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Message from the president

Dear Alumni, Donors and Friends:

In my 15 months as Interim president, I have given dozens and dozens of speeches to service clubs, alumni gatherings, church groups and others. I end each of those speeches with a different story about one or more of our students. Why? Four reasons:

- Because Missouri State students accomplish so many amazing things
- Because the audiences want to hear about our students
- Because all of us who work at the University are so proud of
- Because it serves as a constant reminder about why it is a privilege to work in higher education and at Missouri State.

It occurred to me that these are the same reasons our alumni and donors and friends support us: Our students. They will be teachers and scientists and health care providers and inventors and small business owners. They are the next generation of school board members and chamber board members and church leaders. They are the up-and-coming politicians and not-for-profit CEOs. They are Missouri State's legacy on the one hand and the future of our state and nation on the other.

And so when we talk about the record donations this past year and reaching the original goal of the Our Promise Campaign and striving to raise more private support, we are really talking about investing in the next generation. We are talking about investing not only in their future, but our own.

As our budget challenges continue, we will need to depend more and more on our alumni, donors and friends if we are to continue moving the University forward and providing the kinds of quality educational experiences our students need to succeed. I hope you will continue to take our calls and be willing to visit with us about how you can assist.

Again, please accept my sincere thanks for your thoughtful and generous support of Missouri State University during 2011-12. Through your gift, no matter how large or how small, you made a difference in the lives our students. And we appreciate it very much.

CM Smart II

Clifton M. Smart III Interim President



Message from the Foundation

Dear Alumni, Donors and Friends:

Your support has helped the Missouri State University Foundation document year after year of record-breaking fundraising amounts. For the fifth consecutive year the Missouri State University Foundation has set a new record for fundraising. During Fiscal Year 2012, gifts from 23,792 donors helped the Foundation raise \$20.3 million.

We are in the final days of Our Promise: The Campaign for Missouri State. Our Promise was announced to alumni, friends and the Missouri State community in August 2009 with the intent to meet a fundraising goal of \$125 million. Our Promise: The Campaign for Missouri State is the largest, most far-reaching and most ambitious campaign in the University's history. When the campaign was publicly announced, we had no doubt Missouri State supporters would help us reach

Although the campaign had a goal of \$125 million, the campaign is not about numbers. It is about the impact those numbers have at Missouri State University. It is about the educational experience Missouri State students are offered, it is about changing lives and doing our part to create a better tomorrow in so many ways.

In late January 2012, we were able to say you helped us meet that \$125 million goal. The success of the campaign speaks volumes about the loyalty and commitment of Missouri State University supporters. But we aren't finished yet. Each year Missouri State University is receiving less and less funding from the state. That level of funding has dropped to 38 percent. Private support has never been more important and its importance will only grow.

The decision was made not to end the campaign when the goal was reached, but to continue on until the original conclusion date — Dec. 31, 2012. We are striving to raise a total of \$150 million, an increase of \$25 million from the original target. That number will offer more students a Missouri State University educational experience, create more leaders and good citizens and strengthen our community.

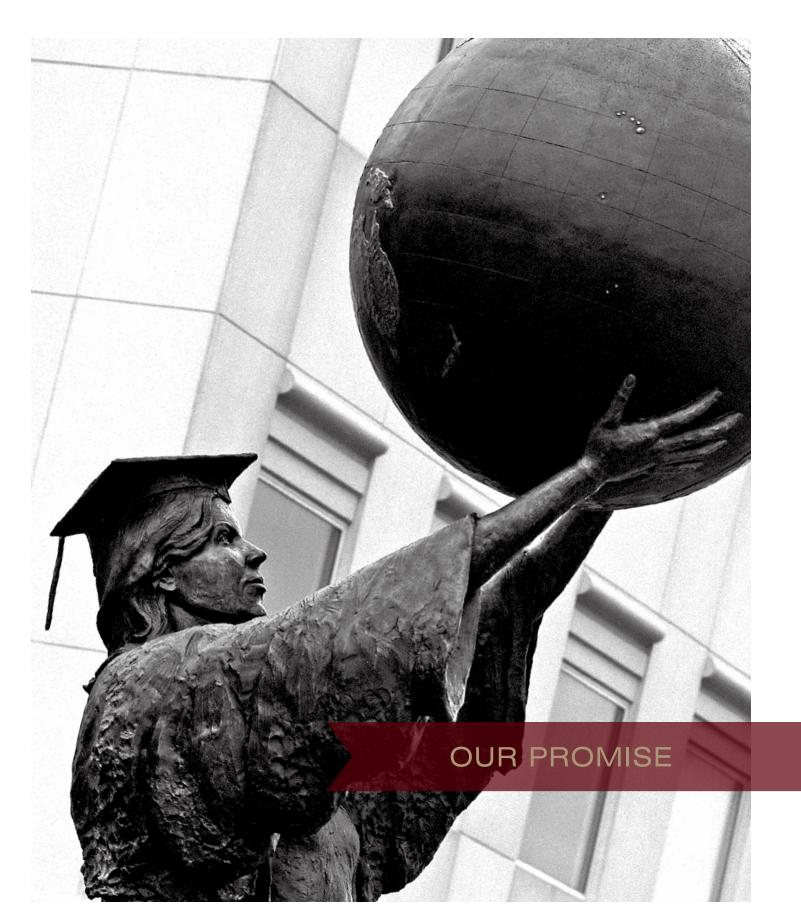
The impact is why you give. Your gifts are part of the lives being changed across Missouri State University's campuses every day. Our Promise to you is to continue making Missouri State University better. Thank you for supporting Missouri State University. For helping us break records and achieve goals. But most of all, for the impact your gifts make.

Best Regards,

Executive Director, Missouri State University Foundation, Vice President for University Advancement

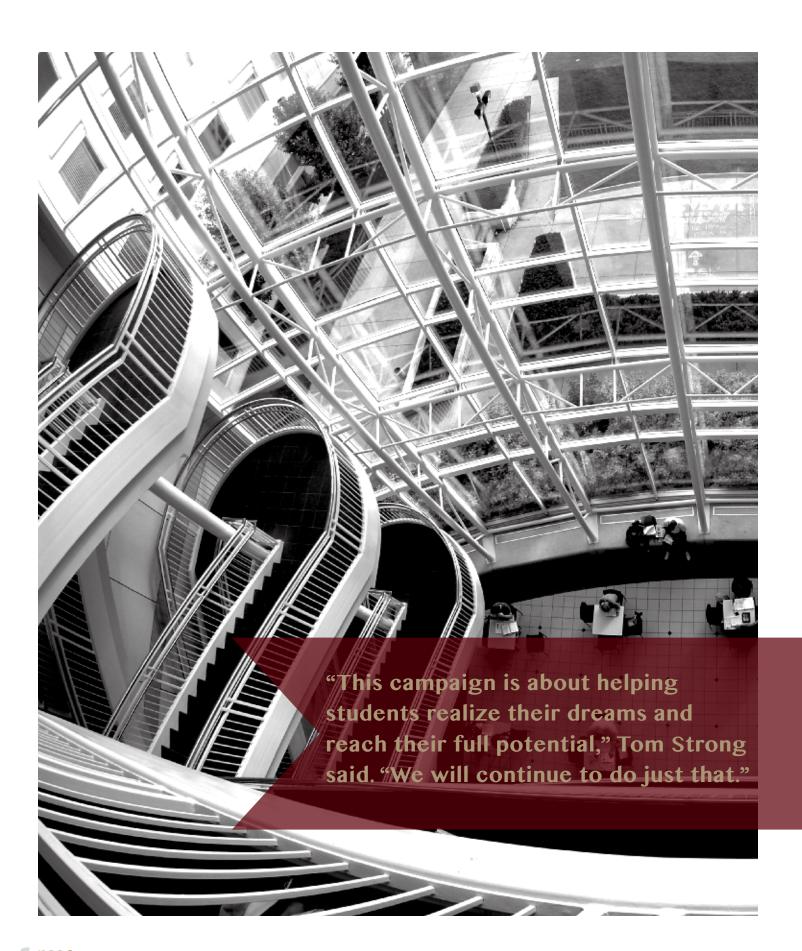
Billy E. Hujan

Chair, Missouri State University Foundation Board of Trustees



'Our Promise' campaign achieves original goal, sets bar even higher

On Aug. 28, 2009, Missouri State University announced to alumni, friends and the campus community that it was launching the largest campaign in its history. "Our Promise: The Campaign for Missouri State University" set an ambitious goal: \$125 million by Dec. 31, 2012.



