Inspiration
“IF YOUR ACTIONS INSPIRE OTHERS TO DREAM MORE, LEARN MORE, DO MORE AND BECOME MORE, YOU ARE A LEADER.”
— JOHN QUINCY ADAMS

Through the Willard and Pat Walker Charitable Foundation, the Walker Family provides inspiring leadership throughout the State of Arkansas. Recognizing the need for additional space to allow the Walton College to grow enrollment and services, an initial gift was given for the construction of a building to house the Graduate School of Business, several outreach centers, meeting and gathering spaces, and classrooms. The building was named in honor of the late Willard J. Walker, a leader in the development of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

The Walton College remains immensely grateful to the Willard and Pat Walker Charitable Foundation and other alumni and friends who made the construction of Walker Hall and Linda Sue Shollmier Plaza possible. As we consider your generosity and vision, you inspire us as we strive to provide exceptional educational experiences for business students at the University of Arkansas.

Spaces within Walker Hall provided by private gifts include:

§ First Security Bank Auditorium
§ H.L. Hembree III Room
§ Wal-Mart Executive Boardroom
§ George W. Edwards Jr. Career Center
§ Walter B. Cole Café
§ Edward M. Penick Sr. and Evelyn W. Penick Trading Studio
§ Larry Crain Family Trading Studio
§ Kenny Landgraf Business Strategy Room
§ The Gregory W. and Hannah F. Lee Classroom
§ The Mark and Dayna Sutton Classroom
§ AT&T Graduate Student Case Study Classroom
§ MAcc Program Meeting Rooms
§ Sunthorn Arunanondchai Room
§ David C. McDonald, Mark L. Townsend, Jane Rich McDonald, D. Kirk McDonald Graduate Student Study Room

Construction of Willard J. Walker Hall began in fall 2005, with completion in summer 2007. The 77,760 square-foot building is an integral part of a four-building business campus, which also includes the Business Building, Donald W. Reynolds Center for Enterprise Development, and J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc. Center for Academic Excellence, surrounding the beautiful Linda Sue Shollmier Plaza. The multiple meeting spaces and classrooms are used by graduate and undergraduate students as well as the university and business communities.
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Facility Usage

Walker Hall is used for programs that enhance the education of business students. It is utilized for classes, meetings, training and educational programs, guest speakers, panel discussions, receptions, lunches, and outreach activities. Making the space more user-friendly and utilitarian, a large office was converted into a conference room used for AACSB accreditation visits. Renovations needed were minimal—paint, new conference furniture, and technology upgrades.

Although predominantly used for Walton College activities, Walker Hall also serves as meeting and events space for the university and business communities.

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<th>Usage</th>
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<td><strong>July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Walton College – 1,770 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas Community – 197 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Community – 58 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Education – 35 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Usage – 2,218 hours</strong></td>
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Clients were the ALPFA Institute; ALPFA Student RSO; Alpha Kappa Alpha; Alpha Kappa Delta; Alpha Phi Alpha; Applied Sustainability Center; Arkansas Highway Commission; Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center; Associated Student Government; Beta Alpha Psi; Caribbean Students Association; Center for Retailing Excellence; Center for Teaching Effectiveness; College of Engineering Recruiting; Community Blood Center of the Ozarks; Department of Mathematical Sciences; Garrison Financial Institute; George W. Edwards Jr. Career Center; Graduate School of Business; GRAPES Electrical Engineering; Greek Life; Human Resource Management Association; Informational Technology Research Institute; Inspirational Singers; International Students and Scholars; J.B. Hunt, Inc.; Office of Diversity Programs; Teaching and Faculty Support Center; RFID Research Center; Sigma Pi; Supply Chain Management Research Center; Sustainability Council; University of Arkansas Admissions Office, Business Affairs, Chancellor’s Office, Graduate School, Honors College, Human Resources, Provost’s Office, and Student Activities; Walmart International; and Walton College Dean’s Office, External Relations, and Undergraduate Programs Office.

