

THE CAMPAIGN FOR MSU DEVELOPMENTS

SPRING 2007

SECCHIA PROVIDES LEADERSHIP GIFT TO CREATE 21ST CENTURY MEDICAL SCHOOL

The Grand Rapids building that will become the new home of the MSU College of Human Medicine will be named “The Secchia Center.” The naming was approved on January 18, 2007 by the Michigan State University Board of Trustees in recognition of a substantial contribution for the facility from alumnus Ambassador Peter F. Secchia and others.

“The Secchia Center will bring to life a four-year medical school in Grand Rapids as well as a one-of-a-kind model for medical education and research in the 21st century,” said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. This new approach blends key elements of a classic medical education center with MSU’s traditional strength in community-based medical education.

“Ambassador Secchia’s gift is the essential catalyst for the evolution and expansion of the College of Human Medicine for a new century,” President Simon said. “We are creating something very special here by bringing a world class

university to bear on developing medical education in Grand Rapids and by using this opportunity to advance the power of genomic medicine. This venture will significantly increase our activity in research, both in Grand Rapids and East Lansing.”



Ambassador Peter and Mrs. Joan Secchia

Simon also noted the critical role of partnerships in achieving the vision. “In Grand Rapids, we have established a unique set of relationships that will make this medical school a reality. This is being done without the need for state appropriations, and

it is a triumph of creative problem solving that will raise the level of medical care in West Michigan and benefit citizens throughout Michigan and beyond.”

The Van Andel Institute, Spectrum Health, Saint Mary’s Health System and Grand Valley State University each have recently announced important partnerships with Michigan State University associated with either land acquisition or future programs. Grand Action, a non-profit organization of 250 community leaders committed to the growth and national recognition of Grand Rapids, and MSU will launch a capital campaign to raise the remaining \$20 million nationally and from the West Michigan community to cover the development and construction costs associated with the facility.

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THE CAMPAIGN FOR MSU



CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$1.2 BILLION
STATUS TO GOAL: \$1.258 BILLION

ENDOWMENT GOAL: \$450 MILLION
STATUS TO GOAL: \$387.7 MILLION

As of February 3, 2007

Skandalaris \$5 Million Gift Largest Ever To Spartan Athletics

Michigan State University received the largest-ever gift to its athletics program—\$5 million from alumni Robert and Julie Skandalaris of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The donation represents the lead gift for the Duffy Daugherty Football Building expansion, a project expected to get underway this spring. The gift brings the total raised for the \$12 million project to \$8.7 million. “This historic and much-appreciated gift provides dramatic momentum and moves this project forward significantly,” said Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Ron Mason.

President Lou Anna K. Simon recommended to the Board of Trustees and the board approved that components of the expansion be named the “Bob and Julie Skandalaris

Football Operations Center” and the “Bob and Julie Skandalaris Hall of History.”

“Julie and I are committed to a successful Spartan football program,” said Bob Skandalaris, founder and chairman of Noble International and a 1974 business graduate. “Our program needs stability and resources to succeed, and sustained success requires the cumulative efforts of the entire MSU family. We hope our gift will foster the participation of others and send a supportive signal to current and potential Spartan athletes.”

Mason noted that the 27-year-old football building is in need of updating and improvement.

“Because of the need for renovations, we are falling behind peer programs in the area of football support facilities,” he said. The Skandalaris Football



Bob Skandalaris

continued on page 2

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT
Enriching MSU's Future

Secchia *continued from cover*

The Secchia Center will include research and teaching laboratories, classrooms, offices and student areas. Michigan State's College of Human Medicine is slated to enroll its first class of 100 first-year students in Grand Rapids in 2010, when the new facility opens. The college will also continue to enroll four-year classes in East Lansing and to place the residents from its programs throughout the state.

"Ambassador Secchia has been a generous friend and long-time donor to Michigan State University," said President Simon. "His volunteerism and contributions date back nearly 50 years. He currently serves as a member of the President's Campaign Cabinet for *The Campaign for MSU*. Over the years, he has hosted and sponsored dozens of university events and chaired several campus building projects.

"We are grateful for his continued support, particularly as we establish the new home of the College of Human Medicine and set a course for its research agenda and innovative curriculum. Peter was a pioneering proponent of the idea of housing the school in Grand Rapids."

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to combine my commitments to the university and to the community I love," said Secchia. "I truly believe this will have a meaningful impact that will live on for generations to come."

