STOLEN MOMENTS

Living within gurney-rolling distance of the School of Medicine is “addictively convenient,” says Sarah Ramer (Class of ’12), who has lived at the University of Pittsburgh’s Darragh Street Apartments, located just two blocks from Scaife Hall, since the complex opened in 2007.

There’s the sense of community one would expect when med students share walls. Ad-hoc study groups. Walking next door in socks to borrow sugar to make cookies for a potluck. Improptu cornhole tournaments on Darragh’s courtyard (a hot spot for student group functions, as well as personal gatherings). Benjamin Cobb (Class of ’13) says he first met many of his classmates at a party in the courtyard. A year later, after the construction of a new patio, he recalls, “During the summer, me and my friends would get together on the patio, grill some stuff, and just chill out on the grass and eat burgers.”

Darragh has, quite literally, optimally positioned Cobb to get the most of his evenings. He has been known to stop by when he sees a professor’s light on in Scaife after hours. Stolen moments with busy profs can be hard to come by otherwise.

And, Cobb says, “Sometimes, after I leave the hospital, I’ll throw some regular clothes on, walk across the street to the hospital, and see my patients.” He recalls one patient who was flat and unresponsive during his rotation; she brightened up at night when her family was able to visit.

“At night, I can sit down and talk to them. And when I’m done, just go right across the street and go back to sleep.” — Jessica Titler

— Photography by Cami Mesa