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Message from the Vice President for Advancement and Public Services

Greetings

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to our alumni and friends. Through one of the most difficult years in our history you have been a source of encouragement and hope. As I have traveled across the country visiting with you individually and in groups at alumni meetings, your message has been clear. Do what needs to be done to keep Western moving forward! I am proud to say, we have done so! Our enrollment numbers this fall are encouraging and are an example of the hard work our admissions staff has put in during the past year. We are off to a great start with our fundraising efforts, with many large gifts that will benefit our students and faculty. I commend the administration, faculty, and staff for their perseverance. The efforts and sacrifices shared by all are what make Western Illinois University a special place.

Thanks to your generosity, multiple new scholarships and endowments were created, including three from Tom and Alice Berntson, two from Norm and Judy Rocke and one from Kathy Lubbs, among many others. WIU was the recipient of a more than $160,000 gift from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust and donations continue to come in for the Chown Golf Learning Center, with a generous pledge from Roselyn Chown to lead the way. Construction will soon begin on a larger-than-life statue of Colonel Ray “Rock” Hanson, which will be placed in a prominent location on campus, thanks to Dave and Jackie Thompson, who got the ball rolling. And we are very proud to have raised $62,745 during the inaugural Western Challenge, a 24-hour online giving event last April.

Western had many noteworthy accomplishments this year. The Princeton Review again named WIU a “Best Midwestern College” and U.S. News and World Report recognized WIU as a “Best Midwestern University.” Western was also named a 2016 “Best for Vets College.” C.T. Vivian served as the Homecoming Parade Grand Marshal. Western once again hosted the largest student-run mock election in the nation. The WIU Fighting Leatherneck Football program returned to the postseason for the first time since 2010, ultimately losing in the second round against Illinois State. The Men’s Basketball team upset No. 17 Wisconsin early in their season. And the Women’s Basketball team won its first ever postseason game by beating SIU!

The University seeks to teach students how to think critically and creatively, write clearly, speak persuasively, and meet the challenges of a diverse, interconnected world. A Western education is much more than just a degree, and the overall experience stretches far beyond the classroom. Thanks to contributions from people like you, WIU is preparing young adults for successful and meaningful lives. If you would like to do even more to help, please contact me or a development officer. We are more than happy to discuss how we can work together to positively impact more students.

As always, the best way to see the benefits of your giving is a visit to the Macomb or Quad Cities campuses. Walk the sidewalks across campus. Talk with the students about their Western experience. Cheer on your Fighting Leathernecks. We welcome the opportunity to host you at any time and to share our gratitude for your commitment to all that is Western Illinois University.

Sincerely,

Brad Bainter ’79 MS ’83
Vice President, Advancement and Public Services
Executive Officer, WIU Foundation
Greetings from the WIU Foundation Board. The Board is very pleased that two of our board members, Todd Lester ’90 and Steve Nelson ’70, were appointed to and are now serving on the WIU Board of Trustees. Steve will continue to serve on the Foundation Board as the Board of Trustees representative. We are also pleased to welcome Jason Duncan ’00 and Michael Steelman ’75 to the WIU Foundation Board. Congratulations to these dedicated WIU alums and thank you so much for serving on the Board of Trustees and Foundation Board.

WIU has had a challenging year because of the lack of a budget from the State of Illinois. We are very appreciative that emergency funding for higher education was approved in May, and then the six month budget was also passed and approved. We all recognize that full funding is ideal, but are grateful for the funding that was released.

As has been stated many times, when there are budget challenges, the need for donor support becomes even more heightened. The Foundation Board of Directors recognizes the importance of scholarships and financial support of Western, and strives to provide an environment and framework for the vice president, his staff and the development officers to achieve their goals.

If you haven’t been back to campus for awhile, I encourage you to visit your alma mater Homecoming weekend or any other time. Experience this campus and think about WIU’s history and culture. Envision walking on campus in the days of Rock Hanson. You won’t regret reconnecting with this wonderful University. I have the distinct advantage of living in Macomb and still being able to be part of the campus community. Macomb comes alive when the students return. Even after being retired for over five years, I still marvel at the new beginnings each year, the opportunities Western provides to the community, region and state, and, most of all, the fine education provided to our students.

Sincerely,

Jackie Thompson ’85 MS-ED ’94
President
WIU Foundation Board
2015-2016 Foundation Year in Review:

- A planned gift valued at 20 percent of their estate from Tom ’74 and Alice Berntson ’74 to establish three endowed scholarships: Tom J. Berntson Scholarship for Chemistry Endowment, the Alice Robison Berntson Scholarship for Psychology Endowment and the Tom J. and Alice R. Berntson Scholarship for Foreign Languages Endowment.

