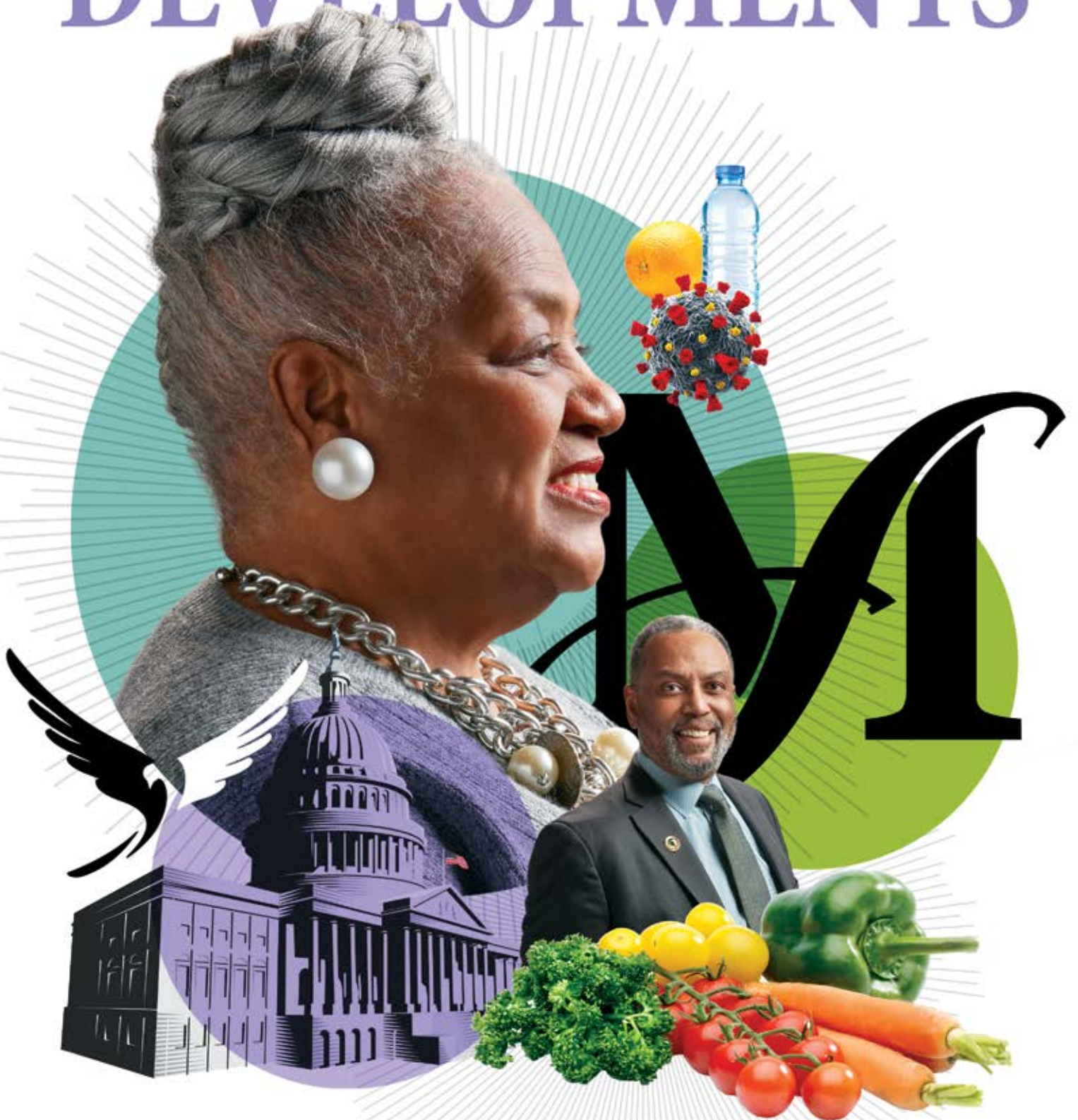


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\$1.5 million gift will help complete Phase 1 of the project, including a redesigned main corridor with spaces for collaboration

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DEVELOPMENTS

Going Green...by Going Pink

How many plant scientists and electrical engineers does it take to change a lightbulb in a mid-century greenhouse? Turns out, a lot! A collaborative team of researchers from plant science and experts from Infrastructure Planning and Facilities have been working together since 2019 to systematically convert the lighting systems in the greenhouse to support LED bulbs—specifically red and white LED fixtures that, together, create a striking pink glow that uses less than half the energy of traditional lights. The best part? This pink "glow up" is just the beginning for the aging greenhouse complex, which looks to undergo a \$50 million expansion and renovation in the near future, thanks in part to donor support.

FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU Developments, published three times each year, is devoted to the inspiration and impact of private philanthropy at Michigan State University.

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The generosity of thousands of alumni and friends empowers MSU's students, faculty and leaders to accomplish the extraordinary every day.

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The correct reference is Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, and the federal tax identification number is 38-6005984. If you have already named MSU in your estate plans, please contact us so we can welcome you to the Linda E. Landon Legacy Society. For more information, visit giftplanning.msu.edu.

Learn more at givingto.msu.edu

new DEVELOPMENTS



Alexander and Pauline Ho's gift supports student learning about feng shui.

THE GIFT OF SPATIAL HARMONY

One of the five arts of Chinese metaphysics, feng shui is a practice of harmonizing the natural energy found in the environment and has been used historically to position buildings.

A new endowment created by Alexander (Alex) and Pauline Ho in honor of Alex's brother, alumnus Peter Ho ('66), will support learning opportunities for students in the School of Planning, Design and Construction, emphasizing the influence of other cultures in the built environment—including the classical feng shui philosophy and techniques.

The Hos' gift goes hand in hand with efforts by SPDC to foster an environment that is inclusive, where diversity—not only as it relates to interpersonal interaction, but also to work in the world at large—is recognized, supported, valued and nurtured.

"Ultimately, what I want is for students to be aware of these methods and how they can be incorporated into their work," Alex says. "It's a big subject, but always fascinating. The more I learn, the more I'm convinced feng shui will benefit people."

LEARN MORE about supporting the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources by contacting Brittany Lawrence at mill2849@msu.edu, or by calling (517) 355-0284.

READ MORE at: go.msu.edu/spatial-harmony

DAUGHTER'S GIFT HONORS HER FATHER'S MSU LEGACY

Graduate fellowship in Economics supports diversity, equity and inclusion

The late Dr. W. Paul Strassmann escaped Nazi Germany as a child. He later earned a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland and became an MSU professor of economics, devoting his 39-year career to researching economic inequality and the intersection of poverty and political oppression.

To honor her father's commitment, Diana L. Strassmann recently made a gift to establish the Department of Economics' Strassmann Fellowship, that will support graduate students who advance diversity, equity and inclusion.

"We are so thankful for this gift, and excited for the opportunities it will create for our graduate students, our department and our profession," says Steven Haider, department chairperson. "I cannot imagine a more fitting tribute to Paul's legacy."

LEARN MORE about supporting the College of Social Science by contacting Alex Tripp at actripp@msu.edu or by calling (517) 884-2189.

