



SOCIAL WORK GIFT BENEFITS SOCIAL JUSTICE EDUCATION

Central to social work is the ability to be an effective advocate for social justice, particularly in times of scarce resources. The newly created Fund for Advocacy, Leadership and Social Justice, developed with a gift from alumna Kate Pew Wolters (MSW, '82), will allow the MSU School of Social Work to continue its leadership in defining, exploring, promoting and teaching concepts of social justice in the 21st century.

Effective advocacy is a central skill for all social workers and a significant emphasis in the MSU Master of Social Work program. At the same time, each graduate of the MSU School of Social Work should have his or her leadership qualities identified, deepened and expanded, explained Gary Anderson, director of the school.

"We have a tradition of preparing social workers for a variety of leadership roles—some very visible and some quietly effective," Anderson noted. "The

role of leadership in recruiting and retaining workers, and building organizations that can provide ethical and effective services is essential. This fund will support activities to advance leadership skills for our students and, through continuing education, for our alumni."

The Fund for Advocacy, Leadership and Social Justice will promote advanced educational opportunities and broaden training, with the goal of equipping each student to be an effective advocate and leader. Specifically, the fund will support elective courses on advocacy and leadership, continuing education workshops, specialized field placements, guest lecturers for the school and broader community, as well as targeted research projects.

"Both advocacy and leadership are informed by and inspired by the value of social justice," Anderson said. "Each of these qualities—advocacy, leadership and social justice—will be significantly advanced



Kate Pew Wolters

by the newly endowed fund and are central to our mission."

"Kate is a wonderful example of a Spartan using her educational foundation to make a real difference in our society," noted Marietta Baba, dean of the College of Social Science. "Her generosity will create collaboration opportunities with other disciplines and enhance advocacy, leadership and social justice exploration at Michigan State University for years to come."

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LESLIE GIFT PROVIDES EMERGENCY STUDENT AID

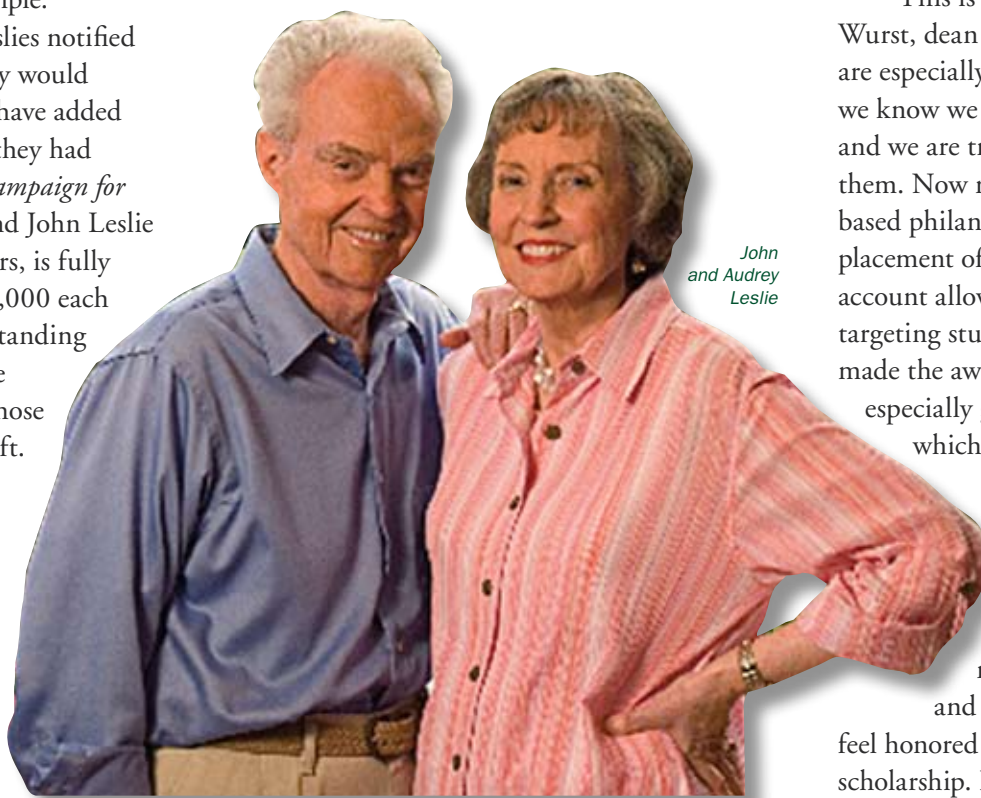
Making a difference is what philanthropy is all about and Michigan State University is fortunate to have many individuals helping to do that. However, some gifts make a truly significant and immediate impact. A recent gift from Audrey (Arts and Letters: Philosophy, '50 and English, '60) and John Leslie is an example.

Shortly after Thanksgiving, the Leslies notified the College of Arts and Letters that they would be sending a year-end gift. They could have added this gift to the value of an endowment they had already established during the recent *Campaign for MSU*. That endowment, the Audrey and John Leslie Endowed Scholarship in Arts and Letters, is fully funded and generates approximately \$4,000 each year for two students of at least junior standing with a 3.0 grade point average who have financial need. The Leslies, however, chose to do something else with their 2008 gift.

The Leslies directed that their \$10,000 gift go to the College of Arts and Letters Dean's Discretionary Account to help two to three students who otherwise might not be able to continue their education.

"We wondered if, because some students might be having problems paying their tuition during the coming

year, would it not be better to make a straight cash contribution?" noted John. "Because in many cases young people do not return to college after dropping out, we hope we can keep this from happening in at least one or two instances."



John and Audrey Leslie

Many MSU students and their families are feeling the pinch of the current economic crisis. At the same time, the importance of a college education has never been greater. The Leslies wanted to provide immediate help to students facing tough decisions about staying in school.