- $161,000 from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust to provide Western Illinois University engineering students with expanded lab space and enhanced learning opportunities on the WIU-QC campus.

- A pledge of $150,000 from Roselyn Chown ’56 for the creation of the Chown Golf Learning Center.

- $120,000 pledge from sisters Margaret ’73 and Cecilia Wong ’73 to assist the RISE Program, a program of the WIU Department of Biological Sciences that provides students with unique research and academic experiences to help them become tomorrow’s leaders.

- $102,750 from Kathy Lubbs in memory of her husband, Dennis ’74, to establish the Dennis A. Lubbs Memorial Geography Scholarship.

- A significant life insurance policy from Norm ’71 and Judy Rocke to create the Norm and Judy Rocke Physics Scholarship Endowment and the Norm and Judy Rocke Mathematics Scholarship Endowment.

- $100,000 from the James S. Wehrly Trust in support of the five Wehrly funding initiatives: the Bea and Jim Wehrly Scholarship, the Wehrly Book Scholarship, the Bea Wehrly Study Abroad Scholarship, the Educators for Tomorrow Scholarship and the Jim Wehrly Agriculture Finance Scholarship at WIU.

- A gift of more than $90,000 from Archer-Daniels-Midland Company in support of Supply Chain Management recruitment in the College of Business & Technology.

- A gift of $60,000 from the estate of Dr. Russell Dohner to establish the Dr. Russell R. Dohner Scholarship Endowment to support scholarships in the College of Arts & Sciences.

- From Dave ’72 and Jackie Thompson ’85 MS-ED ’94, a gift of $66,000 for the creation of a larger-than-life statue of Colonel Ray “Rock” Hanson which will be placed in a prominent location on campus.

- $50,000 from Ernie Codilis ’73 to establish the Ernest J. Codilis, Jr. Pre-Law Scholarship to help students with a pre-law minor who are also members of the Centennial Honors College.

- A $50,000 gift from the estate of Robert Krause ’67 to create the Robert S. Krause Scholarship Endowment.

- $50,000 from the Illinois Corn Marketing Board in support of the Greenhouse Project in the School of Agriculture.

- $50,000 grant from the Looser-Flake Charitable Foundation to create the endowment of the Dorothy Looser-Flake and Roberta Looser Scholarship.

- $50,000 planned gift from Jody McCamey ’85 for the creation of the William P. McCamey Public Safety Memorial Educational Scholarship.
On behalf of the entire Western Illinois University community, the WIU Foundation thanks all of the generous individuals who made contributions to the University this past year. The following report highlights financial information, programs and services, and contributions to the Western Illinois University Foundation, covering the period of July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

• The WIU Foundation processed 31,844 gifts from 12,192 alumni, friends, parents, faculty and staff members, corporations and businesses, foundations and other organizations.
• The average alumni contribution for all purposes was $290.56.
• WIU Foundation expenditures in support of the University for all purposes totaled $8,091,285.
• Contributions to the endowment added $1 million to the WIU Foundation’s permanent asset base.

### Total Dollars Contributed By Category–FY16*

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALUMNI</td>
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<td>CORPORATIONS/BUSINES</td>
<td>$1,071,959</td>
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<td>FACULTY/STAFF &amp; EMERITI</td>
<td>$314,183</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOUNDATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS/OTHER</td>
<td>$1,069,443</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIENDS/PARENTS</td>
<td>$881,470</td>
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* Income only; outstanding pledges not included. Includes $324,420 of gift-in-kind income.
** Does not include $1,209,204 in outside scholarship donations for student support.

### Number of Contributors by Category–FY16*

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<td>ALUMNI</td>
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<tr>
<td>CORPORATIONS/BUSINES</td>
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<tr>
<td>FACULTY/STAFF &amp; EMERITI*</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOUNDATIONS/ORGANIZATIONS/OTHER</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIENDS/PARENTS</td>
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* Does not include 539 employees who are included in the alumni count.
** Does not include 755 parents included in alumni count.
Western Illinois University Foundation

Financial Summary

Expenditures by Purpose—FY16

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Enhancements Instructional Initiatives</td>
<td>$1,945,925</td>
<td>24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Aid</td>
<td>$2,825,189</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>$705,342</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation Operating and Other Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>$857,975</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni-Sponsored Programs and Activities</td>
<td>$461,581</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Activities and Other Regional Outreach Efforts</td>
<td>$1,180,611</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Projects Equipment/Property</td>
<td>$114,661</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contributions by Purpose—FY16