READ MORE at go.msu.edu/econ-fellowship



Dianna Strassmann, daughter of the late Professor Paul Strassmann (pictured here in his 1966 faculty photo), made a gift to further diversity in economics.

Courtesy MSU Archives & Historical Collections

BRINGING BEAUTY TO THE WORLD, ONE GIFT AT A TIME

Gifts from Carol Prahinski and Flemming Mathiasen support multiple areas

A recent cash gift and charitable bequest from Carol Prahinski and Flemming Mathiasen will support students, beautify campus and boost the MSU community in multiple ways.

Inspiration hit on a bleak day in 2020, as the couple sat in their car in the stark parking lot of the MSU Veterinary Medical Center, awaiting veterinary care for their beloved cat Plato.

"We had been thinking about investing money in MSU gardens," Carol says. "But we didn't know where that would be—until that moment. We saw a huge opportunity on the

north side of the vet clinic building. We decided to make that our project. It was a blank slate."

"We wanted to beautify the area," says Flemming, who earned his Master Gardener distinction through MSU's Extension program in 2014.

Unfortunately, Plato's diagnosis that day was a large mass in his abdomen. He survived four weeks on palliative care and died peacefully at home on May 26, 2020.

To honor him and their love of gardens, they established the Flemming R. Mathiasen Garden with a cash gift and endowment at the College of Veterinary Medicine to create and ensure its upkeep.

And the couple's generosity does not stop there.

There is the Prahinski Endowed Scholarship with an estate gift to support approximately seven full-ride scholarships each year to students in the Fostering Academics Mentoring Excellence (FAME) program at MSU, which is a resource center for students who were in foster care or kinship care, have experienced homelessness, or are otherwise independent. The scholarships will also cover Education Abroad expenses and include a laptop for each recipient.



Carol Prahinski and Flemming Mathiasen at the garden their giving created.

An additional estate gift established the Red Lion Endowment at MSU's Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, which will support an artist-in-residence—an individual who works on campus for a set period and supports initiatives occurring at the Wharton Center.

They also established a gift to support the Bea and Roy Mott Fund for the student food bank.

LEARN MORE about how to make a gift through your estate plans, by contacting Senior Director of Gift Planning Deanna Gast in the Office of Gift Planning at gastd@msu.edu, or call (517) 884-1071.

READ MORE at go.msu.edu/prahinski-mathiasen



Compassionate care for a poodle named Minni inspired a gift to Vet Med.

IMPROVING CARE FOR ANIMALS

Nancy L. Brookins supports hospital renovation project

The College of Veterinary Medicine is currently undergoing a renovation that, when complete, will encompass 7,500 square feet of modernized hospital space and equipment—and the veterinary hospital has a poodle named Minni to thank, in part, for making it happen.

Minni's human, Nancy L. Brookins, is a longtime client of the veterinary hospital and supporter of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Brookins was impressed and inspired by the compassionate care provided to Minni, and her gift to support the hospital renovation project was her way of saying thank you. "Their treatment of Minni was unmatched, and they extended the time I was able to spend with her. I miss her every minute," says Brookins. "This donation is my way of giving back to support the amazing hospital staff and improve facilities for beloved pets like Minni who are treated there. I know an updated, modern facility will help a lot of animals. I just wanted to do something to help others with animals."

LEARN MORE about supporting the College of Veterinary Medicine by contacting Senior Director of Development and Alumni Engagement Tim Stedman at stedman@msu.edu or by calling (517) 353-4937.

READ MORE at go.msu.edu/minni-brookins

SUN AND LEARNING: WINTER U IN FLORIDA



President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. (center) joined Board of Trustees members Rema Vassar (far left) and Brianna Scott (far right), along with alumnae Bonnie Larson (left) and Linda Orlans, for a photo.

Spartans in Florida gathered for MSU Winter University events in February, hearing updates from MSU executives and Board of Trustees members and learning about how undergraduate extracurricular activities help provide the building blocks for student success.

READ MORE about the students' presentations at go.msu.edu/winteru22



Two former first ladies of MSU connected in Naples; Nancy DiBiaggio (left) and Clare Mackey.



The crowd warmly welcomed a trio of MSU undergraduate students, who came to share about their experiences working in MSU research labs.



ONE DAY. ONE GOAL. ONE OUTSTANDING RECORD.

MSUFCU and alumni clubs help lead the way

MSU raised **\$1,344,481** on its sixth Give Green Day 24-hour fundraising campaign on Tuesday, March 15. Loyal partner MSU Federal Credit Union stepped up as a sponsor once again, providing matching funds for giving challenges throughout the day. The campaign netted more than **7,000** gifts from donors across the U.S. and countries around the world.

Notably, 56 alumni clubs came together to raise **nearly 14%** of the total dollars raised to support local scholarships. Club participation has significantly grown, going from **\$115,000** in 2018 to more than **\$183,000** this year.

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT WELCOMES NEW VICE PRESIDENT

Kim Tobin to lead Development and Alumni Office

With more than two decades of experience in philanthropy and development, Kim Tobin has been tapped to serve as Michigan State University's next vice president of university advancement.

Tobin will start her new role May 1, replacing Marti K.S. Heil, who is retiring after an accomplished 45-year career spanning three institutions—more than 33 of which were at MSU.

"Kim has an impeccable track record of success in donor and alumni relations, with an inherent ability to engage audiences in philanthropic opportunities that transform lives," says MSU President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D. "Her involvement in development at every level of an institution will serve her well in this role, and I know she will further the excellence of MSU."

As vice president of University Advancement, Tobin will lead a 300-plus person team through planning and executing the institution's next comprehensive capital campaign—a campaign that will further solidify MSU's position as a leading global research university that improves the lives of students and positions our state, nation and world for a brighter future. Tobin will oversee university development efforts as well as the work of the MSU Alumni Office.

"I am a passionate advocate for philanthropy and the transformative impact it can make on an institution's ability to effect positive change in the world," Tobin says. "I'm eager to add my energy to the team at MSU and work together to help the university advance its newly defined strategic priorities. As a Great Lakes native, coming to Michigan feels a bit like coming home."

Originally from Thunder Bay, Ontario, on the northern shore of Lake Superior, Tobin said the first college football game she ever attended as a child was in Spartan Stadium.

Tobin comes to the MSU community after serving as vice president for University Advancement at Colorado State University, where she oversaw a 160-member team and led development efforts, campaign initiatives and alumni and donor relations. Her tenure at CSU was extensive, including experience at every level of the institution and leading two successful comprehensive campaigns. The most recent \$1 billion campaign concluded in 2020, having



exceeded its goal 651 days early with the support of more than 140,000 donors. Despite the pandemic, 2021 was CSU's most successful fundraising year to date.

Like MSU, CSU is a land-grant institution and, having learned from her parents a deep appreciation for the value of education, Tobin says that access to higher education and a service-focused mission are important to her in her career efforts.

"I am delighted that Kim Tobin is joining MSU at a time when our ambitions are being honed by the university strategic plan," says MSU Provost Teresa K. Woodruff, Ph.D., who co-chaired the search committee. "Creating an opportunity for our alumni, foundations and the broad MSU community to engage with these goals through University Advancement, and under her leadership, is exciting for all of us."

