

# Whartons Honored At Convocation

ormer MSU President Clifton Wharton, Jr. and his wife, Dolores Wharton, were honored at an official university convocation entitled "Trial & Triumph: The Wharton Years 1970-1978" on October 27, 2000 in the MSU building that bears their name, the Wharton Center for Performing Arts. Friends, colleagues, former and current MSU Board of Trustees members, university executive officers, and MSU Presidents and First Ladies gathered to honor the Whartons on the 30th anniversary of their first arrival at MSU.

The convocation began with a video tribute reflecting the uneasiness of the years 1970-78, a time that saw everything from cuts in education funding to student protests against the Vietnam War. During this time, President Wharton ensured that progress in building the university's academic and research enterprise was sustained.

Under Wharton's leadership, highly qualified new faculty joined MSU's ranks, new communication between the president's office and students was enjoyed, the number of Merit Scholars who enrolled rose and five Rhodes Scholars were named. The College of Urban Development and the Troy

Management Center were created and MSU Extension expanded its role throughout the state. The Clinical Center and the world's first super conducting cyclotron were created, and Cisplatin, still the world's most widely used drug for cancer treatment, was discovered, developed and approved by the FDA.

**Dolores Wharton** also left an indelible mark as first lady. She made the president's residence an important part of campus and a

venue to display works of accomplished faculty artists. Her love and appreciation for the arts, in fact, are what began the Whartons' tireless efforts to raise the funds for the creation of the Wharton Center. As first lady, she was not only a partner to her husband, but a true representative of the university.



Clifton and Dolores Wharton enjoy the recollections of their MSU years.

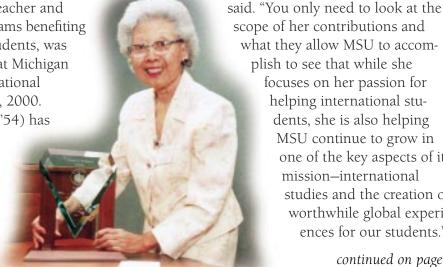
"There were extraordinary demands for effective leadership then," MSU President Peter McPherson remarked at the event, "and our university was fortunate to have the Whartons here. The convocation is a way to thank two wonderful people. Additionally,

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# Koo Honored For Contributions To ISP

r. Delia Koo, a teacher and pioneer of programs benefiting international students, was honored at a ceremony at Michigan State University's International Center on November 24, 2000. Koo (MA, Mathematics, '54) has provided gifts that will allow for the expansion of International Studies & Programs at MSU.

"Delia Koo is a remarkable person worthy of honor," MSU President Peter McPherson



Dr. Koo receives her Williams Society memento.

scope of her contributions and what they allow MSU to accomplish to see that while she focuses on her passion for helping international students, she is also helping MSU continue to grow in one of the key aspects of its mission-international studies and the creation of worthwhile global experiences for our students."

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### Whartons Honored

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this event is a call to our community to reflect upon and assess an important period. An understanding of MSU's very special history is essential as we approach our sesquicentennial."

A distinguished panel, including James T. Bonnen, professor emeritus of agricultural economics; Irving Taran, professor of art; Carl S. Taylor, professor of family and child ecology; and Roger Wilkinson, vice president emeritus of finance and operations and treasurer, recalled the Wharton years. Dean James D. Spaniolo of the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, assistant to President Wharton from 1970-72, was moderator of the discussion.

"It is essential that a university looks to its past, as well as to its future, in evaluating its mission and its accomplishments," said Provost Lou Anna K. Simon during her summation of the discussion.

"The convocation recognized a critical, though sometimes overlooked period of MSU history and accomplishment," said Spaniolo. "It was a difficult, tumultuous time in many ways for MSU, and the serious challenges pressed the university to move forward. This convocation gives us an opportunity to remember and recognize the exceptional contributions the Whartons made in building a stronger university."

### President's Brunch 2000 A Rousing Success

elebrating Students and Mentors at Michigan State University" was the theme of the 2000 President's Brunch. Over 700 alumni, donors and friends attended the event prior to the MSU/Notre Dame football game last September. Students and their mentors were on hand to share their thoughts on the benefits of a mentor/mentee relationship.