"This is a wonderful gift," commented Karin Wurst, dean of the College of Arts and Letters. "We are especially grateful for this timely gift because we know we have students who are struggling and we are trying to do as much as we can to help them. Now more than ever, this kind of needs-based philanthropy is immensely valuable. The placement of the funds in the Dean's Discretionary account allows us to be very proactive and nimble in targeting students in need." The college immediately made the awards to three young women who were especially grateful for the surprise assistance, which came to them over the holidays.

"The current economic turmoil has affected my family in many ways, including bankruptcy and foreclosure," said Cierrah Danforth, a junior from Detroit, Michigan, majoring in East Asian Languages and one of the scholarship recipients. "I feel honored and lucky to have been awarded this scholarship. It's the best 'job well done' I could have

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Kate Pew Wolters has long been a role model for her commitment to public service and for her business leadership. After completing her master's at MSU, she took a position as a staff social worker at Steelcase Inc., later becoming executive director of the Steelcase Foundation, a foundation particularly concerned with helping individuals who are disadvantaged or disabled as they try to improve their



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lives. Former President Bill Clinton appointed Pew Wolters to the National Council on Disability on which she served for nine years, eight of them as vice president of the council. She has received many

honors for her outstanding leadership, including the College of Social Science Outstanding Alumni Award (1991), the MSUAA Distinguished Alumni Award (1994), and her selection in 2007 to receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities from MSU. Pew Wolters is on the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees, and has served on numerous boards and foundations, including the MSU Foundation.

For more information about making a gift to the School of Social Work, contact College of Social Science Senior Director of Development Sarah Blom at (517) 432-1802.

DEVELOPMENTS

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To remember MSU as a charitable beneficiary in your will, personal trust or retirement plan, it is important to do so accurately. The correct reference is: Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan and the federal tax identification number 38-6005984. To explore how you might remember MSU, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at (800) 432-4678 or (517) 884-1000. If your estate/retirement plan includes MSU as a beneficiary, we encourage you to contact us to accurately record your intent and include you in the appropriate donor recognition group.

NEW VICE PRESIDENT ADDS TO MOMENTUM

MSU's newest vice president believes he has joined Team MSU at a particularly opportune point. Robert (Bob) Groves began his tenure as vice president for University Advancement on January 1, 2009.

"This is an exciting time to be joining MSU, where leadership has created tremendous momentum, as evidenced by many recent successes," Groves said, citing MSU's selection as the U.S. Department of Energy's site for the \$550 million Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, IBM's decision to locate an application center on campus, and the increasing accomplishments of MSU athletics as just a few examples. "The potential for building upon MSU's successes is dramatic because of the quality of programs and people at this internationally renowned university. I see this as more than a great opportunity; I see it as a calling to be part of a transformative leadership team."

Groves noted that MSU is fortunate to benefit from the many types of support given by alumni and friends, including advocacy for the institution and our students, student recruitment, career advice and placement, not to mention serving as ambassadors, opening doors, and providing advice to help make sure Michigan State's programs continue to be relevant, focused and effective. Groves further adds that financial support has never been more vital. Michigan State continues to grow and build world class programs because of careful management of tuition and public funding leveraged by generous private support. "There is almost no societal problem in which education does not have a part in solving," Groves said. "There is a role for everyone to play."

MSU University Advancement is a new unit created last summer with the inclusion of University Development and the MSU Alumni Association under the university advancement umbrella. Groves regards the integration of these units as an excellent means to effectively mobilize, channel and serve MSU's constituencies across the globe. "There is a profound sense of optimism and forward momentum at MSU and we are recognized as not only an exceptional state institution, but as a vital international one," he said, adding that "Michigan State is in some ways a waking giant, with more than 450,000 alumni worldwide and, when you count non-alumni supporters, parents and those served by this institution around the world, that number swells to nearly a million potential friends and supporters."

Groves comes to MSU most recently from the University of Michigan, where he was associate vice president and campaign director for University Development, a position he held since April 2004. But Groves was already no stranger to the

Big Ten and higher education. Prior to his U-M appointment, he was vice president for Development of the Minnesota Medical Foundation at the University of Minnesota. He was also an executive director of University Development at Pennsylvania State University and has held similar fundraising positions at Wright State University and at his alma mater, The Ohio State University.

Groves provided the day-to-day direction for U-M's recent campaign, *The Michigan Difference*, which raised \$3.2 billion and is believed to be the most successful fundraising campaign ever at a public university.

"We are more than fortunate to attract a candidate with Robert Groves' qualifications to Michigan State," said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. "Not only did he direct the day-to-day operations of *The Michigan Difference*, he also brings with him an extraordinary track record of fundraising at several Big Ten institutions. Bob has demonstrated both the vision and the operational know-how to lead fundraising efforts of great impact. Bob clearly wants MSU to be a focus in helping to define and lead the 21st-century total advancement model.

"I am particularly impressed with his astute appreciation for the values, mission and aspirations at MSU at this time in our history. He understands how to stimulate increased philanthropic investment in a public institution and he values our land-grant heritage and our world-grant destiny."

It was a year ago that MSU completed its most successful fundraising campaign. *The Campaign for MSU* raised \$1.4 billion, surpassing its goal of \$1.2 billion.

"We are among the newest universities to get serious about advancement, so we have a vast opportunity to build," Groves said. "For example, while *The Campaign for MSU* was wildly successful, there are still people who haven't had the opportunity to participate, or who may not yet appreciate the impact that they can have on the challenges that society faces, by supporting MSU. I look forward to partnering with Michigan State's alumni and friends around the world to make this great university even stronger."

GIFT PROVIDES AID

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received for my hard work this past semester. This extra support makes all the difference."