- Scholarships and Other Endowments: $983,940 (17%)
- Athletics: $524,923 (9.1%)
- Academic Enhancements Instructional Initiatives/Research: $1,117,490 (19.3%)
- Other Student Scholarships and Aid: $1,778,345 (30.8%)
- Public Service, Cultural Activities and Other Regional Outreach Efforts: $853,955 (14.8%)
- Unrestricted Contributions and Gifts to the Fund for a Greater Western: $17,535 (0.3%)
- Foundation Alumni-sponsored Programs: $362,255 (6.3%)
- Capital Projects Equipment/Property: $139,631 (2.4%)

* Income only; outstanding pledges and testamentary gifts not included.

Includes all gift-in-kind and contribution income, including outside scholarship donations.
The Western Illinois University Annual Giving Program offers alumni, parents and friends of Western the opportunity to support our core values and maintain connections to our University and our students.

Your financial commitment helps cover the significant gap between tuition dollars and the actual cost of a Western education. The Annual Fund provides immediate and essential support to strengthen the highest priorities of the University, and is transformational in the lives of our students.

Monthly donors represent some of Western’s most dedicated contributors. These special donors provide a steady stream of funding every month for scholarships and academic programs, and help keep our fundraising costs to a minimum. A typical monthly gift ranges from $100 to as little as $5 per month.

To join our monthly giving program, simply text the word “GIVEPURPLE” to the number 41444.* We will text you a secure link to our 60-second enrollment form, and remove you from our phone and mail list unless you request otherwise.

The Western Challenge

What a day for our University. What an impact for Western students.

On April 28, 2016, Leathernecks from around the world united in their generosity for our inaugural 24-hour online giving event. At the end of the day, $62,745 was raised to support our academic programs, scholarships and facilities.

While we are humbled by this dollar amount, we are truly overwhelmed by the outpouring of Leatherneck Pride from among so many. Thank you!

*Standard message and data rates may apply.

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR DONORS ... FROM WIU STUDENTS

“Thank you for recognizing the value of higher education and for investing in me as a student. Because of your generosity, I am able to take full advantage of my time here at Western. I have experienced a tremendous amount of personal growth and for that I am eternally grateful. Thank you for letting me shine.”

Jillian Ross ’17
Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration

“Words cannot describe how thankful I am for your generous donations. Any amount is enough to keep a student in school and give them the hope and encouragement to keep going. Your donation says to me: ‘I support you in pursuit of your dreams even if no one else does,’ and that can mean so much to a student in need.”

Princess Khaleya Yameini ’17
Psychology, Spanish
The Foundation scholarship program at Western Illinois University attracts talented and promising students to the University, rewards academic achievement, and makes a Western education more affordable to qualified students; scholarships enable many students to complete their education and meet academic and career goals. The Western Illinois University Foundation Scholarship Program awards hundreds of named scholarships to students each year.

WIU Foundation scholarships are made possible by the financial support of alumni, friends of WIU, businesses and corporations, faculty and staff, and private individuals. Donors often choose to perpetuate a family member or family name by establishing either an annual or endowed scholarship through the WIU Foundation. Below are highlights of the support and generosity from donors in fiscal year 2016.

- The WIU Foundation distributed over $2.7 million in student scholarships this past year. Including institution-based aid and room scholarships, more than $7.1 million was awarded to over 5,300 WIU students in fiscal year 2016.
- Scholarship awards represented 34.9 percent of the Foundation’s total expenditures for the year.
- New contributions added an additional $1,772,414 to the endowment for scholarships, assistantships, research and similar areas.
- Donors to the WIU Scholarship Program include alumni, parents and relatives of WIU alumni, students, current and retired faculty and staff members.

The following new scholarships were established through the WIU Foundation in Fiscal Year 2016. We thank the individuals, corporations and foundations whose generosity made these scholarships possible.

