This spring marked the opening of DBU’s latest building, the Patsy and Herman Smith Center. Located in Hurst, Texas, this facility will house DBU Hurst-Colleyville. For the past several years, DBU has had a presence in Tarrant Country through DBU Hurst-Colleyville, which was previously located in Colleyville Town Center. Since that time, hundreds of students have been able to take undergraduate and graduate courses, receive academic counseling, and register for classes, in addition to discovering what academic opportunities are available at DBU.

The 12,000 square-foot educational facility continues the DBU, colonial-style architecture and reflects elements of Thomas Jefferson’s design of one of the oldest buildings on the University of Virginia campus, Pavilion VII, also known as the Colonnade Club.

The Patsy and Herman Smith Center offers a full array of educational support services for students throughout the northeast Tarrant County area. Courses will be offered that lead to the completion of the Bachelor of Business Studies, Bachelor of Arts and Sciences, Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts in Management, and Master of Education in School Counseling degrees.

The building was made possible through a generous donation by long-time DBU supporter and current trustee, Patsy Smith. Patsy Smith and her late husband, Herman Smith, have been highly involved with DBU over the years. From 1979 through 1988, Herman served on the board of trustees, and in 1992 Patsy first joined the board and has served for a total of 11 years.

Mrs. Smith donated $1 million for the construction of the new building, including donation of the land as well as other construction costs. A special dedication ceremony was held in March to officially open the building. Mrs. Smith is pictured center right, along with (from left to right) DBU President Dr. Gary Cook, Vicki Weinberg (Mrs. Smith’s daughter), and DBU Executive Vice President Dr. Blair Blackburn.

“Patsy and Herman Smith have been very generous with DBU for many years, and we are most grateful for this latest gift,” shared Dr. Cook.

“When we established DBU Hurst-Colleyville, we were seeking to expand our vision of offering classes and programs to students when and where they needed them,” said Dr. Blackburn. “This facility follows that vision and will bring the college classroom and educational support services to those students whose schedules demand flexibility and convenience.”