The Secchia family tremendously values education. Joan Secchia (Education, '64) taught in the Rockford and East Grand Rapids public schools. She recently served as president of the Grand Rapids Public Schools Student Advancement Foundation and led the drive to raise \$1.7 million to restock more than 40 public school libraries. She currently serves on the fundraising committee to raise in excess of \$100 million for the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. The Secchias have four children and five grandchildren.

Chairman Emeritus of Universal Forest Products Inc., Secchia began his service with UFPI in 1962, graduating from MSU with a bachelor's degree in economics the following year. While at UFPI, he helped open 102 manufacturing plants. Secchia served as U.S. Ambassador to Italy from 1989 to 1993.

In addition, Secchia has held leadership positions on the boards of Old Kent Financial, Old Kent Bank, River City Foods, StelterPartners and the Manufactured Housing Institute. He has volunteered in local, state and national political and charitable work, has served on the library foundation boards established by two presidents, Gerald R. Ford and George H. W. Bush, and was selected by former Governor John Engler to head a commission to reevaluate government services. His personal philanthropy and fundraising efforts have aided many Grand Rapids causes—youths, parks, economic development, health care and cultural enrichment and education, among many others.

Secchia has earned a number of lifetime achievement awards during the last 15 years, including: Michigan's Master Entrepreneur of the Year; *Crain's Detroit Business*, Businessman of the Year; Economic Club of Grand Rapids, Business Person of the Year; National Italian American Foundation, Special Achievement Award; Republic of Italy, Cavaliere di Gran Croce (The Knight of the Great Cross); Michigan State University's Broad Business School Outstanding Alumnus; Michigan State University's Distinguished Alumnus; and the Smithsonian Institute Award as a National Scholar.

For information about making a gift to the College of Human Medicine, contact Director of Development Doug Moffat at (517) 353-5153.

Skandalaris *continued from cover*

Operations Center will add new meeting rooms equipped with the most advanced computer breakdown and projection monitor equipment, state-of-the-art coaches' offices, and a student-athlete lounge. The Skandalaris Hall of History will proudly display Spartan Football accomplishments and traditions. Future improvements could include an enhanced plaza and expanded weight room.

"In terms of quality and functionality," said Greg Ianni, senior associate athletics director for facilities and operations, "Duffy will be among the nation's best." He added that the goal is to create an impact and feel similar to the Berkowitz Basketball Complex. Since the completion of that facility, both the Men's and Women's Basketball teams have been national basketball powerhouse programs.

Chuck Sleeper, senior associate athletics director for development, said the gift has had an accelerating effect on other commitments to the project. "We have had a great response to this project, thanks in large part to Bob and Julie's leadership, and we are confident several other major gifts will be made. The Skandalaris gift will have a long-lasting impact not only on our football program, but on our entire athletics program. This gift has raised the philanthropic bar for MSU Athletics."

President Lou Anna K. Simon expressed her appreciation for the Skandalaris gift to the university. "MSU is seeking transformational gifts in all areas," she said, "and the magnificent generosity of Bob and Julie is very important to Team MSU."

For more information on how you can become a part of the Duffy project, please contact the athletics development office at (517) 355-7701.

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MSU BLACK ALUMNI ENDOWMENT EXCEEDS \$1 MILLION



The MSU Black Alumni (MSUBA) announced that funds contributed to MSUBA endowments have grown to more than \$1 million. Dr. Ron Goldsberry (Chemistry, '66) served as chair of the successful Million Dollar Campaign. Recently,

MSUBA officers, donors and student scholarship recipients gathered to celebrate this achievement. For information about MSU scholarship opportunities, contact Director of Development Barbara Ball-McClure at (517) 432-7330.

MACKEY GIFT TO BENEFIT VOICE STUDENTS

Thanks to a gift from former President Cecil and Clare Mackey, the voice area in the School of Music will have perpetual funding for talented students pursuing degrees in the vocal arts. In November 2006, Dr. and Mrs. Mackey established the Clare S. Mackey Endowed Fund in Voice.

“This generous gift from the Mackeys will enable the School of Music voice faculty to recruit and retain voice performance majors of the highest quality,” said Jim Forger, director of the School of Music. “Annually, thanks to this wonderful named endowment, our voice faculty will select a student recipient to receive this award and hold an assistantship in vocal teaching or research.”

Their endowment was established in Clare’s honor, recognizing her lifelong professional

accomplishments, love of music, and commitment to the musical arts. An accomplished singer and flutist, Clare earned a B.S. (with highest honors) and an M.S. in music education, both in 1955, at the University of Illinois. She then taught music in the public schools, and subsequently earned a master’s of music degree in voice at Michigan State University in 1987. She has been a vocal soloist in the mid-Michigan area, a longtime member of the MSU Choral Union, and was the alto soloist at Peoples Church in East Lansing for 16 years.