- BCA Executive Board Award
- Bernita A. Otto Scholarship
- Civil Service Employees Council Memorial Book Scholarship
- College of Arts and Sciences Fund for Excellence Undergraduate Research Scholarship
- College Student Personnel Graduate Program Class Gift Scholarship
- Delano and Margaret Kruzan Scholarship
- Dennis A. Lubbs Memorial Scholarship in Geography
- Dr. Norbert Goeckner Scholarship In Chemistry
- Dr. Russell R. Dohner Scholarship
- Dorothy Looser-Flake and Roberta Looser Scholarship
- Gil Peterson Memorial Athletics Scholarship
- Grant and Virginia Brissman Foundation Scholarship
- Howard S. Walker Fire Protective Service Annual Scholarship
- Kellie Kohler-Esters College Student Personnel Scholarship
- Irene Elder Painter Math, Science or Computer Science Endowment established by Lynn and Jean Dougherty
- Norm and Judy Rocke Mathematics Scholarship Endowment
- Norm and Judy Rocke Physics Scholarship Endowment
- Paul Wagner Memorial Scholarship
- Redeemed Students Fellowship Scholarship
- RISE Program Scholarships
- Robert Emmett Memorial Scholarship
- Robert L. Krause Scholarship
- Rocky on Parade Scholarship
- Ron and Doris Cook Athletics Scholarship
- RPTA Alumni Mentor Scholarship
- RPTA Student IPRA Conference Award
- Samuel H. Edsall Scholarship
- School of Computer Sciences United States Veterans or Military Personnel Entrance Award
- Spring for Books Scholarship
- The CDC Travel Scholarship
- The Sig, Jeanette and Dean Johnson Scholarship in English and Journalism
- Tom J. Berntson Scholarship for Chemistry Endowment
- Alice Robison Berntson Scholarship for Psychology Endowment
- Tom J. and Alice R. Berntson Scholarship for Foreign Languages Endowment
- Undocumented Students and Allies Coalition Scholarship
- West Central FS, Inc. Scholarship
- William P. McCamey Public Safety Memorial Educational Scholarship
- WIU Quad City Minority Scholarship
- WIU Takes Care of Its Own Scholarship
Tom ’74 and Alice Berntson ’74 met in a Western Illinois University German class in 1972. The then-juniors were enrolled in the same class due to a requirement in Tom’s major (chemistry) and Alice’s desire to learn another language (she had already taken Spanish and French courses). Less than two years later, the couple graduated from Western and soon left for Europe, where they traveled for two months. They returned to go to graduate school, Tom at Iowa State, and Alice at WIU. Within a few years, both had earned master’s degrees at Iowa State.

And now, they want to help Western students who are taking courses in the same classrooms they sat in more than 40 years ago. The Berntsons established three scholarships to help students who could not otherwise complete their education at Western.

The Berntsons have named the WIU Foundation as a beneficiary of a planned gift valued at 20 percent of their estate. With that sizeable sum, they will establish the Tom J. Berntson Scholarship for Chemistry Endowment, the Alice Robison Berntson Scholarship for Psychology Endowment and the Tom J. and Alice R. Berntson Scholarship for Foreign Languages Endowment.

Tom began his academic career at WIU as a pre-med major, with the help of a State of Illinois scholarship, but was inspired by several chemistry professors, especially Norbert Goeckner, to change his major to chemistry. Now, he wants to provide opportunities for others to be able to pursue their passion in science.

“WIU allowed us to grow academically and socially. As time went on, we realized how important WIU was to our success in life. We have a lot of fond memories of fun with friends and being at Lake Argyle,” said Tom.

Tom’s scholarship will provide at least two scholarships to juniors or seniors majoring in chemistry.

Alice found psychology fascinating after following in her sister’s footsteps by taking a psychology class in high school, so she decided to continue studying the field at the college level. She ultimately graduated with a bachelor’s degree in psychology from WIU, and later obtained her master’s degree in industrial relations at Iowa State University.

Alice attributes her desire to provide scholarships for future generations to her parents.

“When I was growing up, my parents talked a lot about supporting their alma mater schools. Education was supremely important to them,” Alice added. “So now, decades later, Tom and I have been fortunate to have had successful careers. Combined with a measure of frugality, and no children, what are we going to do with all this money we’ve accumulated?”

Together, they mapped out a list of 13 non-profits they wanted to support, and WIU was included, high on that list. Why so high on that list?

“We are Leathernecks, need I say more?” she said. Thanks to the Berntsons, this scholarship will be awarded to a minimum of two junior or senior psychology majors.

The third scholarship, in foreign languages, brings this story full circle.

“If it wasn’t for foreign languages, we would have never met,” said Tom.

It will fund a minimum of two scholarships to juniors or seniors at Western majoring in foreign languages. The Berntsons established this scholarship to benefit other WIU students who share their passion of traveling the world and their interest in foreign languages.

