



## PREISS BEQUEST WILL ENDOW POSITION

Passion for education, love for each other and thankfulness for a university that makes their lives richer are all profoundly apparent in University Distinguished Professor Emeritus Jack Preiss and his wife Sue. The couple recently chose to make a charitable bequest through their estate plans to fund the Dr. Jack Preiss Endowment in Biochemistry supporting a faculty position or graduate fellowship in Jack's former department, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. The bequest to their endowment will be made available at the death of the surviving spouse.

"MSU has treated us very well," Jack said. "I loved it and I met Sue here. I feel I would like to give something back."

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Jack earned his B.S. in Chemistry at City College of New York and his Ph.D. at Duke University. After postdoctoral work, he became an assistant professor at the University of California at Davis and rose through the ranks to professor and then chairman. He joined the MSU faculty as chair of the Biochemistry Department in 1985. In 2001, MSU recognized him as a university distinguished professor. He received many awards and honors during his nearly 50-year

career, but the accolades that mean the most to him are the ones that come from his former students. He inspired many, especially 24 graduate students and more than 100 post-docs, undergraduate students, and visiting academic and private industry scientists who worked in his lab.

He also taught thousands of undergraduate students with enthusiasm and skill. Former students often write to thank him for his encouragement and help in mastering difficult concepts. And he kept his lectures lively and memorable. He was well known, for example, for helping students learn scientific processes through altered lyrics to popular songs.

Tom Sharkey, Biochemistry chair, notes, "Jack's leadership in the department and nationally, combined with his outstanding research and dedication to teaching, have had a tremendous impact. Jack always has a smile and respect for everyone. I always look forward to talking with Jack and appreciate his positive outlook. Jack and Sue's generous gift to fund



Jack and Sue Preiss

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## PATRICIA A. ANDERSON: A LIFE AND LEGACY OF LITERARY ACTIVISM

University Distinguished Professor Emeritus David D. Anderson has made a tribute to his beloved wife of 53 years that is a gift to us all. David established the Patricia A. Anderson Library Endowment for Children's Books at the MSU Libraries to honor Pat's full and vibrant life, and especially her lifelong love of books.

Prior to her passing in 2006, Pat enriched the lives of many with her warmth and friendship. She is also remembered for her steadfast dedication to children, reading and learning. Throughout her life and career, she gave generously of her time and energy and had a special concern for supporting literature and libraries. Beginning her career as a secondary English teacher, she earned her Master's of Library Science degree while on the staff of Lansing Public Schools. During her 40 years of service in the Lansing area, she inspired thousands of children with her passion for the written word



Above: Patricia and David Anderson, 2005.

Right: One of the books in the newly established Patricia A. Anderson Children's Book Collection within the MSU Libraries' Special Collections Division.

through her positions as a children's librarian and school librarian.

Pat went above and beyond her call of duty as an educator, and also contributed to her craft and her colleagues through numerous professional activities. She was an active member of the American Library Association, the Michigan Education Association, the Modern Language Association and the Popular Culture Association. She was a founding member of the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature and continued to serve as its archivist through her retirement. She was a long-time, valued member and former president of the MSU Friends of the Library. Pat also published articles, essays and poems in library journals, society publications and the *University College Quarterly* of Michigan State University. She traveled throughout Europe, Australia and Asia, teaching conversational English in Pakistan for two years.

Over the course of her life, Pat collected many children's books which are now part of a collection in her name within the Libraries' Special Collections Division. The endowment David created supports this collection and allows for new books to be continually

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## NEW VICE PRESIDENT ADDS TO MOMENTUM

**M**SU'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. "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."



Vice President for University Advancement Bob Groves.

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 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. "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."

## PREISS BEQUEST

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the Dr. Jack Preiss Endowment in Biochemistry adds to his rich legacy here."

While Jack's career soared to enviable heights based upon his expertise in science, Sue points out that Jack's skill in singing is no less inspiring. He regularly lends his practiced operatic tenor voice to the local community in his service as cantor at their synagogue. He also participated in several operas. His last performance was as Prince Orlofsky in Johann Strauss's "Die Fledermaus" presented at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts. Jack plans to enjoy a good deal of his retirement in musical performance.

Sue, after a long and successful career in the financial industry, recently sold her financial advising business to join Jack in retirement. She also has an artistic flair and is devoting a good deal of her newfound time to oil painting.

The couple is quick to assert that they have no intention of becoming Florida snowbirds. They do enjoy travel, but they are avid sports fans and would never want to miss MSU's basketball season.

