President Lou Anna K. Simon and Dr. Roy J. Simon, Director of Telecommunication and Transportation Systems, visited with donors in August at the Traverse City Opera House at the eighth annual Northern Michigan event. MSU School of Music Professors of Jazz performed for the group. September campus events included the Sesquicentennial Academic Convocation and the President’s Brunch. The convocation featured internationally known speakers, as well as President Simon delivering her vision of MSU’s future, “Boldness by Design.” The annual President’s Brunch featured Provost Kim Wilcox at one of his first campus events. Other speakers included MSU Board of Trustees Chairperson David Porteous, Athletics Director Ron Mason and President Simon.

Donors enjoyed the Traverse City Opera House as the venue for the annual Northern Michigan event. (right)

Guests were entertained by the MSU Professors of Jazz. (below)

Sparty posed with guests at the President’s Brunch.
They met at MAC when she was in her junior year studying music and he had just returned to complete a few courses toward his degree in music after duty in the Army special services. And they shared a passion for music performance—she played the piano and organ, he played the saxophone. While students at MAC, Dick and Ruth performed around mid-Michigan as a saxophone-piano duo on many occasions. Ruth recalls an occasion when Dick received a call from President John Hannah asking them to perform for a group. Not knowing the occasion, they showed up at the appointed hour and place and found 40 to 50 men seated in the room. Later, they discovered that this was a meeting of officials who had assembled in Lansing to give the final vote for MAC to be admitted to the Big Ten. During his college years, Dick formed a 17-piece dance orchestra that performed throughout Michigan.

David Morris, a Grand Ledge, Michigan, farmer, has pledged an estate gift valued at approximately $7.5 million to endow research, teaching and Extension activities within the Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR), Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES).

Morris’ gift will fund four agriculture-related endowments, including:

- **The Betty and David Morris Endowment in Livestock Research.** This fund will provide the MAES with discretionary funds for livestock research, including teaching and research fellowships.
- **The Betty and David Morris Endowment for Support of Programs in Communities, Agriculture and Natural Resources.** This fund will provide support through the MAES and MSUE for programs affecting communities, agriculture and natural resources.
- **The Betty and David Morris Discretionary Fund in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.** This fund will provide sustained support for the college, affording the CANR dean the financial flexibility to seize research, outreach and academic opportunities, and to address critical issues and needs that arise.
- **The Betty and David Morris Chair in State and Local Government Finance and Policy.** This fund will endow an existing position within the Department of Agricultural Economics that works with state and local governments. This faculty position engages in research, education and extension, and is focused on policy analysis that helps governmental units attract people and businesses to communities, improves the efficiency and effectiveness of government services, and advances Michigan’s economic competitiveness.

“It is tremendously gratifying that David Morris has chosen to include Michigan State University in his estate plans,” said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. “His foresight and generosity will provide support to research, outreach and academic programs that meet emerging needs of Michigan citizens.”

David Morris and his late wife, Betty, operated a cash crop and livestock operation focused on feeder cattle, hogs, corn and soybeans.

Dick and Ruth Charles shared attributes of many alumni couples. Both grew up in Michigan—she in Birmingham and he in Detroit.
The Morris farm, which became a Centennial farm in 2000, grew from 245 acres to 1,689 acres under their management. Agriculture research done at MSU contributed to the growth of the Morris farm. Nutrition and disease research helped them raise and sell beef cattle and cultivate corn, wheat and soybean crops. "I can't take any of it with me," he said of their wealth. "I feel privileged to give and help. We're all born to give, whether it's a handshake or a smile."

"Dave Morris' generous planned gift will allow us to leverage other sources of funding to address critical issues," said Jeffrey Armstrong, dean of the CANR. "Mr. Morris is a strong believer in using the fruits of his labor for the betterment of others, and we are honored to have been chosen to help ensure that his and Betty's legacy will enhance Michigan's communities, agriculture and natural resources for generations to come."

By choosing to endow his gifts, the Morris legacy will live on forever. Endowed funds differ from others in that the total amount of the gift is invested. Each year only a portion of the investment income earned is spent, while the remainder adds to the principal growth.