A tireless supporter of vocal arts on the MSU campus and in the broader community, and an active proponent of the arts, Clare has been an effective liaison between Wharton Center for the Performing Arts and the School of Music, facilitating a talented group of pre-concert speakers. In her role as First Lady of MSU, Clare, together with her husband Cecil, MSU’s 16th president, provided strong and supportive leadership that enabled the musical arts to thrive at Michigan State.

“Clare and I wanted to do something that would serve as a lasting acknowledgment of what Michigan State has contributed to our lives and those of our entire family,” explained Cecil. “A very special relationship with the School of Music—its faculty and its students—over the years has added greatly to the quality of our lives. By establishing the Clare S. Mackey Endowed Fund in Voice we can assure that talented students will be able to study with outstanding faculty as they pursue their goals in vocal performance. It is our hope that the students who benefit from this endowment will find the same measure of joy and satisfaction

in their study of voice that Clare found in her graduate study with Ethel Armeling at MSU.”

For more information about making a gift to the School of Music, contact Director of Development Rebecca Surian at (517) 353-9872.

IRA Charitable Rollover Encourages Giving

Cecil and Clare Mackey felt the time was right to make a significant and meaningful gift to the School of Music, considering that the IRA Charitable Rollover—a new incentive for charitable giving—is in effect for 2006 and 2007. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows donors, age 70 ½ or older, to direct a distribution from a Traditional or Roth IRA to go directly to a qualified charity with a limit of \$100,000 per year. The charity immediately benefits from the gift, and the donor is able to make a simple transfer with an instant impact. The Mackeys decided to take advantage of this new gift opportunity when documenting their gift to the School of Music during *The Campaign for MSU*.

For more information about this new giving opportunity, please contact University Development at (517) 884-1000, or the director of development for the college of your choice at MSU.



Clare and Cecil Mackey

\$1.37 Million Kellogg Foundation Grant Funds Food & Fitness Program

A new initiative—Food and Fitness—created by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation has a national vision: “Vibrant communities that support families and their children by promoting a way of life focused on healthy food and play, which is in harmony with their environment.”

In pursuit of that vision, the Kellogg Foundation is funding planning activities in at least six selected communities in the United States to formulate strategies for stimulating active communities and flourishing community-based food systems, with a focus on families, children, environment and policy. The Food and Fitness initiative recognizes that families are the social unit where values and lifestyle are established; healthy behaviors are enhanced in environments that support local food and physical activity.

“One goal of the foundation is to help meet the needs for a safe and nutritious diet. Another is to promote health among vulnerable individuals and communities,” said Linda Jo Doctor, W.K. Kellogg Foundation program director. “Our new Food and Fitness program is an exciting opportunity to pursue both goals at once.”

To help launch this effort, the foundation has awarded a \$1.37 million, multi-year grant to Michigan State University. Dr. Michael W. Hamm, the C.S. Mott Chair of Sustainable

Agriculture, and his colleagues Susan Cocciarelli and Barbara Mutch, are leading a team of faculty,



Dr. Michael Hamm

staff and students who will work with the Kellogg Foundation, the participating communities, and relevant state, national and non-governmental entities. Together, they will provide technical assistance, create state and national networks, inform policy, leverage resources,

build momentum, and catalyze change in systems supporting healthy, local food and fitness.

Some of the key activities that Dr. Hamm’s team will undertake include:

- Coordinating and developing linkages among participating communities and between the communities and state and national resources.
- Providing technical assistance on food system issues. (*Food system* encompasses all processes from field through consumption—growing, processing, packaging, distributing, preparing, and eating—as well as handling waste at all points in the system.)

- Managing the Food and Fitness National Advisory Committee, which will advise the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and serve as a conduit to professional constituencies to expand the impact of the program to other communities.

“Our ambition is to aid in creating a community context about fitness and healthy, local food for the pilot communities and ultimately communities across the country,” said Dr. Hamm. “The Kellogg Foundation has presented a vision that we will help develop and stimulate as well as partner in creating the levels of collaboration necessary to bring about a national agenda on food and fitness.”

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation was established in 1930 “to help people help themselves through the practical application of knowledge and resources to improve their quality of life and that of future generations.” To achieve the greatest impact, the foundation targets its grants toward specific areas. These areas include health, food systems and rural development, youth and education, and philanthropy and volunteerism. Within each, attention is given to exploring learning opportunities in leadership, applying information and communication technologies, capitalizing on diversity, and fostering social and economic community development.

