



TRANSFORMING
LEARNING TRANSFORMING
KETTERING

Kettering
UNIVERSITY

| Learning Commons Grand Opening
Friday, September 23, 2022



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Robert K. McMahan,
President of Kettering
University

Dear Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends:

Welcome!

All spring I have been saying “the future is here.”

The symbol of that future has been rising here on the beach for three years, but today it stands completed in the heart of our campus, a testament first and foremost to your extraordinary generosity and that of thousands of others. This remarkable building was made possible entirely by your personal gifts.

The Learning Commons is the embodiment, literally carved in stone, of our enduring belief in the promise of that future — and the generations that will carry us there — casting light on times darkened by climate change, pandemics, and war.

Most specifically, it is the physical expression of Kettering’s uniquely cooperative and fluid model of education. This structure is a magnificent learning scape on which that model is finding expression today and through which the model will evolve to meet the unknowable demands of tomorrow.

Even now, the Learning Commons serves as the academic and social hub of the campus not because of its size and location but because it has, as we had hoped, eliminated the barriers between social interaction and intellectual activity. Essentially a 105,000-square-foot d.space, the Learning Commons is maximally flexible in each corner and a gathering spot for the widest possible range of uses. It is a library without books, an academic building without classrooms.

The openness that provides sightlines from end to end and over four floors across an

inspiring atrium encourages collaboration and community. Its non-linear interior design mirrors the randomness of the organic universe we seek to comprehend and fosters aggressive creativity unconcerned with convention. Its multitude of spaces celebrates and promotes the human interactivity that is the constant wellspring of academic inquiry and the consistent catalyst for the advancement of knowledge.

And most importantly, it has the best pizza in Michigan!

I do not hesitate to state that the Learning Commons is an academic space re-imagined. It has already been celebrated as such in architectural and academic circles across the country. But it is not innovation for innovation’s sake, but rather a tactical leap into a new pedagogical perspective that understands learning as indistinguishable from life. And that is what lies inside. A place where barriers disappear so that learning and life can interact in a single space to the great benefit of both.

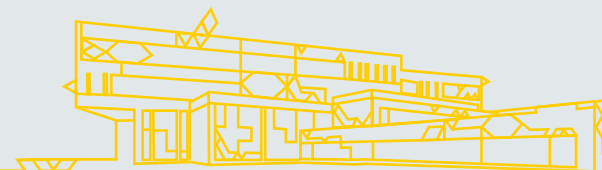
Welcome to the future. It’s finally here. Thank you, everyone here, and to all of those who made it possible.

Warmest Regards,

Dr. Robert K. McMahan
President and Professor of Physics

WELCOME

to The Learning Commons Grand Opening!



Friday, September 23, 2022
10:30 AM

- Welcome
- Featured Speakers
- Remarks by Dr. Robert K. McMahan, President
- Ribbon Cutting
- Reception
- Guided & Self-Guided Tours

SUSPEND EVERYTHING YOU THINK

YOU KNOW ABOUT BUILDINGS



THANK YOU!
BOLDLY Forward
THE CAMPAIGN FOR KETTERING UNIVERSITY

We are grateful to the members of the Boldly Forward Campaign Committee, led by Chairman Dr. Gary Cowger '70. Their efforts contributed significantly to the campaign's success, without which, the Learning Commons would not be possible.

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The Learning Commons opens up a world of new opportunities for learning and socializing for Kettering students, faculty and staff. By design. Abundant natural light and wide-open, technology-enriched spaces encourage collegiality, collaboration and innovation — attributes fundamental to our values and our cooperative learning model.

Officials broke ground on the 105,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility on Feb 5, 2020. World-renowned architecture firm Stantec designed the structure. The Edmonton, Alberta-based firm has designed academic facilities in 37 states and provinces across North America.

As the campus centerpiece for social and academic life, the building is literally designed to encourage interaction and collaboration. Its spaces are not earmarked for specific functions. It features no offices or classrooms. Its

stairways are not stacked, forcing people to move laterally before they can move vertically.

Its features are as abundant as they are innovative.

- A dozen d.spaces
- An open-air atrium with a skylight
- A 200-seat auditorium
- An informal Kiva
- A 15,000-square-foot Maker's Space
- A rooftop with 1,600 square feet of usable space
- A cantilever conference room
- A meditation room
- An art gallery
- A guest suite for visiting professors and other University guests

Constructed with nearly 900 tons of steel and 7,650 cubic yards of concrete, the Learning Commons doesn't reference any historical architectural style or period. Instead, it draws on the campus's existing structural and window modules to set the dimensional modularity of the window and wall system.

