EMPOWER EXTRAORDINARY
THE CAMPAIGN for MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Supporting
LYMAN BRIGGS COLLEGE
Collaborating with Global Partners to Build a World of Good

“In 1967, when Lyman Briggs College was founded, we were an experiment in a new approach to teaching science. Today, our work is essential to training scientists who are capable of tackling the world’s complex problems.”

ELIZABETH H. SIMMONS
DEAN, LYMAN BRIGGS COLLEGE
Lyman Briggs College offers a transformative experience that should be accessible to every student, regardless of family resources. We want all students to take part in inquiry-based, scientific research of the highest caliber as well as international courses to build their global perspective. We seek to discover better ways to teach science at the college level, so we can offer the best possible education to our students and share our innovative pedagogy with the world.

To reach these goals, LBC embraces Empower Extraordinary the campaign for Michigan State University. We seek to become an engine of opportunity so that any MSU student can achieve professional success and an understanding of science and the broader societal issues that are crucial for making wise decisions. We will be a force for creativity, discovery, and learning by advancing innovative and effective teaching methods. We will be a global problem solver by combining sciences and humanities through inquiry-based research. And we will build vibrant communities by fostering collaborative learning communities with a common focus. To help us achieve all of this, we will continue hiring superb faculty deeply committed to teaching, research, and our students’ success.

To make our vision a reality, we need to increase private support. We seek to raise $5 million in the campaign. Achieving this goal will enable LBC to provide critical investments in four key areas.
An Engine of OPPORTUNITY

Not every young person thrives in a university amid 49,000-plus other students. LBC places our students in a setting akin to a small, private college where they can take advantage of MSU’s vast resources while still maintaining a closeness with advisors and faculty who are invested in helping students succeed.

LBC is an elite program that is not elitist. We welcome students with a broad range of backgrounds, from those who are still developing their quantitative skills to those who make up over 20 percent of MSU’s Honors College. The LBC difference stems from peer mentoring, small classes designed by dedicated faculty who place a high priority on teaching, and a residential experience that puts students in an environment conducive to deep learning.

The great problems of our world cannot be solved by technical knowledge or scientific training alone. We need people with a solid grounding in science who also understand the broader societal issues and can rise to the unexpected challenges of tomorrow. And those people need scholarships. More financial aid will ensure access to LBC, and greater resources will help us give more of our students international experiences and research opportunities.
OUR FUNDING GOAL TO SUPPORT FUTURE SCIENTISTS IS $750 THOUSAND.

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS $500,000

ENDOWED STUDY ABROAD SUPPORT $250,000

The LBC difference stems from peer mentoring, small classes designed by dedicated faculty who place a high priority on teaching, and a residential experience that puts students in an environment conducive to deep learning.
We constantly strive to discover the most effective teaching methods and incorporate them into our classrooms. This includes everything from utilizing team-based projects and interdisciplinary seminars to mobile polling devices and online office hours. Inquiry-based labs and small, participatory classes at LBC yield creative thinkers who are confident of their problem-solving abilities and adept at teamwork.

LBC is an incubator for world-class teacher-scholars passionate about undergraduate education, and we need support to continue our innovation. Sometimes implementing a better way to teach requires different furniture, computers, mobile devices, or demonstration equipment for the students to try. LBC serves as a proving ground for all of MSU—discovering new ways of effectively educating undergraduates and sharing those methods with the university.

We are always driving our students to probe deeper into the problems they confront: to ask how and why. LBC students cement their intellectual gains by serving as Peer Learning Assistants in our courses. By helping to teach fellow students, Peer Learning Assistants can not only help other undergraduates achieve academic success, but also further their own in-depth study of subjects that spark their intellectual curiosity. Stipends for Peer Learning Assistants will allow students to have access to guided opportunities to share their passion for learning with fellow students.

**A Force for CREATIVITY, DISCOVERY, AND LEARNING**
OUR FUNDING GOAL TO BE AN EVEN GREATER FORCE FOR CREATIVITY, DISCOVERY, AND LEARNING IS $750 THOUSAND.

ENDOWED SCIENCE TEACHING INNOVATION FUND $500,000

ENDOWED LEARNING ASSISTANT SUPPORT $250,000
OUR FUNDING GOAL TO PROVIDE MORE OPPORTUNITIES THAT STRENGTHEN OUR GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE IS $1 MILLION.