Being able to help students during a difficult time has been very rewarding to the Leslies. "Audrey and I only wish the check could have been larger considering the critical economic times," John stated.

For more information about making a gift to the College of Arts and Letters Dean's Discretionary Account, contact Director of Development Bridget Paff at (517) 353-4725.



MSU Vice President for University Advancement Bob Groves.

SKILLMAN FOUNDATION FUNDS MSU FOR GOOD SCHOOLS RESOURCE CENTER

A nearly \$2 million grant from the Skillman Foundation is helping MSU's College of Education to increase the number of high-performing schools in Michigan's largest city. Dozens of Detroit schools striving to improve student achievement now have direct support from Michigan State University's distinguished pool of education researchers. The Detroit-based Skillman Foundation selected the MSU College of Education to re-establish and operate its Good Schools Resource Center, starting January 1, 2009.

"This is a significant opportunity to build and support the capacity existing in more than 100 schools," said Barbara Markle, assistant dean for K-12 outreach and executive director of the new resource center. "Our college is focused on helping principals and their teams improve teaching and learning across Michigan, and we pay special attention to the challenges of urban schools."



Barbara Markle

As part of MSU's new partnership with the Skillman Foundation, more than 15 MSU faculty and staff members plan to conduct seminars and workshops, visit schools, analyze data, maintain a web site of resources and offer specialized guidance to educators who request assistance.

"This is an excellent opportunity to build on our enduring commitment to quality education for children in Detroit," said Sonya Gunnings-Moton,

College of Education assistant dean for student support services and recruitment. "The Skillman Foundation has set the stage for MSU and Detroit educators to share and apply promising practices in support of students who truly deserve our best efforts."

The MSU College of Education is one of the leading institutions for pursuing a career in education and is nationally and internationally known for its research on teaching and learning. The college's graduate school programs in both elementary and secondary education have been ranked as the best in the nation for 14 years running in the *U.S. News and World Report* annual survey. The college has a total of seven programs currently ranked in the top 10.

The Skillman Foundation's Good Schools: Making the Grade initiative provides direct grants to public, private, religious or charter schools located in the city of Detroit. The resource center provides tailored guidance and training to teachers, administrators and parents as they work toward meeting goals outlined by each grant.



Sonya Gunnings-Moton

"Research is so crucial to the process," said Skillman Program Officer Detangle Alexander, noting that too many elementary, middle and especially high schools are not meeting standards or improving. "We need the brain trust at MSU to help us change the playing field in Detroit."

The Good Schools Resource Center currently is housed at YouthVille Detroit, a youth development



Students at Carstens Elementary. Photo by Paul Engstrom, Skillman Foundation

facility where the College of Education also works with Detroit teens interested in becoming teachers.

Created in 1960, the Skillman Foundation is a private philanthropy whose chief aim is to help develop good schools and good neighborhoods for children. Though grants are made throughout metropolitan Detroit, most grants are directed at six Detroit neighborhoods – Brightmoor, Cody/Rouge, the Northend, Osborn, and Southwest Detroit (Vernor neighborhood and Chadsey/Condon neighborhood) – and toward innovative and successful schools throughout the city of Detroit.

For more information about making a gift to the College of Education, contact Senior Director of Development Michelle Mertz-Stoneham at (517) 432-1983.

MCCORD RESEARCH FOUNDATION PARTNERS ON TROPICAL DISEASE

Thanks to a grant from the McCord Research Foundation, an MSU researcher will expand his work on the causes and transmission routes of a devastating tropical disease known as Buruli ulcer to also reduce the social stigma of the condition which impacts thousands of people, often children, throughout West Africa. Entomology Professor Richard Merritt will use a portion of the \$143,000 grant to develop education and family support programs aimed at teaching families how to identify and seek medical intervention for Buruli ulcer in its early stages.

Established in 2008, the McCord Research Foundation is the philanthropic arm of McCord Research, supporting programs and causes close to the hearts of Darlene McCord, Ph.D., and James McCord, Ph.D. The foundation currently supports independent labs working on Buruli ulcer research.

"We are honored to fund the excellent work Dr. Merritt and his team are under-



MSU entomologist Richard Merritt and a group of children who live in a Ghanaian village.

taking with regard to Buruli ulcer," Darlene McCord said. "This disease ruins entire families' lives, and the more we know about it, the better chance we have of stopping it."

The bacteria responsible for Buruli ulcer – *Mycobacterium ulcerans* – is a genetic cousin to the bacteria that causes leprosy and tuberculosis. As with leprosy, patients with Buruli ulcer can develop painful and unattractive sores on their bodies that can eventually cripple and even kill them.

More common in children than adults – about 70 percent of those with the disease are younger than 15 years old – Buruli ulcer mainly affects children in poor, rural areas. The disease also often destroys the social and emotional lives of school-age children because they are isolated from family and friends. Most aren't even allowed to attend school due to their condition.

Darlene McCord has invested her own research energy into creating a topical wound care product that can effectively treat and heal the ulcer once it's established. Her hope is that this treatment will become obsolete—that no child will have to suffer the physical and social hardship associated with contracting Buruli ulcer.

In addition to helping to support Merritt's research into how Buruli ulcer is transmitted, the McCord Research Foundation grant will allow MSU researchers to work with staff in West Africa to establish an education program assisting parents in identifying the early presence of the ulcer in their children and helping to support education for the children while they are in the hospital.

"We're hoping to eliminate the stigma associated with Buruli ulcer and get families to take action early, reducing the often painful suffering and isolation that goes along with contracting the disease," Merritt said.

The McCord Research Foundation grant enhances funding provided to MSU by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation Emerging Infectious Disease section to conduct a five-year study investigating possible links among biting aquatic insects, water quality, landscape and Buruli ulcer transmission in Ghana.