Built to the highest quality standards — in terms of construction as well as systems within the building, its expandability and how it can be modified — the Learning Commons is expected to positively impact Kettering students and faculty for decades to come.

FEATURES



1st Floor

1. Bailo Family d.space
2. Makerspace
3. Reiss Auditorium
4. Gray Fabrication Lab
5. Oswald Lobby
6. Lear Corporation Gateway to Innovation
7. J.T. Battenberg III and Luann Battenberg Café
8. Cowger Kiva
9. McBurney Zone
10. Magna Knowledge Bar
11. Amphitheater
12. Connector
13. Asahi Kasei Traverse
14. The Art Gallery
15. Koegel Plaza



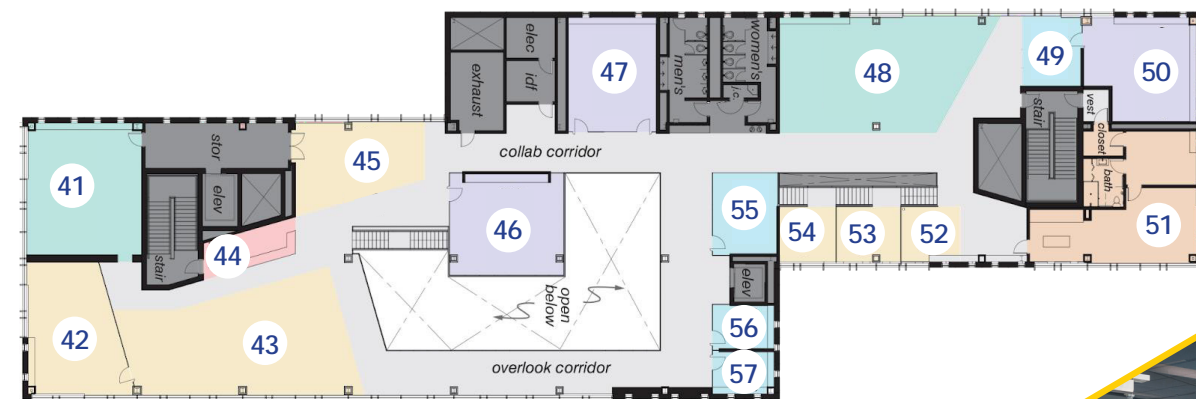
2nd Floor

16. Dutcher d.space
17. Navistar Corporate Commons
18. Omer '39 and Joan Miller* Study Niche
19. Szydlowski Dining Room
20. Atrium Sculpture
21. Miller Lobby
22. Dining Commons
23. BorgWarner Bistro
24. Rooftop Patio
25. Connector Terrace