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**Carver Trust Donation Benefits WIU Engineering**

A $161,000 grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust will provide WIU engineering students with expanded lab space and enhanced learning opportunities. Funding will support the re-purposing of two existing spaces in Riverfront Hall into a modern computer-aided design (CAD) classroom and an innovation lab.

The new CAD classroom will be equipped for up to 32 students, which allows for an additional eight more students than the current WIU-QC program. The classroom will support engineering courses and related research in computational methods, fluid dynamics, electronics, finite element analysis, heat/thermodynamics and other computer-based practicums.

The innovation lab will allow students a place to create, test and analyze their designs using various machines and tools. Additionally, faculty can expand project-based instruction and research, provide students enhanced workforce development skills and prepare the facilities for the anticipated enrollment increases in engineering programs.

“With documented occupational need, and demonstrated enrollment growth, we are excited about the enhanced educational opportunities provided by the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust,” said WIU Vice President for Quad Cities and Planning Joe Rives. “We are proud of our new partnership and excited about the opportunities it brings in attracting and retaining high quality students and employees to the Quad Cities area.”

The Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust is one of the largest private philanthropic foundations in Iowa with annual grant distributions of over $13 million. It was created through the will of Carver, a Muscatine industrialist and philanthropist.

Since the beginning of the trust’s grant-making activities in 1987, more than $283 million has been distributed in the form of over 1,900 individual grants. Biomedical and scientific research; primary, secondary and higher education; and other issues related to the needs of youth are the program areas of greatest interest to the Carver Charitable Trust.

“We are very pleased to support WIU-QC in this endeavor to establish high-quality classrooms and laboratories for scientific and technical instruction, and look forward to witnessing its benefit to the greater Quad Cities region,” said Lynne Sasmazer, program director of the Carver Trust.

According to William Pratt, WIU School of Engineering director, the core of an engineering program is the ability of students to learn CAD systems and to put these skills to practice in a real-world environment. The re-purposing of two areas and the expanded and updated CAD classroom, along with simultaneous creation of an on-site innovation lab, will make needed and significant changes to the engineering students’ educational experience, Pratt explained.
Lubbs Memorial Geography Scholarship Established

Western Illinois University geography graduate Dennis Lubbs ’74 and his wife, Kathy, founded Genesis Nursery, Inc. 26 years ago. The spent the last few decades working near Tampico, IL, where their company specializes in wholesale, commercial, institutional and agriculture sales. The nursery has grown from 15 to 375 acres, with approximately 400 native species established on their farm. Thanks to that success, Kathy wanted to honor her husband after he passed away in the spring. She chose WIU as the place to do so because Dennis was a WIU alumnus, as are her daughter and son-in-law.

“I believe Dennis would have wanted a scholarship funded in order to provide the

Opportunity for higher learning … he would have been extremely happy and perhaps a little taken aback by the attention it has received,” stated Kathy.

Kathy added that she wanted to establish a scholarship in Dennis’ name “so his legacy will survive through the enrichment of others.”

Dennis graduated from WIU with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1974 and a Master of Arts degree in 1977, both in geography. His emphasis of study was physical geography, with minors in urban and community studies. Dennis was the vice president of Genesis Nursery, Inc., a 375-acre native prairie seed and plant supplier. He and Kathy hold a lengthy resume of involvement with a number of conservation organizations, including the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Bureau County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Because of their hard work and success, Kathy donated $102,750 to establish the Dennis A. Lubbs Memorial Geography Scholarship in her husband’s name. This amount was given to not only establish the endowed scholarship, but to make sure a scholarship is given in Dennis’ name this fall semester. This annual scholarship will be awarded to a graduate student majoring in geography who is active and involved within the WIU Department of Geography and/or the community. The scholarship will be automatically renewed for a second year as long as the student maintains a certain GPA and continues to major in geography.

Kathy hopes the scholarship will help attract strong candidates to Western’s geography program. She stated that the scholarship is intended for “someone who believes in volunteerism and stewardship; in the expansion and disbursement of knowledge and in the idea that knowledge and learning are not just for personal gain, but also for the greater good.”

“There are not a lot of scholarships available for graduate degrees. I believe this will help provide the opportunity for students to focus on studies over the financial stress that can sometimes come with school,” stated Kathy.

“As someone who completed two degrees at Western Illinois University, Dennis Lubbs knew what a geography degree from WIU could do for one’s career. We are very grateful that Kathy wanted to honor her late husband by establishing this scholarship, and we look forward to awarding it to a graduate student this fall for the first time,” stated Brad Bainter, vice president of Advancement and Public Services.