"East Lansing is a great community and the interaction with the university is terrific," Jack said. Sue agrees, noting that the quality of their lives here made it important for them to give to MSU. "We wanted to help repay the benefit that MSU affords all of us that live in this community."

*For more information on making a gift to the College of Natural Science, contact Senior Director of Development Suzette Hittner at (517) 353-1637.*

## ANDERSON

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added. Notably, the collection now includes the childhood books of Sarah Shaw Hannah, daughter of former MSU President Robert S. Shaw and wife of former MSU President John Hannah.

"In a very real and tangible sense," said David, "Pat's passion for bringing books and children together can now continue in a very unique way—beyond her personal involvement."

Peter Berg, head of the Libraries' Special Collections, noted that the endowment will allow the division to acquire important children's books that have influenced generations of young American readers and complements the Libraries' strong Nineteenth Century American Schoolbook Collection. "Together the collections will provide a rich resource for studies in such fields as the history of childhood, child discipline, the education of children, the history of reading, pedagogy, and the history of publishing, graphic arts and illustration," Berg said. "This is a fitting tribute to a woman who dedicated much of her working life to children and reading."

*For more information about making a gift to the MSU Libraries, contact Assistant Director of Development Roger Merrifield at (517) 884-6446.*

## DEVELOPMENTS

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## PSYCHOLOGY FACULTY HONORED WITH ENDOWMENT

The benefits MSU students receive from the mentorship of MSU faculty and staff can never be underestimated. Two alumni, Stephen Gilliland (Social Science, M.A. '90, Ph.D. '92) and Jaclyn Jensen (Social Science, M.A. '04, Ph.D. '06), can attest to that.

Gilliland and Jensen were so appreciative of the education they received at MSU, that they made leadership gifts to spearhead a fundraising effort to create an endowment in the name of their mentors in Industrial/Organizational Psychology in the College of Social Science. The Ilgen-Schmitt Endowed Graduate Fellowship is named after Dan Ilgen and Neal Schmitt, professors in Industrial/Organizational Psychology.

Schmitt, department chairperson and university distinguished professor, and Ilgen, the John A. Hannah distinguished professor in Psychology and Management, set examples their students find difficult to replicate. Gilliland fondly remembers Schmitt's extraordinary responsiveness during the preparation of his dissertation. "I felt great satisfaction upon turning in an initial draft of more than 200 pages. Not only had I completed the draft, but now it was off my desk and onto Neal's. The next morning I arrived at the office and the draft was waiting on my desk. Like fairies that work in the night, Neal had somehow managed to read and provide substantive comments on the entire draft in less than 24 hours. I realized at that point that he was setting an example of mentorship that I would always try, but never truly be able to live up to. To this day, I don't know how he did it," Gilliland said.

Jensen recalls Ilgen's unfailing encouragement and commitment to his students. "It's hard to think of just one example that best characterizes Dan and his contribution to the I/O program," she said. "He was generous with his time and resources, and was a constant source of support during my time at MSU. I couldn't have asked for a better mentor and will

be forever thankful for his wisdom and his role in my development as a scholar."

While the two former students played a leadership role in initiating the Ilgen-Schmitt endowment, it is the two honorees themselves that helped ensure its growth and prosperity in the future. Dan and his spouse Barbara Ilgen, and Neal and his spouse Kara Schmitt, had already made planned gifts to MSU. Both couples were so touched by the former students' efforts to create this fund, that they each made provisions to designate part of their estate gifts for the Ilgen-Schmitt Endowed Graduate Fellowship.

"We're honored that some of our former students initiated the establishment of this fund in our names. Both Dan and I feel that privately supported graduate fellowships are key to the ongoing success and reputation of the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Program at MSU," commented Schmitt. Ilgen concurs. "Without ongoing fellowship and other forms of graduate student funding, the program would not be able to attract the high caliber of graduate students needed for the program's success. It is a pleasure to support this initiative," Ilgen said.

Both Ilgen and Schmitt are distinguished scholars in the field of industrial/organizational psychology. MSU's Industrial/Organizational Psychology Program has been ranked No. 1 nationally for the last ten years. This endowment



Psychology faculty members Neal Schmitt and Dan Ilgen.

fund honoring two of its faculty leaders will certainly help to contribute to the program's prestigious academic reputation for years to come.