Progress so far

On Jan. 26, 2012, campaign co-chairs Tom Strong and Ramona McQueary announced that the goal was exceeded well ahead of schedule, with more than \$134,526,000 in total gifts and commitments to date.

In addition, they announced that the Our Promise campaign would strive to reach \$150 million by the original campaign completion date of Dec. 31.

"The campaign's success speaks to the strong feelings our alumni and friends have toward Missouri State University," said Missouri State Interim President Clifton M. Smart III. "That is very gratifying. And, given the state's difficult budget situation, the successful campaign comes at a particularly good time to help ensure we continue to provide a highest possible education experience for the next generation of leaders and citizens."

Support has been fantastic

Since Our Promise launched, the Missouri State University Foundation has received more than 209,000 gifts, with nearly 70,000 donors giving to the campaign, almost half of them first-time donors. More than 300 new scholarships have been established.

In addition, several significant gifts have contributed to improvements, renovations or building at numerous campus facilities. These include McQueary Family Health Sciences Hall, Greenwood Science Scholars Wing, Darr Agricultural Center, Journagan Ranch, JQH Arena, the Bill R. Foster and Family Recreation Center, the Robert W. Plaster Center for Free Enterprise and Business Development and Gohn Hall on the West Plains campus.

'There is still work to be done'

"The members of the national steering committee, alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students deserve all of the credit for the success of Our Promise," said McQueary. "This day is a celebration of a lot of hard work. However, we want to remind everyone that due to the circumstances, there is still work to be done."

Members of the campaign's national steering committee felt strongly that the campaign should continue, Strong said, because the University's state funding continues to be cut — and those cuts could potentially be significant, so private support is absolutely necessary for Missouri State.

There's still time to participate before the campaign wraps up.

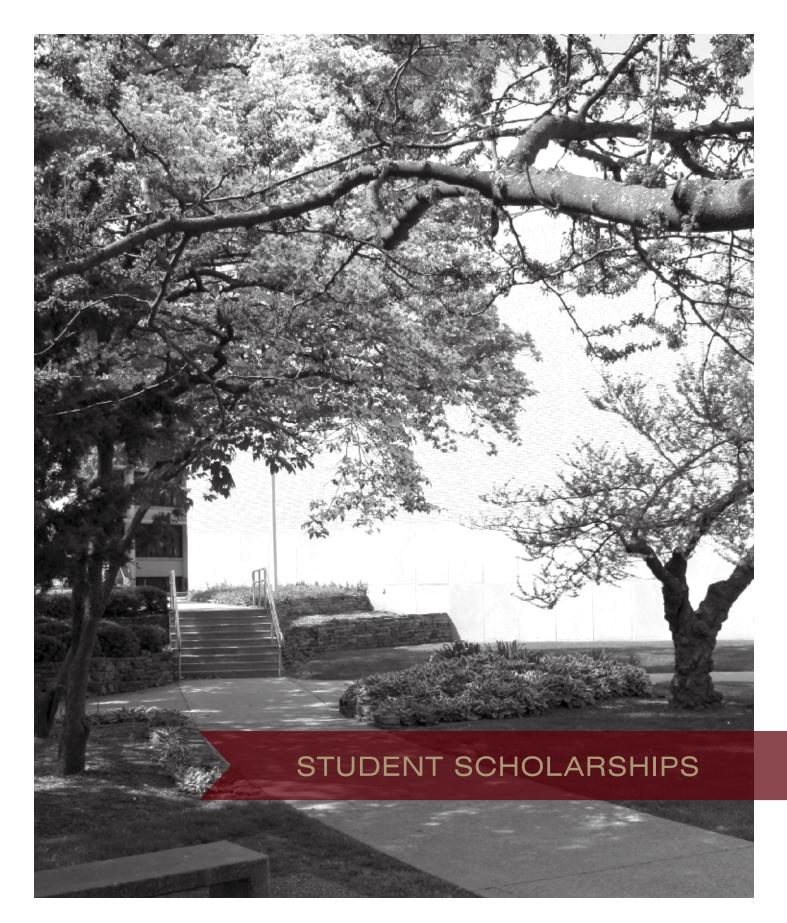
"We want to thank all our donors for making the campaign so successful and for the involvement of people who truly care about education," said Brent Dunn, vice president for university advancement. "We still want to involve as many alumni and friends as possible before the campaign concludes at the end of the calendar year."



WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

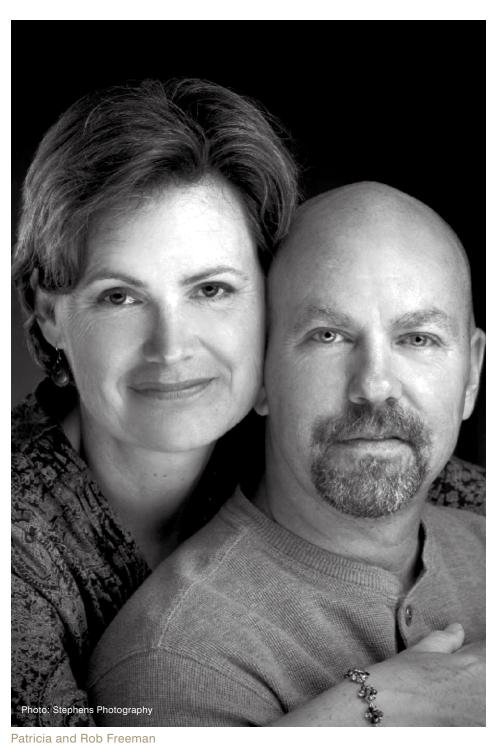
To contribute or learn more about

Our Promise: The Campaign for Missouri State University: www.ourpromise.missouristate.edu



Blessed, appreciative, honored, proud — these are the words students use to describe the feelings they have when they earn private scholarships. The University feels fortunate as well: Scholarships help attract and retain the best students, making our institution even more appealing to the next generation of Bears.

First recipient of award for students with disabilities able to pursue 'dream job'



Jerri Ann Shields doesn't remember anything about the car wreck that changed her life.

In 1986, she was a licensed practical nurse working around Lebanon, Mo. One winter day, she was driving away from a patient's home after sunset. A tractor-trailer turned into the road; the vehicle's lights weren't on yet.

Jerri saw it in her path at the last minute, hit her brakes — and that's all she can tell you.

She sat in the car for an hour and a half as emergency workers tried to get her out, eventually cutting the vehicle into six pieces.

Jerri had a concussion and head injuries requiring 15 stitches. She had breaks all over her legs, knees, ankles, feet. She required multiple surgeries in



Jerri Ann Shields

the next few years. During this time, she was also raising a family; she had a 5-month-old at the time of the accident. She tried to go back to nursing off and on, but had lingering pain. She was a school nurse in Lebanon but quit when she became afraid she might drop a child because she was no longer strong enough to pick up her small patients. In 1997, her doctor finally said she could not work anymore.