The event featured remarks from
President Peter McPherson
and Provost Lou Anna K.
Simon as well as Football Head Coach
Bobby Williams.
President McPherson
thanked MSU
alumni and
friends for the

way they mentor all students at MSU through their financial contributions.

Renowned and beloved Notre Dame president emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh was a special guest at the event and was gracious enough to share a few remarks with the crowd. Unfortunately for Fr. Hesburgh, the MSU football team was not quite as gracious, handing the Fighting Irish a tough, last-minute loss that excited Spartan fans everywhere.



President McPherson introduces Fr. Hesburgh to Coach Williams.

### Koo Gifts

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Koo's gift will cover the construction and other costs of a 10,000-square-foot third floor addition to the MSU International Center. The academic wing (including the existing library) will be named the "Delia Koo International Academic Center." The addition will provide classrooms, an office

for the Volunteer English Tutoring Program (VETP), and space for new and existing academic programs.

"Dr. Koo's gift couldn't be better designed to move MSU's international program efforts into the 21st century," said Dean John Hudzik, International Studies and Programs. "MSU's renewed growth to further internationalize curriculum, research and outreach is desperately in

need of more space, and her longstanding support for scholarships and faculty development are also very welcome."

Koo is the founder and continues to coordinate VETP, a program that has helped several thousand international students improve their English language skills and develop a better understanding of the American culture in which they are studying. She knows first-hand what challenges international students face.

A self-described "feisty young woman" who "came to the United States on the last passenger boat from China" at the beginning of World War II, Koo succeeded as a Radcliffe/Harvard student despite a late start in her first semester. Her ability to overcome challenges won her many admirers and helped her complete her Ph.D. while the mother of a young daughter, survive a battle with a serious thyroid problem, and ultimately thrive following her unexpected move to Michigan.



Delia and Anthony Koo pose with family and friends.

"While Dr. Koo's contributions enhance international studies and assist international students, they also enhance the entire academic landscape of MSU by helping to include international teaching, research and outreach in many of our academic programs and assisting students who want an international educational experience," said Provost Lou Anna K. Simon.

Construction on the new academic wing should begin in the summer of 2001.

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tive-action, equal-opportunity institution.

# U Donors Honored At Commencement

all commencement ceremonies at Michigan State University brought two significant donors the greatest recognition the university can offer. Jeffrey Cole received an honorary doctor of laws and Harley Hotchkiss received an honorary doctor of science from MSU on December 9, 2000.

Cole (Social Science, Honors College, '70) is a retired Detroit-area industrialist and philanthropist. He earned his law degree from Cornell University Law School in 1974 and serves as chairperson of the MSU Honors College Director's Advisory Council. The Jeffrey N. Cole Foundation which he established gave the Honors College its largest gift ever, \$3 million to renovate Eustace Hall, the home of the college. As thanks, the hall was renamed Eustace-Cole Hall in 1999.

Cole was a speaker at the commencement exercises, addressing the graduates of several colleges. Drawing on historical examples, his comments challenged the graduates to become true "Citizens of Judgement." Referring to the beloved statue of a Spartan on MSU's campus, Cole said, "while his carriage exudes certainty and exemplifies steadfastness of

purpose, to me his eyes have always asked a question. The warrior appears to say: 'I have done my part for you, what are you prepared to do for others? For yourself, your family, your alma mater, your society.'"

Hotchkiss (Geology with high honors, '51) has proven that he has answered such a challenge in his adult life. He is the head of Spartan Resources in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, an investment firm in oil and gas, real estate, agriculture and professional sports. He is one of the owners of the NHL's Calgary Flames, and serves as chairperson of the Board of Governors of the NHL and as a director of the Hockey Hall of Fame. Hotchkiss has led a successful business career, has received numerous honors both for his business leadership and community service, and is a generous donor to MSU including a recent \$1 million gift to the new Biomedical and Physical Sciences Facility now under construction on campus.

In addition to commencement, Hotchkiss enjoyed a few busy days on



Above: Rebecca and Harley Hotchkiss backstage at commencement. Right: Jeffrey Cole addresses the students.



campus that included a reception with the Geology Department and an MSU hockey game at which he received an MSU hockey jersey. At the end of the game, which MSU won, Hotchkiss seemed to sum up the experience for both himself and Jeffrey Cole by saying, "Well, that was the perfect end to a perfect weekend."