George W. Edwards Jr. Career Center

Business students were provided career advising and fairs, job shadowing, networking events, workshops, seminars, and professional development opportunities. More than 2,000 students scheduled traditional appointments with staff, who also engaged in cyber counseling, leveraging 14,000 e-mails to facilitate services. More than 160 class presentations were delivered to over 2,500 students. While serving undergraduate and graduate business students, job posting and recruiting were provided to employers.
Placement

Undergraduate Placement, Fall 2011-Spring 2012
- Eighty-two percent of job-seeking graduates were employed at graduation.
- Seventy-two percent were employed in the south (including Arkansas), 19 percent in the southwest, one percent in the midwest, one percent in the west, two percent in the northeast, and two percent internationally.
- Twenty-one percent will pursue advanced degrees.
- Fifty-two percent of the graduating class participated in a work experience or internship.
- Sixty-five percent who worked while in school cited “financial need” as the reason.
- Average salary for undergraduate business majors was $47,856.
- Eighty-four percent of students employed or continuing their education used a center service.

Full-time MBA Graduate Placement, Spring 2012
- Ninety-one percent of job-seeking graduates were employed at graduation.
- Seventy-five percent were employed in Arkansas.
- Average salary of those employed at graduation was $60,550.
- High salary was $82,000; low was $35,000; median was $59,000.

Business Career Fairs
- Fall 2011: 650 Students, 71 Companies
- Spring 2012: over 650 Students, 92 Companies
- Co-sponsors: Career Center, Center for Retailing Excellence, Information Technology Research Institute, and Supply Chain Management Research Center

Employer Outreach/On-campus Recruiting, Fall 2011-Spring 2012
- Companies recruiting on campus: 127
- On-campus interviews scheduled: 231
- Students interviewed on-campus: 1,216
- Off-campus company visits: Amazon (Coffeyville, Kan.); Frost, PLLC; J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc.; Pepsi; Saatchi & Saatchi X and United Continental Holdings (Chicago); and Walmart Licensing Compliance.

International Internships

For the first time, the Career Center partnered with CRCC Asia to offer two students an opportunity to become immersed in the culture, history, and business environment in Beijing, China. The one-month internship was open to master’s and Leadership Walton students. Kristen Howell, sophomore accounting major, interned at Tancheng Taxation Agents, and Joseph VanMatre, senior international business major with economics focus, interned at the Center for China and Globalization.

Mr. Price Group in Durban, South Africa, offered two students a 10-week internship developed around the students’ career objectives and Mr. Price Group’s organizational goals. Alex Kieslich, MBA, focused on organization strategy and implementation, and Jason Wu, MBA, focused on the supply chain.
Leadership Walton

Leadership Walton is a developmental program that enhances students’ experiences in the areas of leadership, career development, and academics. This year, 69 of the 516 students active in Leadership Walton completed the program. The students completed 350 volunteer service projects. For example, during spring break, 10 students participated in a program with Heifer International. They began a journey of personal growth by engaging in a range of activities to challenge and strengthen problem solving and communication skills. During the week-long immersion at Heifer Ranch, they experienced lifestyles from around the world and engaged in service work, community building, and hands-on educational activities focused on hunger, sustainable development, and caring for the earth. In addition to regular classwork and service activities, students attended 490 guest speaker presentations.

Career Closet

The Career Closet is a source of free, upscale, gently-used business casual and professional attire. Business students can receive four apparel items (ties, shirts, blouses, skirts, and/or shoes) per semester or one suit each year. Professional dress was provided for interviews, career fairs, office visits, and jobs.