David and Betty Morris have been life-long supporters of MSU; Betty was a 1949 graduate of the College of Business. In fact, the couple were married the very evening that Betty graduated. They were also very involved in their community and active in the Grand Ledge United Methodist Church. Clark Retirement Community, a United Methodist facility in Grand Rapids, will also be a recipient of Morris' generosity.

Morris' planned gift to MSU qualifies him as a member of the Joseph R. Williams Society, recognizing the generosity of individuals who make a commitment of at least $5 million to MSU or a qualifying deferred gift of at least $2 million. The remainder adds to the principal growth.

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For more information about making a gift to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, contact CANR Senior Director of Development Sue Woodard at (517) 355-0284.

Charles continued from cover

During her senior year in February 1947 with snow and ice everywhere, Ruth interviewed for a position as director of music education in Upland, California. She was intrigued with the pictures the interviewer showed her of the mountains, nearby beaches, blue skies and sunshine. She got the job. Dick soon proposed, they graduated, and not knowing a soul in California, the couple headed west along the now infamous Route 66 in a red convertible given to them by his parents. There were very few hotels along the way and Ruth describes the drive west as "primitive." They settled in Glendale.

Thus began the California-Michigan connection for Dick and Ruth Charles. During the first three years after their arrival in California in 1947, the couple offered private music lessons to supplement their income from teaching. They turned their garage into a studio. Business was good. In 1950, their entrepreneurial instincts and musical talents gave them the courage to quit their jobs teaching, expand their business and look for a new business site. They opened the first Charles Music Store—which had six studios for private music lessons—and hired the best music teachers, Ruth insisting that they all have college degrees. Over a four-decade period, the Charles Music Store became the largest owner-operated music store west of the Mississippi. Though the Charleses sold the business in 1989, Ruth continues to share her talents by teaching organ and piano to students of all ages.

When Dick passed away in 1994, an outpouring of gifts from friends, family and colleagues created the Dick Charles Scholarship in Saxophone Studies, the first scholarship in this area in the MSU School of Music. A few years later, the Ruth Minks Charles Scholarship in Piano was established. These two scholarships complement the musical duo Dick and Ruth represent throughout their lives together, preserving a legacy for future generations of MSU students.

In addition to her many civic, community and professional commitments in California and nationally, Ruth continues to find time for MSU, serving as a charter member of the West Coast Regional Council and the College of Arts & Letters Campaign Committee. In 2001, she was the recipient of the MSU College of Arts & Letters Distinguished Alumni Award. She maintains close contact with faculty, staff and students on campus, particularly in the School of Music.

Thus, when considering her gift to The Campaign for MSU, Ruth wanted to continue her support of the School of Music. She has made a $1 million bequest to the proposed new facility for the School of Music, associating the names Dick and Ruth Charles with the next phase in the increasing prominence of the school.

"As I approached my 80th birthday," Ruth said, "it indeed was a time of revelation and reflection on my life and that of my husband, Dick. The timing was right. In the year of our alma mater's 150th anniversary and also the year of my 80th birthday, and in celebration of Dick's life and love of music, people and good food, I have selected the Jazz Bistro in the new music facility to be named the Dick Charles Jazz Bistro. As MSU alumni and friends, our support of this project is paramount to help strengthen the School of Music which we all care about so deeply."

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"Ruth Charles is a fabulous musician, person, and alumna who has been a steadfast friend to the School of Music and MSU over the years. She has opened her home on many occasions for a variety of university endeavors, she has generously supported endowments that have provided access to MSU for more than 20 students to date, she has donated music collections and instruments, and now, her generosity continues with a lead gift to support a new state-of-the-art music facility. She has made a tremendous impact on our program for which we will always be grateful."

"Ruth and Dick Charles exemplify the true Spartan spirit that so many MSU alumni carry with them from their experiences on campus. Making a charitable bequest was one important way for them to give back to MSU."
Michigan State University Black Alumni (MSUBA) celebrated its 25th anniversary on the 2004 Homecoming weekend. At this historic event, it was announced that funds contributed to the MSUBA endowment by MSUBA members had grown to more than $570,000. The MSUBA board of directors approved a “Million Dollar Campaign” to grow this endowment fund to exceed one million dollars by homecoming of 2005, while also contributing toward the $1.2 billion total goal for The Campaign for MSU.

