This is the "In the Medical Atria" Tree Tour. It involves two atria and starts at the door between the Anderson and Manville Health Science Buildings (there is a sidewalk to the building entrance opposite the Family Health Center on the other side of the street).

OK, let's get started!

Go straight through the building and enter the first atrium through an interior door; there are four trees in this atrium.
The tree with mottled bark in the grass area at number 1 on the map is **London Planetree** (scientific name *Platanus x acerifolia*). This offspring of **American Planetree** and **Oriental Planetree** was discovered in London in 1683. Since then it has become the dominant Planetree or Sycamore in both Europe and North America, because it grows rapidly to a large size yet can be shaped and because it is a resilient tree for Cityscapes. It is identifiable by its Maple-like leaves, its greenish/whitish mottled bark and its fruit of two beige one-inch balls hanging on the tree for an entire year.

**Japanese Maple**

Left of the wall at number 2 on the map is **Japanese Maple** (scientific name *Acer palmatum*), native to Japan, China, and Korea. It hybridizes readily, and there are hundreds of cultivars available. It has the pointed, palm-shaped leaves typical of maples. It is sought after because it stays small, grows slowly, and has a controlled form (it is a major element of Japanese gardens); it is best planted to the east or north in Reno, because it needs protection from our southwesterly winds.

**Silver Maple**

In the grassy area at number 3 is **Silver Maple** (scientific name *Acer saccharinum*). This native of the eastern half of North America has palm-shaped leaves. It was one of the most planted tree species in lawn areas in the U.S. for many years, but it has gone out of favor because it easily drops twigs, its shallow roots are a problem for lawnmowers and its Fall color is usually a dull yellow. Its offspring Freeman Maple (ahead in the next atrium) "fixes" these problems.
The last tree in this atrium is another London Planetree.

Re-enter the building. Immediately turn left and proceed on the hallway to the other atrium, which is between the Manville Health Science and Howard Medical Services Buildings. Open the door to the atrium.

The trees inside this atrium are toured in a clockwise direction.

4  European Mountain Ash

Just to the left of the door at number 4 is European Mountain Ash (scientific name Sorbus aucuparia). It is native to Europe, western Asia, and Siberia. In some cases, it has escaped cultivation and is growing wild. It is valued for its orange-red Fall color and its orange or red berries which hang on all Winter.

5  Smoketree

Ahead, left of the sidewalk at number 5 are two Smoketrees (scientific name Cotinus coggygria), native to central Europe, China, and the Himalayas. The leaves are roundish on this treeshrub (a plant that could have either a tree or shrub form). It is called "Smoketree" because the flower heads look like puffs of smoke and last on the tree for a couple of months. The largest one is the Nevada Big Tree for this species.

6  Freeman Maple

In the grassy area at number 6 is Freeman Maple (scientific name Acer x freemanii), an offspring of Red Maple (which has matte red Fall color) and Silver Maple (which has shallow roots and dull yellow Fall color). The offspring is better than either parent: it has deeper roots and brilliant orange-red color. There are several cultivars of this tree available.
Ahead, to the left of the path at number 7 is Lavalle Hawthorn (scientific name *Crategus x lavallei*), a hybrid which first occurred in 1880. Its pointed leaves are lustrous dark green in Summer, turning to bronze or copper red in Fall. Its fruits are reddish and may hang on during the Winter.

Against the building at number 8 is Thornless Honeylocust (scientific name *Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis*), another popular northern Nevada tree. Native to the eastern and Midwestern U.S., it has compound leaves; look at the connection with the branch, and you will see that there are both a central stem and side stems with 20 to 30 roundish leaflets perpendicular to them. Honeylocust, once established, is a tough tree. Zig-zag twigs and twisted dark brown 6-inch-long seedpods easily identify Honeylocust, as do the greenish-yellow compound flowers. Honeylocust has bright yellow color in early Fall.
The tree with white bark and roundish leaves at number 9 is Quaking Aspen (scientific name *Populus tremuloides*), the most widely distributed broadleaf tree in the U.S. The "quaking" of the leaves is caused by the connection between the leaf and the branch, which allows the leaf to turn in the wind. This tree has reliable yellow Fall color; some trees have orange Fall color. This tree sends out root suckers all around the tree ("cloning" itself) and makes thickets. This is why one particular aspen tree is said to be the largest organism on Earth.

The tree with the shaggy yellow bark at number 10 is River Birch (scientific name *Betula nigra*), native to stream-banks and other wet areas of the eastern U.S. It seems to be more resistant to pests than other birches.

Ahead, at number 11, is Curl-leaf Mountain Mahogany (scientific name *Cercocarpus ledifolius*), native to the Sierra Nevada. This is a treeshrub (a plant that can have either tree or shrub form). Note the small, fleshy leaves, which indicate that it is quite drought-tolerant. The best feature of this tree is its seedpods; some of them are curled at the tip like a butterfly's proboscis.

Near the corner of the building at number 12 is the conifer Norway Spruce (scientific name *Picea abies*), native to Central and Northern Europe. Its branches tend to droop on each side of the limb, and the limbs tend to droop from the trunk. Its cones are longer than those of White Spruce, four to 6 inches long.
The two trees along the back wall at number 13 are **Washington Hawthorn** (scientific name *Crataegus phaenopyrum*), native to Eastern and Midwestern U.S. Of the five kinds of Hawthorn planted on campus, it is the only one that has thorns (nasty, one-inch ones). Its Fall color is orange-red in good years.

Between these trees, at number 14, is **Mugo Pine** (scientific name *Pinus mugo*), native to mountains in central and southern Europe. It is usually considered a treeshrub, but over time it can grow to tree size. It has many small, almost vertical branches with two one-inch needles in a bundle, and it has one-inch cones.

In the middle of the grassy area between the Washington Hawthorns at number 15 is **Red Maple** (scientific name *Acer rubrum*). This native of eastern and midwestern U.S. is tough, grows quickly, is cold-hardy, and provides reliable red Fall color (which is possibly why there are so many Red Maples on campus). There are perhaps 100 cultivars of this species with different leaf shapes, some of which provide orange-red color.
Continue along the curved sidewalk past two London Planetrees to the corner of the building left of the door at number 16. This is Amur Maple (scientific name *Acer ginnala*). This native of China and Japan is available in both tree and shrub forms. It has reliable orange, red, and yellow Fall color and is a tough tree to kill. It is the only Maple which can survive the cold Spring and Fall mornings of the Martis Valley (near Truckee, California).

The concludes the "In the Medical Atria" Tree Tour.