"Kim embodies the values and abilities we were seeking," adds Norman J. Beauchamp Jr., M.D., MSU executive vice president of health sciences and search committee co-chair.

"She is of the highest integrity, a listener, a motivator and she cares deeply about people. Her experience and vision will be energizing and engaging for the amazing team of individuals working in University Advancement and for the present and future community of supporters of MSU."

Prior to her tenure at CSU, Tobin served in various development roles at Lakehead University and the University of Toronto. She holds a doctoral degree in higher education leadership from CSU, a master's degree in philanthropy and development from St. Mary's University and a bachelor's degree in arts administration and art history from the University of Toronto.

Tobin's appointment is subject to approval by the Board of Trustees during its next meeting on April 22.

Starting May 1, Heil will transition to the role of senior adviser to the president through June 3 to help ensure a seamless transition.



SEEING THE LONG VIEW

Philanthropy doesn't start and end with the gift

For many donors, gifts are years in the making, and the real joy comes from knowing what a tremendous, ongoing impact they're making on the campus community.

Fred Addy is one of those donors. Thanks to his vision and belief, students—especially undergraduates—should have the opportunity to learn from and be mentored by the very best teachers.

Addy and his late wife, Marilyn Marshall Addy, both MSU alumni, created their first endowed faculty position in the mid-1990s and never stopped. In fact, the Addy family's funding for faculty positions has grown so significantly that there are now four fully funded and filled endowed positions in business and economics that bear the Addy name, in addition to a professor of practice position and a teacher scholar award.



Fred and Marilyn Addy in 2015.

.....
READ MORE go.msu.edu/long-view



ANTONIO GALVAO, Economics
Frederick S. Addy Distinguished Chair



CHARLES HADLOCK, Finance
Frederick S. Addy Distinguished Chair



BRENT SCOTT, Management
Frederick S. Addy Distinguished Professor



TIM VOGELSANG, Economics
Frederick S. Addy Distinguished Chair

WHERE DIVERSITY AND BIODIVERSITY GO HAND IN HAND

Kellogg Biological Station welcomes a new director and new ways to impact young researchers

Located an hour southwest of MSU's East Lansing campus, the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station occupies 3,800 acres of land in a quiet rural area between Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. It is home to both aquatic and terrestrial habitats, forests, old fields, streams, wetlands, lakes, agricultural lands... and one of North America's premier inland field research stations.

Here, alongside such diverse natural ecosystems, an ecosystem of research and education also thrives.

For the undergraduate students whose interests lead them—sometimes from far and wide—to work, do research or attend classes at this incredible place, KBS can be a critical, formative experience in their pursuit of a career in field research.

Part of it is the tight-knit community. The research site is a nucleus around which faculty, graduate students and undergraduates live, work and even dine alongside one another, which certainly fosters collaboration but also gives a taste of what life in the field is really like.

The other part is the supportive, welcoming environment that is ripe for learning.

“What happens in this atmosphere is that you’ve got everybody pulling for you,” says Fredric Janzen, who officially joined Kellogg Biological Station as its director in June 2020. “Here, you gain the skill sets to understand two things: first, how to get through career challenges in a supportive work environment—where you get to the other side and say, ‘Yeah, I can do this.’ And second, you get exposure to diverse perspectives, not just from other students, but from mentors and staff who all have cutting-edge training.”

Right now, KBS offers just one option for paid, full-time undergraduate research: the National Science Foundation-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program.

Designated only for non-MSU students, REU is a 10-week, fully funded immersive experience that pairs students with a mentor who helps them design and implement an independent



Kellogg Biological Station director Fredric Janzen works with students in the field.

research project that culminates in a poster presentation at the end of the summer.

Aside from taking classes at KBS as part of their regular course load, MSU students have two options for immersive study there. The first is the Undergraduate Research Apprentice (URA) program, geared toward students with little to no previous research experience, who conduct research part time while also attending at least three credits of classroom training.

The second is the KBS Internship program, which also requires students to take a course and participate in professional development seminars while they complete the responsibilities of an internship in their chosen discipline, which could be anything from external communications to visitor experience to avian care at the Bird Sanctuary.

Giving as many students as possible the opportunity to pursue their research interests and experience the research lifestyle at KBS is one of Janzen's immediate goals as he settles into his role, fills key faculty positions and gets to know the donors who have a passion for helping students become scientists.

Among them are Doug and Maria Bayer, longtime supporters of MSU who made a recent gift to KBS.

“Our motivation comes from Doug’s personal undergraduate research experience guided by dedicated research professionals and Maria’s rural early life experience,” the Bayers say. Their gift will provide funding for two fully paid undergraduate internship positions—for students from MSU or from other universities—beginning this summer, and additional paid internships as opportunities arise for KBS to accommodate them.

Donor support, Janzen emphasizes, is truly the margin of excellence for Kellogg Biological Station’s undergraduate research programs, with scholarships being the key component



Doug and Maria Bayer have created a scholarship fund to support student interns at KBS.

in the experiences KBS is able to offer—especially to MSU students, and perhaps even to those whose path to research wasn’t traditional.

“We want to be able to cast our net as wide as possible,” Janzen says. “Many students don’t have that lightbulb moment—when they take a botany class or a forestry class that makes them realize, ‘Hey! I want to do this as my career!’—until it’s too late to find and apply for a competitive research position.

We want to be able to reach those students, too.”

Janzen was one of those students, and he knows how much piquing their interest early on, offering them a scholarship and an immersive experience—or even giving them the opportunity to complete a research program after they’ve already completed their undergraduate degrees—could make a difference for those still on the cusp of finding their paths. It would also further diversify the already wonderfully diverse group of young researchers whose life experiences and perspectives help shape the welcoming atmosphere of KBS.

Around KBS, one of the words you hear often is biodiversity—all the different kinds of life that form the complex web that maintains balance and supports life in an ecosystem. It is important, because without it, there is no life.

Diversity of people, perspectives and the research being done at KBS are just as important.

LEARN MORE about support for Kellogg Biological Station by contacting Associate Director of Development Karen Wenk at wenk@msu.edu or by calling (517) 353-5962.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES:



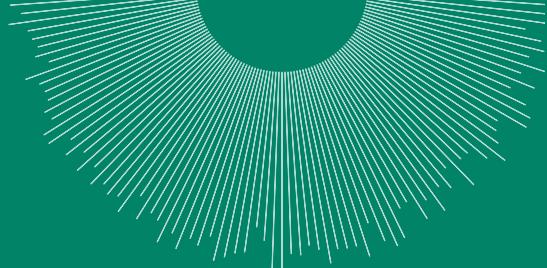
EMILY PARKER, '23
URA participant

“Research was the main thing that attracted me to KBS. I’ve conducted research on Michigan State University’s main campus, and loved it, but I was missing a large part of the research experience—field work. Being surrounded by like-minded people, all passionate about science and nature, was really refreshing. Whether your main interest with the URA program is research, classes or just being able to meet new people in a really cool setting, this program will not disappoint. The connections—both professional and personal—are priceless, and will stay with me far into my future.”