"The McCord Research Foundation grant will help ensure that Dr. Merritt, his students and other researchers have the resources needed to continue their work to eradicate Buruli ulcer," said Jeffrey Armstrong, dean of MSU's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. "This partnership between MSU and the McCord Research Foundation will have a tremendous impact on the quality of life in communities throughout Africa. It represents how universities and foundations can work together to effectively address a health crisis in ways that no one organization can do alone."

For more information about making a gift to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, contact Associate Director of Development Jackson Kaguri at (517) 355-0284 or Mid-West Gift Planning Advisor Shannon Duvall at (517) 884-1109.



Darlene and James McCord with President Lou Anna K. Simon.

DAVISON GIFT SUPPORTS AGNES MCCANN LEGACY

The impetus for giving often comes from early experiences. For Sam Davison (Engineering, '53), Agnes McCann, an MSU staff member, provided the motivation to support Michigan State University. As secretary to the dean of the College of Engineering from 1917 to 1962, McCann worked with literally thousands of students over the years. She not only provided general support and motherly advice when students questioned whether they could survive the rigorous curriculum, but also offered advice on which classes to take when. "I owe her a big thanks," Davison said.



Agnes McCann

Like many college students, Davison took a while to choose a major. It wasn't until the beginning of his junior year that he decided on mechanical engineering. He was fortunate to also be employed as a student worker for McCann at that time. "I had a lot of credits, but not enough in engineering. When I was at MSU, we could pre-register. She (McCann) gave me the optimum classes," Davison said.



Sam Davison

Because of McCann's help, and Davison's hard work, he became a maintenance test pilot in the Air Force and went on to become a chief engineer at General Electric (GE), designing many different types of engines for 37 years. His accomplishments earned him a place in the GE Propulsion Hall of Fame for his design work on the CFM 56 Engine.

Upon exploring the idea of supporting Michigan State University, Davison was pleased to learn of the existing Agnes McCann Memorial Student Endowment, which pays tribute to her legacy. The endowment provides critical support for undergraduate activities in the College of Engineering, including academic initiatives, student programs and tuition

support. As with all endowments, the principal of the gift is continually preserved and a percentage of the interest income is spent annually.

Davison considered several different gift vehicles, but found that a charitable gift annuity (CGA) was the right choice for him. In Davison's case, the benefit of the CGA he funded with cash includes receiving a fixed and guaranteed income for life—a portion of which is tax free. He also received a sizable charitable deduction he may claim on his federal tax return.

A charitable gift annuity is among the easiest and most popular methods for providing a future gift to MSU. In exchange for a transfer of cash or marketable securities, the MSU Foundation will contractually agree to pay a fixed and guaranteed stream of lifetime income to you and/or another annuitant. The annuity rate depends solely on the age of the annuitant(s). At the death of the annuitant or surviving annuitant, MSU receives the remainder of the gift annuity to use in the manner designated by the annuitant(s) at the time the original gift was made.

The minimum amount to establish a CGA is \$10,000. All gift annuity contracts are guaranteed by over \$400 million of unrestricted assets of the MSU Foundation.

In addition to a fixed and guaranteed income for life, the federal government allows you to claim an income tax deduction for that part of the transfer which represents the charitable gift component. Often a higher rate of return exists on charitable gift annuities than from existing fixed income investment vehicles.

The College of Engineering was delighted to learn of another graduate's appreciation for Agnes McCann with a gift to the endowment that honors her. Dean Satish Udpa remarked, "Agnes McCann was unforgettable to the students and staff who were privileged to have known her. She touched many lives and we are pleased that Sam Davison chose to pay tribute to her dedicated service with his gift."

For more information on establishing a charitable gift annuity, contact the MSU Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000. For more information on the Agnes McCann Memorial Student Endowment or to support the MSU College of Engineering, contact Senior Director of Development Stephen Bates at (517) 355-8339.

MSU GIFT ANNUITY RATES TO CHANGE APRIL 1, 2009

There is an opportunity to take advantage of existing gift annuity rates through March 31, 2009.

In compliance with the charitable gift annuity rate change recommendations offered by the American Council on Gift Annuities, MSU will adjust, effective on April 1, 2009, its current gift annuity rates. The recommended rates will be 0.4% to 0.7% lower at each age with a maximum rate of 9.5% at ages 90 and above.

We encourage you to explore and learn about the benefits, for you and MSU, of a one or two-life gift annuity before the new and lower gift annuity rates become effective on April 1. You may contact the development office in your college/program of interest or the MSU Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000 or (800) 232-4678.

CHEVIS LEGACY LIVES ON THROUGH ENDOWMENT

The Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science has received a substantial gift from the estate of Paul P. Chevis, who died in January 2008. Paul Chevis (Engineering, '43) was the son of Lithuanian immigrants who came to the United States in the 1930s and farmed in Michigan. Paul was employed by General Motors for several years after graduation, and then founded Tawas Plating in Tawas City, Michigan. His wife, Mary Jane, who preceded Paul in death, was his partner in the business and helped build the company, which they sold in the early 1980s.

Both Paul and MJ—as Mary Jane was known—were well respected and active in the Tawas community. He was a member of the Wurtsmith Air Force Base Liaison Committee, the East Tawas Men's Club, Christ Episcopal Church and was a director

of the Peoples State Bank. MJ was a volunteer at St. Joseph, the local hospital. Both were longtime supporters of St. Joseph and founding members of the hospital's Samaritan Club.