# REGIONAL SPARTAN HAPPENINGS

# West Coast

The MSU West Coast Regional Council met in Los Angeles for its third annual meeting in September, joined by President Peter McPherson. A reception for alumni and donors was hosted by Bill and Carol Mechanic at their home in Beverly Hills.

MSU Provost Lou Anna K. Simon visited with Orange County donors in Newport Beach, California.

Glenn and Susan Schafer of Newport Beach donated \$1 million to The Eli Broad College of Business and received their memento from Dean Emeritus James Henry and President McPherson.

James and Sue Lamond of Mission Viejo, California, accepted the 2000 Spartan Spirit Award, recognizing West Coast alumni and friends for their distinguished service to the university, from MSU Trustee Dee Cook, Glenn Schafer and President McPherson.

MSU Piano Professor Ralph Votapek, featured at a Los Angeles concert attended by alumni, donors and friends, poses with Arts & Letters Dean Wendy Wilkins, Chair of the Concert Planning Committee Ruth Charles, Deborah Moriarty and School of Music Director James Forger.

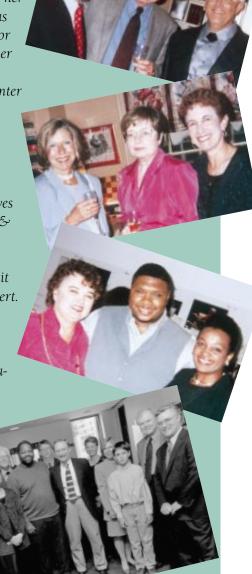
# East Coast

James Forger, Director of the School of Music, Merritt Lutz, and Dr. Roy Simon, Executive Director of MSU's Telecommunication Systems, at a reception hosted by Patricia Geoghegan at her Park Avenue home. The gathering was prior to a performance by the Director of MSU Jazz Studies Rodney Whitaker and MSU Professor of Jazz Studies Wycliffe Gordon with the Lincoln Center Orchestra at the Avery Fisher Hall in New York in September.

Candy Lutz and Patricia Geoghegan were among the alumni, donors and friends who visited with representatives from MSU including College of Arts & Letters Dean Wendy Wilkins.

Joan Palinski and Cheryl Lingard visit with Wycliffe Gordon before the concert.

Provost Simon poses with Rodney Whitaker (center) and several other alumni, friends, and MSU representatives before the performance.



# Bagbys' Charitable Bequest Creates And Enhances Scholarship Funds

By naming Michigan State University as a charitable beneficiary of their personal trust, J. Sumner and Irene Bagby of Lansing have pledged a portion of their estate for scholarships at the university. "Irene and I do not have children," Sumner said, "and we felt a scholarship gift to MSU was an appropriate way to use part of our estate."

While Sumner studied business and social studies at MSU in the mid-to-late sixties, Irene was following in the footsteps of her mother and grandfather, working on her degree from the College of Human Ecology. They met, however, at a wedding on Mackinaw Island, with Sumner attending as a friend of the groom and Irene as a friend of the bride.

Irene began her career in education in 1972 in the Grand Ledge Public Schools where she worked until her retirement in 2000. Along the way, she also earned a master's degree from MSU in Business Education in 1976. Sumner worked briefly for American Bank and Trust before being elected as a Republican to the Eaton County Board of Commissioners where he served as Commissioner for 16 years until retiring in 1998.

During their lifetimes, Sumner and Irene will enjoy the income generated from the assets under management in their revocable personal trust. They may utilize the principal as well. Upon their deaths, the pledged principal of their trust will be distributed equally, as a charitable bequest, to the Ralph Young Fund, James Madison College, the College of Human Ecology, and the Mildred B. Erickson Fellowship Fund. The bequest is not subject to federal estate tax because a charitable beneficiary (MSU) was named to receive the remaining principal.

