation on campus.

Event cohosts and BU trustees Ryan K. Roth Gallo (LAW'99) and Peter T. Paul (Questrom'71) joined a host committee of more than two dozen local alumni and volunteers in organizing the event.

BU's next stops are Philadelphia on April 26 and Chicago in mid-June. Visit [www.bu.edu/alumni/events](http://www.bu.edu/alumni/events) for more information. JULIA SERAZIO

Beverly Brown (from left) and President Robert A. Brown in San Francisco with BU trustees Ryan K. Roth Gallo (LAW'99) and Peter T. Paul (Questrom'71), cohosts of the event.