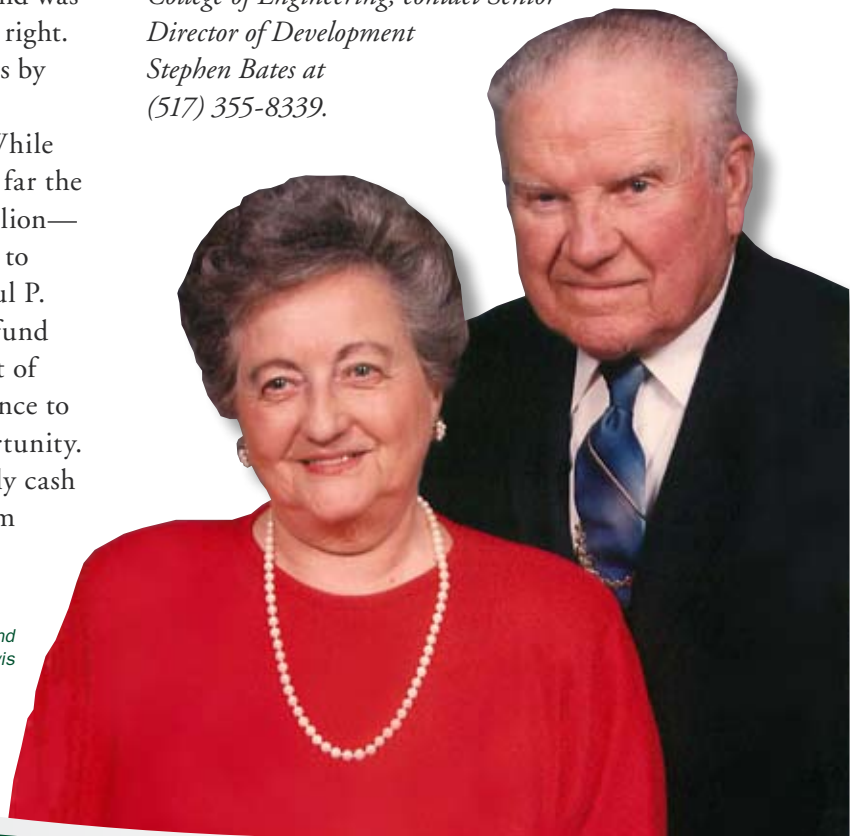
Paul and his wife loved farming, and they distributed vegetables from their garden throughout the town. They enjoyed entertaining and were known to host 30-plus guests at dinners, often entertaining soldiers from the local air base. Both played the accordion. Paul's old-world values served him well. He was a conservative spender, and was known for doing the job once and doing it right. He kept his farm machinery going for years by repairing and rebuilding it.

Paul was proud of his MSU degree. While his estate assisted other local charities, by far the largest portion—a gift in excess of \$1 million—came to the MSU College of Engineering to establish a named endowed fund. The Paul P. Chevis Endowed Fund is a discretionary fund to be used by the chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science to help in the areas of greatest need or opportunity. Because it will generate a substantial yearly cash flow, the Chevis Fund will have a longterm impact for the department.

"We know that Paul and his wife were accomplished and very generous during their lifetime," said Martin Hawley, chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science. "Paul was proud of being a graduate of MSU's chemical engineering program. We sincerely appreciate their gift and it will be used in their memory to promote excellence in the department. Their legacy lives on."

For more information about making a gift to the College of Engineering, contact Senior Director of Development Stephen Bates at (517) 355-8339.

Mary Jane and Paul Chevis



CONSUMERS ENERGY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS MSU ENGINEERING

The Consumers Energy Foundation granted the College of Engineering \$150,000 for development of a flexible power station to enable the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to better train students and to expand the research capacity of its faculty to help meet the nation's energy needs.

Professor Fang Z. Peng, director of the ZELRI-MSU Research Center and head of the power station project, explained that the funding from the Consumers Energy Foundation will be used to build Phase I of a low-voltage (from 120-volt single-phase to 480-volt three-phase) power station, which will provide a platform for education and study related to how power quality affects loads in residential and commercial buildings (210 to 480 volts) and how those loads affect the power grid. The power station will also lend itself to research into plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and renewable energy sources—specifically, photovoltaic power for residential use and grid interconnection.

About twenty students—mostly at the graduate level—will utilize the flexible power station. “This will allow us to train our students in the latest technology—such as renewable energy sources, utility interface technology, and power quality assurance issues,” said Peng. “We will be able to increase their learning in key areas like power system design and analysis, power electronics, electric machines, and emerging energy conversion/utilization technology. This will better prepare them for careers in the energy and electric power industries.”

MSU's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering is a leader in the areas of power systems, power electronics, and electrical machines, and they graduate many highly trained students each year. All of Peng's graduate students have gone on to work in an energy-related industry.



Professor Fang Z. Peng (left), head of the power station project, confers with Dean Satish Udpa.

Faculty research will also benefit from this new project. The flexible power station will: provide a platform for research and evaluation of how new technology—such as the plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (HEV)—affects the residential power load and the power grid; extend the current research on power electronics for plug-in HEV and utility interface from component level to upper-system level; and facilitate collaborative research among faculty members in energy-related areas.

“From undergraduate education to graduate research, we have certainly impacted, and will continue to impact, the state's and the nation's economy, especially in the energy area,” stated Peng.

“We are excited about this opportunity to partner with Michigan State University's College of Engineering,” said John Russell, president and COO of Consumers Energy. “This project will amplify the learning environment for these future engineers and support MSU's energy research agenda, which holds great promise for the nation.”

Peng and his students have already finished the basic design of one major piece of equipment for the power station project—a programmable power supply to provide 0 to 560 volts of AC power to simulate line voltage, impedance, and disturbance of electric power for residential and commercial buildings. Cost of the equipment is nearly \$100,000.

The flexible power station will be installed in the Engineering Research Complex, which is home to the MSU automotive and energy research labs. The long-term plan is to secure additional funding to expand the power station to handle a larger range of power levels.

