



BUILDING *on* EXCELLENCE, ELEVATING WOMEN & ENGINEERING

*Architectural Rendering of future
Women & Engineering Center.*

In 2016, McKelvey Engineering launched its Women & Engineering program (WE). Our aim was to grow the ranks of women engineers, empowering them to succeed as students and professionals. Since then, we've witnessed a tremendous increase in our female student population, and we've made strong headway in preparing them for the full length of their careers. Indeed, McKelvey significantly outperforms peer institutions in achieving greater gender parity in our degree programs.

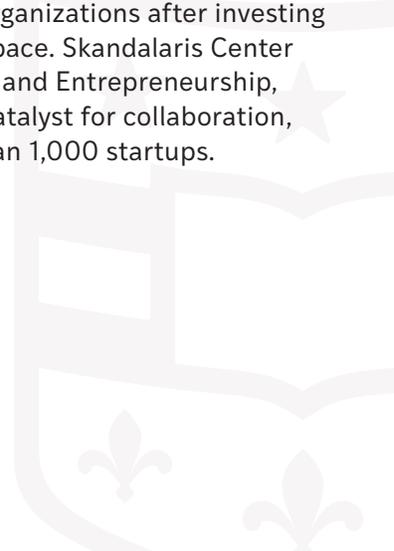
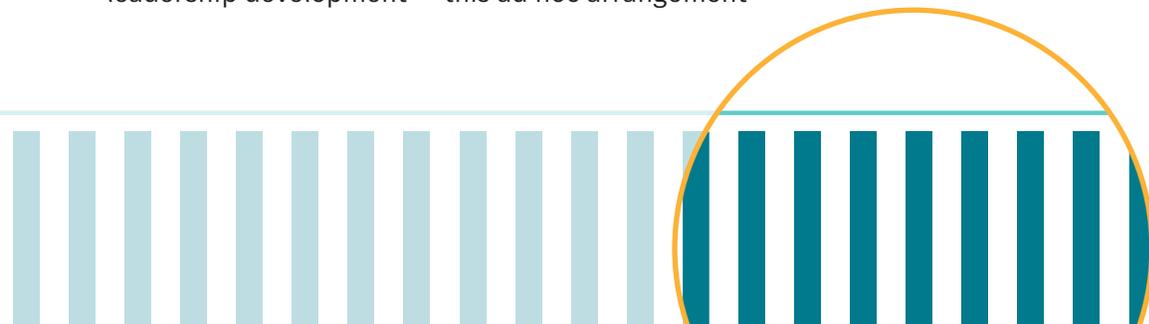
Increased access for women was merely our starting point. In 2022, we elevated and formalized WE initiatives by hiring the program's first full-time director and establishing the Women & Engineering Center. Connecting aspiring female students with influential role models and essential resources, the center fosters mentorship and support that extends well beyond graduation.

Since its inception, the Women & Engineering Center has operated out of a loose collection of offices that also serve other faculty and programming. While we've been able to accomplish a lot — from mentoring to leadership development — this ad hoc arrangement

does not accurately reflect nor support the strong sense of community and empowerment among our women. Today, we seek to recognize the important work of the Women & Engineering Center.

In early 2025, we will “break ground” to create a formal space designated solely to its programming and designed for the center's unique function. These new headquarters will allow for expanded programming and promote organic community building. As an ideal space for chance connections and meaningful conversations, it will lay the foundation for a strong network of skilled alumnae as they progress through their careers. In time, this dynamic community will help to bridge the gap in female leadership and women-centric support in the professional engineering world.

We are inspired by the accelerated growth and impact experienced by other WashU organizations after investing in leadership and designated space. Skandalaris Center for Interdisciplinary Innovation and Entrepreneurship, as an example, has become a catalyst for collaboration, driving the creation of more than 1,000 startups.



DESIGNATING SPACE

Presently we seek leadership gifts to accelerate the timeline of this project and to support the reconstruction of our office suite into a dedicated space to house the Women & Engineering Center. While the total cost of the project comes in at \$300,000, **an endowed naming gift of \$5 million** will cover the center's launch and ongoing programming in perpetuity. Your gifts will be essential to this renovation initiative. By covering costs associated with architectural plans, interior design, and construction, your support ensures that we can build a new space that physically embodies the center's aims: mentorship, leadership development, and shared experiences. Each student who spends time in our newly designed center will come away with a refortified sense of their potential and be more empowered to succeed in the future.



THANK YOU | McKelvey Engineering's women and alumnae are a strategic asset. They introduce new lines of inquiry, new perspectives on research questions, and novel solutions that serve a broader market, especially in fields where understanding user needs across genders leads to better products and technologies. By investing in the center's construction, you inspire confidence, empowering their success today and leadership tomorrow. Thank you for supporting the women of McKelvey.