ASHLYNN TOLES, '22
Summer Internship participant in avian care at Kellogg Bird Sanctuary

“I was nervous before coming [to KBS], because it’s more of a rural area. I’ve never been out in rural places. But it’s been great, getting out of the city and seeing what it’s like to live out here. With a lot of climate change and habitats being destroyed, it’s very important to preserve the animals and the species that we already have. Places like [Kellogg Bird Sanctuary] help injured birds who can’t survive in the wild. We can also teach the public about why it’s important to conserve, to do conservation in the wild and to learn about different birds.”



FOCUSED *on* the **BIG** PICTURE

\$17 million gift from alumnus Martin Vanderploeg creates scholars program for first-generation students and supports engineering faculty

BY LOIS FURRY

If you want to change the world, you need to think big.

That's the advice you'd no doubt take away from listening to Martin (Marty) J. Vanderploeg, who recently made a \$17.263 million gift to support MSU's efforts to help first-generation students succeed and to support the faculty who can inspire them.

Marty, a technology industry leader who holds three degrees in mechanical engineering from MSU, believes in the power of big, public universities. Especially the big part.

"The state universities are where a real impact can be made," he says. "They educate the masses and they do it the right way. The balance you get at a large state university—affordability, high-quality faculty, a rich environment for people to grow—is the most valuable educational resource we have in this country."

What he believes on a macro level, he believes just as much on a micro level.

"You can't have the same experience if you go to a place that is the same size as your high school, which I think hurts people's development," Marty says. "You have to go to a big place like MSU to get out of your comfort zone."

So helping a lot of students succeed at MSU—especially those who might be facing some pretty big hurdles—is exactly the kind of big thinking Marty is after.

STARTING BIG

Students who are first-generation—meaning neither of their parents hold four-year degrees—can find getting to college daunting in itself. Resources once they arrive are essential.

Chrystel Lopez, senior in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities (RCAH), remembers well, as a first-generation applicant to MSU, how difficult it was to find her way.

"When it came to SATs, applications, financial aid, scholarships, you name it, I was pretty much on my own," says Lopez. "I think seeing a scholarship and support program that is specifically targeted for first-generation students will go a long way to help students like me feel like they are in the right place, that they belong here."

Fellow RCAH senior Alyssa Briones recalls how much she valued a summer bridge program she attended before she came to MSU.

"My first semester at MSU was hard," she says. "Without the friendship and support from the people I met that summer, many of whom were going through the same things as me, I probably would have dropped out."

First-generation students make up 21 percent of MSU's student population. Many come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and, unlike a lot of their peers, they may not have built-in financial support and family guidance to help them overcome all the stresses in higher education.

That was not the case for Marty.

"I was born on third base," he says.

He grew up in a small, wealthy town (Midland). His father was an engineer, his mother a schoolteacher.

"The question was never if I was going to college, but only where?" he recalls. "Going to college was just programmed in from the day I was born."



"At MSU there is all this diversity and all these different ways of thinking and looking, and that really opened me up to success. I just wanted to make this gift to allow the best and brightest who are motivated to go to college but don't have the means, to go and to be supported."

—MARTIN (MARTY) J. VANDERPLOEG

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



First-generation students Chrystel Lopez and Alyssa Briones are thriving seniors in the Residential College for Arts and the Humanities, thanks in part to programming that supported them.



“I think seeing a scholarship and support program that is specifically targeted for first-generation students will go a long way to help students like me feel like they are in the right place, that they belong here.”

CHRISTEL LOPEZ, '22
Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

His parents met at Michigan State, and they gave him a steady, positive impression of the university—a feeling that led him to choose MSU as well.

After earning bachelor’s (1978), master’s (1980) and doctorate (1982) degrees, he became a mechanical engineering professor in Iowa and then a technology entrepreneur. He attributes much of his success to his time at a large, diverse public university and recognizes that for many bright, ambitious students, getting that kind of start is not always programmed in.

“At MSU there is all this diversity and all these different ways of thinking and looking, and that really opened me up to success,” Marty says. “I just wanted to make this gift to allow the best and brightest who are motivated to go to college but don’t have the means, to go and to be supported.”

The bulk of his gift—\$12 million—establishes an endowment for the Vanderploeg Scholars Program at MSU, which will support first-generation students through multiple initiatives, including scholarships, summer bridge programs, extra academic advising, a study abroad opportunity and a mentorship program.

Endowed gifts are invested and only a portion of the earnings are spent each year, which delivers a steady, consistent and perpetual financial resource. To ensure that the scholar program could begin in 2022, Marty set aside a \$200,000 portion of his total gift to cover immediate expenses.

MSU is deeply committed to providing an inclusive environment with the academic, social, wellness and financial support that enables all students to learn, thrive, persist, graduate and succeed after graduation. Closing opportunity gaps among subgroups of students is a key pillar in MSU’s Strategic Plan 2030, which was released this fall.

“We know that first-generation undergraduate students persist and graduate at much higher rates when they are supported both inside and outside of the classroom,” says Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Mark Largent. “They flourish when they collaborate with other students from first-generation backgrounds, and when they see and hear their presence at MSU recognized and honored. Our inaugural Vanderploeg Scholars will arrive on campus already connected to a social and academic success network.”

ENGINEERING INSPIRATION

Marty understands firsthand the critical role great faculty can play in inspiring students.

Another portion of his gift—\$5 million—creates three endowed faculty positions, one named in honor of his father, Marvin L. VanDerPloeg. He also created an expendable research fund to strengthen the scope and scale of research capabilities in the college.

His own path through higher education was in part the result of a faculty mentor. After internship stints at Ford and Dow Corning in his undergraduate years, he knew he wanted to be qualified for higher-level thinking in his work. The allure of a few more years on campus, was also a strong pull that led him into a master’s program. Once there, he connected with a professor, Jim Bernard, who inspired him to stay for a Ph.D.

He landed a professor position initially at the University of Iowa, then followed Bernard, who had taken on the chairpersonship at Iowa State. He loved teaching. “I wish I had two lifetimes, because I would have kept doing that,” he says.

As a former professor, he knows the pressure on newcomers to fund and publish their research. “I wanted to alleviate some of that pressure, so great professors can really get their footing and have the flexibility they need to be successful,” he says.

The College of Engineering Dean Leo Kempel notes that the market for faculty talent is highly competitive, so the addition of resources to attract sought-after faculty experts is a remarkable opportunity.

“Michigan State has been preparing talented engineers to tackle society’s grand challenges for generations, and our incredible alumni continue to forge a path for future Spartans to build on this legacy,” he says.

MAKING FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY

How Marty would end up in the corporate world is another aspect of his life that was inspired at MSU. During the infamous nationwide 1978 blizzard, he recalls spending an entire weekend trapped with classmates in the Engineering Building. “Half the time we were there, we talked about starting a company one day,” he recalls.

Marty co-founded Workiva Inc., a cloud-based software technology company for managing business data, and Engineering Animations Inc., which specialized in computer-assisted design software used in medical and forensic applications.

Looking back at all of his successes, he says the thing that makes him happiest and that he takes the most pride in is “running a business in a way that you make a lot of friends.”