For more information about making a gift to the College of Engineering, contact Senior Director of Development Stephen Bates at (517) 355-8339.

GERSTACKER FOUNDATION SUPPORTS UNDERGRADUATE R&D

The Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation has established a new endowment for undergraduate research and development at MSU. The \$600,000 endowment will fund a unique program for students from the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines to develop and implement their own concepts. Through this program, students will gain an understanding of the entrepreneurial process related to research.

Students will submit a concept to an advisory board. If a concept is deemed promising, the student will be granted seed funding to develop the proposal further. The final proposal (including a realistic budget) will be presented to the board, who will determine if full funding is appropriate.

Funded students will address business and marketing needs of their project as well as any social, ethical and policy issues. While the focus will be centered on STEM research, these additional components will help students gain understanding of the many functions that contribute to a successful entrepreneurial effort.

In addition, a portion of the endowment is focused on implementing university wide initiatives to support the understanding and development of entrepreneurial thinking across multiple aspects of the curriculum. This support would be used to sponsor workshops and seminars focused on

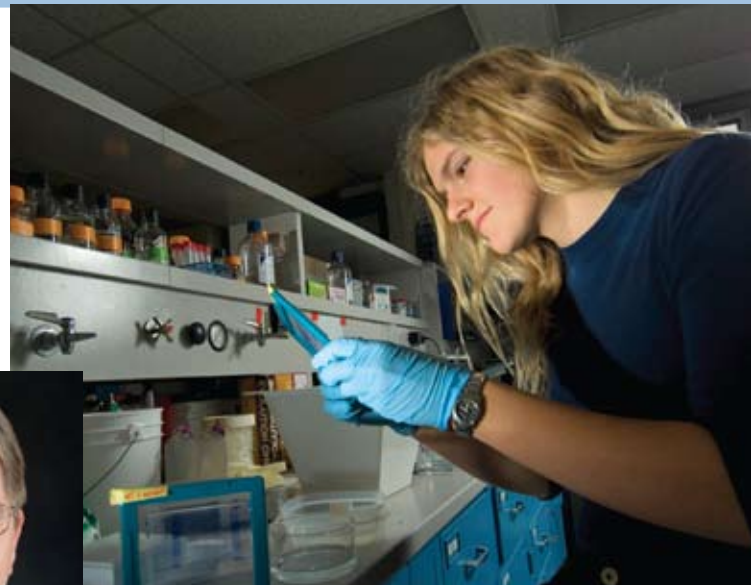
entrepreneurial innovation in curricular design, promoting active participation with industry and the academic community, and expanding students' knowledge about issues such as writing a business plan and business start-up.

“The benefits of an undergraduate research experience are unequivocal,” said Doug Estry, associate provost for undergraduate education and dean of undergraduate studies at Michigan State University. “Participating students are more deeply engaged in their academics as a result of the opportunity to work closely with faculty and gain additional time to explore topics in greater depth.”

Data clearly indicate the valuable contribution that research makes to student learning. In most cases, faculty take the lead in proposing the work and charting the course. This limits a student's ability to gain important learning outcomes that can optimally come from the opportunity to think critically about a problem and independently propose research that could lead to exciting new answers and important additional questions. Accordingly, the ambition of the Gerstacker Foundation program is to provide



Doug Estry, associate provost for undergraduate education and dean of undergraduate studies.



A College of Natural Science undergraduate student examines research images in an MSU lab.

an avenue for undergraduate students to move to the next level—student-generated innovation that flows from their enhanced ability to think critically, devise solutions to problems, and generate creative and testable solutions—to put students in the driver's seat with faculty and industry partners as the guides on the side.

Based in Midland, Michigan, the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation was established by Eda U. Gerstacker in 1957 in memory of her husband. Mrs. Gerstacker died in 1975. Family members continue to serve as officers and trustees of the foundation, whose primary purpose is to continue financial support of charities of all types supported by Mr. and Mrs. Gerstacker. Funding for educational purposes is an ongoing priority of the foundation.

CARLISLE MEMORIAL GIFT FUNDS GARDEN GATES

“A happy marriage has in it all the pleasure of friendships, all the enjoyment of sense and reason—and indeed all the sweets of life,” penned Joseph Addison, the 18th century English essayist and poet. He could have been writing about a Brighton couple who grew to love a campus as beautiful as their marriage and friendship.

Sandy and John Carlisle lived a classic love affair—the kind of marriage everyone hopes to have. During their 50 years together, they established planned gifts to the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden, MSU Horticultural Gardens and the College of Veterinary Medicine.

After John’s death in 2006, Sandy wanted to create a special memorial to him. She found an ideal solution in the creation of gates to the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden which were designed, built and installed by John and Sandy’s close friends, Cary and Jesse Stefani, a father and son team.

Sandy has always had an artistic flair, making unusual finds from salvage stores into treasures around their home. She wanted the garden gates to be works of art with an “organic” feel and look to their design. The Stefanis took this to heart in creating gates that go well beyond mere functionality to become sculpture. The unique steel and bronze gates feature a plant-like design with finely-crafted finials and hinges of hammered cast bronze.

It is quite fitting that this gracious memorial is so close to the Main Library. John received his BA in English and his Master’s in Business from Wayne State University and the University of Michigan. He spent many hours during his education in a library setting,

John and Sandy’s primary connection to MSU was through the Master Gardener Program which they both successfully completed.

Sandy used the IRA Rollover Provision charitable gift opportunity to fund the gates. Individuals who are 70½ years or older may satisfy an annual distribution



Sandy Carlisle (center, left) called on the Stefani family during the gate’s development; from left to right: Cary, Chris and Jesse Stefani.

requirement by directing a gift from an IRA to MSU. The donor’s distribution comes directly to MSU (or another non-profit). An IRA rollover gift may not be claimed as a charitable deduction nor is it considered taxable income. The funds may be directed toward an area of interest to the donor.