"I was on disability for years," she said — hard for someone who loved nursing. She started thinking about going back to school for social work after dealing with a family member with substance abuse and with the death of a child she knew from church. "I felt I could do more good doing something else than sitting on my hind end at home."

She started classes at Ozarks Technical Community College in 2009 and eventually earned an associate's degree.

In August 2011, she started at Missouri State. That November, she applied to be in the social work program. She was accepted and hopes to graduate with a bachelor's degree in fall 2013.

"I might want to get a master's degree, I might want to go right to work. My dream job would be mentoring teens."

She drives to her Springfield classes from Lebanon almost every weekday, and is balancing school with a family. "My kids have all been really supportive and encouraging. They text me, or send me messages on Facebook like 'Mom, you can do it!' or they meet me for lunch," she said.

In fact, her son Anthony Vibbard was a student at Missouri State at the same time as Jerri. Anthony received a bachelor's degree in recreational management in May 2012. Her husband, John Shields, is supportive too: "He is very proud of me. He will do laundry or make dinner to help out."

Jerri's attention to her studies has resulted in several distinctions. She is a member of Delta Alpha Pi, the MSU honor society for students with disabilities. And she is the first-ever recipient of the Rob R. and Patricia G. Freeman Delta Alpha Pi scholarship.

Rob is an Army Special Forces veteran and Missouri State alumnus who attended MSU following his military service. He was injured in the line of duty when an anti-tank mine exploded. His left hand and right index finger were amputated and he had fractures, wounds and extensive injuries all over.

Rob was in the Delta Alpha Pi honor society himself as a student. In establishing his scholarship, he said he had been the recipient of the James W. Dykes Award in Courage and Determiniation for MSU business majors who have overcome physical challenges to pursue their education. He and his wife Patricia knew they wanted to return that favor someday. He said they hoped "to plant a small seed of kindness that may someday be returned in kind."

Their kindness is definitely felt by Jerri.

"I would just like to say thank you to people who establish scholarships," Jerri said. "I don't think they realize how much really does help people. ... It's an honor to receive it; it really is."

Recipient of new scholarship wants to dedicate his career to clean water

The scholarship that is helping Richard P. Smith attend Missouri State won't just assist one student, one time. Smith hopes his degree has a ripple effect, in several senses of the word "ripple" — he wants to help people around the globe who need clean water.

Smith, 30, is starting his second year in the civil engineering program, offered on the Missouri State campus in collaboration with the Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla.

He became interested in water issues during the eight years he spent in the military. Smith entered the U.S. Marine Corps in 2000, right after graduating from Hillcrest High School in Springfield.

"I have visited countries that aren't even third-world countries that don't have clean water, and I have experienced what it's like to drink dirty water. Just having that personal experience to being exposed to substandard water made me more sensitive to it.

"I enjoy math and science, and I want to find a way to touch other people's lives," Smith says. "I want to work as an engineer in the U.S. and also travel to other countries to help build or design water-treatment plants."

Smith is thankful to be a recipient of the new Rebecca Susan Finley Memorial Scholarship, which was set up to benefit students seeking degrees in either engineering or in nursing. Preference is also given to students who are in the military or are veterans.

"This scholarship was an answer to prayer, and I want to thank the Finleys and God for this blessing," Smith says.

The scholarship was established in honor of Rebecca Finley — or Becky Sue, as she was known — a nurse anesthetist who worked at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., until her death in 1983. In the endowment agreement, her family said she had an "extraordinarily wonderful personality and a gift of kindness that made her the perfect registered nurse."

Smith says the scholarship indeed shows the family's kindness.

"There are people in need who are trying to step out of where they are and reach for something better. Then there are people who come alongside them and help them make the next step. I really appreciate people who are willing to give so generously."



Gary Finley and Richard Smith

Pummill family's legacy continues thanks to gift of securities

Arch E. Pummill, the nephew of the late Dr. Lawrence Pummill (for whom Pummill Hall is named), was deeply influenced by his uncle's passion for Missouri State University.

This connection brought Arch to campus, where he would meet his future wife, Gertrude, a 1941 Missouri State graduate.

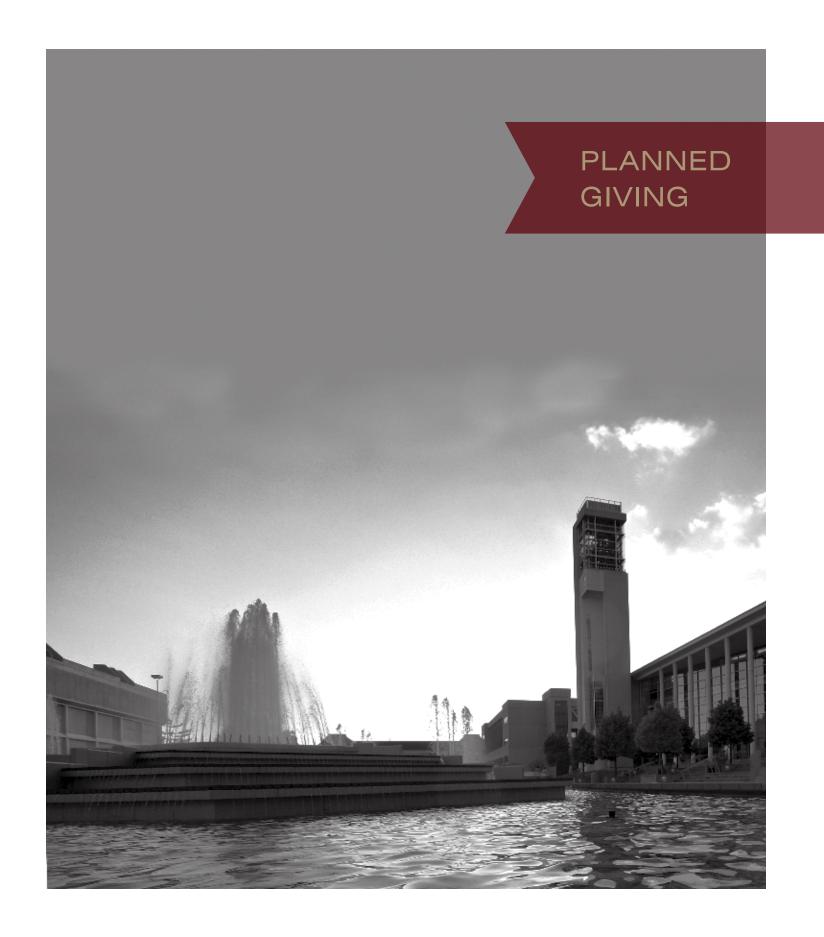
Arch worked at Southwestern Bell and AT&T for more than 40 years, while Gertrude had a successful career as a teacher.

The couple spent most of their lives in Springfield. During this time, they observed how the Pummill legacy shaped student experiences at Missouri State.

Following Gertrude's passing in the spring of 2010, Arch took steps to ensure the legacy of the Pummill name would live on at Missouri State by making a gift of appreciated securities to the Lawrence E. and Crystal Pummill Scholarship. Arch's gift ensures this scholarship, which has assisted mathematics students for nearly 30 years, will continue to provide the financial assistance needed to mold the futures of bright young minds at Missouri State for generations to come.



Arch Pummill and daughter, Sue



These gifts help the University plan our financial future. Charitable estate planning allows donors to choose from a variety of options, so they may tailor their giving to meet their philanthropic goals. This type of gift planning also provides the most beneficial strategy to meet the benefactor's needs. Gifts provided through a planned strategy can provide much-needed support to Missouri State University, as well as financial and tax benefits to a donor and his or her family.



