NEWS OF FACULTY, STAFF & RETIREE GIVING TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

OURIMPACT

SPRING 2017



YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION • GIVING TUESDAY



Karen and Dan Friderici.

Helping Aspiring Scientists

LIVE THE LABORATORY LIFE

ake a stroll through any campus research building on any given day, and you'll feel it: an air of mystery. It surrounds the potentially groundbreaking science taking place in the labs that line the hallway, as much as it surrounds the people in the labs. The ones doing the science. The researchers.

For many years, Dan and Karen Friderici, who both retired from Microbiology and Molecular Genetics in 2014, were the people doing—and teaching—the science.

Now, through a \$750,000 bequest in their estate plans, they've created

"A scholarship makes it possible for students to concentrate fully on research."

- KAREN **FRIDERICI**

the Friderici Undergraduate Research Scholarship in the College of Natural Science, to help demystify laboratory life for aspiring scientists and provide the financial flexibility for students to participate in research.

It's a concept Dan and Karen are quite familiar with.

They both came to MSU as freshman science majors in 1963. Though they agree that meeting each other in physics recitation was probably the most important thing that happened to them as undergraduates, their experiences working with MSU faculty researchers were pretty important, too.

Aided by a National Science Foundation fellowship, which provided room, board, and a stipend in exchange for working in a lab, Karen found her niche and never looked back.

"When I accepted the fellowship my freshman year, I knew nothing about being in a lab. But I fell in love with it," Karen says. "It put the stuff I was learning in class in a context that made sense. It made everything clearer—including what I wanted to do when I graduated."

For Dan, who came to MSU on the Alumni Distinguished Scholarship, it was much the same. "During my freshman year, I spent Saturdays in a biology lab with a faculty member who was working in an area that I didn't end up pursuing, but I learned a lot. I learned procedures, I learned approaches, and I learned that I was interested in the process."

For both, these experiences were the start of long, successful careers in science. Along the way, they've encountered plenty of curious, driven students who, given the opportunity, might find their home in a laboratory, too.

"A scholarship makes it possible for students to concentrate fully on research," Karen says. "Because it isn't something you can do on the side. If I'd had to work another job in addition to pursuing research, it would've been unbelievably hard."

"We've seen over and over what a difference it makes to expose undergraduates to research in a laboratory setting," Dan adds. "It's critical for helping students decide what they like or don't like in terms of a career. Because you can't get any idea of what it's like by just standing outside."

To learn more about remembering MSU through a charitable bequest or other charitable estate planning strategies, contact the MSU Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000 or visit giftplanning.msu.edu



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DOING FOR FAMILY

Longtime MSU Libraries staffer gives back

fter working on her dissertation for a doctoral degree, Suzanne (Sue) Levy found her perfect fit at MSU Libraries. She started as a serial clerk, checking in journals. It involved a lot of reading and helping people, and the job made her feel part of academia. Thirty-three years and several promotions later, she's still there.

"MSU always has been like family to me, and I've loved being in a position to help others."

Two things she's always appreciated about working in the libraries: discovering great things to read and being on the leading edge of technology. As an authority control coordinator, Sue oversees quality control for the MSU Libraries' database. But the best part, she says, has been the people.

"MSU always has been like family to me," she says. "And I've loved being in a position to help others."

So when it came to making an estate plan, Sue made sure she always would give back to the people of MSU.

Through a charitable bequest in her estate plans, Sue will provide funds to establish five future endowments in areas that mean the most to her. For the MSU Libraries, her estate plans support the Jewish Studies Collection in honor of her parents; the Comic Art Collection in honor of her colleague Randall W. Scott; and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Collections in memory of Anne E. Tracy. She also established a director's discretionary endowment to honor current MSU Libraries Director Cliff Haka.

Sue's bequest also will establish a fifth endowment in the College of Veterinary Medicine to help elderly pet owners living on fixed incomes be able to pay for their pet's care. As a longtime ailurophile herself, Sue has made annual gifts to this endowment in order to make an impact right away. In fact, she's been an annual donor for decades and has been recognized in the Leadership Circle for her annual support.

In recent years, Sue's passions took her in a new direction. She has a business that aims to teach older people computer skills, working out of the Williamston Senior Center.

"I took an avocation and turned it into a business," she says. "I was helping all my retired friends from the library get online and in sync."

Over the years, Sue has faced the death of pets, family, friends, and loved ones. She says her endowments and gifts to MSU made a difference.

"Giving back takes the sting out of death. And it's great to feel like you've done some good for someone," says Sue.

For more information on making an endowment gift, contact the development officer in your unit or visit givingto.msu.edu/endowments



Make a gift and RECEIVE INCOME for life

stablishing a charitable gift annuity is smart, rewarding, and simple. A charitable gift annuity is an agreement with the MSU Foundation where you make a gift of cash or marketable securities. In return, you will receive a fixed and guaranteed income for life. With this type of gift, you can feel secure knowing you can count on stable payments as long as you live.

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) can be established for one or two lives. The gift annuity rate is determined solely by your age(s) at the time of the gift. At the

conclusion of your CGA, MSU receives the remainder of the annuity to use for a purpose you choose at the time the original gift is made.

GET PAID NOW OR LATER

- An immediate-payment CGA is available to donors 60 years and older.
- If you are 50 or older, options are available to defer payments to a later date while receiving tax benefits now.

