Jim and Sylvia Earl think it’s perfectly natural to support their alma maters. “We get a lot of satisfaction by doing so,” says Jim.

Jim and Sylvia have contributed the funds necessary to create a new Junior Lab space in the renovated Green Center for Physics. “I took Junior Lab while it was being updated by David Frisch. I served as a teaching assistant while Bill Krausshaar was teaching it, and I was present in [Bruno] Rossi’s group when George Clark began to develop experiments by creating one that allowed students to measure the speed of light with a clock and a meter stick. Later, I taught modern physics labs at Minnesota and Maryland, and developed many experiments of my own.”

Jim notes, “I have always loved working in labs, even the very conventional ones based on manufactured equipment that we took as MIT freshman. Consequently, it seemed very natural for us to support the renovation of the Junior Lab at MIT.”