A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY: THE GEORGE I. ALDEN TRUST CHALLENGE

You can play a major part in securing a significant seven-figure commitment for WPI from the George I. Alden Trust while your donation to these facilities projects positively impacts the university at 125% of its value!

THE CHALLENGE

The Alden Trust has offered a $5 million leadership gift toward these facilities components of Beyond These Towers: The Campaign for WPI if our alumni also play a major part. The Trust will make its contribution if:

- 100 percent of our current trustees make a philanthropic commitment to the comprehensive campaign [ACHIEVED]; and
- at least $8 million is given toward the new building or any part of the facilities component of the campaign by current trustees [ACHIEVED]; and
- our alumni give at least $12 million toward the new building or any part of the facilities component of the campaign.

THE DEADLINE

The Alden Trust has given WPI four years to raise this $20 million from our alumni and trustees. This challenge began April 1, 2019, and will conclude March 31, 2023.

The George I. Alden Trust is one of WPI’s most generous benefactors. Based in Worcester, the Trust supports capital projects in four focus areas, including higher education. WPI’s first professor of mechanical engineering, George Alden taught at WPI for nearly three decades in the mid-to-late 1880s. He served as head of the Mechanical Engineering Department, and twice served as interim president of the Institute. He was a man of the Industrial Revolution, an inventor and prominent industrialist whose influence and achievements still reverberate through the city and the region today. In 2017 he was posthumously a member of the inaugural class inducted into the WPI Hall of Luminaries.

HOW WE WILL MEET THE CHALLENGE

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Now, more than ever, the world needs WPI’s innovators, educators, makers, and doers—people with the knowhow and the tenacity to work across disciplinary, cultural, and geographic boundaries to take on the world’s greatest and most consequential problems. Realizing the vision of a truly globally engaged university will take an unprecedented commitment from the greater WPI community.

Our drive to go beyond is fueled by the belief that what we have created and what we do at WPI can be of immense value to a world beset by challenges. We need champions to help us get there.

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Located on the current Boynton Street parking lot down the hill from Gordon Library, the new building will house interdisciplinary programs and faculty focused on the smart world with computational sciences at their core:

- Architectural Engineering
- Bioinformatics & Computational Biology
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science
- Interactive Media & Game Development
- Learning Sciences & Technology
- Robotics Engineering

Built to enhance collaboration, it will include versatile learning spaces that can be configured in multiple ways to inspire learning through doing; flexible research, collaborative, and graduate student spaces designed to bring great minds together to solve important problems; and faculty offices to support faculty expansion and maintain the teaching and learning environment for which WPI is well known.

Another important component of this new building is an integrated Student Academic Services Center that will provide services aimed at assisting students in selecting their academic path and supporting academic success, career planning, and development to help deliver on the promise of a WPI education.

Programs in the new Student Academic Services Center:

- Academic Advising
- Accessibility Services
- Career Development Center
- Office of the Registrar

Significantly, the building will also improve navigation and accessibility from Boynton Street to the top of WPI’s hill for people with mobility issues and for all visitors, students, alumni, parents, staff, and faculty. It will create a new welcoming face in the heart of the university’s neighborhood and will help create strong, accessible connections between WPI’s main campus, its eastern residential area, and its academic programs and centers at Gateway Park.

The new building is one component of a comprehensive Campus Master Plan, aimed at shaping our physical spaces to support the interdisciplinary collaboration to catalyze ideas and launch them into impact. With its Campus Master Plan in place, the resounding success of the WPI Innovation Studio—the university’s first new academic building in decades—and Beyond These Towers: The Campaign for WPI, the major comprehensive fundraising initiative supported by alumni and friends, WPI is now poised to create more new and renovated spaces that inspire teaching and learning and support purpose-driven, cutting-edge research.

Projects and initiatives where your support will enhance our infrastructure:

- **New Building focused on the Smart World**: Supporting this building will provide the state-of-the-art spaces required for our faculty’s cutting-edge research and provide the versatile learning spaces that support WPI’s distinctive hands-on, project-based learning.

- **Student Academic Services Center**: This center will bring together essential student services in one place.

- **Multiple Building Spaces**: Within the research and undergraduate facilities, these may include courtyards, entrances, robotics engineering labs, architectural engineering labs, data security science and engineering labs, learning sciences and technology labs, and cyberphysical systems labs.

- **Renovations and Adaptive Re-use of Existing Spaces**: As departments and programs shift into new and renovated spaces, it will create opportunities for other spaces to be renovated and adapted for new uses across campus.

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A BOLD, NEW BUILDING TO ACCELERATE WPI’S IMPACT
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