Contact the Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000 or giftplan@msu.edu to determine the CGA that meets your goals.



Retirees Association President Angela Brown, scholarship recipient Amanda Pohl, and her mother, Julie Pohl of MSU Contract and Grant Administration.

REACHING BACK for Young Spartans

hey may be done officially working on campus, but the members of the MSU Retirees Association (MSURA) still are making their mark at their former workplace and leaving a legacy for younger Spartans.

Thanks to the generosity of MSURA members, two local freshmen received inaugural \$2,500 scholarships this year from the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship Fund. The MSURA created the fund to support the children and grandchildren of current and former MSU faculty and staff.

One recipient, Amanda Pohl, is studying kinesiology at MSU. Her mother, Julie, works in Contract and Grant Administration. Mallory O'Brien also was awarded and is now pre-med at MSU. Her mother, the late Susan O'Brien, worked on the MSU Health team.

To date, more than 186 donors have contributed to the new fund, surpassing the initial \$50,000 goal by more than \$15,000. Gifts came from 136 former faculty and staff and their spouses and dozens of local businesses and others.

To make a gift to the MSURA Student Scholarship Fund, contact Senior Director of Development Jennifer Bertram at bertram9@msu.edu or (517) 432-7330 or visit givingto.msu.edu/2082.



Retirees Association leaders Patrick Scheetz and Angela Brown flank Mallory O'Brien, scholarship recipient (second from right) with her father, Terrance O'Brien.



MSU Student Selena Huapilla-Perez.

a number can change A LIFE

This number alone could have kept elementary education student Selena Huapilla-Perez from a lifechanging, career-affirming experience. Instead, thanks to study abroad endowments, Selena received help to offset the \$1,577 cost of plane ticket from Detroit to Los Banos, Philippines. It made the difference in getting her into a five-month teaching experience. She learned that some of the best classrooms are not bound by four walls, and, for the first time, she saw her future as a global educator. Established in 2003, the MSU Federal Credit Union Study Abroad endowment has provided more than \$1.6 million in funding for students participating in education abroad. In 2015-16, the MSUFCU endowment and support from many other donors helped 380 highly qualified students like Selena.

To make a gift to Education Abroad, contact Senior Director of Development Angha Childress at angha@msu.edu or call (517) 432-7091.



Empower Extraordinary

- 1. The Martin and Judith Bukovac Endowed Professorship in Tree Fruit Physiology
- 2. The Dennis P. Nyquist Endowed Professorship in Electromagnetics
- **3.** The William G. and Yvonne R. Lockwood Endowed Romani/Gypsy Librarian
- 4. The Berryman MSU Museum Curator of History (established by Julie Avery, Stephen Stier, and the late Val Berryman)
- The James and Alicia Stapleton Endowed Professorship in Statistics and Probability
- **6.** Donna and Marvin Zischke Endowed Professorship in the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations
- 7. The George and Janet Eyster
 Professorship in Cardiology in the
 College of Veterinary Medicine

LEARN MORE at go.msu.edu/faculty-oi

24 HOURS IN NOVEMBER

500 faculty, staff, and retirees stepped up to support MSU

From the earliest morning hours to late in the day, MSU's own—the faculty, staff, and retirees of MSU—were at the forefront in the university's Giving Tuesday effort on Nov. 29, 2016. They contributed more than 20 percent of the \$241,939 raised. **Here's a sampling of their gifts:**



12 a.m. GIVING DAY BEGINS

12:18 a.m.

RICK **SEGUIN**External relations director for the College of Social Science

InnovateGov Fund

6:41 a.m.

THERESE **NUGENT**Landscape Services

MSU Student Food Bank

1:53 p.m. PRABU **DAVID**Dean of the College

Dean of the College of Communication Arts and Sciences

WKAR Endowment for Student Experiential Learning, College of Communication Arts and Sciences Student Field Experience Fund



10:04 a.m.
REGINA CROSS
Travel programs director for the

MSU Black Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund, WKAR Radio, Spartan Fund





4:58 p.m. XIAOBO **TAN**

MSU Foundation Professor in Engineering (and research leader for the gliding robotic fish, GRACE 2.0)

Thomas F. Wolff College of Engineering Undergraduate Student Activities Endowed Fund



5:42 p.m.

CYNTHIA **LOUNSBERY**Retiree from Communications
and Brand Strategy

College of
Communication Arts
and Sciences Student
Field Experience Fund



10:17 p.m.
JENNIFER LAU
W.K. Kellogg Biological
Station associate

George H. Lauff Scholarship Fund



9:03 p.m.

DMITRI BERLINSKY

College of Music Entrepreneurship Fund



11:19 p.m. KARIN PFEIFFER Associate professor of Kinesiology

Department of Kinesiology



11:57 p.m.

KATIE WITTENAUER

Communications manager for the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

Residential College in the Arts and Humanities Dean's Initiative Fund

11:59 p.m. GIVING DAY CONCLUDES



MICHIGAN STATE U N I V E R S I T Y

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Driving GIFIS

Michigan State's faculty and staff work to make MSU a better place every day—and nobody knows MSU's needs better than they do. The Spartan community of faculty, staff, and retirees who give back to MSU is 4,500+ strong.

This year you can celebrate our collective impact just like Sparty is by displaying a "Team MSU Gives" window cling in your car window. The clings have been mailed to all faculty and staff who gave to MSU this fiscal year.

TeamMSUGives.msu.edu