That mindset naturally led to his philanthropic goals.

“Giving back feels good,” he says. “To be able to do something to help others is the greatest accomplishment you can have.”

Likely, he’ll continue making a lot of friends.

.....
LEARN MORE about how you can support Michigan State by contacting the Development Officer in your college or unit, or call (517) 884-1000.



“Without the friendship and support from the people I met that summer, many of whom were going through the same things as me, I probably would have dropped out.”

ALYSSA BRIONES '22
Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

WORKING TOGETHER

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation grants \$25 million to expand MSU's public health program in Flint

BY LOIS FURRY

Imagine a place where an entire community is mobilized to address the health challenges facing the people who live there.

Going well beyond merely diagnosing problems, the community itself determines needs and drives decisions. Top-tier researchers and physicians provide the needed data and help shape interventions focused on good health for both individuals and the community as a whole. Partners in the community help fuel the efforts with resources and a shared commitment to improving lives.

Flint, Michigan, is such a place.

It's the result of a strong relationship among community advocates, Michigan State University and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Bishop Bernadel Jefferson (above), a Flint community leader, and Wayne McCullough (far right), interim director, MSU Public Health Division.



CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

MSU has been in Flint for more than 100 years. The College of Human Medicine was one of the first community-based medical schools in the country and started work in Flint 51 years ago. Flint has been the home of its public health division for the past decade. The collaboration with the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation is at the very heart of that history and mission.

Now, thanks to a \$25 million grant from the foundation, MSU's Flint-based public health program is set to grow.

"Expanding MSU's public health program in Flint is a great thing for the community, and it also will yield important lessons for our state and nation as we struggle with both emergent and chronic health challenges," says Ridgway White, president and CEO of the Mott Foundation. "MSU's work in Flint is a wonderful example of what can happen when physicians, researchers, residents and community advocates work together to improve health."

The grant from the foundation will add 18 tenure-track faculty members, a significant increase from the seven current tenure system faculty. The total number of faculty will increase to 70 overall. The grant also will provide support to increase academic research and community collaborations. Focus areas for research by the faculty will include mental health, addiction and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, among other public health topics identified in close collaboration with the community.

"MSU has a mission to improve the lives of people through community-based research," says President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D. "Our successful collaboration with the people of Flint has allowed our scientists to create a new model for positive public health outcomes, and we are grateful for the continued support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, which will allow us to build on successes."

LONG-RUNNING RELATIONSHIPS

Successful collaborations with the foundation and the community of Flint have been forged over many years.

Beginning in 2007, the college held a series of meetings with the Mott Foundation, local hospitals and other community organizations to design an expansion of the college's work in Flint. Based on those conversations, Mott, Hurley Medical Center, (Ascension) Genesys Hospital and McLaren Flint all provided funding to expand capacity to support 100 College of Human Medicine students in Flint and create the college's Division of Public Health, which is dedicated to community-based, participatory research in Flint.

Collaboration with the Mott Foundation was critical. Between 2011 and 2013, Mott granted \$12 million to MSU to expand and relocate the Master of Public Health program

from East Lansing to Flint, as well as a \$7.7 million grant to the Foundation for the Uptown Reinvestment Corporation (FURC) to support renovation of the former Flint Journal building to house the program and the college's Flint campus for medical students.

College leaders participated in more than 100 community meetings and collected nearly 4,000 surveys to engage the Flint community in the direction of the division. An Advisory Committee recommended three areas of focus and direction for public health research in Flint that address health disparities: healthy behaviors, behavioral health and chronic disease.

Building on that original groundwork, the division hired Charles Stewart Mott Endowed Professors of Public Health, Global Impact Initiative positions and distinguished principal investigators and educators for Flint. These faculty have been awarded more than \$87 million in research and program funding since 2015. The online Master of Public Health degree program also moved to Flint and, this year, will congratulate its 700th graduate.

"The successful partnerships forged between our students and faculty with the residents of Flint have created new knowledge, new programming and new opportunities," says Aron Sousa, M.D., interim dean of the MSU College of Human Medicine and one of the longtime leaders driving the public health initiative. "By helping the people of the community reach their goals, the college and its faculty are successful."



Charles Stewart Mott Foundation Vice President of Programs Neal Hegarty (front) and President, CEO and Chair of its board of trustees Ridgway White (second from front) joined MSU executives and Flint community leaders at a grant announcement event held at MSU's public health division headquarters in Flint.

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FORTUITOUS TIMING

Today, Flint is the epicenter of public health policy development.

Shortly after the ribbon was cut on the new location for MSU's public health program in Flint and research began in 2014, the need for public health research became even more important.

Flint is still healing from the water crisis stemming from a switch in the city's water supply to the Flint River without proper treatment of the water to avoid lead contamination from pipes. It was in 2015 that MSU's Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha discovered the link between children's elevated blood lead levels in Flint and the change in the city's water source.

Hanna-Attisha has since headed up work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Flint Lead Exposure Registry and successfully advocated for inclusion of the National Fruit and Vegetable Pediatric Prescription program in the 2018 Farm Bill.

MSU's experts also have worked with community partners to develop programs to mitigate chronic diseases, identify environmental health risks and examine the social factors that influence community health. This work includes Dr. Jennifer Johnson's community-participatory mental health and substance use interventions for perinatal women and individuals involved in the criminal justice system. Dr. Todd Lucas and his team are identifying the causes of racial health disparities through preventive health behaviors such as colorectal cancer screening and understanding the barriers to COVID-19 antibody testing and vaccinations in Flint.

The predominantly Black city has also hosted MSU's Dr. Debra Furr-Holden, who provided national leadership throughout the COVID-19 pandemic toward curbing racial disparities in cases and deaths.

"This partnership between the community, Michigan State University and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation gives real credibility and credence to the work, leading to strengthened public health efforts in Flint," says E. Yvonne Lewis, Flint community member and founder and CEO of the National Center for African American Health Consciousness. "This grant represents a beacon of hope that will help elevate community-led solutions to the issues we face."

Flint Mayor Sheldon Neeley adds that programs like the one MSU operates in Flint help lift the quality of life for everyone in the state.

"We talk about health care disparities, especially in communities of color or low- to moderate-income areas," he said. "We need programs like this, partnerships like this, to make sure that we can deliver a better quality of life."



Flint community members participate in healthy cooking classes at the Flint Farmer's Market.

Photos courtesy KT Kanazawich of Flint Beat.

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

Mott's support of public health in Flint already has had a positive economic impact on the city. According to an MSU study for the period 2015-20, Mott's initial \$19.7 million in grants had a return of \$93 million in economic output in Genesee County.

During that time, the college's activity in Flint created more than 80 jobs in the college and 30 positions in partnering community agencies. The latest grant, the single largest donor grant in the college's history, is expected to add up to 200 new jobs.

"It is MSU's imperative to bring health, hope and healing to all. It is work that can only be done in partnership. We are so thankful for the trust of the people of Flint, and we are grateful for their wisdom, insights, talents and resolve," says Norman J. Beauchamp Jr., MD, MHS, executive vice president for MSU Health Sciences. "In our efforts, we also seek partners with shared values, like the Mott Foundation. With their

extraordinary support, the community partnership and the dedicated MSU faculty and staff, justice in health can become a reality."