Susan Sims-Giddens and Edwin Giddens

Associate professor establishes scholarship fund for nursing students

When Susan Sims-Giddens was 4 years old, she told someone she wanted to be a nurse.

"I still have no idea why — no one in my family worked in health care and I didn't know any nurses! I considered other careers, but I always came back to nursing. I have loved basically everything I have ever done in this field."

And she's done a lot: She earned a bachelor's in nursing in 1975, a master's in the field in 1984, a master's in bilingual and multicultural education in 1995 and a doctorate in education leadership in 2000. She has worked as a nurse or in nursing supervisory roles at facilities large and small around the country, from Texas to Arizona to Hawaii.

Her family is in the Neosho area, and she and husband Edwin moved back to the Ozarks in 1998 to be close to them. She joined the nursing department at Missouri State that year, and she's now an associate professor who teaches undergraduate and graduate courses. She also directs a master's program and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) completion program, which allows students who have both an associate's degree in nursing and a registered nurse license to complete a bachelor's in the field.

She also does research, and her major focus is at-risk populations — people who do not have access to health care. Around 2005, she and another faculty member started the Coalition for Healthy Communities to provide service-learning opportunities for MSU nursing students. Students may go to places with at-risk populations, such as The Kitchen and the Victory Mission, and do clinical work as part of their education. They assess the needs of their clients and provide education.

"They build trusting relationships with these clients," she said. "We hope we improve the quality of life for these individuals."

She's also concerned with improving the quality of life of her students. In 2012, she and her husband established the Susan Sims-Giddens and Edwin Giddens Scholarship for students in the BSN completion program. While she's contributed to other gifts in the past, this is the couple's first large endowment. The scholarships may help recipients cover the cost of books or other items related to their education.

"Many of the students in the program work full-time and have a family, and would not qualify for traditional financial aid," she said. "We want them to have the opportunity to keep going — to improve their lives and their future."

Sims-Giddens also believes a nursing scholarship may enhance an entire community: "Health care changes daily, and there are always new procedures, equipment and medications. Nursing education benefits all of us because when nurses are fully educated we all get better health care."

She and Edwin, who is retired from the United States Marine Corps, were honored with a sterling Founders Club medallion for their scholarship, but she said her real reward will be knowing she helped someone attend school.

"I am a first-generation college student," she said. "I went from an associate's degree all the way to a doctoral degree. My whole life, I will still be learning. I believe in education!"



Bob and Eva Thompson, MSU-WP Chacellor, Drew Bennett, Brent Dunn, Elizabeth Grisham

Largest-ever gift to West Plains will endow need-based scholarships

Missouri State University-West Plains received the largest gift in the campus' history this year — a \$4 million gift that will benefit students. The gift was from the Lorene Thompson Brooks estate.

About Lorene Thompson Brooks

Lorene Thompson Brooks was born Feb. 27, 1930, in Stotesbury, Mo. Her family moved to Koshkonong, Mo., in 1941. She graduated from Koshkonong High School in 1948 and attended Draughon Business University in Springfield. She eventually moved to Texas.

In the late 1990s, Thompson Brooks lost her only child, Dierdre, to cancer. Lorene's older brother, Bob Thompson, and his wife, Eva, lived in West Plains, and a relative suggested Dierdre's collection of books could be given to the Garnett Library at Missouri State University-West Plains.

This began a long-lasting relationship between Lorene Thompson Brooks and the West Plains campus, resulting in this bequest to the University for need-based scholarships upon her death Dec. 20, 2010, in Austin, Texas.

University: 'Lives will change' because of gift

In recognition of her gift, the Corps of Opportunity Program — which combines scholarships and on-campus work opportunities for qualified students who need financial help to pay for their education — will be renamed the Ed and Lorene Thompson Brooks Corps of Opportunity Program.

"Mrs. Brooks has left a lasting legacy with this magnificent estate gift," said Dr. Drew Bennett, Missouri State University-West Plains chancellor. "She was passionate about helping students with financial need achieve a college education. This historical gift will do just that by allowing us to endow and fully

fund our Corps of Opportunity program, which will double the number of students benefiting from this program.

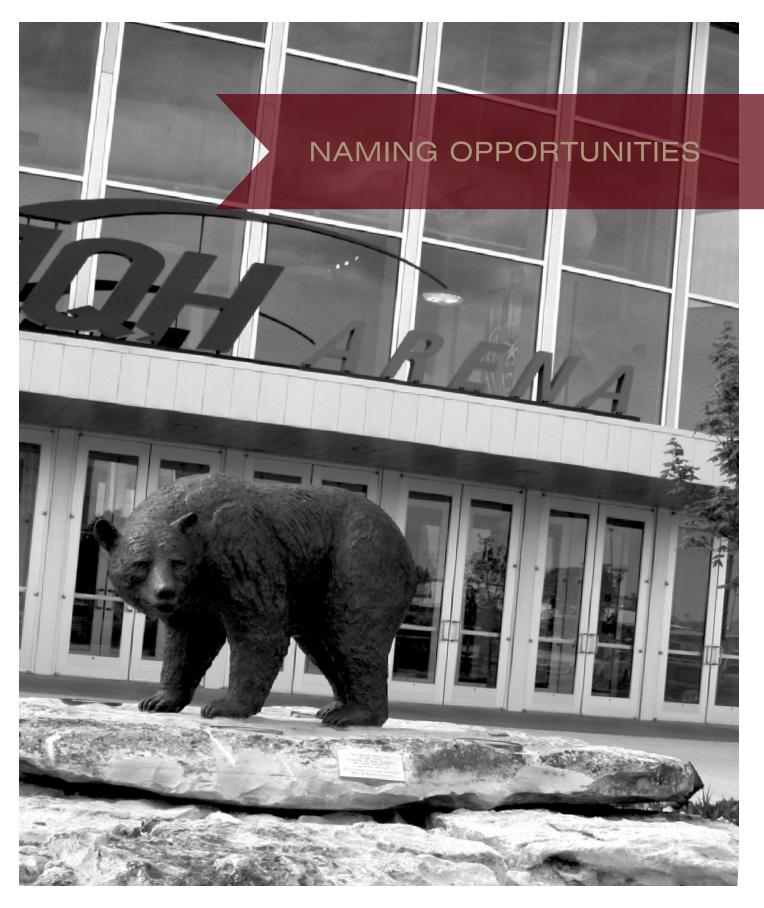
"The gift also will fully cover the cost of two Grizzly Athletics scholarships, which is very fitting since Mrs. Brooks was a real fan of collegiate athletics. A gift of this magnitude is both humbling and inspiring."

Missouri State Interim President Clif Smart also mentioned the significance of the gift.

"As we focus on access to higher education for all students, financial aid becomes increasingly important," Smart said. "The need-based scholarships this fund will provide for West Plains students may very well mean the difference between a student getting a college degree and not."

In addition to providing much-needed financial assistance to students, the Corps of Opportunity program provides students with on-campus jobs that enable them to fund their education.

"We so much appreciate that Mrs. Brooks included Missouri State-West Plains in her estate plan," said Brent Dunn, vice president for university advancement. "Her family will now have a lasting legacy in helping the education process at West Plains. We are celebrating not just the largest single scholarship gift to Missouri State, but we are celebrating the numbers of students whose lives will change because of education. She is making a difference and will continue to make a difference in the future."



Attaching your name, or the name of a loved one, to part of this University is a way for your legacy to be remembered forever. The naming opportunities on the Missouri State campus are limitless.



Recreation center gets new name thanks to gift from Foster family

The University recreation center, an amazing new facility on campus that will help with student recruitment and retention, received its official name in October 2011: The Bill R. Foster and Family Recreation Center (known as FRC for short).