The portion of their bequest for James Madison College will create the Marjorie Lewis Goodell Scholarship in honor of Irene's mother, formerly a professor in American Thought and Language at MSU. Professor Goodell's career affirmed her

belief in the benefits of a broad and rigorous liberal arts education that

recognizes the link between public and private endeavors. The scholarship will be established with the hope that recipients will feel an ethical obligation to make their own gifts to James Madison College in the future to continue to attract and assist the Madison Fellows who follow.

Another \$250,000 of their bequest will benefit the Mildred

Sumner and Irene Bagby

B. Erickson Fellowship. The fund assists individuals beyond the usual college age who want to begin a degree program or return after interrupting their studies for a significant amount of time, and can demonstrate financial need.

"My mother earned an MA and began teaching when my brother and I were in high school," Irene said, explaining their choice to support the fund. "Marge personified the philosophy of the Erickson Fellowship."

The Ralph Young Fund will receive \$250,000 to establish the J. Sumner and Irene G. Bagby Endowed Athletic Scholarship which "is primarily to honor my uncle Gil Haley who has always promoted supporting Spartan athletics," Irene said. The College of Human Ecology's \$250,000 portion will fund The J. Sumner and Irene G. Bagby Department of Human Environment and Design Endowed Scholarship.

The Bagbys realized that, with the help of Dan Chegwidden in MSU's Office of Planned Giving, creating scholarships and therefore opportunities for students is not a difficult process. "He took care of all of the paperwork, contacted the four recipients and coordinated the creation of the three new endowed funds, and made it very simple for us to remember and support the university," Irene said.

The long-term, positive impact for individuals is certainly a motivation for such generosity. "Once our scholarships begin making awards," Irene added, "at least four people, and hopefully more, will receive significant financial assistance, enabling them to earn degrees from MSU that they otherwise might not have had the opportunity to pursue."



SU graduate Randolph L. Cowen of New York has donated \$1.5 million to the Department of Physics and Astronomy to create the Jerry Cowen Endowed Chair in Experimental Physics. It is named in memory of Randy's father, to honor his life and physics career at Michigan State University.

In 1955, with the support of his wife Elaine, of Okemos, Michigan, Jerry began teaching in MSU's Physics department where he had earned his Ph.D. He excelled in both materials science research and teaching, particularly at the undergraduate level—something he continued to do until weeks before his death in January 1999. His research spanned five decades with many international collaborations.

"His passion and commitment to his research became an inspiration for all the members of our family to strive to have

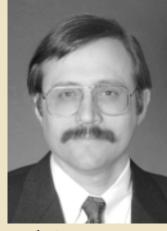
an impact in a field that we love," explained Randy. "My father dedicated his life to research in the field of solid state physics. He was always looking for new ways and materials to look at.

"I want to see MSU have one of the best research efforts in the country in the field of solid state physics so that cuttingedge research can go on," Randy continued, "but also to draw a new generation of physics graduate students like my father to the university."

Randy shared that he did not fully appreciate his father's teaching career until he attended MSU as an undergraduate. "Some of my friends who took his courses started to describe my father's enthusiasm in lecturing to large rooms of students," he said. "They took away not only a thorough grasp of the material that he taught, but also a vibrant image

of his enthusiasm as he wrote across the chalkboard."

Randy, who received his Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in Math from MSU in 1974, is Co-Chief



Randy Cowen

Operating Officer of the Technology Division and a Managing Director for Goldman Sachs, a global investment banking and securities firm headquartered in New York. He and his wife, Phyllis Green, have two children, Sarah and Matthew.

### At Home With Tom And Lupe

omecoming is a special time for MSU alumni and friends. Whether or not the day includes a win over the opposing team, true-green Spartans enjoy being together to celebrate.

Surely that was the case at the home of Tom and Lupe Izzo after the MSU/Wisconsin football game in mid-October. They opened their home to honor Bobby and Sheila Williams, and in spite of damp and windy weather that threatened the outdoor activities, over 200 guests came to applaud and offer good wishes to the couple.

As guests arrived, they could spot their destination when fluttering green and white banners, taller than the house, caught their eyes. Guests enjoyed good music, conversation, and sensational food-much of it prepared by Lupe herself or made from family recipes.

