

# CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

Following the move from Decatur, Dallas Baptist College experienced immediate financial difficulties. After the school established its first seven buildings for needed administration, classroom, library, and dormitory space, it could do little more to build up the infrastructure of the growing city on a hill. By the time Dr. Gary Cook arrived in 1988, the institution not only faced perpetual debt, but also a high level of deferred maintenance and a need to make the campus a beautiful place to visit.

The grass that did exist died in the summers, and mainly mesquite trees scattered the campus. Having spent time on several college and seminary campuses and understanding the connection between a serene beautiful environment and a reflective academic environment, Dr. Cook quickly began to implement steps to transform the campus. Beginning with the planting of new flowers by the faculty and staff and moving on to the establishment of new buildings, parks, ponds, and nature trails, the campus became an oasis of beauty in southern Dallas. Over the course of 10,000 days, DBU transformed into a place that attracts visitors who not only want to learn more about the school, but who also want to spend time enjoying the nature and the beauty of the campus. The transformation has even gone so far as DBU being named a Tree Campus USA institution and an officially recognized arboretum by the National Public Garden Association.





“ Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men’s blood and probably will themselves not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will not die.

Daniel H. Burnham  
American Architect

