

# William H. and Elizabeth Gray Danforth University Center



# Honoring William H. and Elizabeth Gray Danforth

While names like Eliot, Brookings, and Compton have prominent places in Washington University's history, arguably no name is more widely associated with the success of the University over the past century than Danforth. On September 17, 2006, the Hilltop Campus was renamed the Danforth Campus to honor the legacy of Dr. William H. Danforth, the Danforth family, and the Danforth Foundation. To extend that esteem, Washington University's new university center will be named the William H. and Elizabeth Gray Danforth University Center to emphasize the lasting impact Dr. Danforth and his late wife, Elizabeth Gray "Ibby" Danforth have had on the University.

William H. Danforth, M.D., joined the Washington University School of Medicine faculty in 1957. He was named Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs at the age of 39 in 1965. The accomplishments of the Medical School over the next six years were merely a foreshadowing of what Washington University was able to accomplish during his 24-year tenure as University Chancellor between 1971 and 1995.

"Bill Danforth envisioned a world-class future for Washington University; he set about attracting and retaining outstanding people; and he worked tirelessly to secure the resources that have made the difference between where the University was and what it became during his tenure," Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton says. "Ibby Danforth was one of the great citizens of Washington University and of St. Louis ... (S)he actively supported Bill . . . , engaging everyone with her warmth, intelligence, compassion and strength." Ibby's dedication to supporting Washington University on campus, in St. Louis, and around the world drew admiration from alumni, parents, and friends.

"The Danforth Years" represented a period of growth and accomplishment for all of Washington University, but was perhaps as important a period that reinvigorated student life on campus. The new William H. and Elizabeth Gray Danforth University Center will continue their legacy, serving as the heartbeat of student life and community interaction for generations to come.



Dr. and Mrs. Danforth: Homecoming 1979



## Enhancing the Washington University community... with a special emphasis on the students

Located between Simon Hall and Mallinckrodt Center along Forsyth Boulevard and constructed in the Collegiate Gothic style traditional on the Washington University Danforth Campus, the \$41 million, three-story, 116,000-square-foot William H. and Elizabeth Gray Danforth University Center will be an impressive addition to the Danforth Campus. Designed by Tsoi/Kobus and Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and constructed by St. Louis-based Clayco, Inc., the Danforth University Center will be a crossroads of the University – open and accessible to all of the Washington University community.

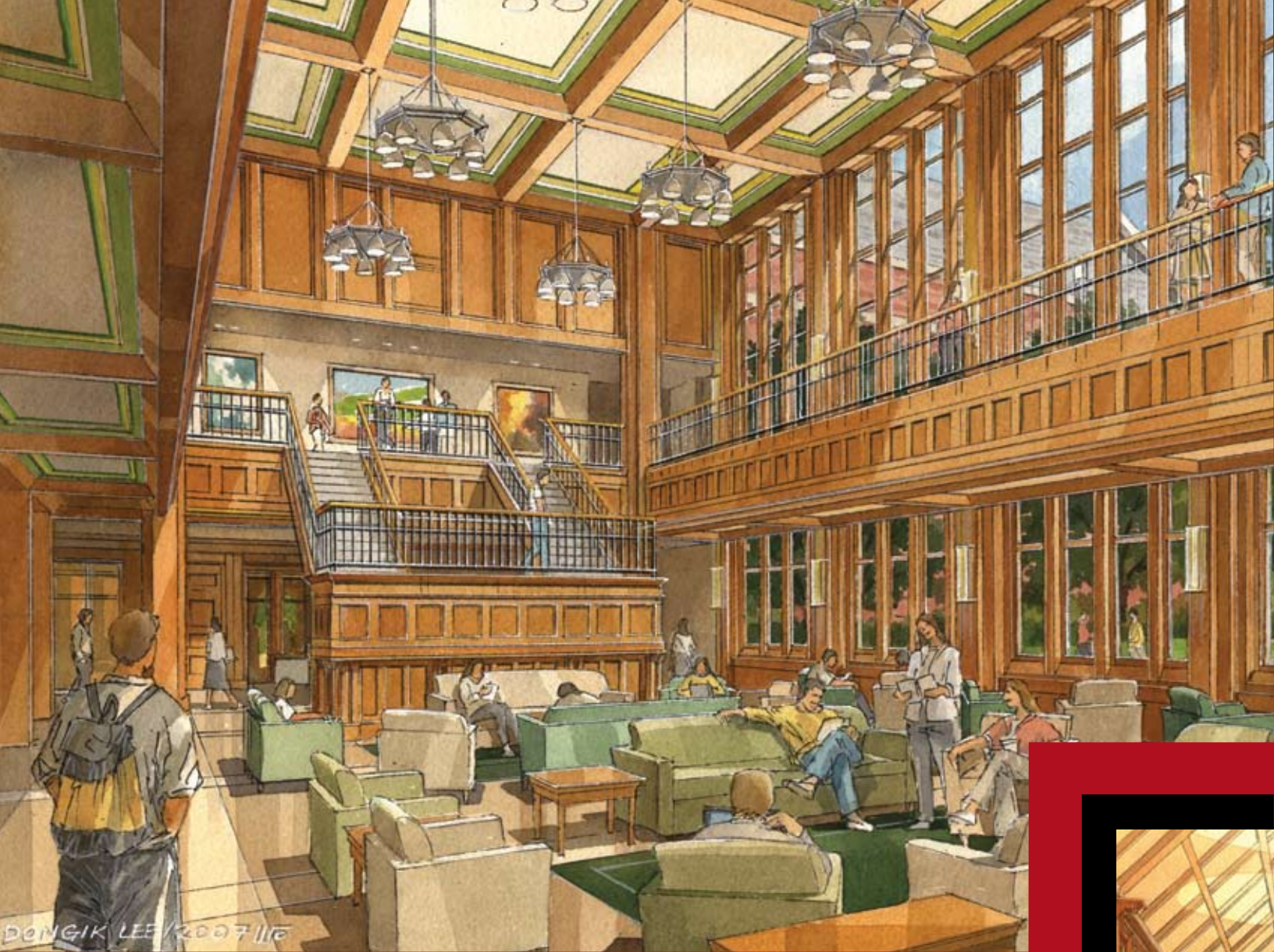
While being a destination for all, the Danforth University Center will be a special place for Washington University's undergraduate and graduate students. "With Student Union, Career Center, Community Service, Student Activities, Greek life, Campus Life, and graduate and professional student offices and programs together in a single building, the Danforth University Center will serve students more effectively and has the potential to create a greater sense of involvement and engagement in the campus community," says Jill E. Carnaghi, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Students & Director of Campus Life.