*For more information on making a gift to the Ilgen-Schmitt Graduate Fellowship or to the College of Social Science, contact Senior Director of Development Sarah Blom at (517) 432-1802.*

## THE 1855 CLUB MEMBERSHIP GROWS



Commemorating the year of MSU's founding, the 1855 Club was created to celebrate the laudable charitable support of faculty, staff and retirees to Michigan State. The 1855 Club is the only donor club created especially for MSU faculty, staff and retirees. Since its inception in 2004, the club membership has swelled to 145 individuals and is on the rise.

Open solely to current and retired MSU faculty and staff, the 1855 Club recognizes donors who pledge an annual gift of \$1,000 for five years. Through the payroll deduction option, that comes to only \$84 a month. Such pledges are very important at MSU, granting programs a continuous and stable source of support.

"There is no doubt that commitments at this level have a tremendous long term effect on Michigan State University," said Marti Heil, associate vice president for University Development. "Individual

gifts at this level can be significant to programs and scholarship funds in need."

The faculty, staff and retirees of Michigan State University have for several years been at or near the top of the Big Ten when it comes to their generosity toward their institution of employment. Many have become members of one of MSU's prestigious lifetime donor societies.

Donors at the 1855 Club level are recognized as important supporters of Michigan State. Each receives a uniquely designed lapel pin and invitations to faculty and staff campaign events and recognition programs.

*For more information on becoming a member of the 1855 Club for faculty, staff and retirees, contact Director of Special Gifts Karen Wenk at (517) 884-1084 or visit <http://www.givingto.msu.edu/fsgiving.html>.*



College of Arts and Letters Dean Karin Wurst (center, bottom), surrounded by Associate Deans (clockwise from left): Doug Noverr, Janet Swensen, David Prestel and Marilyn Frye.

## YOUR PHILANTHROPY AT WORK

MSU faculty are busy teaching classes, counseling students, conducting research, publishing papers, presenting at conferences and serving on numerous academic committees. At the same time, they work hard to effect change for the better. Some go well beyond the call of duty to make a significant difference in the life of their department, college and university. The management team in the College of Arts and Letters has taken steps to highlight those special contributions.

Dean Karin Wurst, and Associate Deans Marilyn Frye, Doug Noverr, David Prestel and Janet Swenson recently established the College of Arts and Letters Faculty Leadership Award. The award is designed to reward faculty who go beyond the routine tasks, are generous in sharing insights, and provide the hard work and mentorship that create excellence and vision in programs and departments.

The award will recognize faculty who take ownership of curricular decisions, welcome invitations for collaboration and joint deliberation, strive for creating consensus around issues and give voice to a sense of a shared future.

Although the university provides up to five years to fully fund an endowment, Dean Wurst wanted the endowment awarded as quickly as possible. "I wanted to be able to make awards to our outstanding faculty this year to show how much the leadership team appreciates those faculty members who go the extra mile," she said.

Dean Wurst herself made a Beaumont Tower Society commitment to provide the majority of the funding for the award, and the associate deans each joined in to reach the \$30,000 necessary for full funding of the endowment.

Final selection of the faculty member to receive the award will be determined by the provost and the award will provide the flexibility to offer a cash gift, a memento or other visible means of recognition or to assist in paying for an event to honor the recipient.

"I am proud of our faculty and want to recognize them for their hard work," said Dean Wurst. "And I am especially proud of the associate deans for joining me in this."

*For more information about adding to this endowment, or making a gift to the College of Arts and Letters, contact Director of Development Bridget Paff at (517) 353-4725.*



Vice President for University Advancement Bob Groves (right) connects with MSU Federal Credit Union CEO Patrick McPharlin and Associate Director of Career Services and Placement Theda Rudd.



President Simon chats with guests.



Senior Associate Provost June Youatt was a keynote speaker at the gathering.



Ron Flinn (left) greets Tom and Christine Hammond.

## ALL UNIVERSITY CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

More than 100 faculty, staff and retirees gathered at Cowles House for a breakfast to kick off the 2009 All University Campaign in February. Senior Associate Provost June Youatt addressed the gathering, speaking of her personal commitment to making MSU accessible to potential students through giving. Her late husband, an MSU alumnus who went on to complete a law degree, was proud of his MSU education, inspiring June and their three children to establish the William G. Youatt Memorial Scholarship Fund in his memory.

The campaign kickoff also featured remarks from President Lou Anna K. Simon, Provost Kim Wilcox, and Vice President for University Advancement Robert Groves. As in years past, the MSU Federal Credit Union generously underwrote the event.

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