A major gift commitment from the Foster family helped name the FRC. Bill Foster is a Springfield businessman. He and his family have a history with Missouri State — in the past 30 years, they have established scholarships, given to capital projects and supported athletics. In addition, Bill served on the Missouri State Foundation Board from 1987-93, including a year as its president in 1990-91.

His sons Tony and John also have strong ties to MSU. Tony, a 1981 political science graduate, serves on the Foundation Board of Trustees. John earned his degree in history education in 1971 and has served as co-chairman of The Bears Fund.

The FRC, which had a grand opening Aug. 20, offers a place for the entire campus community to work out, have fun and learn about healthy living. The 100,000-square-foot, \$30 million building was initiated in 2006 by student leaders and was designed with the help of students. A dedicated student fee and private contributions are paying for the center.

The FRC features a pool, spa, sauna, indoor jogging track, fitness center with cardiovascular equipment and free weights, rock-climbing and bouldering walls, basketball courts, studios for fitness classes and more.

The building's planners sought to be green, and the center was built to the standards for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) silver certification. The design has already won several awards.

The Fosters gave the naming-level gift because the family has a lasting commitment to health care in the Ozarks.

"Our family welcomes this wonderful opportunity to do something good for Missouri State, and certainly for the students," said Bill R. Foster.

"Young people who look to the University for their educational needs also have health and wellness needs. This recreation center will provide for the health and wellness of those young people. Hopefully this addition to campus will always add to the students' quality of life while they learn and prepare for their future careers."

Missouri State Interim President Clif Smart appreciates the support from the family.

"We are pleased and honored to have the Foster name forever associated with Missouri State through the naming of this building," said Smart. "The Bill R. Foster and Family Recreation Center will serve many generations of Missouri State students."

Gift will lead to impressive amenities for basketball teams at JQH Arena

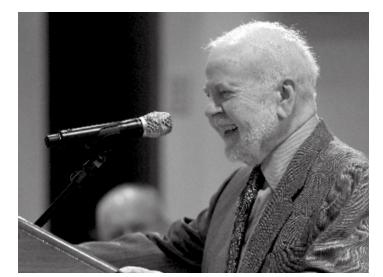
Work will begin this year on the basketball locker rooms and team facilities in JQH Arena thanks to a major gift from Springfield philanthropist and long-time Missouri State University supporter Jim D. Morris.

The two-level complex, located on the south side of the arena floor, will include locker rooms for both the Bears and Lady Bears basketball teams, coaches' offices, an athletic training facility, an academic study area, a state-of-the-art team video room and other support areas. The project has a target completion date of fall 2013.

When JQH Arena opened in 2008, the area for the complex was left as shell space with the anticipation it would be completed at a later date through private gifts.

"We are extremely grateful for this gift and Mr. Morris' commitment to the future of MSU athletics. It helps many aspects of our athletics program and improves the front porch of the University," said Kyle Moats, director of intercollegiate athletics.

"The impact on our basketball teams and their recruiting efforts is tremendous. But the success of our basketball programs also affects every student-athlete and every intercollegiate program financially. The broad scope of this project and the commitment it takes to make this dream come true is certainly very special to everyone who wears maroon and white."



Jim D. Morris



More West Plains students may finish degrees thanks to Gohn Hall project

The West Plains campus has been able to start its number-one capital priority, the renovation of Gohn Hall, thanks to a major gift commitment announced in September 2011.

The gift came from the family that originally donated the home that became Gohn Hall: West Plains banker David Gohn and his sister, public educator Virginia Gohn Sapp of St. Louis, Mo. The home was built in 1928 by their grandparents, B.F. and Eva Arnold Wood. It was donated to the University in 2000.

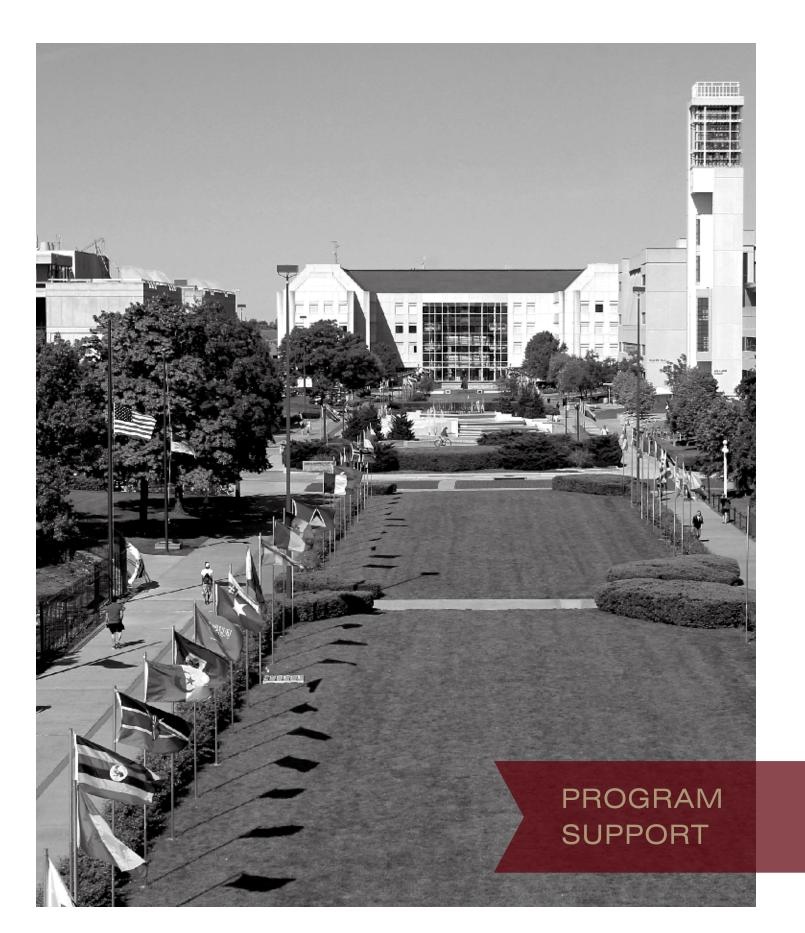
"Virginia and I are gratified that after many years this project is moving forward," Gohn said. "We are pleased that our family home will be integrated into the new building for the enhancement of higher education. ... Above all, we are pleased with the presence of the University and the positive impact for opportunities it brings to this community and the surrounding area."

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Dec. 22, 2011, to mark the beginning of the \$2 million construction/renovation project. The gift commitment from David Gohn and Virginia Gohn Sapp was added to University money from the Springfield and West Plains campuses to cover the project's costs.

Once completed, Gohn Hall will provide a permanent home for Missouri State-Springfield's growing Outreach program, which offers bachelor's and master's degree programs on the West Plains campus. The building will house classrooms for those degree-completion programs and office space for employees affiliated with the Outreach program.

These renovations will make it easier than ever for students in the West Plains area to complete a bachelor's or master's degree without leaving their home. Students can obtain an associate's degree at Missouri State-West Plains then complete a four-year program via distance-learning technology in Gohn Hall.

The renovated facility is expected to open by fall 2013.



Support of programs creates a better way of life for people both on and off campus! These gifts benefit programs at Missouri State such as intercollegiate athletics, bands, academic colleges and departments, the performing arts, Ozarks Public Television or KSMU Radio — just to name a few.

Gift benefits Foster Family Recreation Center, intramural sports program

Bobby Allison, a philanthropist and businessman, made a significant gift in April to the Bill R. Foster and Family Recreation Center and intramural sports, supporting the construction of the center and endowing a portion of the University's intramurals program.

In recognition of his gift, the basketball courts inside the Foster Recreation Center will be named the Betty and Bobby Allison Courts (Betty Allison is the late mother of Bobby Allison).