"Not every game is a win," noted President Peter McPherson philosophically to one group of guests. "This is a great university and nothing can dampen the spirit of Homecoming."



and Tom Izzo

Strosacker Foundation Helps Fund New Science Facility he Charles J. Strosacker Foundation of Midland has given Michigan State University a grant of \$250,000 to be used toward the new Biomedical and

construction on campus.

The grant will specifically fund the Collaborative Teaching Laboratory in that part of the facility that will be utilized by the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Such a laboratory gives the department an opportunity to teach in a

setting that best allows students to interact and develop their science skills.

"In addition to being the first lab of its kind on MSU's campus, it will also be one of the first of its kind in the nation designed for one-on-one, active learning opportunities in physics," said Eugene C. Yehle, Chairman of the Charles I. Strosacker Foundation. "The trustees of the foundation support this effort and innovation and are happy to be able to ensure its existence in the facility."

Recent experiments with collaborative learning have proven to MSU faculty that a more personalized approach greatly benefits students. Gathering students in large spaces with grouped tables, computers, and blackboards promotes collaborative learning which, after several years of experimentation in the department, clearly reinforces the mathematical and physical reasoning needed to firmly grasp the concepts of physics.

"Physics faculty at MSU have been learning over a long period of time the benefits of teaching in a collaborative atmosphere," said Wolfgang Bauer, Chair of the Physics and Astronomy Department. "The new facility will enable us to build on our strength and enhance our national leadership position in this field as well as enable us to teach our students more effectively."

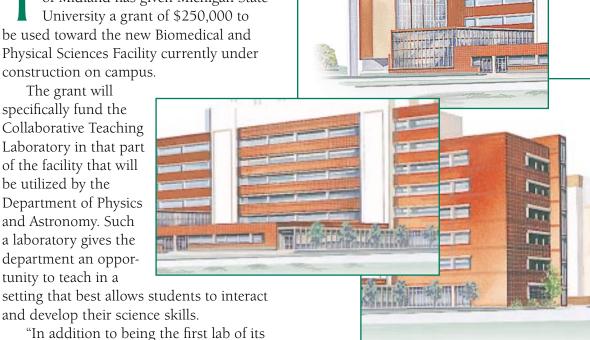
"The Strosacker Foundation has been a generous supporter of Michigan State

University in the past, and this gift is further evidence of their commitment to supporting important educational opportunities," said MSU President Peter McPherson. "We're glad to count the Foundation among our most significant supporters of the new science facility."

The new Biomedical and Physical Sciences Facility is a seven story, 350,000 square foot building located at the corner of Wilson Road and Farm Lane on MSU's campus. It will connect with the biochemistry and chemistry buildings to create the largest research complex on campus and will provide much needed space for several colleges and departments across campus.

Of the total \$93 million cost for the facility, MSU is responsible for raising \$13.3 million from private sources. The Strosacker Foundation gift brings MSU's efforts to over \$11 million to date.

The Foundation was established in 1957 by the late Charles J. Strosacker, one of the pioneers of Dow Chemical Company, to assist and benefit political subdivisions of the State of Michigan, and religious, charitable, benevolent, scientific and educational organizations.



# MSU/UM Seniors Hold Fundraising Challenge

rmed with a joint web site and as much school pride as they can Michigan State University and the

Challenge," as the campaign is called, the universities are sharing a common web site where gifts can be made online. The site is

The campaign was designed in part to get the word out that MSU does have

# "He who plants a tree, plants a hope."

Lucy Larcom, American poet

ichigan State University has been known for decades for its beautiful campus, part of which is the result of many university professors, alumni, students and friends taking great care with our trees. Their placement and growth has been part of a well-thought-out plan, and carrying on that tradition is one of the reasons for the university's Campus Beautification—Planting Tomorrow's Heritage Today campaign which began in 1998. Many people have given generously and supported the campaign, but two stories in particular from the past year stand out.

Jim Potchen (Natural Science, '54), Chairperson of the MSU Radiology Department and a significant donor to the university, undertook a unique project to add to the beauty of campus by transplanting a magnificent tree alongside the Radiology Building. The superb Copper Beech tree was planted following nearly two years of preparation.