ENDOWMENT GIFTS: *Leaving A Legacy*

ENDOWED FUNDS ARE THE KEY TO SUCCESS

Now that *The Campaign for MSU* is in its final year, reaching the endowment goal of \$450 million has become the campaign's central focus because of its importance to the future of the university. Endowments enable funds to grow in perpetuity, benefiting generations upon generations of Spartans in their pursuit of excellence in education.

Endowed funds differ from others in that the total amount of the gift is invested. Each year, only a portion of the interest earned is spent while the remainder reverts to principal. In this respect, an endowment is a perpetual gift. This steady stream of funding provides the assurance the university needs to recruit and retain the best and brightest students and faculty, provide access to the most contemporary education possible, and grow and nurture those areas of research and scholarship to which it has committed. Always equated with excellence and long-term strength, endowments are absolutely essential if MSU is to remain a leader in education, research and service.

ORANGE COUNTY ALUMNI CLUB HITS \$250,000 MILESTONE FOR ENDOWMENT

In 1998, the MSU Orange County Alumni Club set a new standard for alumni club fundraising by initiating a \$100,000 endowed scholarship fund. In 2006, only eight years after its creation, the club reached a new milestone, having since contributed over \$250,000 to the university. Of this amount, \$176,000 has been designated for the endowed scholarship fund. In addition to

contributing through the club's annual scholarship golf tournament, alumni have stepped forward to make individual contributions to this scholarship fund, the result being that its market value now exceeds \$300,000.

To help the university reach its \$450 million endowment goal in the final year of *The Campaign for MSU*, members of the Orange County Board

The gifts highlighted on these pages have contributed to the total of \$387.7 million raised for endowment through *The Campaign for MSU* as of February 3, 2007.

Endowments may be created with a minimum pledge of \$30,000. While not everyone has the means to make a gift of this size, here are three ways that smaller gifts can benefit endowments, too.

- Gifts may be made to an existing endowment
- An alumni club, a group of friends, or family members may create an endowment by pooling individual gifts together
- The State is Great Endowment recently was created to accept funds of any size



TAYLORS HONOR RUTH SIMMS HAMILTON WITH MSU PRESS ENDOWMENT

Priscilla Hamilton Taylor and Jason Taylor of Mountain View, California, have made a gift of \$125,000 to Michigan State University Press. Their gift will create the Ruth Simms Hamilton African Diaspora Series Endowment, which will generate annual revenue to support the publication of scholarly research in the field of the African Diaspora by MSU Press.

Ms. Taylor's mother, Ruth Simms Hamilton, was a professor at Michigan State University for 35 years. She taught courses on international inequality and development, comparative race relations, international migration and diasporas, Third World urbanization and change, and

sociological theory. She was director of the African Diaspora Research Project, and a core faculty member of the African Studies Center and Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

At the time of her death in November 2003, Dr. Hamilton was finalizing plans for the African Diaspora Research Project Series at MSU Press.

The first volume in that series, *Routes of Passage: Rethinking the African Diaspora*, was published in November 2006. Contributors to the volume present work in the fields of anthropology, history, sociology, library science, and linguistics. *Routes of Passage* provides a conceptual, substantive, and empirical orientation to the study of African people worldwide, including issues of geographical mobility, geosocial displacement, and changing cultural, political, and economic relationships between Africa and its diaspora.

"My mother had a long career at Michigan State University, and a very productive relationship with Michigan State University Press," Ms. Taylor said. "My family and I are pleased that her scholarly legacy will be continued with the publication of new scholarship through the African Diaspora Research Project Series. It is an honor for us to enable that series by creating this endowment."

Ms. Taylor is principal of the Beachwood School in Menlo Park, California. Mr. Taylor is

a manager with Cisco Systems, Inc. in San Jose, California. Ms. Taylor's father, the late James B. Hamilton, was professor of Chemistry and assistant provost for Undergraduate Education at MSU. He was instrumental in establishing the department now known as the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities.

MSU Press plans to release a second volume in the series in Fall 2007. Publication of that volume, and subsequent series volumes, will be made possible by the revenue generated from the endowment created by the Taylors' gift. The Taylors and MSU Press intend to increase the size of the endowment to \$875,000 by inviting contributions from other individuals, including scholars in the African Diaspora.