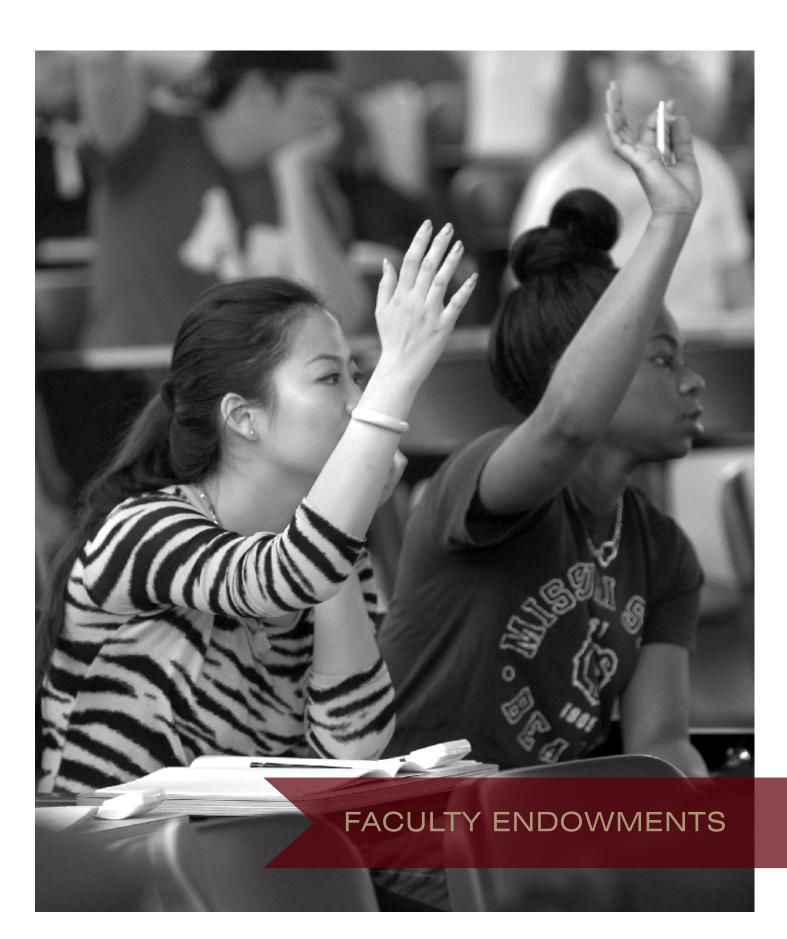
In addition, the intramural field at Cherry Street and National Avenue will be named the Betty and Bobby Allison Intramural Fields.

"We very much appreciate Mr. Allison's generous gift to benefit our students," said Missouri State Interim President Clifton M. Smart III. "As state funding shrinks, private contributions such as these are key to the University continuing to advance. Mr. Allison's gift adds yet more opportunities for our students and, thus, adds to the value Missouri State provides for its students."

Bobby Allison's act of generosity is not his first. He has made several gifts to youth-related sports programs and facilities in the Springfield area.

"I am so pleased to assist the University in their efforts to help with student projects," said Bobby Allison. "The youth of today are so important to our future and I am pleased to do my part in help making a great educational college experience."





A faculty
endowment is
a gift that helps
Missouri State
attract and retain
outstanding
educators.

Missouri State's named faculty positions

CHAIRS

Baker Chair of Insurance

BKD Chair in Accountancy

BKD Chair in Forensic Accounting

Blanche Gorman Strong Chair of Protestant Studies

David D. Glass Distinguished Leadership Chair

Dean's Distinguished Chair in Business Ethics

Dr. Robert W. and Charlotte K. Bitter Endowed Chair — College of Business

Missouri State University Leadership Chair

Thomas G. Strong Chair in Middle Eastern Studies

PROFESSORSHIPS

Alumni Professorship in Reproductive Biology

BancorpSouth Endowed Professorship

BKD Professorship

College of Education Hispanic Assimilation Professorship

Daisy Portenier Loucks Dean's Distinguished Research Professorship College of Business

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Daisy Portenier Loucks Dean's Distinguished Research Professorship College of Business

Endowed Professorship in College of Business

Guy Mace Professorship

James F. Morris Family Professorship

Kenneth E. Meyer Professorship

McBride and Son Homes Professorship — College of Business

Noel Boyd Professorship

Rich and Doris Young Professorship in Honors

Darr Honors Program Endowed Professorship (West Plains campus)

Donna Jones Endowed Professorship of Nursing (West Plains campus)



Dr. Brooks Blevins

Endowment allows professor to delve deeply into the history of the Ozarks

They laid ignored for years, maybe decades, in libraries, courthouses and historical society archives.

Until a scholar came through town, shaking the dust from documents about the Ozarks and its inhabitants — our shared history, if you've ever lived in the region or attended Missouri State.

Dr. Brooks Blevins, the Noel Boyd Professor of Ozarks Studies in the history department, meticulously combs through materials to unearth little-known facts for use in his publications and his classroom. He examines newspapers, court records and more.

"I'll just read every book I can get a hold of that's been written that even touches on the Ozarks, and then eventually I'll go look into old diaries and store ledgers — whatever I can find out there," Blevins said. "In a lot of cases I may be the first person to really look at a document closely."

Blevins grew up on a farm in north-central Arkansas. As an undergraduate in that state in the early 1990s, he became fascinated with the Ozarks.

"A lot of scholars end up studying something that's very personal to them," Blevins said. "I realized that almost no good history had been written about the Ozarks. So I set out as a graduate student to write about my home region."

Blevins is able to travel around Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky and other states — giving informative talks and going where the historical data takes him — because he is the Noel Boyd Professor of Ozarks Studies. This endowed position allows him to have a reduced class load. He was recruited to take the position four years ago.

"The ability and the time to do innovative research, and to write, enhances so much what I do in the classroom," Blevins said. "I am always, from week to week, bringing something

new into the classroom, some new example or anecdote, that I have just read the day before, the week before, or that I've found in an archive somewhere and photocopied. It keeps the classroom fresh."

Blevins has used his findings to write several books. His most recent work, "Ghost of the Ozarks: Murder and Memory in the Upland South," is a true-crime tale about a case in Arkansas that caused a national media sensation in 1929 — mostly because a man claiming to be the victim appeared, alive and well, days before the trial of those accused.

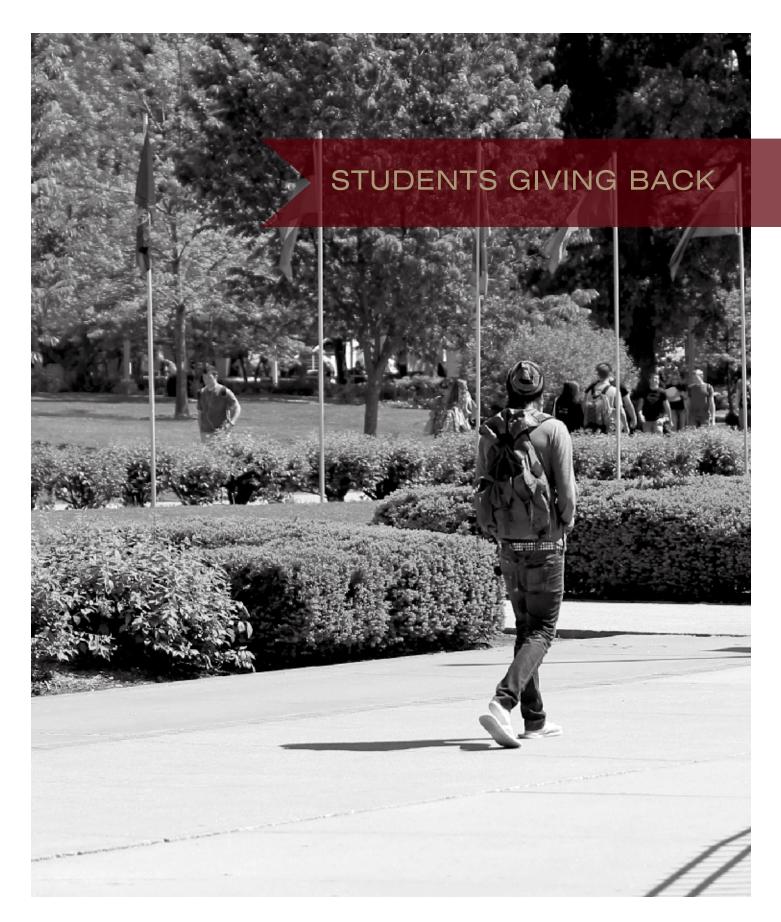
He strives to give students in his Ozarks history classes a sense of pride about the region: "Since so many of our students here will make their careers and their homes in the Ozarks, I think it's important for them to have a basic grounding in regional history."