Dr. Wayne McCullough, interim director of the Public Health division, adds: "Partnering on efforts with a community-participatory public health model, we are addressing the social determinants of health, advocating for policy reform, encouraging healthy behaviors, mitigating chronic disease and much more. Together, we have reached the first plateau of impact. This new grant will help to build sustainable public health solutions in Flint and beyond."

The search for new faculty will be launched in the coming months. MSU, Mott and FURC are exploring options to expand the building to accommodate MSU's anticipated growth.

LEARN MORE about support for the College of Human Medicine by contacting Senior Director of Development Stephanie Stotenbur at hehl@msu.edu or call (616) 234-2827.



"PARTNERING ON EFFORTS WITH A COMMUNITY-PARTICIPATORY PUBLIC HEALTH MODEL, WE ARE ADDRESSING THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH, ADVOCATING FOR POLICY REFORM, ENCOURAGING HEALTHY BEHAVIORS, MITIGATING CHRONIC DISEASE AND MUCH MORE. TOGETHER, WE HAVE REACHED THE FIRST PLATEAU OF IMPACT. THIS NEW GRANT WILL HELP TO BUILD SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC HEALTH SOLUTIONS IN FLINT AND BEYOND."

WAYNE MCCULLOUGH, PH.D.
Interim Director, MSU Public Health Division

TRACKING WRONGS *to* Make It **RIGHT**

MSU Law professors keep tabs on criminal justice with National Registry of Exonerations

BY LIAM BOYLAN-PETT

The number often rises—sometimes more than once per week. Since 1989, the National Registry of Exonerations has tracked over 2,980 cases in which a person was wrongfully convicted of a crime and later cleared based on new evidence of innocence.

From false confessions to eyewitness identifications gone wrong, the National Registry of Exonerations' mission is "to provide comprehensive information on exonerations of innocent criminal defendants in order to prevent future false convictions by learning from past errors."

With nearly 3,000 cases to catalog and detail, there is plenty of work to be done. Which is where MSU College of Law Professors Catherine Grosso and Barbara O'Brien come in.

Professor O'Brien serves as the editor of the site and Professor Grosso is the managing editor. Together, they are hoping to inform the discourse on the inequalities in the US criminal justice system.

The National Registry of Exonerations was founded in 2012. A project of the MSU College of Law, the University of Michigan Law School and the Newkirk Center for Science & Society at University of California Irvine in conjunction with the Center on Wrongful Convictions at Northwestern University. Faculty members at the three NRE institutions work alongside staff attorneys, journalists and researchers to document exonerations dating back to 1989. Those working at the NRE know how important the work is.

"An exoneration is a big deal," Professor O'Brien said at an MSU College of Law event in 2021, "in the sense that it's proof that the system has failed in a massive, major way." One of the most visible stats on the NRE website explains that exonerated

defendants spent more than 26,500 years combined in prison for crimes they did not commit.

Sharing the stories of those thousands of years is important to each case, but it is also critical, according to Grosso, to look at the data from a wider lens. The cases documented in the NRE show a pattern: Around 50% of the NRE exonerees are Black, though Black people comprise only 13% of the US population. "The better we get at naming it," Professor Grosso said of this discrepancy, "the better we get at identifying it—the better we can get at changing it."

For those looking to help change the system for the better, O'Brien and Grosso recommend a few things—namely, to participate in the process. They implore community members to vote in prosecutorial races and other elections, and to look closely at those running for office.

When it comes to directly supporting the NRE, MSU pays the salaries of Professors O'Brien and Grosso. Research and staff attorneys, however, are funded through grants and private donors. Donors can give directly to the MSU College of Law National Registry of Exonerations Fund to support the project.

With more support, the hope is that the database can become even more encompassing. While a wrongful conviction is a horrible thing, the higher the number of exonerations climbs, the more just the system becomes.

LEARN MORE about supporting the National Registry of Exonerations by contacting MSU College of Law Senior Director of Development Roxanne Caine at cainerox@law.msu.edu or by calling (517) 432-6824.



Catherine Grosso (left) and Barbara O'Brien

PAYING FORWARD THE GIFT OF OUTREACH

\$2 million estate gift from Matt and Kathleen Davis supports ComArtSci and Vet Med

The College of Communication Arts and Sciences and the College of Veterinary Medicine are the recent recipients of a \$2 million estate gift—split evenly between the two—from CAS alumnus Matt Davis ('86) and his wife, Kathleen. The Davises have also made cash pledges to both colleges, so that they may begin making an impact right away.



Matt and Kathleen Davis with their two dogs, Bailey and Lola.

The R. Matt Davis Communication Excellence Fund will provide discretionary support to the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, to pursue new and innovative initiatives and learning opportunities that will give students a leg up as they enter the ever-changing landscape of a career in communications. The Mercedes Davis Fund, named after their beloved pet, will support specialized care for small animals at the MSU Veterinary Medical Center.

"I'm grateful to Matt and Kathleen Davis for this generous gift," says President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D. "When members of the Spartan community make significant investments like this, it affirms that the university has served them well and continues to move in the right direction. Their support will help us to continue enhancing the MSU student experience, our faculty's prominence and our exceptional outreach."

Experiential learning, insightful mentorship and access to a huge, helpful network of fellow Spartans in his field are three things that Matt says heavily influenced his career.

He came into MSU thinking he wanted to be a TV news reporter, but after an internship in TV, he realized that wasn't for him. He turned to then-director of the MSU School of Journalism Dr. Stan Soffin, who introduced Matt to the emerging field of corporate communications. Matt was hired at The Dow Chemical Company straight out of college by Wanda Herndon, a fellow ComArtSci graduate, and the rest, as they say, is history. "I give them both a lot of credit. Between Wanda and Dr. Soffin, they really determined my direction coming out of Michigan State," Matt says.

"ComArtSci is deeply appreciative of the support of alumni like Matt and Kathleen Davis, whose generosity touches the lives of our students," says Prabu David, dean of the College of Communication Arts and Sciences. "While we are immensely grateful for their gift, we are equally grateful to Matt for his leadership role on our alumni board and his enthusiasm to share his experiences and empower our students."

The College of Veterinary Medicine is a particular area of passion for Kathleen—a proud and enthusiastic "Spartan-by-marriage"—and the Mercedes Davis Fund is the product of that. Kathleen was deeply moved by the compassionate care their beloved dog, Mercedes, received from the rehabilitation team at the Small Animal Clinic, and the Davises hope that the fund they've

"IT IS SO ENERGIZING TO FEEL PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF IN THIS WAY. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BETTER THAN GIVING BACK TIME, MONEY AND RESOURCES TO THE UNIVERSITY THAT GAVE ME SO MUCH IN MY LIFE."

— MATT DAVIS

named in Mercedes' memory will be able to provide optimism and comfort to fellow pet owners whose companions need specialized care.