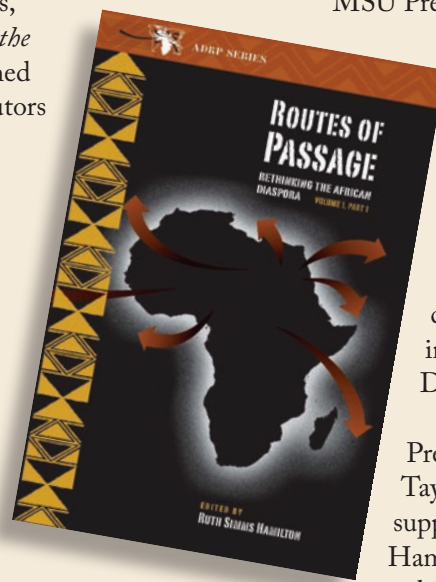
Dr. Fredric C. Bohm, director of MSU Press, said, "We are thrilled with the Taylors' decision to provide philanthropic support for this important series. Professor Hamilton's research was groundbreaking, and it is a privilege for our press to contribute to furthering research in African Diasporic studies."

Michigan State University Press, the university's scholarly publishing arm, celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. It publishes ten scholarly journals and, each year, issues some 40 new titles in the arts, humanities, sciences, and social sciences.

For additional information about making a contribution to this endowment, contact John Huebler, Development Director, at (517) 355-9543, ext. 127.



Jason and Priscilla Taylor



recently voted to seek 100% participation through individual contributions from board members. Board President Megan Stirrat commented, "Board leadership not only requires promoting MSU on the West Coast through group activities, but financial support from individual board members as well. Over the years, the success of our efforts has been a combination of group fundraising activities and contributions from individuals."

Through the MSU Orange County Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund, the club currently provides scholarship assistance for six students matriculating from Orange County, California, to Michigan State University.

For more information about the Orange County Alumni Club, contact West Coast Director of Development Venice Peek at (949) 492-9300.

Members of the Orange County Alumni Club Board gathered to receive their Abbott Society memento and discuss plans to increase fundraising efforts for their scholarship.

STATE IS GREAT ENDOWMENT

You're in a quandary. You'd like your gifts to MSU to support endowment—after all, endowment gifts grow and support MSU in perpetuity—but you don't have \$30,000 to establish your own endowment. What can you do?

The State is Great Endowment has been created for people like you who want to strengthen the foundation of MSU. It will serve as the general MSU endowment providing the greatest flexibility, under the direction of the MSU president, to address the highest priorities and meet the current needs of the university. Your gifts can be of any size and made at any time.

For more information about the State is Great Endowment, contact Karen Wenk at wenk@msu.edu or at (517) 884-1084.

WKAR RECEIVES GIFT TO SUPPORT NATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Over the years, many mid-Michigan residents have had the opportunity to enrich their lives from the programming that WKAR, MSU's public broadcast station, has provided. Recently, one of the station's longtime supporters decided to help MSU and WKAR continue to provide the type of programming on TV and radio that she counts on. The donor, who chooses to remain anonymous, is a graduate of MSU and has lived and worked in the listening/viewing area of WKAR for much of her life. She has established an endowment with MSU that is funded through current gifts as well as a bequest. The endowment will support



This endowment will provide funding for national programming such as *Masterpiece Theatre* and *News Hour* (above).

MYERS' ENDOWMENT HONORS PARENTS FOR LIFETIME OF INSPIRATION

"My parents have been the greatest inspiration in my life simply by the way they lived, their work ethic, their integrity, their value system and their love and support for all of their children," said Lynn (Nelson) Myers (Marketing, '64; M.B.A., '67), as she described the reasons for choosing to establish an endowed scholarship in their names at the Eli Broad College of Business.

Lynn's parents, Victor and Alta Nelson, raised a family of seven children. Originally, the family farmed in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. They later lived and worked in southeast Michigan for many years. In 1999, Lynn's father passed away. Today, Alta Nelson once again makes her home in the Upper Peninsula.

Established in 2006, the Victor and Alta Nelson Scholarship Fund will provide assistance to Broad School students with financial need



Alta and Victor Nelson

and will give preference to those who have participated in community service activities.



Lynn Myers

is a member of the Broad School's Capital Campaign Committee and a co-chair of the \$1.2 billion *Campaign for MSU*. She serves on the advisory board for MSU-CIBER (Center for International Business Education and Research) at the Broad School. She has been honored by the Broad School and Michigan State University for her leadership and service. She received the Broad School's Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award in 1989. Subsequently, she received the MSU Alumni Service Award in 1995, the MSU Distinguished Alumni Award in 1999 and the Dr. John A. Hannah Outstanding Alumni Award in 2003.

For more information about making a gift to the Eli Broad College of Business, contact Associate Director of Development Cathy Hicks at (517) 432-7440.