His next project is a chronological look at the region from the era of Native Americans to the 21st century. It will combine a broad outline of the area's history with individual stories about interesting characters.

"Several years down the road, that will be a book," he said. "It's a pretty big project that will take awhile!"

Blevins is grateful for the endowment that allows him to work on such large-scale projects.

"I would like to thank anyone who endows professorships on behalf of the faculty who have them," Blevins said. "I wish more professors could have the professional experience I have had since coming to Missouri State, and the dynamic feeling you have when you have time to research. I love teaching about and talking about the Ozarks. I get to do that week in and week out here."



Students are a crucial part of Missouri State
University's success.
Many students and student groups contribute generously to enhance
Missouri State.



Jeremy Schenk and Colleen Pace

Two student groups earn Founders Club medallions

Greek Week Committee

The Greek Week Committee qualified this year for a Founders Club bronze medallion thanks to its ongoing support of Missouri State.

During Greek Week, fraternities and sororities engage in activities meant to increase cohesiveness among chapters. Greek Week Committee members plan and run the events.

This year, the committee raised money by charging admission to several activities:

- The Greek god and Greek goddess pageant,
- A "battle of the bands" event held at the Gillioz Theatre downtown, and
- · Greek Jam.

The money supports the Fred and Marty Marty Fraternity and Sorority Life Scholarship, available to Greek members.

"I think half of a college education takes place outside the classroom, and Greek life is teaching me how to develop as a person and be a leader," said Garrett Mueller, a management major who recently received one of several Marty scholarships awarded. "Getting the scholarship inspired me to continue bettering myself and my involvement on campus."

2012 Greek Week co-chair Scott Turk said being Greek and earning scholarships have shaped his college career, so he was glad to have the chance to support both.

"I wouldn't have been student body president or held any of the other leadership positions I have had without the influence of being Greek and the support of my friends," Turk said. "The students who get the Marty scholarships will see it as support from their community and be encouraged to work to their fullest potential and be actively engaged at Missouri State."

Delta Zeta sorority

The Missouri State chapter of Delta Zeta sorority was honored for its support as a new Founders Club medallion recipient, receiving a bronze medallion at the medallion reception.

Delta Zeta raised more than \$3,500 for the University's department of communication sciences and disorders in the 2011-12 school year. Delta Zeta's national philanthropy is support of the speech-and-hearing impaired, which led to the local chapter's affiliation with this department more than 15 years ago.

"We receive so much from the campus that it's really important to give back," said Delta Zeta president Lexi Beck, a French education major. "We want to show gratitude for what we have."

The CSD department prepares students to be speech-language pathologists, audiologists or educators of the deaf and/or hard-of-hearing. It runs a clinic on campus where members of the public may pay to receive speech therapy, have their hearing evaluated and other related activities. The department also runs a preschool for deaf and hard-of-hearing children. MSU students may observe professionals at work in the clinic and the preschool, and may assist as part of their education.

The money raised by Delta Zeta goes to scholarships for preschool students and for supplies and equipment at the clinic.

"All of our programs are for both educating students and serving the public. Delta Zeta's help allows our programs to run more smoothly," said Dr. Neil DiSarno, former head of the CSD department. "It also allows families who can't afford it to get services for their children.

"The department, our students and the families you have helped are extremely grateful for all of your work."



Members of Delta Zeta Sorority



2012 senior class gift of mosaic beautifies Recreation Center pool

Each year, Missouri State seniors are asked to participate in the Senior Class Gift Campaign by making a gift of \$25. The Senior Class Gift Commission takes input from students about what they would like to give, then chooses, plans and markets the gift campaign.

For 2011-12, the commission chose a project in the Aquatics Center of the new Bill R. Foster and Family Recreation Center. This senior class decided to leave a tile mosaic of the Missouri State Bear head logo in the pool.

A plaque will be placed in the Aquatics Center to recognize the contribution of the 2012 class.

In addition to supporting the Bear mosaic, \$2 of each \$25 gift will support the Emergency Scholarship Fund. This fund was first established to help students after the deadly May 2011 tornadoes in Joplin. However, it is continuing to assist students facing other unforeseen personal crises including the death of a legal guardian, a natural disaster or a fire.

page

Loyalty, noun. (1) Faithfulness or a devotion to an institution, a person, country, group, or cause. (2) The state or quality of being loyal; fidelity to commitments or obligations. The feeling of devoted attachment and affection. Synonyms: allegiance, commitment, steadfastness.

The Founders Club

The Founders Club is Missouri State's most prestigious organization for donors. It honors those who have made significant contributions to the University. The Founders Club allows us to bestow distinguished benefits and proper recognition on loyal alumni, friends, businesses and organizations that support capital and academic projects.

Becoming a member

Members of The Founders Club make a minimum commitment of \$10,000 in cash, securities or property to the Missouri State University Foundation. Membership is also extended to those who make planned gifts with a value of at least \$10,000. Your affiliation is activated by completing, signing and returning a statement of acceptance for membership in The Founders Club.

Benefits of membership

- A jade glass award designed especially for members
- Exclusive events just for members, held throughout the year
- Reserved parking on campus
- Invitations to special occasions on campus
- Use of the Duane G. Meyer Library (a special embossed card is issued to members)

Membership medallions

Medallions are presented to members whose cumulative giving reaches certain levels. The medallions are given out at an annual reception. The types of medallions are:

- Founders Medallion, \$1 million
- Platinum Medallion, \$500,000
- Sterling Medallion, \$250,000
- Presidents Medallion, \$100,000
- Silver Medallion, \$50,000
- Bronze Medallion, \$25,000

Club roster

A full list of Founders Club members starts on page 42.

How to join

Please contact Stephanie Lashley at the Missouri State University Foundation.

Phone: 417-836-4143

Email: StephanieLashley@missouristate.edu

Harvest Moon Fair

Date: Sept. 24, 2011

Location: William H. Darr Agricultural Center Attire: BearWear and country-casual attire

Décor: Fall flowers in shades of maroon and white

Food: Hearty buffet dinner

Founders Club members celebrated the start of autumn and experienced the atmosphere of the William H. Darr Agricultural Center at the Harvest Moon Fair.

Guests were invited to eat dinner, then take a student-guided tour of the new Christopher S. Bond Learning Center. They could watch as competitive teams from the Darr School of Agriculture, including the equestrian and cattle groups, demonstrated their skills in Pinegar Arena.