In the mid-1980s, the MSUBA Board felt it was important to establish a fund which would allow them to give scholarships to deserving students. Dennis Miller was the first MSUBA member to establish a named fund along with the MSUBA Endowed Scholarship. “The reason that I was an advocate to get an MSUBA Endowed Scholarship program started, was a desire to see a named scholarship that would make an educational contribution into perpetuity. I decided to make a short term monetary sacrifice in the present—that will benefit others in the future, allowing them an avenue to achieve their goals and dreams,” explained Dennis. “It is my hope that those who have received help from the fund will reciprocate and continue to support the fund for those coming behind them. If we all do our part, we will create a more educated society for each successive generation. My hope is that others will contribute and fund these scholarships to support students who want to make a difference.”

One of President Simon’s top priorities for MSU is to create a more diverse student body, and one of the best ways to accomplish this is through undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships. A wider range of students with varying life experiences will come to East Lansing if MSU has scholarships and fellowships to attract them to our campus.

Ronald Goldsberry, who received his Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1966, is serving as the chair of the Million Dollar Campaign. Dr. Goldsberry currently sits on the MSU Foundation Board of Directors and realizes the importance of growing the endowment to the future of Michigan State University. He has made a personal commitment of $200,000 toward this effort which is designated to the College of Natural Science and the Broad College of Business. He has challenged others to make gifts and pledges of $400,000 which will bring the MSUBA total over the $1 million mark.

For more information about the MSUBA Black Alumni scholarship fund, contact Development Officer Barbara Balf-McClure at (517) 432-7330.

While the focus of the campaign are the MSUBA endowed scholarships and fellowships, the desire is for individuals to give to endowments throughout the university. A perfect example of this is the James T. Garrett, Sr. Memorial MSU Black Alumni Scholarship Endowment. Linda Garrett (Education, ’66) started an endowment in memory of her late husband and has asked friends, family and colleagues to contribute to the fund.

“I established the James T. Garrett, Sr. Memorial Scholarship in memory of my husband who died unexpectedly in 1997 at the age of 54,” explained Linda. “We met at Michigan State and we both graduated with degrees in education.”

The Garretts joined the MSU Black Alumni group the year of its inception and were very proud of the scholarship program. Linda stated, “We both viewed education as a way to improve lives, and we talked about finding a way to give back and help young students.”

When Jim passed away, many people gave monetary gifts, and Linda contacted the University Development office to start the process of establishing a scholarship. When revising her will, she included the James Garrett, Sr. Memorial Scholarship as one of the beneficiaries of the sale of her home. “It was very easy to include Michigan State in my will, and I encourage others to do the same,” Linda stated.

The MSUBA Board of Directors is very involved in this monumental effort, and look forward to celebrating the achievement of the $1 million milestone at Homecoming 2005.

For more information about the MSUBA Black Alumni scholarship fund, contact Development Officer Barbara Balf-McClure at (517) 432-7330.
One of the areas of focus for The Campaign for MSU is to raise much needed money for endowed scholarships and endowed student-activity funds. Endowed scholarships are an excellent way to acknowledge the outstanding education offered at MSU, and a sub-goal of the campaign is to raise $450 million toward our endowment.

In endowed funds, the total amount of a gift is invested. Each year, only a portion of the investment income earned is spent while the remainder adds to principal growth. In this respect, an endowment is a perpetual gift, and university administrators are stressing the need to continually increase funds designated as endowment.

The gifts highlighted below have contributed to the total of $280.4 million raised for endowment as of October 3, 2005.

**LUTZ GIFT BENEFITS SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

Michigan State University is a subject Meritt Lutz (Advertising, ‘65; Social Science, ‘67) loves to talk about. “After all, MSU is where my wife, Candy (Arts & Letters, ‘66), and I met,” he said. Meritt is quick to add that his years at MSU were some of the best of his life. They are thankful that many of their closest friends today are a result of their contact with the School of Music.