Each year, the scholarship recipient will be determined during the spring semester with the award disbursed for the fall semester.

Lynn is the retired general manager for General Motors Pontiac-GMC Division. She

the purchasing of national programs like *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Nova*, *Masterpiece Theatre* and *Frontline*.

DeAnne Hamilton, director of Broadcasting Services and general manager of WKAR, stated, "We are thrilled and appreciative that she would consider us. This gift will enable us to provide the high quality national programs that our viewers and listeners have come to expect." Once fully funded through a cash gift and charitable bequest from her estate, the endowed fund will total approximately \$500,000.

As federal funding for public broadcasting declines, stations like WKAR are increasingly seeking endowment support from viewers and listeners. Gifts such as this help guarantee that WKAR will be able to continue contributing to the community in the years to come.

For more information about making a gift to WKAR, contact Director of Development Cindy Herfindahl at (517) 432-3120.

CARNEGIE CORPORATION GRANT KEEPS TEACHERS IN URBAN DISTRICTS

A trio of Michigan State University professors has embarked on a three-year study of factors that influence teacher retention in urban schools. Made possible by a \$385,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, this research project will look at first- and second-year teachers in five Michigan school districts, each of which serves more than 10,000 students and has more than 40% of its student population eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

“In urban, high-poverty districts, new teachers often struggle to engage students in learning and help them achieve at high levels,” said Peter Youngs, assistant professor in Teacher Education at MSU. “Policy makers are focusing on induction programs such as mentoring, social networks, orientation programs and professional development opportunities,” Youngs continued. “Our study will look at the effectiveness of such programs both in terms of how the teachers adapt to their new environment and how they engage their students in learning.”

Youngs is joined in this research effort by Associate Professor Kenneth Frank and Assistant Professor Yeow Meng Thum both who are from the MSU Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Special Education where they work in the area of Measurement and Quantitative Methods.

Over the next three years, these investigators will lead an effort to collect data from 40 to 50 elementary and middle school teachers in each district—a sampling of 200 to 250 teachers in all. “Interviews, surveys, measures of teachers’ instructional practices and commitment will be used as well as student assessment data from reading, writing and math tests,” said Frank.



MSU graduate Brian Robertson helping students in his Flint, Michigan classroom.

“We want to gauge both the productive and counterproductive strategies that beginning teachers encounter through mentorships, social networks and other induction-related efforts.”

Dr. Thum said the study is designed to inform two nationally important policy goals: to improve the retention of new elementary and middle school teachers in urban, high-poverty settings; and to strengthen components of teacher induction that have a strong link to student achievement. “It is important to know what is working effectively,” he said, “to help dedicated teachers remain in the profession for which they trained and, more importantly, to give their pupils a solid foundation for achievement in the classroom.”

The Carnegie Corporation of New York is dedicated to the “advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding.” Carnegie’s current work in education is focused on three major areas: 1) advancing literacy, 2) urban school reform, and 3) teacher education reform. Carnegie grantmaking seeks to strengthen formal schooling while supporting innovative educational strategies and reforms that address the needs of individual students at all levels. In pursuit of this overriding goal, Michigan State University is a partner with Carnegie in the corporation’s groundbreaking teacher education reform initiative, *Teachers for a New Era*.

Foster Gift Benefits Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Dr. Race Foster (DVM, '83) and his wife Lynne recently made a substantial current gift that will transform the entrance to MSU’s Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH). Foster, best known as co-founder of the popular *Doctors Foster and Smith* veterinary catalogs, shares several reasons for the couple’s generous contribution.

“I have always placed a significant value on education—you get out of it what you put into it,” Dr. Foster said. “I graduated from the veterinary college at a time when the pet industry and pet owners were ready for pet health care alternatives. I elected to cater to these alternatives to try to make a living and at the same time keep pet health care within the veterinary profession.

“Fortunately business has gone well for the past 24 years. Therefore, my wife and I decided to make a \$500,000 donation to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. We felt it important to begin

our donations while we were able see their benefits, rather than posthumously.”

Dr. Foster, 50, grew up in Allegan, Michigan, near Kalamazoo. He decided on a career in veterinary medicine at age 15. He was especially inspired by his older brother, Dr. Rory Foster (DVM, '74). Dr. Foster’s own path took a little longer. “I applied three times before they accepted me,” he said. But his graduation in 1983 was bittersweet: that year, Rory Foster was diagnosed with ALS, known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.