Norm and Judy Rocke Establish Two Scholarships at WIU

Before he came to Western, Norm Rocke ’71 didn’t really know what he wanted to do with his life. He toyed with the idea of becoming a math teacher or an astronaut. Rocke claims he wasn’t a great student in high school, but he did excel in math.

When he arrived at WIU as a freshman in the late 1960s, “everything just fell into place,” he stated. The 1971 mathematics major and physics minor enjoyed a successful 32-year career at State Farm in Bloomington, IL, and now, he’s in a position to “pay it forward.”

Roke and his wife, Judy, have named the WIU Foundation as the beneficiary of a new life insurance policy. Proceeds from this policy will be used to establish the Norm and Judy Rocke Physics Scholarship Endowment and the Norm and Judy Rocke Mathematics Scholarship Endowment. The Rockes wanted to create not one but two scholarships to not only entice students to attend WIU but to stay in school once they are on campus.

“Some people can’t afford college. And even those who can afford it—these scholarships help relieve the burden, and we are trying to do our little part. You never know who’s going to find the cure to cancer or something like that. It could be a person right here at Western,” said Norm.

Once endowed, two annual scholarships will be available to undergraduate students, one majoring in mathematics and the other to a student majoring in physics. The Rockes said these scholarships will be available to help any student who has a dream or a goal and who enjoys math and the sciences.

“We consider this a reward or a promise that somebody is on their side and believes in them,” said Judy.

While at Western, Norm was a math major with a minor in physics. After graduation, he spent a year teaching math and physics at Mason City High School with the stipulation that he had to coach the wrestling team, a sport he had never coached—let alone played. While he enjoyed his time as an educator and coach, when an opportunity at State Farm in Bloomington presented itself, Norm jumped at it, ultimately retiring from the company as a systems programmer when he turned 55.

“Western was very, very good to me. It’s just a way of giving back to that. I happen to have been very successful in my career, so why not. I can’t take it with me,” Norm joked. “The professors, the atmosphere, the college was just super, and I really, really enjoyed it there.”
McCamey Scholarship Established at WIU

William P. “Bill” McCamey ’80 MA ’82 left an impact on countless Western Illinois University law enforcement and justice administration (LEJA) students during his 32-year career; and while his life was cut short, his legacy will live on thanks to his wife, Jody ’85, and his mother, Toby.

McCamey’s wife and mother have established the William P. McCamey Public Safety Memorial Educational Scholarship in the School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration to honor Bill and his contributions to education.

“Bill always felt Western provided him a wonderful education and an opportunity to graduate from and work here. In addition, he consistently stated Western provided him the best job in the world,” Jody said. “We wanted to do something to recognize him for being the epitome of a good son, husband, dad and papa.”

Jody described her late husband as a humble man who enjoyed doing good deeds for others. His faith, family, the farm and Western were four of the most important things in his life, she added. That’s why establishing a scholarship in his memory was an easy decision for both Jody and Toby, a thought that came to Jody a few months ago, as if Bill was talking to her.

“Bill loved the University and the opportunities provided him in the short time he was here, that I thought establishing a scholarship would enable someone else to have the freedom to pursue their career without worrying so much about finances,” she said.

In 1982, McCamey joined the WIU School of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration (then called a department) faculty after earning his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Western. He taught courses in criminal justice management, fire administration and policing. He also taught fire administration courses through the National Fire Academy and earned his doctoral degree in higher education from the University of Iowa.

“Bill McCamey was an alumnus and outstanding professor in our law enforcement program. His legacy as one of the professors that helped lead this program to national prominence and stature that it enjoys today will forever be remembered and honored with this gift to establish an endowed scholarship in his memory,” said Brad Bainter ’79 MS ’83, executive officer for the WIU Foundation.

“Bill always paid it forward. We want to give to an organization for which he had the utmost respect,” said Jody.

“He thought so much of Western,” Toby added. “I think he felt that he not only gave to Western, but they gave back to him, too, in many ways.”

The McCameys said this scholarship will honor Bill and hope the recipients will feel about Western the way Bill did: thankful, proud and appreciative of the great education and opportunities WIU provides.

Codilis Pre-Law Scholarship

Many law school students often accumulate a lot of debt while in school, and one Western Illinois University alumnus wants to help ease that burden for WIU undergraduates.