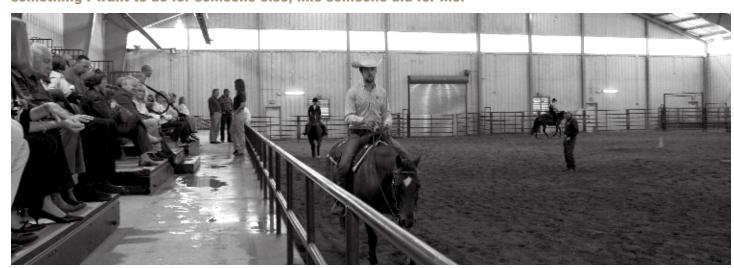
Younger guests were entertained with inflatables set up on the yard, sack races, bubble-blowing toys, introductions to horses and interactions with Boomer Bear.

Dr. Peggy Tuter Pearl, an alumna and emeritus professor who taught in the childhood education and family studies department from 1970 to 2007, was excited to see the technology in the Bond Learning Center. She says it will benefit MSU students and help the University reach out to high school and junior high students.

She said the event not only highlighted the building, but also the depth and breadth of Missouri State's School of Agriculture: "It has grown so much."

Pearl, a long-time member of The Founders Club, gives back because someone else's generosity helped her attend school. She hopes she can inspire others to give as well.

"I think, as a person in education, you look to the future. You look to how we can help the next generation of professionals, and the next, and the next, and next — pay it forward. Education is so important to both the recipient and the greater community in which those educated persons live and function. In southwest Missouri, we have some first-generation college students ... I was one of those first-generation students. I was someone who came to the University with scholarship help. That is something I want to do for someone else, like someone did for me."





Date: May 19, 2012

Location: Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts

Attire: Cocktail

Décor: Maroon, white and black Food: Heavy hor d'oeuvres

Every year, The Founders Club recognizes significant donors who provide financial support at certain levels by holding a medallion reception.

This year's reception was held at the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts, and 48 medallions were awarded to donors who support Missouri State at the Founders, Platinum, Sterling, President's, Silver and Bronze levels.

Dr. Bruno Schmidt, a retired professor of physics and computer science and a former vice president for academic affairs at the University, was awarded a bronze medallion along with his wife Karen. Schmidt hopes his donation will provide

opportunities for students who might otherwise not be able to attend college, and will encourage his peers to be even more generous in their giving.

"When I was a student, scholarships played a major role in allowing me to attend college, which resulted in many lifelong friendships being made and providing me with the knowledge and skills to be able to carry out my long-time desire of being a teacher," Schmidt said. "I want to help give the same opportunity to other students."

He cherishes the friendships he made with faculty and students at Missouri State.

"Being able to interact with people who I admire, many who have been friends for years, was perhaps the highlight of the evening for me." Schmidt said.

Schmidt is passionate about giving back to the University and happy about Missouri State's future.

"The direction that the University is taking with respect to many of its programs is important to me," Schmidt said. "I believe that we have good leadership, and community acceptance and cooperation seems to be high."



Financial highlights

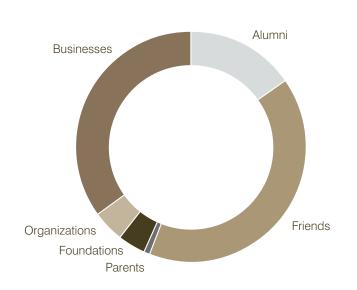
In **Fiscal Year 2012** the Missouri State University Foundation received **34,352** gifts totaling \$20,311,218, the largest giving total in the Foundation's history. **Contributions from** 23,792 were received this past fiscal year with **7,876** of those being Missouri State University alumni.

Gifts from alumni, friends, parents, foundations and organizations are impacting students of today and paving the future for Missouri State Bears of tomorrow. The Foundation and the University cannot thank loyal donors enough for their steadfast commitment and the impact it has and will continue to have at Missouri State University.

FISCAL YEAR 2012 CONTRIBUTIONS

Total	\$ 20,311,218
Businesses	\$ 7,096,649
Organizations	\$ 903,270
Foundations	\$ 764,406
Parents	\$ 163,523
Friends	\$ 8,265,507
Alumni	\$ 3,117,862
Sources	

Total	\$ 20,311,218
Property and Equipment	\$ 4,973,424
	\$ 1,484,832
Restricted (Annual student financial aid and academic, athletic and administrative programs)	\$ 13,754,948
Unrestricted (Area of Greatest Need)	\$ 98,015
Purposes	





Financial Highlights

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2012 (with comparative totals for June 30, 2011)

2011	2012		
\$19,649,849	\$18,842,226	Cash and cash equivalents	Assets
8,500	38,916	Accounts receivable, net	
59,502,404	61,205,156	Investments	
913,497	821,161	Investments held in trust	
123,126	123,126	Investments held for resale	
34,973,317	37,583,181	Pledges receivable, net	
211,382	196,382	Real estate held for resale	
452,449	439,860	Cash value of life insurance	
202,454	-	Construction in progress	
2,991,817	3,421,945	Real estate and equipment, at cost	
(2,001,663)	(2,101,964)	Accumulated depreciation	
\$117,027,132	\$120,569,989	Total Assets	
\$659,940	\$213,444	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	Liabilities
2,726,340	940,146	Pledges payable	
329,927	289,000	Annuity obligations	
199,762	199,762	Funds managed for Missouri State University	
3,915,969	1,642,352	Total Liabilities	
4,808,349	6,798,124	Unrestricted	Net Assets
68,147,267	70,485,391	Temporarily restricted	
40,155,547	41,644,122	Permanently restricted	
113,111,163	118,927,637	Total Net Assets	
\$117,027,132	\$120,569,989	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	

Statement of Activities

Expenses and Losses

Year ended June 30, 2012 (with comparative totals for June 30, 2011)

	2012	2011
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	23,148,977	25,738,173
Instruction and academic program support	5,808,309	2,407,562
Student services	3,325,286	3,874,414
Institutional support	499,490	445,541
Scholarships	1,813,282	1,599,021
Broadcast services	1,367,393	1,403,636
Rental expenses	518,145	496,563
Capital projects - Missouri State University	1,256,466	3,537,789
JQH Arena Debt Service	1,930,374	1,937,014
Costs of direct benefits to donors	35,220	30,111
Fund raising	511,956	602,760
Other Expenses and Losses	266,582	361,769
Total Expenses and Losses	17,332,503	16,696,180
Change in Net Assets	5,816,474	9,041,993
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	113,111,163	104,069,170
Net Assets, End of Year	118,927,637	113,111,163

The Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities are excerpted from Missouri State University Foundation's 2012 financial statements, which have been audited by BKD, LLP. Complete report available on the Missouri State University website under Foundation Accounting.

The Founders Club Membership

Carey and Julie Adams H. Douglas and Hilda Adams

Jodie H. Adams

A. Duane Addleman, Ph.D.

Gib G. Adkins Jr. and Angela R. Adkins

Advanced Relational Technology

AECI Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Agency Management Services, Inc.

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Casualty Insurance Company Robin and Alka Amonker

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Betty Baker

Don E. and Betts Baker

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Bank of America of Springfield, Missouri

Bank of America of West Plains, Missouri

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Sharon Barber

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Jan and William E. Barclay

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Big Cedar Lodge Patricia A. Birkes

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Dr. Phyllis Bixler

Vencil J. and Frances B. Bixler

BKD. LLP

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Bill and Virginia Darr

Darr Family Foundation Grant L. Davis

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Delta Zeta DeWitt & Associates, Inc.

Arlen and Darrelyn Diamond

Carl and Jan Dickey

Dickinson Foundation (Wood Dickinson)

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Suzanne Dollar

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Servl Ethel Fisher

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David Kerrigan Fly and

Tim Foote

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Fulbright-Swyers Foundation

Missouri State University Foundation Annual Report

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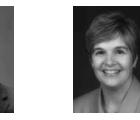
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