Alston Campus Center agnes scott college

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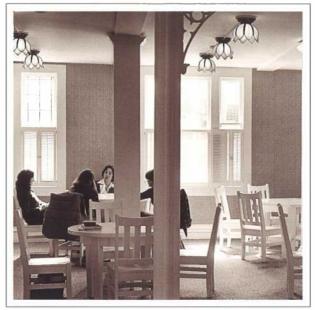
PRESIDENT ALSTON

Wallace McPherson Alston

Wallace McPherson Alston, third president of Agnes Scott College (1951–1973), endowed the institution with a palpable sense of intellect and community. During the Wednesday convocations he led, the entire campus gathered to hear the College news, engage in worship or listen to invited speakers. With five earned degrees, Alston was committed to academic excellence; but simultaneously, he reached out to faculty and staff through innumerable acts of kindness and concern.

Alston's personal interest in students is legendary. Committing their names to memory, he met with first-year students in the fall to discuss their interests and goals. Alston became known for sending birthday letters, bearing his special wishes, to each young woman at the College. He and his wife, Madelaine Dunseith Alston '28, often opened their home to students, especially when distinguished guests visited the campus. Many alumnae asked Alston to perform their marriage ceremonies, and he was always a welcoming presence on their return visits to the school.

Upon Alston's retirement, the College's Board of Trustees decreed that when completed, the future student center would bear this beloved president's name.



THE HUB, 1981

The Hub

A lthough a new building, the Alston Campus Center has a rich history. Its first forebear was the Carnegie Library, built in 1910, which became the student center when McCain Library opened in 1936. Officially, this structure was renamed for a charter trustee of the College. But when the Murphey Candler Building became the turning point of campus life, Agnes Scott students began to call it simply "The Hub."

"The Hub was where everyone went between classes," recalls Susan Thomas '66. "The piano was never in tune—it didn't matter. There was barely enough room to shoot pool—it didn't matter. It was our place for fun." Felicia Guest '66 offers this analogy: "Architects talk about 'the third space,' that essential spot in a healthy society that rounds out daily life, along with the dwelling and the workplace. The Hub was my third space, instantly, and every day for four years."

The Hub was razed in 1985, and the Wallace M. Alston Campus Center, housed in what had been the gym and the infirmary, opened in 1988. Today, on the site of the former Bucher Scott Gymnasium and Walters Infirmary, stands the elegant and technologically advanced Alston Campus Center, where new generations of Agnes Scott women can continue the best-loved traditions of The Hub—and create some of their own.



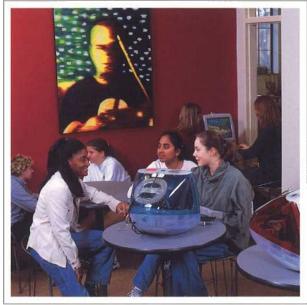
AMELIA DAVIS LUCHSINGER LOUNGE, 2001

Alston Campus Center

L ocated between the residential and academic areas of campus, the new Alston Campus Center was built to carry on the sense of community so important to its namesake. The building's more than 58,000 square feet, spread over four levels, comprise an array of activities.

The center's ground-floor gathering space — complete with a welltuned piano — is known as The Hub. The Black Cat Café, Mollie's Grille and the campus bookstore also reside on this level. The first floor encompasses the Cyber Café, where students can work or play online, and a fireplace lounge that offers a more traditional setting for conversation and study. The first floor also houses the post office, the copy center and the Patricia Collins Butler Center, which provides commuting students with their own lounge. The Technology Commons, offering two dozen workstations for students, is on the second floor, along with the offices of career planning, student activities, residence life and religious life. The third floor is devoted to student organizations and features a work room, office and conference spaces.

The Alston Center was designed with concern for form as well as function, and each activity taking place here is enhanced by its classic decor, spacious feel and pleasing vistas.



CYBER CAFÉ, 2001

"A room of our own"

By uniting the residential, cocurricular and academic portions of our Campus, the Alston Campus Center raises life at Agnes Scott to a new level of shared experience. The building was designed to mirror its majestic neighbor, McCain Library; and together, they offer unprecedented flexibility. Dean of Students Gué Hudson '68 can imagine numerous scenarios. "A student conducting library research for an essay can finish her composition in the Cyber Café," she says, "and a professor might meet with a student in the relaxed atmosphere of the Alston Center, then help the student find research materials in the library stacks."

The center holds varied extracurricular possibilities, as well. The Hub invites students to chat, snack and perhaps reinstate the tradition of making music together. The upper floors accommodate more serious pursuits. "I'm thrilled that the third floor is devoted to student organizations," says Ashley Zauderer '01. "Now we can have late-night meetings and even grab some coffee on the way up!" The center also provides commuting students with space in the heart of campus. "Finally, we have 'a room of our own'," declares Yvette Diallo '01.

Features

Third floor Honor Court The Profile Office Silbouette/Aurora Office Student Government Office Student Organizations Offices Conference Room

> Second floor Career Planning Office Carrie Scandrett Suite Technology Commons Religious Life Office Meeting Rooms Conference Room

First floor Information/Reception Amelia Davis Luchsinger Lounge Patricia Collins Butler Center Cyber Café Sun Room Copy Center Post Office

> Ground floor The Hub Mollie's Grille Black Cat Café Bookstore Conference Room

The Building in Brief

58,000+ square feet

24-hour access to Cyber Café, Technology Commons and Career Planning Library

Technology Commons with 24 individual work stations

Offices for all student organizations and publications

Business center for commuting and Woodruff Return-to-College students

Multi-functional space for small concerts and movies

Large-screen television with satellite, VCR and DVD

Three pianos

Design Architect: Martha A. Pilgreen, AIA, Perry Dean Rogers & Partners Associate Architect: Helen Davis Hatch '65, AIA, and Robert Balke, AIA, Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates Construction Management: Beers Construction Company Program Management: Carter & Associates Landscape Architect: Carol R. Johnson Associates Inc. Photography: Kieran Reynolds



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