Ernest Codilis ‘73 graduated from WIU with a degree in political science; he received his Juris Doctor degree from DePaul University. Having been through law school, Codilis wants to help Western students graduate from WIU and enter law school without the debt that often accompanies higher education. To do so, he has established the Ernest J. Codilis, Jr. Pre-Law Scholarship.

“I established this scholarship to help students who aspire to become lawyers and who may not have the economic resources to realize their dream. A law school education today has increasingly become more expensive, and

this scholarship will give a deserving student an opportunity to defray tuition expenses and will make a difference in that student’s life,” said Codilis.

The $10,000 annual scholarship will be awarded to a student with a pre-law minor at Western who is also a member of the Centennial Honors College. Preference will be given to those who demonstrate leadership in extracurricular activities.

Codilis is the founder and president of Codilis & Associates, P.C., an Illinois creditors’ rights law firm. He concentrates his practice in the areas of mortgage foreclosure, creditor bankruptcy and real estate litigation. He is also a partner in law firms located in Clayton (MO) and Houston (TX). Codilis has more than 38 years of experience in these fields and is licensed to practice law in Illinois, Texas, Colorado and Florida. He is a member of the Mortgage Bankers Association of America, Illinois Mortgage Bankers Association, the Texas Mortgage Bankers Association, the Chicago Bar Association, the DuPage County Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association, the Colorado Bar Association, the Texas State Bar, the American Foreclosure Network, Legal League 100 and Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International.

“I look back on my experience at WIU and believe it has contributed to the success that I have had as a lawyer. WIU helped me mature emotionally and intellectually, and this is my way of saying ‘thank you’ for a job well done. I hope this scholarship will help bring stronger students to an already outstanding school. I truly look back on my time at Western as a positive life changing experience,” Codilis said.

“This is an extremely generous and thoughtful gift by Ernie. It will go a long way toward helping the recipients of this scholarship graduate with little or no debt from Western before taking on the expenses associated with law school,” said Brad Bainter ’79 MS ’83, executive officer of the Western Illinois University Foundation.
When one walks down the halls of Sherman Hall, sits in the seats at Western Hall or passes by what once stood as Morgan Gymnasium, it’s easy to recall the names of those who helped build this great University. Hanson, Grote, Beu, Henninger … they left their mark on WIU decades ago. Now in its third century of existence, Western has many others who have left their mark. The names Brattain, Wehrly and Engnell can be added to the list of distinguished contributors who positively impacted the WIU community.

Bill Brattain, commonly referred to as “Dr. B,” advised thousands of students during his tenure as director of the Office of Student Activities and the University Union, a position he held for more than 24 years. One of those students was Brian O’Connell, president of Live Nation Country Touring. O’Connell said Dr. B was the only reason he stayed in college as he was fairly disinterested in anything that involved the “going to school” part.

“When he sat me down and explained to me that without that part you didn’t get to have the fun part, well, obviously, it worked. He was not judgmental, nor dismissive,” O’Connell remembered. “Our relationship was really that of an accomplished professional treating an idiot 18-year-old with respect, and through that he taught me how to know the difference between patronizing someone and respecting them … teaching involves patience, seeing potential involves skill, what Dr. B possessed was ‘the patience of Job’ and the skill of a marksman, truly a rare combination.”

Dr. B also loved being in the entertainment business. While he was never over the top about his connections, according to O’Connell, everyone knew that there was this guy in Macomb, Ill., who ran a good shop. He attracted entertainers, and the WIU community benefited from his work.

When asked if WIU is better off thanks to the work of Dr. B, O’Connell replied, “I would put it this way, if WIU decided to create a Mt. Rushmore of sorts, Dr. B would be on it.”

Brattain passed away in December 2015, at the age of 77. Family and friends remembered Dr. B by contributing to the William “Dr. B” and Jacquie Brattain Transfer Scholarship, a fund that was established by the Brattains in 2011 to provide scholarships for transfer students from McDonough, Hancock or Schuyler counties.

On the academic side, Jim Wehrly is a name known by most Western agriculture graduates. Professionally, Wehrly was an agricultural finance professor who started teaching at WIU in 1969. He continued to do so until he retired in 1992.

“Jim was a good friend and stellar role model,” said Julie Murphy ‘94 MS ‘95, retired director of donor relations. “He was a passionate and caring professor; he most certainly lived simply and was quite generous throughout his lifetime. His wicked sense of humor stayed with him as his body failed. His mind was razor sharp until the end, and he always wanted news of his beloved Western Illinois University.”