Meritt and Candy recently pledged leadership support for The Spartan Championship Drums Endowment Fund as well as the proposed new facility for the School of Music where they have chosen to name both the Drums Endowment Fund as well as the Lutz Gift Benefits School of Music.

Percussion Faculty Office. Meritt was a snare drummer in the Spartan Marching Band (SMB) from 1963-1966 and led the drumline his last three years. “I wanted to be in the Spartan Drumline from as far back as I can remember. Why? Because they were the best,” he stated.

“So I was accepted to MSU. I played in the drumline, I received a music scholarship even though I was not a music major, and I marched under Leonard Falcone. I was living my dream,” that dream continued when he and the band went to the Rose Bowl, marched in the World’s Fair parade in New York and performed in the presidential inaugural celebration in Washington, D.C.

The Spartan Championship Drums Endowment Fund was the brainchild of discussions between Meritt and some of the other 1966 drumline alumni. “SMB Director John Saddler always says that you can’t have a great marching band without a great drumline,” said Meritt. Some of us felt that it was important to provide support specifically for the drumline program at MSU. It’s the best, and we want to insure that it remains that way.”

After consulting with Director Madden and Jon Weber, the percussion instructor who works with the drumline, Meritt facilitated establishing the fund and also personally contacted others to ask for their support. The endowment now provides money annually for scholarships, drumline competitions and exhibitions, and travel expenses for SMB Drumline and the Competition Drumline. Meritt encourages anyone who has enjoyed the SMB or drumline to add to the endowed fund so that others can continue to share this wonderful experience.

“Meritt Lutz’s long standing emotional and financial support has enabled us to continue the great tradition of marching percussion at MSU,” said SMB Director Madden. “Meritt is committed to MSU’s growth and the growth of the Spartan Marching Band. He remains very proud of the current SMB, however, I believe he is most proud of the continuing excellence of the current drumline and its talented members. It is simply a great tradition. He cares immensely about the drumline’s quality and commitment to state-of-the-art excellence.”

Meritt is quick to point out that music is and always has been a part of his life, and Candy’s. Besides being a member of the SMB, Meritt also played in the top concert band while attending MSU.

Meritt and Candy now reside in New York City. Meritt has been with Morgan Stanley for eleven years where he is Advisory Director, Chairman, MSIT Holdings, Inc. He is a director on the boards of two public and three private companies. They are season subscribers to Carnegie Hall, New York City Opera, and two Broadway Series of not-for-profit theater. “New York is a great place for great music and we take advantage of that every chance we get,” he remarked.

Meritt also serves on the School of Music Advisory Board at MSU. The reason behind his commitment to the new facilities project for the school is a simple one. He stated, “We have a world-class School of Music here that has simply outgrown its facility. We cannot continue to attract the most talented students and distinguished faculty when competing institutions can offer them a state-of-the-art learning environment.”

The Lutz’s appreciation of their educational experiences at MSU prompted them to endow these gifts. As a result, future students and faculty can learn and teach in a state-of-the-art facility while scholarship money attracts the best and brightest students.

**SELINGER & MOSKOVIS BEQUEST PROV**

Dot Selinger’s story is classic MSU. As a self-described “farm kid” who came to this Big Ten university and felt immediately at home, she wisely took advantage of the expertise and counseling of Michigan State University professors and turned these experiences into a successful business career with IBM.

Dot (Business Education, ’59 & ’62) and her husband, Mike Moskovis (Ph.D., Business Education, ’57), are both retired, Dot from IBM and Mike from Western Michigan University. They are longtime donors who had already made major contributions to MSU. Now, through an extremely generous charitable bequest, they have taken their commitment to MSU to a new level.

Dot and Mike, who live in New Castle, Delaware, have designated the MSU Museum, the MSU Archives & Historical Collections, the Eli Broad College of Business and the Office of Admissions and Scholarships as the recipients of their gifts. Each of the funds will be endowed.