Rory Foster died in 1987, but the brothers had a few years practicing together in rural Wisconsin, along with Dr. Marty Smith of Iowa. It was Rory Foster who first noticed that people were beginning to buy veterinary medicines and products in grocery stores and in catalogs published by non-veterinarians. “We asked, ‘Why lose this business to the non-veterinary sectors?’” Dr. Foster recalled.

That was the beginning of *Doctors Foster and Smith* veterinary catalog and a business larger than even Dr. Foster could have imagined. Today, the company publishes 55 million catalogs a year, has 700 employees and posts \$235 million in annual sales. In 1998, *Doctors Foster and Smith* went online with websites such as LiveAquaria.com and PetEducation.com, where pet owners can find everything from articles about cat surgery and canine social behavior to good prices on fish and hermit crabs—his biggest seller (he sells “hundreds of thousands” of them each year). Dr. Foster has authored four books, as well.

The Fosters have four children. While the couple lives in Wisconsin, they maintain strong bonds with MSU’s College of Veterinary

Medicine—and those bonds consist of more than large checks. Dr. Foster serves on the VTH Board of Directors, and he said, “I feel that I personally have much that I can offer the VTH. It is important to me to provide time and expertise as well as financing. The VTH allows me to give both, and for that I am grateful.”

Like many donors, Dr. Foster can pinpoint the genesis of his lasting loyalty to the college’s teaching hospital: the professors who nurtured him and even helped him when he most needed it. He recalled the time as a first-year CVM student, while running a beekeeping business that helped pay for college expenses, he had a mid-term at the same time he had to fulfill some “pollination contracts.” “I was moving bees into the blueberries and apples for pollination,” he explained. The kind professor understood and let him take the mid-term later.

Today, the CVM staff is just as supportive, Dr. Foster acknowledged. “There are some visionaries such as former dean Dr. Lonnie King, Dr. Jan Krehbiel, and the hospital director, Dr. Pat Leblanc, who influenced my decision to give to CVM. They share my vision and enthusiasm in making the veterinary students a top priority within the VTH.

“Students are the very backbone of the VTH’s existence,” said Dr. Foster. “We hope our donation helps improve their education as well as the profession for veterinarians, pets and pet owners.”

For more information about making a gift to the College of Veterinary Medicine, contact Senior Director of Development Susan Halloran at (517) 432-4898.



Race Foster

ATHLETIC RENOVATION & SCHOLARSHIP GIFTS

The Michigan State University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is on the road to success. As part of *The Campaign for MSU*, the department has raised \$76 million, completing projects such as

the Clara Bell Smith Student-Athlete Academic Center, the Alfred Berkowitz Basketball Practice Facility, the Rearick Family Golf Practice Facility, and the Spartan Stadium Expansion project.

Although much has been accomplished, not all of the campaign priorities have been met. Below are examples of how dedicated Spartans are leading the way in helping to complete important objectives.

Doug and Valerie DeMartin

Doug (Business, '80; MBA, '82) and Valerie DeMartin are longtime supporters of MSU athletics, but their recent gift to Old College Field is their most significant pledge to date. On December 11, 2006, the DeMartin's became the first major contributors to the Old College Field project with a pledge totaling \$750,000. The gift will name the DeMartin Soccer Stadium which will be dedicated to Roland and Louise DeMartin, Doug's parents. When asked why they chose to support the Old College Field project, Doug

stated, "It is important to support the non revenue side of Athletics, especially when the facilities are in desperate need of enhancement."

Doug's career after graduation took him to Chicago, where he worked for Ernst & Young. He later joined Merrill Lynch, rising to the position of senior vice president of the Global Institutional Client Division, from which he recently

retired to spend more time with his family. He attributes his success to staying focused on his job and working hard, and recognized the importance of his MSU education which allowed him to pursue a successful career on Wall Street.

The Old College Field project is a \$6.8 million effort to renovate the baseball, softball and soccer competition and practice facilities. "This gift is a true testament and commitment to the future success of our men's and women's soccer programs," stated Ron Mason, director of Intercollegiate Athletics.



Jill and Gary Witzenburg

Jill and Gary Witzenburg have an undying loyalty and dedication to MSU Athletics. To show their continuing support, the Witzenburgs recently made a \$225,000 pledge to the Duffy Daugherty Football Practice Facility Expansion and an existing endowment.

The Duffy project seeks to completely overhaul the football practice facility, including the position meeting rooms, coaches' offices, Hall of Fame and weight room, among other areas. \$100,000 of the gift will enable them to name the Jill and Gary Witzenburg Quarterbacks Meeting Room.