- Items donated: 2,370
- Items currently available: 1,102
- Items taken: 1,043
- Students assisted: over 250
- Overstock event for all university students: 70 students, over 150 items taken
- Estimated resale value of items: $8,400

Global Financial Markets Trading Center

A vital link between the classroom and the boardroom, the Trading Center is equipped with professional workstations, ticker display of live stock prices, trading simulation software, and Bloomberg terminals with real-time and historical financial data. Tapping into global markets in this complex with advanced video presentations and broadcast capability, students access the world of trading and risk management. This exposure enhances the financial education of students and benefits the business community. While managing five funds of “real money” totaling over $10.7 million, students received financial management experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rebsamen Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arvest Bank Fixed Income Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shollmier MBA Fund</td>
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<td>UA Foundation</td>
<td>$3,995,383</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>256,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$10,731,740</td>
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To help students gain workplace experience through internships and secure well-paid jobs, networking trips to Little Rock, Dallas, Tex., Newport Beach, Calif., and New York City provided access to industry professionals. Placements included the Arkansas Securities Department, Arkansas World Trade Center, Arvest Bank Group, Bank of America, Colgate Palmolive, ConocoPhillips, Dillard’s Inc., Equity Momentum Fund LLP, Garrison Asset Management, Greenwood Gearhart Inc., HSBC (Bahrain), Lockheed Martin, Longer Investments, Merrill Lynch, Microsoft, Morgan Keegan-Regions Financial, Morgan Stanley-Smith Barney, PIMCO, PriceWaterhouseCoppers, Raymond James, Stephens Inc., Tyson Foods, United Airlines, U.S. Navy, U.S. Trust, Wells Fargo, Walmart, and Zweig White Consulting.

Another advantage for students in the job market was the integration into the curriculum of Series 7 materials required for stock brokers, Chartered Financial Analyst Level I preparatory course and curriculum, and Chartered Market Technician exam preparations. Average salary for finance graduates was $49,914, compared to $47,110 for all business majors.

**Graduate School of Business**

The Graduate School of Business continued its growth in number of students and programs and extended the Walton College’s global footprint. Administering 16 graduate degree/certificate programs, in 2012, applications were up nearly 9 percent, showing an increase in program interest of almost 150 percent over the last five years.

With a new interim director, Vikas Anand, associate professor of management, the full-time MBA class has the highest ever average GMAT scores. It also has the highest percentage ever of female students—51.5 percent. Growth in the MBA (both part-time and full-time programs), Master of Accountancy, and new programs is expected to increase graduate enrollment in the coming years.

A certificate program was implemented in Panama to instruct Panamanian entrepreneurs in the techniques of starting a business. The college and Universidad de Panama in Panama City also signed an agreement to deliver the Managerial MBA in Panama in 2013. This 13-month program will be taught by full-time faculty in a mix of online and in-class sessions. In another international effort, an initial proposal was submitted to the Fortune Institute of International Business in Delhi, India, for two certificates—one in retail and one in general management.

In the recently released U.S. News & World Report’s 2014 edition of “America’s Best Graduate Schools,” the Walton College’s Executive MBA is 32nd among public business schools and the full-time program is 37th. Additionally, a No. 1 ranking was earned for the number of full-time MBA graduates employed at graduation—an impressive 90.5 percent. Experiential learning through corporate work experience was a key factor to this employment success. Working with 21 organizations, 52 percent of students were placed in external graduate assistantships and/or summer internships, resulting in approximately $150,000 revenue directly to students.
Outreach Centers

The college’s eleven centers and institutes provide a vital link to the business world and are a resource for students interested in learning more about a specific industry. Centers housed in Walker Hall include the Applied Sustainability Center, Center for Business and Economic Research, Center for Retailing Excellence, Supply Chain Management Research Center, and Tyson Center for Faith and Spirituality in the Workplace. All utilize the First Security Bank Auditorium, H. L. Hembree Ill Room, Wal-Mart Executive Boardroom, class and meeting rooms, and gathering spaces for guest speakers and networking events that connect students with business leaders.

The Applied Sustainability Center is an interdisciplinary outreach center that accelerates learning about sustainability and expands sustainable practices across a variety of organizations and institutions in the public and private sector. It has increasingly focused on sustainability as a means of enhancing economic, environmental, and social outcomes in communities.

Activities fall under six broad categories:

- **Metrics and Reporting**— Data was collected on energy, water, waste, and transportation for cities in Arkansas to develop prototype sustainability scorecards and a set of sustainability indicators. These can be used to establish baselines, benchmark against other cities, set goals, and track progress. They may also reveal opportunities for economic development.