* indicates space named in memory of deceased donor



Front side of
Learning Commons

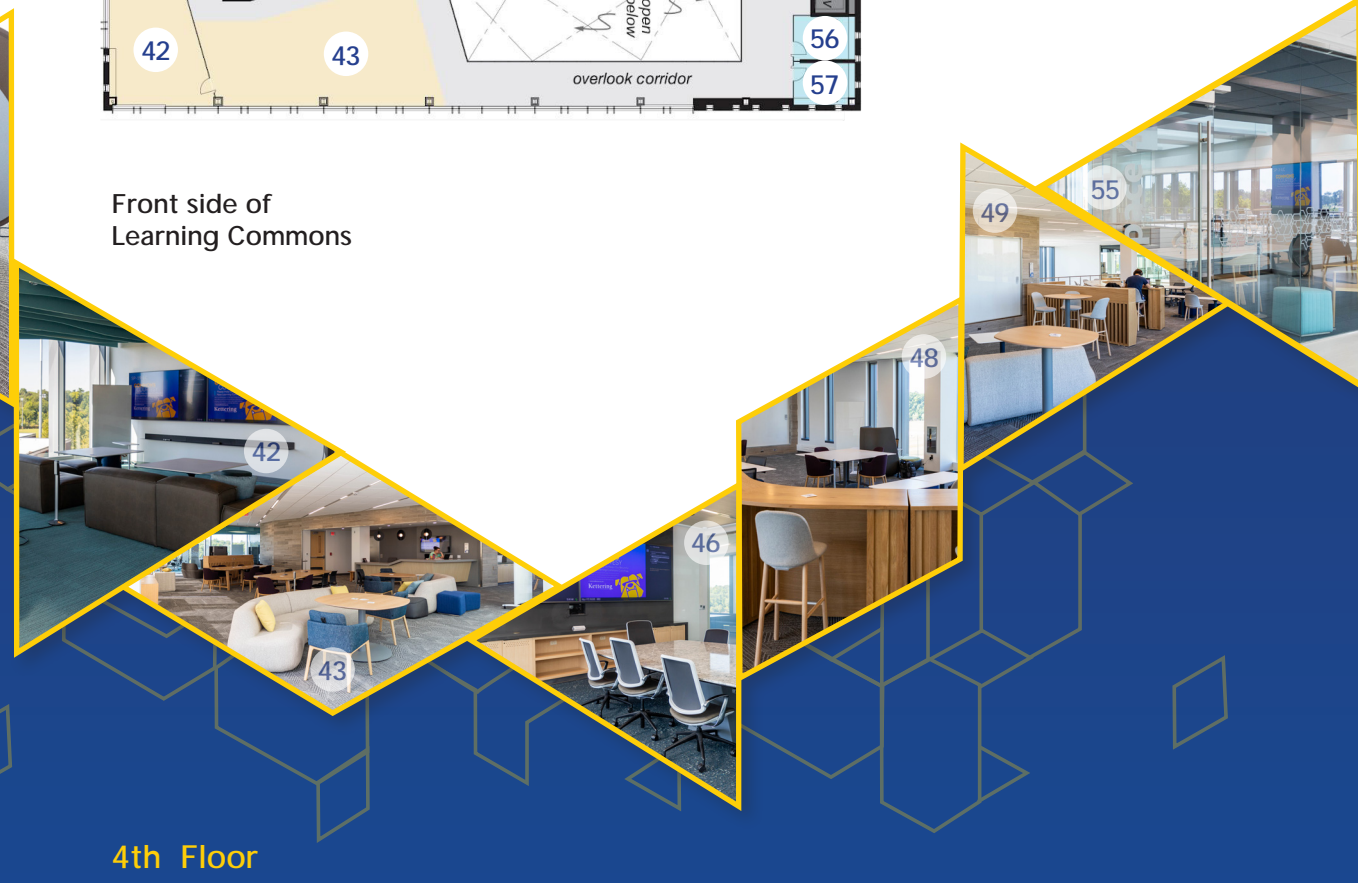


Front side of
Learning Commons



3rd Floor

- 26. Nair d.space
- 27. Hoyte & Greenwood Space
- 28. The Chan Family Study Commons
- 29. Fracalossi Knowledge Bar
- 30. Instructional Commons
- 31. Mutchler Terrace
- 32. Adamczyk Flexspace
- 33. Media Commons
- 34. Rieman Zone
- 35. Boon & Pearlstine d.space
- 36. Tomusko Reflection Studio
- 37. Deveson Knowledge Bar
- 38. Borst d.space + studio
- 39. Bandurski Family d.space
- 40. Rooftop Terrace



4th Floor

- 41. Large Presentation
- 42. Large Collaboration Space
- 43. Study Commons
- 44. Bryer Foundation Knowledge Bar
- 45. Instructional Commons
- 46. Owens Conference Room
- 47. Brose d.space
- 48. Media Commons
- 49. Arcangeli Zone
- 50. Collaboration Space
- 51. Guest Suite
- 52. Patti Engineering Terrace
- 53. Walworth Family Terrace
- 54. Middlebrook Terrace
- 55. Hearst Foundation d.space
- 56. Hancock d.space
- 57. Menchaca Family d.space

MORE THAN A BUILDING, It's a Transformational Experience.



A NEW LEARNING EXPERIENCE

This building is proof that learning can happen anywhere as faculty and students explore the various spaces for lessons outside of the classroom.



A GATHERING SPOT

Whether it's class, group project, club meeting or lunch with a friend, the Learning Commons has a variety of gathering spaces for collaboration and socialization.



TAKING A BREAK

Formerly the beach, the site of the Learning Commons offered a space for rest and relaxation as students took breaks in hammocks tied between the trees. The opportunity wasn't lost when the building was erected because now students can catch some rays in one of the hammocks on the rooftop terrace.



TAKE A SEAT

A variety of seating is peppered throughout the Learning Commons for those who want to gather around a table or others who want a private place to study.



WRITING ON THE WALLS

With so many glass walls and several white boards throughout the building, students and faculty are encouraged to write on the walls.



TECHNOLOGY ENRICHED












Faculty, staff and students can connect wirelessly to the displays in d.spaces and collaboration spaces. There's also ample outlets throughout the building to ensure all devices remain charged.


THANK YOU


To Our DONORS!
















We wish to thank all of the Kettering alumni and friends who contributed to the Learning Commons. They are listed in alpha order, with a Bulldog asterisk reflecting donors whose cumulative giving to the University exceeds \$100,000.




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* Indicates deceased





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