ENDOWED RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT $500,000

ENDOWED FUND FOR LAB EQUIPMENT $500,000
We want every LBC student to undertake inquiry-based research of the highest quality as a part of his or her coursework.

A Global Problem Solver

Our graduates are ideally suited to help solve global problems. They not only possess the solid scientific background that one would expect a graduate of a STEM program to have, but also a broad, liberal arts-honed way of thinking. This unique combination allows graduates of LBC to understand the reciprocal relationship between science and society and to pose workable solutions to complex global challenges.

We want every LBC student to undertake inquiry-based research of the highest quality as a part of his or her coursework. A $3,000 stipend allows a student to work over a summer investigating an intriguing, original project directly under the guidance of a faculty member. Not only are these research projects excellent opportunities to expand upon classroom learning over the summer months, but they also enable some students to earn co-authorship on a peer-reviewed, published, academic article—an achievement that can vault them forward in pursuing an advanced degree or career in a STEM field.
Lyman Briggs College is a shining example of a vibrant academic community. The fact that our program is carried out in a residential college setting fosters an intense academic and intellectual hotbed where class discussions and arguments continue out of the classroom and into the night to a degree seldom experienced anywhere else. Creating collaborative spaces in our public areas and learning lounges in Holmes Hall supports this lively learning atmosphere.

To teach cutting-edge science we need high-tech classrooms and resources that will help us continue to research, design, and implement innovative teaching methods. Furnishing a hallway corner or learning lounge with accessible seating, wall boards, or educational technology is a priority if we are to be always ready for the teachable moment.

OVER 60 PERCENT OF LBC FRESHMEN ARE FEMALE, AND NEARLY 20 PERCENT BELONG TO ETHNIC GROUPS THAT ARE UNDER-REPRESENTED IN SCIENCE.
OUR FUNDING GOAL TO BUILD A VIBRANT COMMUNITY IS $2.5 MILLION.

FUNDING PRIORITIES INCLUDE:
- TWO HIGH-TECH CLASSROOMS $500,000
- CURRENT USE FUNDS $500,000
- DEAN’S STRATEGIC ENDOWED FUND $500,000
- ANNUAL FUND $1 MILLION
There is a profound need in our country for the kinds of graduates Lyman Briggs College produces: STEM majors with deep understanding of the sciences who are also grounded in the humanities and can put knowledge of their disciplines into wider context. Finding practical solutions to the world’s problems — and implementing these solutions for the betterment of our local and global communities — will require this kind of expertise.

The impact of LBC is made first and foremost in the broader MSU community. The teaching methods designed and tested in LBC are exported to other departments at MSU and beyond. The scope of LBC’s impact is without limit: graduates go on to address the world’s most urgent challenges, seizing opportunities to benefit the lives of others.

With our comprehensive approach, proven successful over decades of innovation and consistent delivery of high-quality programming, MSU is providing thousands of future leaders and pioneers with a foundation for success. Fulfilling the land-grant mission of MSU, LBC produces graduates bound for success in graduate or professional schools and in careers in STEM fields and beyond.
EIGHTY PERCENT OF OUR GRADUATES EVENTUALLY EARN ADVANCED DEGREES, MAINLY IN STEM FIELDS.
WE RETAIN AND GRADUATE STEM STUDENTS AT A RATE NEARLY DOUBLE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.
The Lyman Briggs College experience is not entirely unique. A student who can pay $60,000 per year to attend an elite private institution can experience much of what a program like LBC has to offer. These, however, are not our students, and we are proud to say that Michigan State University is not an elite private institution.

Offering the LBC kind of educational experience within a public, land-grant university, however, is unique, and worthy of support. We make this intensely successful education available to many people who would otherwise be unable to access it, including first-generation students and groups who are traditionally under-represented in the sciences. For students, for MSU, and for our country, LBC must be kept strong.

With your support, we can bring a fully robust, immersive LBC experience to any student who has the will to succeed. We can provide these promising individuals with a living-learning community where creative thinkers connect multiple scientific disciplines to real world problems with challenging ethical implications. We can prepare students to study emerging issues at the boundaries between established disciplines. Together we can keep MSU at the forefront of an exceptional educational experience.

ELIZABETH H. SIMMONS
DEAN, LYMAN BRIGGS COLLEGE
SPARTANS WILL.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE and EMPOWER EXTRAORDINARY TODAY.

EMPOWER.MSU.EDU
#EmpowerMSU

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COVER IMAGE:
An aquarium of sea anemones used for student research in Lyman Briggs College.