- **Education and Outreach**— With the Arkansas Advanced Energy Foundation and Arkansas Energy Office, a workshop, “Energy, Jobs and the Economy,” was offered to candidates running for the Arkansas Legislature. Content will be modified in 2013 for audiences such as mayors, chamber executives, and education professionals.

- **Convening Leaders**— During the first annual sustainability leadership summit, community leaders focused on economic prosperity, shared best practices, and networked.

- **Research**— Faculty and students collected data at “Energy, Jobs and the Economy” to assess knowledge about energy and policy preferences. Also, research for theses and dissertations was facilitated with students in Environmental Dynamics and other academic programs. Finally, funds are being sought to conduct economic impact studies on energy efficiency and renewable energy policies and practices.

- **Student Engagement**— At the fifth Better Living Business Plan Competition, students from around the nation competed. Polar explorer Sir Robert Snow visited campus; a Sustainability Speaker Series was conducted; and students learned from business and industry leaders about sustainability initiatives at multinational companies, as well as from local entrepreneurs.

- **College, Campus, and Community**— Promoting sustainability in the community through EcoLogical Communities was recognized by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education as an innovative program.

The Center for Business and Economic Research provides relevant economic data about the economy at a federal, state, and local government level through research, presentations, media, and events while striving to improve economic opportunities by conducting policy research in the public interest. The “Skyline Report” tracked the status of Northwest Arkansas residential, multifamily, and commercial real estate markets. Economic data and analysis was provided to the Northwest Arkansas Council for their regional economic development planning. An updated economic impact study on the effects of
the Fayetteville Shale was produced for the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce, as well as an update on “Arkansas’ Position in the Knowledge Based Economy” for the University of Arkansas. Two studies estimated the economic impact of the Arkansas Athletic Department and retail liquor sales in Benton County. Additionally, the relationship between gas prices and retail sales was examined with the Center for Retailing Excellence.

Other noteworthy outcomes included:

- The 18th Business Forecast luncheon attracted over 980 area business and community leaders. Robert Hopkins, vice president, Little Rock Branch, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, was moderator; Paul Thomas, chief economist and market manager, Intel Corp., was international forecaster; Eugene Flood, executive vice president, diversified financial services, TIAA-CREF, was domestic forecaster; and Kathy Deck, Center for Business and Economic Research director, was state and local forecaster.
- Two Quarterly Business Analysis Breakfasts focused on the most recent data and trends, providing participants from 48 organizations with timely insights into the local, state, and national economies.
- Proposals for sponsored research projects totaled over $360,000 with funded projects totaling over $350,000. Additionally, more than $100,000 in event revenue funded research projects, program logistics, student and staff salaries, speaker travel, and faculty, staff, and student attendance at events. Thirty-five students worked as data collectors and analysts, enhancing their university experience with real-world skills.
- Kathy Deck, director, provided statistics and economic analysis to over 3,700 individuals during 39 presentations to businesses, agencies, and educational institutions. Staff were quoted in more than 250 news articles and appeared in over 15 television reports.

The **Center for Retailing Excellence** focuses on common concerns of retailers and suppliers, promotes student awareness of opportunities in retailing and related businesses, and supports research that advances knowledge and addresses problems faced by retailing organizations and supplier firms. A strong, generous executive board supports the many initiatives of the center and interacts with students to expand their scope of information to assess career decisions and direction.