The story of a young man and woman meeting at Michigan State University, falling in love, getting married and raising a family of young Spartans is as old as…well, as old as MSU. Not every MSU love story, however, includes a gift that will last forever.

Mark and Barbara Amo’s story does include such a gift. Mark and Barbara met while both were attending MSU in the late 1960’s. Mark received his bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and Barbara received hers in Education. “MSU truly was our first home, and the Spartan spirit became ingrained in our hearts and souls forever,” said Mark of their time in East Lansing.

While they moved on with their careers and family, Mark with DaimlerChrysler and Barbara as a teacher, they never forgot Michigan State and continued to stay connected. “We continuously visit the campus, have been giving regular donations, and have supported MSU through our employers,” Mark explained.

Mark’s involvement includes serving as a volunteer solicitor with the DaimlerChrysler
In memory of their dear friend Stanley Hollander, Gil and Susie established an endowment from which proceeds will be divided between the James B. Henry Center for Executive Development and the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain Management. The late Dr. Hollander was an admired teacher, colleague and friend fondly remembered for his wit and positive outlook on life. As testament to their support for the selection of President Lou Anna K. Simon as the first woman president at this critical time in MSU's history, a gift was directed to the Libraries' Faculty Book Collection. The Faculty Collection is a favorite source of value of President Simon and the Harrells. The Faculty Collection encompasses an immensely valuable collection of all areas that represent the broad scope of the faculty's scholarly works. These books reflect the university's commitment to the highest standards of research and the communication of knowledge.

As a reflection of their family's interest in film, they have created an endowment that will fund film collections in multiple discipline areas, including the acquisition of books about film as an art form and a science, and any effort to promote the understanding and appreciation of films. Gil and Susie have generously established these endowments for the MSU community. They are university citizens who are deeply committed to leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit those who follow. Their gifts will impact future students and the MSU community in many disciplines for generations to come.

In celebration of years of association with Michigan State University, Susanna F. (Adams) Harrell (Susie) and Dr. Gilbert D. Harrell (Gil), Professor of Marketing and Supply Chain Management, established ten endowments with a significant charitable bequest. After careful consideration, they decided their legacy should benefit a large number of students, faculty and programs at MSU and honor the selection of the first woman president of MSU, Lou Anna K. Simon. Their hope is that these endowments will ensure a steady stream of funding for efforts that are dear to their hearts.

Both Michigan natives and graduates of MSU, two undergraduate scholarships were established for graduates from their respective high schools; one for a Marketing & Supply Chain Management major from Big Rapids High School and another for a Music major from Williamston High School.

Susie’s interest in rare books and high regard for books as cultural treasures began when she worked in the Rare Books Collection at MSU. Therefore, the Harrells have established an endowment for the conservation of rare books. The fund also allows the use of technology to save the intellectual content of rare books that cannot be conserved.

Frequently present at MSU music venues, their enjoyment of music prompted two discretionary endowments: one for the School of Music for community engagement in support of both classical and popular music and the other for the Wharton Center arts education program. Susie and Gil hope that the Wharton Center and the School of Music will continue to enrich the lives of children who otherwise might not have the financial means to attend performances. They believe music and performing arts are central to greater cultural appreciation in our society.

Gil and Susie are also avid sports fans. Great admirers of student-athletes, they wanted to establish an endowment to help student-athletes reach full academic potential. A discretionary endowment in support of non-revenue generating Olympic sports was created along with an endowment for the Clara Bell Smith Student-Athlete Academic Support Center.

The two other areas that will benefit from their bequest are the Eli Broad College of Business and the Office of Admissions and Scholarships. Dot and Mike will establish a scholarship honoring Dot’s parents, John and Catherine Selinger, for one student each year from Capac, Michigan, where Dot attended high school.

With all four endowments, Dot and Mike have demonstrated a keen insight into the university’s needs. “Endowments are not as big a splash as a one-time gift, perhaps,” Dot said, “but they suit our view that MSU is a long-term proposition. These endowments go way beyond our generation, and funding has to be planned with the long term in mind.”
The Campaign for MSU Reaches Billion Dollar Milestone

Michigan State University recently announced that The Campaign for MSU, our ambitious fundraising project publicly launched three years ago, has surpassed the $1 billion mark. The ultimate goal is to reach $1.2 billion by 2007, which includes a goal of raising $450 million in endowment.