A large crew, supported by many people from throughout the MSU community, moved the tree from the university nursery on Beaumont Road on a bitterly cold day. Several donors contributed to the move to help offset costs.

"It is some 50 to 60 years old," Potchen said, "and with proper care has a life span in the hundreds of years. This will be the focal point of the Radiology Gardens." The tree was planted in memory of Potchen's mother,



The Copper Beech tree in its new home near Radiology.

Eleanore, and bears a plaque in her honor.

The second story involves another significant donor to MSU who was inspired by the actions of MSU students. Peter Secchia (Business, '63) read an article in this publi-

cation about a group of Wonders Hall students who were inspired to undertake a fund raising campaign after hearing comments made by President Peter McPherson.

The campaign would lead to the planting of a tree in front of Wonders Hall on Arbor Day, April 28, 2000. Raising money from Wonders residents \$2 at a time, the students reminded all of us that gifts, no matter what their size, can make a difference.

Secchia, Chairman of Universal Forest Products of Grand Rapids and MSU Distinguished Alumni Award winner in 1999, recalled his first living quarters while at MSU, and he sent President McPherson a note. "A great article," Secchia wrote. "Enclosed is my check to do for Bryan Hall (my freshman dorm) what your students did for Wonders Hall."

His enthusiasm is exactly what the university hopes it will continue to see as the effort continues to create for the south campus—now and for future Spartans—the same beauty others before us created for north campus. Plans are underway to plant Secchia's commemorative tree on Arbor Day 2001.

With tender care and thoughtfulness, and the support of generous donors, new trees will keep popping up on campus. As that happens, we ensure the beauty of MSU's campus will be known for generations to come.

### CHM Student Learning Center Opens

esigned to help Michigan State
University College of Human
Medicine students cope with the
rigors of medical school, the Student
Learning Center (SLC) officially opened
for business on September 7, 2000. Funded in large part by private donations, the
17,000 square foot center features 14
small-group classrooms, a quiet study
area, student lounge and commons area,
student organization room, tutor room
and an e-mail and message center.

"As medical students, we have never had a place to call our own," said April Holmes, a third-year student. "The Student Learning Center will strengthen class and college spirit by providing facilities where we can learn and study together."

The center is available to College of Human Medicine students on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week basis. "In a convenient, safe, well-lit and accessible area, we have created an environment in which our students can study, learn and relax," said Christopher Colenda, acting dean of the College of Human Medicine. "Not only will it benefit our current students, it also will serve as a tremendous tool to help the college recruit and retain quality

medical students from the state of Michigan and the U.S."

"With hook-ups for personal laptops throughout the center," said Linda Lam, a second-year CHM student, "students will have increased access to the technology and resources that are an essential part of our medical training."

The dedication ceremony included remarks from MSU President Peter McPherson, Provost Lou Anna K. Simon and CHM Student Council President Justin K. Klamerus. Those who attended the dedication included key donors to the project. Guests were given tours of the center, hosted by some of the medical students who will benefit from the facility.

"At long last we have a learning space that creates a sense of identity for our medical students and complements the small-group and computer-based learning that is essential to our pre-clinical curriculum," said Ruth Hoppe, College of Human Medicine senior associate dean. "This facility is state-of-theart and we are very proud and grateful to have it."



Top: The ribbon-cutting ceremony. Above: Guests in the commons area.

## MSU Donors Honored With Award

ichigan State University and University Development are proud to boast that for the second consecutive year, two of its significant donors have won the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Capital Area Chapter, "Philanthropist of the Year" award.

Honored in 1999 and 2000, respectively, were Pauline Glassbrook and Shirley Pasant. Each year, the Capital Area Chapter of the NSFRE recognizes an individual or family who has demonstrated exceptional philanthropic commitment in Mid-Michigan, and whose generosity and dedication encourages others to engage in philanthropy.

Pasant has supported many areas of MSU. Her philanthropic support has also made a significant impact at organizations like Critter Alley Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Sparrow Hospital, Boarshead Theatre, Nokomis Learning Center, and Ele's Place.

"Shirley Pasant embodies the true spirit of philanthropy in our community," said Cheryl Armstrong, Director of Special and Annual Giving for MSU and president of the local NSFRE chapter. "She is an important donor and friend to many organizations in our area, and it has truly been a pleasure to honor her in this way."