The Danforth University Center is designed to match the needs of an active and engaged student body with an environment that contributes to building relationships, enhancing campus life, and promoting learning. Students have been involved in the planning of the Danforth University Center. The expanded Career Center will enable prospective employers to interact with students in a more positive and meaningful way than ever before.

Designed and constructed as a green building to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED-NC Gold Certified Level, the Danforth University Center also will enable the University to continue attracting the world's leading students by being at the forefront of sustainability and environmental practices.



"The Danforth University Center will enhance campus life with a special focus on our students."  
– James E. McLeod, Vice Chancellor for Students and Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences



# The Commons

The Commons will be the most prominent area in the entire Danforth University Center. This 3,500-square-foot, three-story open space will be adorned by the Grand Staircase and floor to ceiling windows. There will not be a more magnificent location than this on campus when the morning sun shines in from the east.

Amount to name the Commons Windows: \$10,000 each.

Amount to name the Grand Staircase: \$400,000.

“The Danforth University Center will fulfill Washington University’s need for a place for students to interact with each other outside the classroom. It will be a huge asset to Washington University students and the academic community because it is tailored to us and, because of its central location, it will be easily accessible on a daily basis.”

– Neil Patel, LA08, Washington University  
Student Union President, 2007-2008





## The Great Dining Hall

Located on the first floor of the Danforth University Center, the Great Dining Hall will be the busiest dining facility on campus, serving an estimated 3,000 to 4,000 people per day.

Amount to name the Great Dining Hall: \$1,250,000.

## The Formal Lounge

Offering 1,400 square feet of space in a multi-functional setting, the Formal Lounge will provide a “quiet space” in the building. The fireplace will create a warm and inviting atmosphere and serve as a focal point. The graceful shape of a large circular window will add natural lighting to the room. The Formal Lounge adjoins a 56-seat classroom and will provide for additional educational, training, and social functions.

Amount to name the Formal Lounge: \$750,000.

Amount to name the 56-seat Classroom: \$500,000.



## Ibbby's

One of the first spaces in the Danforth University Center to be named through a generous gift, Ibbby's is named in honor of Elizabeth Gray "Ibby" Danforth. Ibbby's will function as a bistro and full-service restaurant offering a late-night dining choice for students, alumni, and friends. Seating will be available in stylish interior and exterior areas in the Edison Family Courtyard.

## The Southeast Courtyard

Located directly off the Formal Dining Room, the Southeast Courtyard will provide space for relaxing lunches and for hosting events. The Fountain will lend an air of elegance and the gargoyles will enhance the Collegiate Gothic style of the Center.

Amount to name the Southeast Courtyard pictured here: \$500,000. Amount to name the Southwest Courtyard pictured on front cover: \$350,000.



"The Danforth University Center promises to be an impressive addition to the Danforth Campus, and I look forward to seeing future generations create new Washington University experiences and memories there. As a former Dean and partner at Edward Jones, I know firsthand how important things like an enhanced Career Center will be for our students."

– Dr. Robert L. Virgil, GB60, GB67, Trustee Emeritus and Chair, Danforth University Center Campaign Committee



# The Edison Family Courtyard

Courtyards surrounding the Danforth University Center will be hubs for student activities and special university events. They will also provide welcoming spaces for socializing, relaxing, and enjoying the campus. Pictured above is the Edison Family Courtyard (named in recognition of a generous gift from the Harry Edison Foundation), located on the northeast side of the Center. Other courtyards on the southeast and southwest sides will provide similar environments for students, parents, alumni, faculty, and friends.

“My family and the Harry Edison Foundation are proud to honor Bill and Ibbey Danforth and be associated with this exceptional building and all that it will offer for generations to come.”

– Andrew E. Newman, Trustee