The remaining \$125,000 is earmarked for their previously established Ken Thompson Endowed Scholarship Fund for Football, named after Jill's late father, who was a 1930 graduate, 1966-74 MSU Trustee and big Spartan fan. This gift will complete the funding for a full scholarship endowment for a football player.

Jill acknowledged, "The Duffy Daugherty project is necessary to returning Spartan football to national prominence. The endowment is a tribute to my father's passion and support for Spartan football."



For more information about making a donation to the Duffy Daugherty or Old College Field projects, or any athletic endowment, contact the Athletics Development Office at (517) 355-7701.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION LEADS INITIATIVE TO SOLVE NURSING SHORTAGE

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation (BCBSMF) will partner with the Michigan State University College of Nursing to develop a program that will help nurses remain in, or return to, clinical practice.

Led by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation, Partners Investing in Nursing's Future encourages local foundations to act as catalysts in developing grassroots strategies to establish a stable, adequate nursing workforce. The BCBSMF has received a grant of \$246,602 and will contribute an additional \$125,000.

"It is predicted that as early as 2008, Michigan will be unable to fill as many as 7,000 nursing positions," said program director Dr. Teresa Wehrwein, associate professor and assistant dean for professional partnerships and faculty practice at MSU's College of Nursing. "Increasing nursing school enrollment is one way to address the need, but the health care demands of the 79 million baby boomers moving into their 60s, and the general population growth of people over age 80, require innovative solutions to meet an anticipated and unprecedented demand for health care services expected to last for the next 30 years."

In 2007, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan will partner with the college to develop and pilot Nursing

for Life: The RN Career Transition Program. This statewide, two-year program is seen as a possible national model to help alleviate the nursing shortage by transitioning nurses into home-based, hospice, long-term and ambulatory care practice.

"Nursing for Life provides nurses with a clear alternative to leaving their profession outright," said Ira Strumwasser, BCBSMF executive director and CEO. "It offers nurses a chance to move from the demands of acute care to practice their skills in non-acute care settings. We are confident this project will create meaningful ways to enable qualified nurses to continue working and adding to their skills, heading off a severe shortage that is projected in as little as two years."

"Nurses are the cornerstone of our healthcare system and want nothing more than to provide safe and compassionate care for their patients in supportive and efficient work environments," said Susan B. Hassmiller, R.N., Ph.D., F.A.A.N., senior program officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. "This unique program brings foundations together to learn from each other and engage others as they address a very serious problem in their communities. This partnership of the philanthropic community provides an opportunity to foster innovations that will help address the nursing crisis beyond just what any one foundation can do."

BCBSMF is dedicated to improving the health of Michigan residents through the support of research and innovative health programs. BCBSMF grant programs are conducted in Michigan by Michigan-based researchers and nonprofit organizations to address issues of quality and cost of care, access to care and community health.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the foundation works with organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 30 years the foundation has brought experience, commitment and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves.

Founded in 1997, the Northwest Health Foundation is an independent, charitable foundation committed to advancing, supporting and promoting the health of the people of Oregon and southwest Washington. As part of the foundation's commitment to cultivate a stable, skilled nursing workforce in the region, the foundation invests 30 percent of available funds in collaborative and sustainable solutions, including the development of advocacy and leadership within the nursing community.

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College Of Human Medicine – New Home, New Vision

On January 18, 2007, the MSU Board of Trustees met in Grand Rapids and approved the purchase of land for “The Secchia Center.” This new building, which will be located in downtown Grand Rapids, will serve as the new home of MSU’s College of Human Medicine. A reception and program held at DeVos Place also featured representatives from the West Michigan partners, including Spectrum Health, Saint Mary’s Health System, Van Andel Institute, Grand Valley State University and Grand Action, as well as community partners. Over 500 guests were at the announcement detailing MSU’s vision for a one-of-a-kind model for medical education and research in the 21st Century.

(Right and Below) Guests enjoyed mingling at the reception held at the DeVos Place.



An artist's rendering of The Secchia Center was shared at the program announcement.



Grand Action member Dick DeVos talked with members of the Grand Rapids community at the reception.



President Simon talked with guests before the program.



MSU College of Human Medicine Dean Marsha Rappley (right) shared a moment with guests.

Van Andel Institute Chairman and CEO David Van Andel talked with President Simon at the reception.



Sandy Secchia Aslanian spoke on behalf of her father, Ambassador Peter Secchia, as plans for The Secchia Center were announced. Her parents had been involved in a car accident just days before the announcement and were not able to attend.

Provost Kim Wilcox and MSU Board of Trustees members listen as President Lou Anna K. Simon talks about the medical school of the future.

