Building on its growing international profile and the global scope of its programs for research and education, Boston University is launching a new school, to be named for its largest benefactor.

The Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, to be housed in the College of Arts & Sciences, will open next fall. The goal of the Pardee School will be to bring together faculty from across the University to support uniquely interdisciplinary research aimed at the great challenge of advancing global human progress and educating the next generation of leaders who will address these issues. Improving the human condition around the globe is at the core of the school’s mission.

Pardee (SMG’54, GSM’54, Hon.’06) donated $25 million to endow the school, matching the largest single gift in University history. Pardee’s gift brings his lifetime giving to BU to almost $40 million, the most of any supporter.

“Mr. Pardee’s investment in Boston University and his vision of moving higher education forward to pioneer a new approach to address the important issues facing human development are extraordinary,” says President Robert A. Brown. “The Pardee School will be transformational in our effort to prepare our students to work on the great challenges in the world.”

Pardee established the Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future 13 years ago as an interdisciplinary research center. The Pardee Center will be the “research engine” for the new school, according to Jean Morrison, University provost and chief academic officer.

In the College of Arts & Sciences, “international education and research have been central to our mission—this has been one of the strong elements of our signature,” says Virginia Sapiro, dean of Arts & Sciences. “Global education has long been a strong suit of Boston University both in the classroom and through the very large Study Abroad program, which currently serves more than 40 percent of all the undergraduate population of the University.”

With the creation of the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, says Sapiro, “we will have an unparalleled opportunity to take giant strides forward in this work, advancing human progress through education and research.”

Sapiro says that at its inception the Pardee School will have two divisions: one for regional studies and another for international studies. The former will bring together the college’s areas studies programs—the Center for the Study of Asia, the Center for the Study of Europe, the Latin American Studies Program, the African Studies Center, the Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies & Civilizations, and the new Middle East & North Africa Studies Program.

Each “in itself is a unifying force for faculty and students across many disciplines” at CAS and other BU schools and colleges, Sapiro says. Many already grant degrees and certificates, and clustered in the new school, she says, “we imagine they will together develop new academic programs that bring together the expertise of our faculty in exciting ways.”

School’s mission: “advancing human progress”

Frederick S. Pardee Gives $25 Million to Endow School of Global Studies

Frederick S. Pardee's newest gift brings his lifetime giving to almost $40 million.