"People bring their animals, and sometimes find out that the treatment they're hoping for—that will prolong the life of their pet—is extremely expensive, and they may not have the wherewithal to go ahead with it," Kathleen says. "That's where we hope this fund will be able to help, and that the College of Veterinary Medicine will be able to tap into it on behalf of those pets and their owners."

The College of Veterinary Medicine's Dean Birgit Puschner agrees: "We are so touched and honored that Matt and Kathleen chose to pay tribute to their beloved companion Mercedes by creating this fund in her memory. The impact of this gift, which will enable pet parents to pursue treatments that offer their animal family members a new lease on life, is truly impossible to quantify."

Matt Davis began his 32-year career at Dow in 1986, and worked his way up to the position of president of Dow North America and senior vice president of global corporate affairs before retiring in 2019.

Kathleen, a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, studied hospital administration and worked at a global business association before moving into a corporate communications role at Dow, where she and Matt met. Kathleen is now involved in several community organizations in the Bay Harbor and Petoskey, Michigan communities where they reside.

Matt is currently president of Driftwood Leadership, LLC, which focuses on leadership strategies and inspirational training for organizations and individuals. He also serves on charity and corporate boards, and was recently elected to the Board of Directors for Altria Group, Inc.

The Davises have both found a sense of community by getting involved, giving back philanthropically and encouraging others to do the same at MSU.

"I have enjoyed becoming a part of the Spartan family through Matt," Kathleen says. "We're happy to be able to participate in helping and making opportunities for so many. We hope to encourage other alumni to stay in touch and get to know the students who are the future of their field."

"It is so energizing to feel part of something bigger than yourself in this way," Matt says. "I can't think of anything better than giving back time, money and resources to the university that gave me so much in my life."

LEARN MORE about supporting MSU through your estate plans by contacting Deanna Gast, senior director of gift planning, at gastd@msu.edu, or by calling 517-884-1071.

RING CONTAINER TECHNOLOGIES INVESTS IN MSU SCHOOL OF PACKAGING BUILDING RENOVATION

\$1.5 million gift will help complete Phase 1 of the project, including a redesigned main corridor with spaces for collaboration

Global leader in packaging, Ring Container Technologies, has made a \$1.5 million gift to the Michigan State University School of Packaging to support renovations to the School of Packaging building.

“Ring Container’s investment will help our premier packaging programs continue to assemble the best and brightest minds in packaging in world-class facilities,” says MSU President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D. “With new, state-of-the-art collaboration space, labs and connective technologies, the school will be well-positioned to lead the dialogue around the next generation of innovative packaging knowledge and advanced technologies.”

Ring Container’s commitment will help close the funding gap needed to complete Phase 1 of the Packaging Building Renovation, a multimillion-dollar project. Last updated in 1986, the newly upgraded facility will help MSU remain a leader in the packaging field.

The renovated main corridor, renamed the Ring Container Corridor, will be re-imagined and redesigned with collaboration in mind. The existing outside atrium will be enclosed and adjoined to the current corridor, which will be expanded. This exciting new space will nurture both large and small collaboration groups for students, faculty and industry partners. This prominent area will quickly become a preferred gathering location, not only because of its various collaboration spaces, but because of its comfortable, bright and modern design.

“I am proud of Ring’s new partnership with MSU School of Packaging, the educational leader in this sector,” says Brian Smith, president at Ring Container Technologies. “For us, this represents an investment in the future of the packaging industry, expanding

the development of a diverse group of professionals whose commitment to innovation and sustainability will meet the global needs of the future.”

The Packaging Building Renovation will help modernize teaching and learning. This includes flexible classrooms that encourage collaboration and integrate technology seamlessly, spaces that invite industry to engage and enhance the student experience and attract faculty with the proper space and tools to conduct world-class leading research.

“The School of Packaging is among the academic jewels of MSU, but our building does not reflect our standing or the creative and cutting-edge solutions for which we are known,” says Matt Daum, Ph.D., School of Packaging director. “Our upgraded facility will be a gathering place for the best and brightest packaging minds, and a place that brings together academia, industry, government and non-government leaders to solve the toughest packaging challenges. Ring Container recognizes the need for updating and expanding the current facility to meet modern teaching and research needs, which better reflects the rapidly evolving, technology-ready packaging workplace. This results in better-prepared graduates.”

For more than 50 years, Ring Container has been a dedicated leader innovating superior consumer PET and HDPE product packaging. With a corporate culture rooted in innovation and collaboration, Ring is recognized for bringing originality and high-end solutions to its customers. Ring is also committed to more sustainable packaging solutions and manufacturing processes, including renovations at legacy plants that have improved energy efficiency by 30% on average since 2009 through equipment and process enhancements.

MSU’s School of Packaging, like Ring Container, is committed to collaborative relationships and thought leadership for the packaging industry.

The MSU School of Packaging has that same spirit and moral compass to respond to societal needs. Embodying the mission of a land-grant institution, the School of Packaging was created in 1952 to provide answers for questions that loomed in an era of mass production and prepackaged goods in the post-war years. Today, MSU researchers are finding solutions to some of the world’s toughest packaging problems, like keeping plastic waste out of landfills and finding sustainable solutions to manufacturing.

The top-ranked MSU School of Packaging, housed within the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is the first school of packaging in the United States and the largest packaging program in the country, with over 600 undergraduate and graduate students. It is the only school that offers a Ph.D. program in packaging and boasts 10,000 alumni worldwide.

LEARN MORE about supporting the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources by contacting Senior Associate Director of Development Kathy Spring at springk1@msu.edu, or by calling (517) 355-0284.



Ring Container Technologies President Brian Smith, '95



School of Packaging Director Matt Daum



Architectural rendering of the School of Packaging Building renovation project, already under construction, depicts a much-needed student gathering area.

THE GIFT OF A COMPETITIVE EDGE

\$1 million gift from Mike Williams supports 10 varsity men's and women's sports programs

Michael Williams was one of those young people who took the phrase “dream big” and ran with it. Now, he is taking the opportunity to take a deep dive into his community, get involved, figure out what people and organizations around him need and help provide them the resources they need to “dream big.”

Now, the Okemos native has made a \$1 million gift to MSU Athletics to benefit 10 varsity sports programs—all of them Olympic sports—namely women's basketball; men's and women's cross country; men's and women's soccer; women's tennis; men's and women's track and field; volleyball and wrestling.

Funds will enable these programs to focus on priorities such as recruiting, technology, team travel, food and nutrition, wellness and mental health resources, and performance coaching opportunities.

“Mike Williams' passion for excellence and the care for student-athletes expressed by his gift will make a significant impact across a number of MSU sports,” says MSU President Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D. “I thank Mike for his engagement and support, and am proud to have him as a member of our Spartan community.”

Williams is a graduate of Western Michigan University, but he's been a Spartan all his life. After graduating from college, he returned to Okemos, where he charged through his 20s building a career in real estate, and, most recently, as the founder of a successful title company that he sold last fall. Now, at the age of 31, he has jumped into the world of philanthropy with the same zeal.

“I'm a local guy trying to make a difference. I am proud to support MSU and provide back to the local community that's given me so much. My goal is to inspire others within the broad MSU community to do the same,” Mike says.

