Dallas Baptist University has received a $1 million challenge grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation of Tulsa, Oklahoma, to be used toward the construction of a new campus building housing the Gary Cook School of Leadership. In order to receive the grant, the University must raise a total of $6.5 million by July 2014.

Plans are underway for construction of the new academic building centrally located on the campus, housing classrooms as well as faculty and staff offices. The Gary Cook School of Leadership currently offers a Ph.D. in Leadership Studies, an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, and an M.Ed. in Higher Education.

“We are grateful for this challenge grant provided by the Mabee Foundation,” said Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president. “Throughout the years, the Mabee Foundation has been very supportive of DBU, and we are so pleased that they have continued this support through our new building for our leadership studies programs.”

DBU has received several generous gifts from the Mabee Foundation over the past 20 years. In 1991, the Mabee Foundation issued a challenge grant of $750,000 towards the completion of the John G. Mahler Student Center. The foundation also gave a $1 million grant in 1998 towards the $6.3 million Spence Hall women’s dormitory and in 2006 issued a $1 million challenge grant to complete the $24 million Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel campaign.

The Mabee Foundation was founded in 1948 by John and Lottie Mabee. Currently, the foundation assists religious, charitable and educational organizations in a six-state region, including Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

For information on how to give to Nation Hall, please contact Dr. Adam Wright at 214-333-5408, or visit www.DBU.edu/leadership.