Having worked in higher education, Wehrly knew the importance of a college education.

“Both Wehrlys (including his wife, Beatrice Wehrly) started saving for scholarships early in their careers at $25 a month, grew their savings and went on to donate these savings to establish (a total of five) scholarships and become two of the University’s largest donors,” recalled Murphy. “The scholarships, intended to assist students financially and allow them to concentrate on their academics, have already helped countless students and will continue to do so into perpetuity.”

Jim and Bea were both longtime WIU faculty members, and Bea was noted as a pioneer in cross-cultural counseling and women in counseling. They created the Bea and Jim Wehrly Scholarship, the Wehrly Book Scholarship, the Bea Wehrly Study Abroad Scholarship, the Educators for Tomorrow Scholarship and the Jim Wehrly Agriculture Finance Scholarship at WIU. Their legacy will live on through these many scholarships, helping WIU students obtain a college degree for generations to come.

Another familiar face in the School of Agriculture was Bruce A. Engnell, who served agriculture students for nearly 45 years. Engnell came to WIU in 1967 to manage the swine teaching herd, the boar station and coach the Intercollegiate Livestock Judging Team. He also served as the manager of the entire University Farm operation. He retired in 2011. Former student Monte Lowderman ’90 knew Engnell in a number of ways.

Lowderman remembers Engnell as a “grandfather” to the students, and as a man who was both humble and soft spoken. He said Engnell had a special way about him that made his students not only want to do well for themselves, but also made him proud.

“Bruce left a lifelong stamp on the agriculture program at WIU, a legacy built by respect, honor and character and always doing the right thing. Bruce was WIU agriculture. He was well-respected and known throughout the country in the livestock and swine industries,” Lowderman added.

Engnell served as a judge for many county, regional, state, national and international shows, where people also knew him as the livestock judging team coach from Western Illinois University.

Engnell passed away in November 2015. His legacy will forever be remembered at WIU at the University’s Livestock Center, where a memorial tree and carved stone now stand. These items were dedicated in his memory in April. At that time, alumni of the WIU Livestock Judging Team and the School of Agriculture gathered together to remember this special mentor. His legacy lives on due to the creation of the Bruce A. Engnell Ag Scholarship, thanks to the generosity of many former students and staff.

“It’s impossible to think of Dr. B, Jim Wehrly or Bruce Engnell and not think of Western Illinois University in the same thought. Each left a different mark on this institution, but each will have a lasting impact. WIU is better off thanks to the work of these three pioneers in their respected fields,” said Brad Bannor ‘79 MS ’83, vice president for Advancement and Public Services.
WIU-Quad Cities–Foundation Year in Review

Enrollment for Fall 2015 at Western Illinois University-Quad Cities reached an all-time high of 1,531 students. Leading the growth was the College of Business and Technology and the School of Engineering as well numerous individual programs in the College of Education & Human Services and the College of Fine Arts & Communication.

The staff and faculty continue to develop relationships with key constituents in the Quad Cities region resulting in on-going communications and planning for programs and partnerships which will provide opportunities for students as they pursue their academic dreams. In response to budget challenges, staff has streamlined processes including centralizing office and general supplies, re-aligning job duties to minimize the impact of staff reductions and many other cost-savings measures.

The administrative team has been joined by faculty and staff in outreach to 24 businesses to discuss their tuition reimbursement programs, WIU student internships and employment, cohort classes, and other possible future collaborations. These meetings are developing invaluable relationships for both organizations as together we can help today’s WIU student be prepared for the future workplace.

Significant financial contributions this year were $161,000 from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust for Engineering Lab Enhancements, $50,000 from the Looser-Flake Foundation to endow a scholarship for students from Mercer (Illinois) County, and $25,000 from the Hunt and Diane Harris Family Foundation for artwork enhancements. Continuing support from the Doris and Victor Day Foundation ($25,000), The Brissman Family Foundation ($25,000), the Lowell N. Johnson Charitable Trust ($21,000) and others allowed 65 students to be awarded more than $127,000 in scholarships.

Highlighting this year’s in-kind contributions was a beautiful golden colored “Rocky on Parade” statue to be permanently displayed on the campus grounds from Board of Trustees Secretary Roger Clawson ’77.

As a testament to the years of dedication to building the physical campus, as well the academic programs in demand, the Spring 2016 WIU-QC graduating class included a record 281 students. Western Illinois University-Quad Cities will build on this strong foundation of successful community support to continue to provide a high quality, affordable higher education for future generations of students.

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