“Much of who I am is because of my experience growing up locally (Okemos) with Michigan State in my backyard and participating in sports. Skills I learned like teamwork, work ethic, dedication to craft and leadership have been valuable to me in business and life in general. Supporting Spartan student-athletes and giving them a better experience can set them up for future success.”

His choice to support 10 varsity Olympic sports is emblematic of that, as each program has immediate needs that, when met, will enable them to level up in a tangible way. But it also appeals to Williams' competitive side—he likes the idea of using his resources to become a force for programs that aren't always in the spotlight, and hopes to inspire others to do the same.

“We're grateful for Mike and his vision to be a part of transforming MSU Athletics,” says MSU Vice President and Director of Athletics Alan Haller. “His generous support for his hometown school mirrors our commitment to investing in the community. Together we can raise the bar, create history and celebrate success.”

The coaches and athletes in all 10 programs are excited to put Williams' gift into action—and some already have plans in the works

“Mike's generous gift is one that will directly impact the student-athlete experience and instill an even deeper sense of pride in being a Spartan,” says Jeff Hosler, MSU Women's Soccer head coach. “We are very fortunate to have Mike's support—from stadium and equipment upgrades to firsthand experiences, along with peak performance and mindset training.”

Roger Chandler, head coach for MSU Wrestling, adds: “There is no doubt that Mike's philanthropy to MSU Athletics is going to have a huge impact for all involved. For our program, it is allowing us to get our student-athletes new lockers, which has been a huge need for our program for quite some time. I know our guys are very excited and looking forward to the much-needed update.”

“Our current and future Spartans will benefit greatly from his generosity and truly appreciate how this gift has impacted not just our team, but so many of the men's and women's Olympic sport programs at Michigan State. This is an absolute game-changer for all of us,” says MSU Women's Basketball head coach Suzy Merchant.

MSU Men's Soccer head coach Damon Rensing also expressed thanks on behalf of his athletes and staff: “This investment will allow us to operate at a first-class level in recruiting, travel, operations and facilities while also enhancing the complete student-athlete experience from growth in leadership, career development and mental health. Mike's contribution will have an immediate and lasting impact.”

LEARN MORE about supporting MSU Athletics by contacting Spartan Fund at spartanfund.net or calling (517) 432-4610.



Michael (Mike) Williams



Mike Williams (center), joined by coaches and student-athletes from 10 varsity sports, all of whom will be impacted by his gift.

HUMANITIES ONLINE NETWORK TO EXPAND

\$971,000 Mellon Foundation grant will help Humanities Commons grow

An online forum housed at MSU to connect scholars and practitioners in the humanities worldwide is set to expand with a \$971,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Humanities Commons, which is led by Kathleen Fitzpatrick, director of Digital Humanities in the College of Arts & Letters, will use the grant to support a multi-year restructuring of its business model.

An open-source platform, Humanities Commons enables users to collaborate and engage in discussions across humanities disciplines, including sharing articles, presentations and other scholarly materials with their peers and the public. Founded four years ago by the Modern Language Association (MLA), thanks to support from the NEH and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the platform has developed a highly diverse and thriving community of more than 28,000 users worldwide.

As part of the expansion, the Humanities Commons team plans to open the network beyond the humanities to also include social science and STEM scholars and their communities.

“We seek to partner with organizations and institutions that share our commitments to developing an open-knowledge commons, holding our collective work in trust for the world,” Fitzpatrick says. “In this project, we will fundamentally transform the Commons’ business model by preparing the platform for adoption by colleges and universities.”

The team will broaden its technical, community development and business capacity, specifically hiring five new team members to help build the base of participating organizations, with a focus on drawing new support from institutions of higher education.

“This growth will enable us to better support our member organizations and institutions as they participate in and contribute to a values-based, open-knowledge commons,” Fitzpatrick says.

Humanities Commons is open to anyone interested. There are no individual fees. Users need only to create an account.

LEARN MORE about supporting the College of Arts and Letters by contacting Senior Director of Development Christine Radtke at radtkech@msu.edu or by calling (517) 432-6693.



Director of Digital Humanities
Kathleen Fitzpatrick



STUDENT Spotlight



UPCOMING Events

Watch your mail and email for more information on upcoming events. Unless otherwise noted, all events take place in East Lansing.

For more information, call (517) 884-1000 or visit givingto.msu.edu/events

The Wharton Series: A Vision for Strengthening Our Community
New York, New York
April 13, 2022

School of Packaging Groundbreaking Ceremony
April 19, 2022

A Path for Advancing Equity

Featuring Jabbar Bennett, VP and Chief Diversity Officer
Atlanta, Georgia and Virtual
April 20, 2022

Green and White Evening

Featuring the College of Law and the National Registry of Exonerations
California, Virtual
May 3, 2022

Women in Philanthropy

Conference
June 8, 2022



FACULTY Spotlight



DALTON **HARDISTY**, geological sciences endowed professor, is receiving a prestigious Alfred P. Sloan fellowship in recognition of his exceptional accomplishments as an early-career scientist. Hardisty is a leading expert on oxygen in the ocean and environmental iodine cycling. His lab investigates the co-evolution of ocean chemistry and biology throughout Earth’s history—from billions of years ago to modern times. Funds from the Sloan fellowship will enable him to create a geochemical database and framework for records that modern scientists can use as baselines to recognize the extent of change that exists today.

There are three geological sciences endowed professorships established through a gift from an anonymous donor in 2011.

“I can confidently say that my decision to attend Michigan State University has been the wisest of my life.

It is here that I’ve blossomed from a shy, reserved individual to a leader who takes pride in collaborating with and learning from others in the pursuit of excellence.

It is here that I’ve connected with and developed lifelong relationships with diverse people from backgrounds vastly different from mine, allowing me to enhance my cultural competence.

Lastly, through my experiences in undergraduate research, I’ve gained an appreciation for the critical thinking skills and collaboration that go into making groundbreaking scientific discoveries that advance the existing body of knowledge and can potentially improve the lives of countless individuals around the globe.”

—JORGE FLORES **GARCIA**, '22
Neuroscience, Lyman Briggs College
and Honors College, Wielenga
Research Scholar

Developments

University Advancement
Spartan Way
535 Chestnut Road, Room 300
East Lansing, MI 48824



Beverly Fishman: *Recovery*. Installation view at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at MSU, 2022. Photo: Eat Pomegranate Photography.

ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD ART MUSEUM TURNS 10

*Beverly Fishman:
Recovery*

As part of the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum's 10th anniversary celebrations in 2022, Detroit-based artist Beverly Fishman was commissioned to produce a major work. The result is two new murals that now inhabit one of the museum's largest and most iconic spaces, the Julie and Edward Minskoff Gallery. The artist took the architecture of the Zaha Hadid-designed building into consideration to create a truly unique artistic encounter for visitors, which is at the heart of her solo presentation *Beverly Fishman: Recovery*, on exhibit at the museum until August 7.

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LEARN MORE about support for the Broad Art Museum by contacting Senior Director of Development, Cultural Arts, Paul Andrews at andre376@msu.edu or by calling (517) 884-1062.