“Passing this important milestone is a true testament to the belief that our alumni, friends, corporations and foundations, and our own faculty, staff and retirees have in the future of Michigan State University,” said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon at an event to announce the accomplishment, a first in MSU’s history.

“MSU is now among an elite group of universities which has reached the milestone of raising $1 billion from private sources,” added MSU Vice President for University Development Chuck Webb. “And among those universities, we are only the third public university, along with Berkeley and Purdue, to reach that amount without the added fundraising benefit of a major on-campus medical/research center. This is an accomplishment of which we all can be very proud.”

Part of what makes the billion dollar mark such a great accomplishment for MSU is knowing where much of the giving has come from, and perhaps more importantly, the people who will benefit on campus in countless ways.

“So much has been accomplished since the start of the campaign,” said MSU Associate Vice President and Director of University Development Marth Heil. “We have had new buildings constructed, old buildings renovated, numerous new scholarships created, key faculty positions added, and improvements made in laboratories and other spaces for students. It is incredible the amount of enthusiasm we have seen and the level of generosity among our alumni, friends and individuals, as well as corporations and foundations. Now, we need to keep moving forward to reach and exceed the $1.2 billion goal, and to meet our endowment and planned-giving goals.”

Admittedly, a fundraising campaign of this magnitude could not succeed without numerous donors who have the capability of making significant gifts coming forward to lead the way. Although MSU was among the last in the Big Ten to begin organizing its fundraising efforts, a sign of the progress made over the past several years has been the increasing number of gifts of $1 million or more given to the university each year. Since July 1999 when the campaign’s silent phase began, the university has received 27 gifts in excess of $5 million, and another 120 gifts in excess of $1 million. At the time of the announcement, these donors alone had given more than $650 million of the $1 billion raised for Michigan State University.

“These results would not have been possible without the continued hard work and support of the academic leadership and staff of each of the university’s colleges and programs,” President Simon said. “It’s a team effort, and I thank deans, directors, faculty and staff for all of their hard work.”

Not too faint in the distance, just slightly behind the celebratory tone in announcing the billion dollar milestone, was the drumbeat signaling more work to be done. The generosity of the entire MSU family has certainly placed the university in lofty company, but like all great Spartan initiatives, there is no satisfaction in getting part way there.

The more people who give what they can, the more scholarships can be created to help students in need. The more needs are met with enthusiastic and generous support, the more MSU faculty can conduct cutting-edge research and the more MSU can reach out to help communities around the country and across the globe as it has done throughout its history.

More information about MSU’s billion dollar milestone can be found at http://special.newsroom.msu.edu/billionmark/ and more information on The Campaign for MSU can be found at www.givingto.msu.edu.

A New Era In Spartan Stadium Begins

The Spartan Stadium Club Suites and Seats officially opened for the 2005 MSU Football season, much to the delight of hundreds of donors and fans who witnessed a decisive win over Kent State from their new seats.

The recently completed construction project added twenty-four luxury suites, eight hundred and sixty-two club seats in the LaSalle Bank Club, and new press and media facilities. When fully completed, the new building will provide office space for University Development, the MSU Foundation, the MSU Alumni Association and Career Services & Placement, as well as new recruiting rooms and facilities for MSU Athletics. Revenue from the suites and seats supports athletic scholarships, in addition to maintaining the facility.

“I like to support the university, and I’m proud of the university,” said Jim Williams (Social Science, ’71), a LaSalle Bank Club seats holder and president of Williams Kitchen & Bath in Grand Rapids, Michigan. “Those two things were a big part of my preliminary decision to be a part of the club area. Now, having experienced the seats, it is clearly a great opportunity to entertain friends and business associates and a terrific area to visit with other Spartans and connect others with the university. It creates a very positive environment, and it will be beneficial to long term success, within athletics and the general university.”