Sandy is so pleased with the gates that she is also planning to fund a set of handrails for the main entrance. The Stefanis commented that they thoroughly enjoyed the

entire project, working with Sandy and MSU, and they plan to continue their partnership with the handrails. Jeff Kacos, director of Campus Planning and Administration and chair of the Public Art on Campus Committee, hopes to enhance all of the stairways into the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden with similar artistry of distinctive gates and handrailings. “Sandy’s gift in memory of her husband is not only a wonderful tribute to him, but also creates a welcoming entry to the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden,” Kacos said. “Sandy’s vision and her gift are real assets to the campus.”

For information about making a gift to the W. J. Beal Botanical Garden, contact Director of Special Gifts Karen Wenk at (517) 884-1084.



The new gates at the W. J. Beal Botanical Gardens.

MSU STUDENTS FUND NEW SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF CLASSMATE



Mary Beth Knox (right) with her sister Marcy A. Knox following Mary Beth’s speech at the Greek Week Relay for Life.

The value of philanthropy is a characteristic that many MSU students demonstrate daily around campus. This past fall, the Panhellenic Council and the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority led an initiative to establish a new endowment in memory of MSU student Mary Beth Knox.

In the Spring of 2007, Mary Beth, a supply chain management senior and member of Alpha Chi Omega, lost her fight with sarcoma, a cancer of the



Donations to the American Cancer Society funded Relay for Life luminaries in honor of Mary Beth.

soft tissue. Mary Beth was a young woman with a contagious smile, outgoing personality, commitment to community service and an enthusiastic passion for life. Throughout the progression of her disease, her courage was unparalleled, and nothing short of an inspiration to the MSU community.

Mary Beth brought the cancer struggle close to home. For Greek Week in 2007, she organized an event where the Greek System could donate platelets and plasma to patients in need. She gave a moving speech at the Greek Week Relay for Life annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, in

which she remarked, “Up until I was diagnosed, I never realized the journey cancer patients face. It is filled with a roller coaster of good times and bad. You learn a lot about who you are, and what you’re capable of. You want nothing more than to survive, and strive to make a difference. I have always viewed Greek Week as a week of fun, singing, dancing, cheering and a chance to meet other members of the Greek system. And although it is all of those things I have mentioned, it is so much more. It is about raising money to make a difference and help in finding a cure.”

Seeking a way to memorialize Mary Beth, the sisters of Alpha Chi Omega and the Panhellenic Council funded The Mary Beth Knox Scholarship endowment this past fall. This scholarship will be awarded to one member of a sorority and one member of a fraternity each spring during Greek Week in memory of Mary Beth’s life. “If there was one thing Mary was passionate about, it was her education at MSU,” said Marcy A. Knox, Mary Beth’s twin sister and MSU alumna. This scholarship will celebrate her life by helping somebody else succeed and serves as an important reminder that cancer can strike anyone at any age. I think we often times forget that it can happen to us. Sarcoma is a very fast and aggressive cancer and it primarily affects the younger generations. This is a great way to promote awareness.”

For more information about making a gift to support The Mary Beth Knox Scholarship or Student Affairs and Services, contact Director of Development Ann Marie Lindley at (517) 355-7535.

A GIFT OF LEADERSHIP

DR. DONALD W. AND KATHY MAINE

Don and Kathy Maine understand the vision for the new home of the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. Indeed, it was their unfaltering advocacy for the Secchia Center, the \$90 million future home of the college in Grand Rapids, that jump-started the fundraising campaign. The Secchia Center is an innovative state-of-the-art facility named in honor of the lead donors, Ambassador Peter and Joan Secchia. Much of the momentum for the campaign is due to Don (Education, '65 and '71) and Kathy's leadership.

"The partnerships that Don and Kathy helped MSU forge with key partners for this project were critical to our success," said President Lou Anna K. Simon. "Without the leadership of Don and Kathy Maine, the medical school might have never come to fruition."

Don and Kathy believe the value of the Secchia Center is far reaching. "This venture will improve medical education, and ultimately patient care throughout the state," said Don. "This project creates a seamless research and healthcare continuum that translates cutting edge biomedical discoveries into improved diagnostic tools, technology and treatments, recruiting world-class researchers, clinicians, faculty and the best and brightest medical students."

Kathy Maine agrees. "The college and its home at the Secchia Center will be a crucial element that elevates Michigan's life sciences corridor from what can be imagined, to what can be accomplished by intersecting medical students and physicians with researchers," she explained. "It is part of the economic transformation that

needs to take place in order for Michigan to thrive in the 21st century. The MSU College of Human Medicine creates a synergy among unlikely, yet logical partners who together are able to deliver a standard-setting medical education and community-based health care model for generations to come."

After graciously agreeing to serve as co-chairs of the Leadership Cabinet for the Campaign for the Secchia Center, Don and Kathy quickly recruited Mike and Sue Jandernoa, and Steve and Brenda Heacock to the cause, along with a stellar group of community, business and philanthropic leaders to spearhead the campaign. Since that time, Don has served as the emcee and speaker for virtually every public event surrounding the College of Human Medicine capital campaign.

In 2010, when the Secchia Center will open for the first four-year class of medical students, MSU plans to admit 200 students—effectively doubling the college's current enrollment. CHM Dean Marsha Rappley notes that the destiny of the college is to inspire those who need hope and train those who deliver it. "Thanks to Don and Kathy Maine, this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help establish a home state legacy belongs to all of us. We are enormously grateful for Don and Kathy's commitment of time, talent and personal resources to this project and for sharing in our inspiration and vision for this important facility."