- Eight organizations were added to the board, making a total of 55 with 59 representatives.
- Board support funded $70,000 in study abroad and $56,000 in discretionary scholarships and $25,000 in faculty research grants.
- To increase student diversity, the third Business Leadership Academy exposed students from under-represented groups to college life, social networks, business concepts, and career opportunities.
- One of 18 university members of the National Retail Federation (NRF), the center created a NRF student association (NRFS) with 39 students. Katie Streepey, vice president, was featured on the NRF Retail Careers Blog as a “Future Face of Retail.” The officers also attended the NRF “Big Show” in New York City.
- The first study abroad program in China had nine students, three faculty, and three directors participating in a 17-day program that included site visits to Li & Fung in Hong Kong, Walmart Headquarters and Distribution Center in Shenzhen, Tiananmen Square in Beijing, the Forbidden City, and the Great Wall. The program concluded in Shanghai with a visit to Kantar Retail, the U.S. Embassy, and ARC China.
- The center also conducted The Emerging Trends in Retail Conference (300 participants), the 2nd SHOP: The Industry Informant Conference (195 participants), and the Professional Panel Luncheon (195 student participants).
The Supply Chain Management Research Center supports initiatives that promote student recruitment, retention, and placement opportunities; presents seminars and educational programs relevant to supply chain management; and coordinates/supports supply chain management research. A board of industry leaders and practitioners provides direction and insights that enhance the educational experiences of business students. Membership to the board increased by four, bringing the total to 35.

Noteworthy outcomes included:

- Scholarships and awards were provided to students. Junior Alyssa Hammonds received the Crane Worldwide Logistics Undergraduate Scholarship.
- The International Graduate Logistics Case Competition was hosted with 10 teams from top U.S. and European logistics schools.
- Student organizations—Women in Logistics and Transportation and Logistics Association—hosted professionals from Walmart, Nestle, Kraft Foods, Transplace, and J.B. Hunt Transport. Additionally, the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals student chapter obtained registered student organization (RSO) status.
- An undergraduate case team competed at Operation Stimulus in Denver, Colo., and placed first at the Intermodal Associate of North America Logistics and Supply Chain Management Undergraduate Competition at the University of North Florida.
- Loray Mosher, assistant director, had “Women in Logistics or Lack Thereof: An Evolutionary Perspective” published in *Logistics Quarterly* and participated on a panel at the LQ Symposium in Dearborn, Mich.
- The supply chain management specialty was ranked 9th among public graduate business schools and tied for 14th place among all universities in *U.S. News & World Report*'s “2012 America’s Best Graduate Schools” rankings.

The Tyson Center for Faith and Spirituality in the Workplace advanced research, practice, and education in the field of faith and spirituality in the workplace. With the center recognized internationally as a leader in the field, the director was invited to give presentations in Thailand and France.

Noteworthy outcomes included:

- Ten presentations attracted approximately 360 students.
- Future Professionals for Faith and Spirituality student group hosted six events involving approximately 400 students.
- A cross-disciplinary research team produced three papers comparing a faith-based and a secular university, replicating a study of faith-based and secular hospitals. A research database from an international study on “Spiritual-Based Leadership” was also donated to the center.
- With 20 workshops and five industry speakers, the International Faith and Spirit at Work Conference had 150 attendees, about half of whom were students. Participants were from India, New Zealand, Dubai, United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States. A special issue of the *Journal of Management, Spirituality and Religion* will feature the best conference papers.
- Six sessions of the “Integrating Change” certificate program were conducted.
Walter believed that conversing over coffee and tea was as educational as learning in the classroom.

**Walter B. Cole Café** was named to honor Walter B. Cole, one of the first four business school faculty in 1926. As the first accounting professor and department chair for 10 years (1947-1957), he served the college for 43 years. This year, a display featuring Dr. Cole’s correspondence, photos, news articles, and well-known sayings was funded by Carol and Byron Eiseman.

Leased to Einstein Bros. Bagels, Cole Café is a popular, convenient place for students, faculty, and guests to meet, socialize, and enjoy a cup of coffee, snack, or meal. Prominently located near the west entrance on the second floor, the café exudes warmth, vitality, and collegiality.

**Linda Sue Shollmier Plaza** connects the four-building business campus. When the weather is nice, it is an ideal site to gather for announcements and celebrations such as the annual college rankings in *U.S. News & World Report* and the Walton College Block Party, welcoming students and faculty back to campus in the fall.

The inviting, beautifully landscaped area with its green space, blooming plants and trees, and soothing fountain sounds is enjoyed by students, faculty, staff, and visitors while studying, socializing, relaxing between classes, or touring the campus.