When entering the building on the west side of Spartan Stadium, visitors are first impressed with the grand three story entrance which also serves as the new home for the original “Sparty” statue.

President Lou Anna K. Simon talked about the accomplishment of surpassing $1 billion in The Campaign for MSU. Provost Kim Wilcox congratulated sophomore Cierra Preberry for her involvement in the College of Education as a Broad Scholarship recipient. (above)
DEVELOPMENTS

www.givingto.msu.edu

award-winning supplier in the OEM interior trim components industry.

The LaSalle Bank Club seats were built where the old press box was located. It features comfortable chair back seating between the 10-yard lines. By design, the seats are outside but covered by the upper deck which allows the area to be heated and protected from the elements.

Club seat holders have elevator access to an 18,500 square foot indoor club with upscale food and beverage service, television monitors and private restrooms.

“Our guests had such a good time in this new space,” Olinzock said. “We anticipate future events will help continue to build valued relationships and be well worth the investment.”

Three, five and seven year leases are available for the Spartan Stadium Suites and LaSalle Bank Club Seats. For more information, please contact the Ralph Young Fund office (517) 432-4610.

A $500,000 grant to the College of Communication Arts and Sciences from the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation will enhance the Ellis N. Brandt Professorship in Public Relations and raise it to the level of endowed chair. This position is held by Charles Salmon, who was named dean of the college on June 7, 2005.

“Establishing the Brandt Lectureship and the Brandt Research Assistantship and elevating the existing faculty position to the Ellis N. Brandt Chair adds substance and luster to an excellent program,” said MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon.

The endowment originally was established by the Gerstacker Foundation to honor Ellis N. (Ned) Brandt, a vice president of the foundation and a graduate of MSU’s College of Communication Arts and Sciences. The added endowment funds will support research activities, an annual “Brandt Lectureship on Public Relations and the Public Interest” and a graduate research assistantship.

“This endowment will have a lasting impact on our university, and further strengthen our research and graduate programs in public relations,” Dean Salmon said.

For more information about making a gift to the College of Communication Arts & Sciences, contact Development Director Brenda Bets at (517) 432-5672.

A $1.5 million grant from the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation and a $250,000 gift from the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation are supporting the renovation of science laboratories in Holmes Hall, home of the Lyman Briggs School of Science.

“As a result, we were able to complete phase one of construction in time for the 2005 fall semester,” MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon said of the gifts.

“Lyman Briggs students returned in August to two new state-of-the-art science laboratories in which to learn.”

The renovations will upgrade two biology labs, two chemistry labs and associated supply and prep rooms. The project also includes relocating the physics laboratory and creating offices for additional faculty required to teach added students. When completed, the Rollin M. Gerstacker Laboratories and the Charles J. Strosacker Laboratory will provide contemporary, safe teaching facilities for emerging scientific fields; flexible and technologically advanced classrooms; modernized ventilation, electrical, disposal and gas systems; and improved student/faculty research space.

“This renovation project will dramatically modernize existing facilities and create additional laboratories,” said Elizabeth Simmons, director of the Lyman Briggs School of Science. “The new lab classrooms will allow 25 percent more undergraduates to enroll in Briggs, where students enjoy smaller class sizes, do research with teams of fellow students, study the societal context of science and have more interaction with professors.”

Both foundations are based in Midland, Michigan. The Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation was established by Eda U. Gerstacker in 1957 in memory of her husband. Also in 1957, Charles J. Strosacker, one of the pioneers of Dow Chemical Company, established a foundation to assist and benefit political subdivisions of the State of Michigan, and religious, charitable, benevolent, scientific and educational organizations.

The Lyman Briggs School opened in 1967 as a residential college with a math and science focus.

For more information about making a gift to the Lyman Briggs School, contact College of Natural Science Development Director Suzette Hittner at (517) 353-1637. For information about corporate and foundation gifts, contact Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Lucille Fallon at (517) 355-8257.

For more information about making a gift to the College of Communication Arts & Sciences, contact Development Director Brenda Bets at (517) 432-5672.