For more information about making a gift to the Secchia Center or the College of Human Medicine, contact Senior Director of Advancement Susan Lane at (616) 234-2614.

ABOUT DON MAINE

Don served as chancellor of Davenport College (now University) for two decades, during which he spearheaded the growth from a two-year to a four-year college, launched an MBA program and guided Davenport to university status.

In 1999, Don received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the MSU Alumni Association. Don and Kathy's estate gift to establish the Donald W. Maine Endowed Graduate Fellowship in Higher Education Administration and his leadership for the Secchia Center project represent Don's strong feeling that it is important to give back to MSU since it launched him on his successful career path.

ABOUT KATHY MAINE

Kathy Maine is general counsel for Michigan Medical, PC, the largest physician owned multi-specialty group in West Michigan. Formerly, Kathy was a partner in the Corporate Practice Group at Varnum, specializing in Health Law. She has facilitated mergers, joint ventures and other transactions among providers. Kathy is committed to sharing her skills through service with local nonprofit organization boards. She serves the community as a board member of a number of arts, healthcare and social service organizations.



Don and Kathy Maine



Van Andel Institute Chairman and CEO David Van Andel posed with the first award winners—Ralph Hauenstein and Peter Cook—and President Lou Ann K. Simon and CHM Dean Marsha Rappley (from left to right).



Joe Gavin and Lynne Ferrell paused for a picture.



Guests mingled before the dinner.



Peter Albertini and Doyle Hayes greeted one another in the atrium of DeVos Place.



Larry Murphy, CEO of Varnum, the event's corporate sponsor, addressed the gathering.

HIGH TURNOUT FOR CHM GALA IN GRAND RAPIDS

The College of Human Medicine's Inaugural Gala attracted over 750 people to DeVos Place and raised more than \$330,000 for the medical school last September. The money will go toward scholarships, medical instructional technology and research initiatives. The evening honored those who made the transformation of the Grand Rapids Medical Mile possible. During the gala, Peter C. Cook and Ralph Hauenstein became the first recipients of the David Van Andel Life Sciences Achievement Award in recognition of their philanthropy and wisdom. The college welcomed its first class of second-year students to Grand Rapids this fall, and the school will officially be based in Grand Rapids in the fall of 2010 when the Secchia Center opens in the downtown area.

Among the guests enjoying the gala were Terri and Rich MacKeigan (left) and Kara Jones.





Lynette Long, Charles Atkin, Octavis Long and Sandi Smith enjoyed the party.

NEW YEAR'S EVE: SPARTAN STYLE

At a truly one-of-a-kind New Year's Eve party, nearly 400 Spartans welcomed in 2009 while celebrating the MSU football team's appearance at the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, Florida.

MSU President Lou Ann K. Simon hosted the gala affair which featured a buffet dinner, live music, dancing, a midnight toast, many splashes of green and white and plenty of Spartan fellowship. The crowd showed their appreciation for Coach Mark Dantonio as well as Athletic

Director Mark Hollis who both spent time at the event. Mid-Michigan sportscaster Tim Staudt kept the evening lively as the master of ceremonies.

The event took place at the Peabody Hotel, which also housed the MSU football team. Guests were treated to a special burst of Spartan spirit when cannons fired green and white streamers at the stroke of midnight.



President Lou Anna K. Simon spoke to the crowd.



CELEBRATING A GREAT SPARTAN FOOTBALL SEASON

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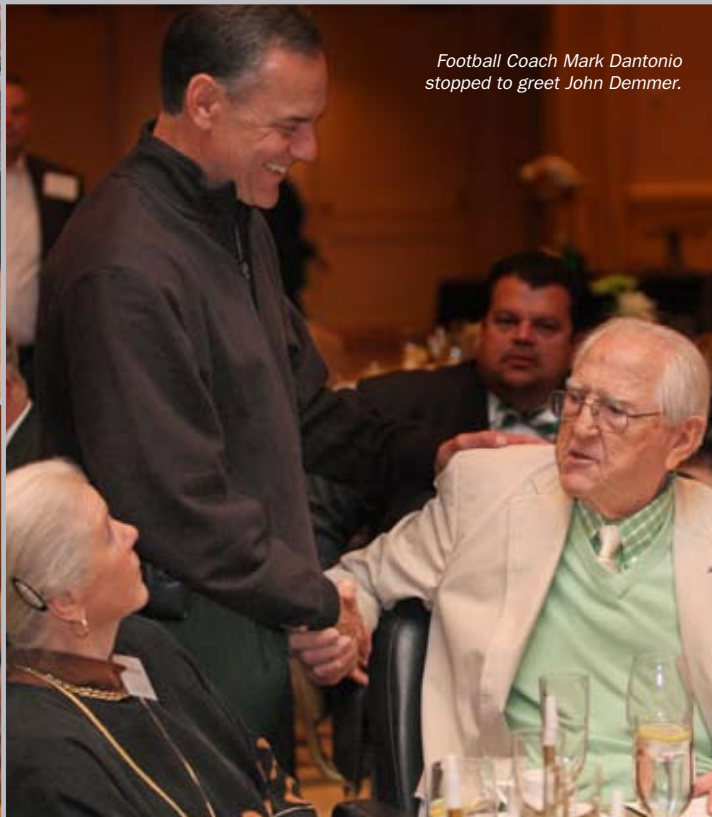
2009 CAPITAL ONE BOWL

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Green and white streamers rained down at midnight as guests welcomed 2009.



Spartan spirit was all around.



Football Coach Mark Dantonio stopped to greet John Demmer.



Guests were seated for dinner to kick off the festivities.



Catherine and Tim McKenna were among the many guests.

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