The Pasant Theater at the Wharton Center was named in honor of Shirley and her late husband, Anthanase, and their gifts to MSU have included endowment funds for the Wharton Center as well as an endowed chair in The Eli Broad College of Business. Pasant is recognized by MSU in the Frank S. Kedzie Society.

Pauline Glassbrook has also demonstrated her commitment to philanthropy through thoughtful and generous gifts to organizations throughout the Capital Area. She donates her time as a volunteer to the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross.



"Pauline has been a longtime donor and friend of numerous organizations, including Michigan State University," said Susan Davies Goepp, then director of development for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at MSU. "Her volunteer activities demonstrate that she believes in making a contribution of labor, as well as of financial resources."

Glassbrook has given to many areas of MSU and is recognized in the Jonathan L. Snyder Society for her generous contributions. In addition, Glassbrook and her late husband established an endowed scholarship in Agriscience Education for Future Farmers of America students, and she was the lead donor in the Red Cross campaign to acquire an emergency response vehicle for use in five Mid-Michigan counties.

"We are so pleased that people of such importance to the university have been recognized with the Philanthropist of the Year award two years in a row," said Chuck Webb, Vice President for University Development. "Shirley and Pauline are great friends of the university and the entire community."

# Annex Dedication Adds To Ag Hall Grandeur

new addition to one of the oldest buildings on campus was dedicated as part of Michigan State University Homecoming weekend activities in October. MSU President Peter McPherson, Provost Lou Anna K. Simon and MSU Board of Trustees member Don Nugent were among speakers at the dedication of the new Agriculture Hall East Wing Annex. The event celebrated the completion of the building and provided an opportunity to thank those who helped make the new structure possible.

The annex is a three-story, 27,000-square-foot building attached to Ag Hall by a one-story atrium or commons area. The building was designed to ensure a cohesive appearance with the existing structure, with brick-arched windows, stone details and bricks carefully selected to closely match the color and size of the original Agriculture Hall brickwork.

The need for additional office space and structural problems with the old annex necessitated the construction of the new building. The old annex was demolished in 1997 to make way for the new building which includes about 50 offices housing the

4-H Youth Development, Department of Agricultural Economics, and MSU Extension Children, Youth and Families offices.

Furnishings in the annex atrium were provided as a gift of the Class of 1949 in recognition of its 50th reunion. Members of the class raised \$46,000 to furnish the space now used by students and faculty members for informal meetings and relaxation.

"We raised the money to acknowledge the role MSU has played in each of our lives and in memory of our classmates who are deceased," said Gene Dice (CANR, '49 & '56), a representative of the Class of 1949. "Some have passed away in the years since 1949, and others did not have the opportunity to graduate with us because their lives were cut short while serving their country in WWII."

A triptych mural hangs over the west entrance of the new annex atrium. "ANR Past, Present and Future," painted by university artist Bob Brent, was unveiled as part of the dedication ceremony. The mural consists of three 4 foot by 7 foot panels depicting scenes representing the history, present

and future of agriculture and natural resources at MSU.

"Bob Brent has a way of capturing the dignity and spirit of his subjects, and I think he has done a wonderful job in portraying the history and future of this college," said Bill Taylor, acting dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. "Bob has made the ANR vision a beautiful reality which will be enjoyed for generations to come."

The annex mural was made possible by gifts from Shelby (Natural Science, '67) and Ann M. Robertson (Education, '69), John (CANR, '69) and Marti Hesse (Education, Honors College, '65, '66 & '85), Ann L. Robertson and Agnes Bouyoucos.

"The mural was the dream of my mother, Elizabeth 'Betty' Robertson, to honor the memory of my father, Lynn 'Bus' Robertson, who served MSU for more than 40 years in crops and soil science and Extension," said Marti Hesse. "We feel fortunate that Mom was able to see the first sketches of the mural before her death last year and that we were able to help make her dream a reality."

"Through the generosity of the Robertson, Hesse and Bouyoucos families and the Class of 1949, the annex atrium has become a comfortable gathering place and focal point for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources," Taylor said.





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