

# DEVELOPMENTS

FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



FALL 2014



The Bright  
**Stuff**

Turn a corner, walk down a corridor or stroll through a garden and discover something unexpected. Works of art—many of them meaningful gifts from donors—add character and beauty across the MSU campus and within its buildings. This graceful sculpture, a gift from Selma ('62 B, '65 M, Arts & Letters) and the late Stanley (Business faculty) Hollander, greets patrons entering Wharton Center and invites the eye to take in the subtle charm of the grounds beyond.



# DEVELOPMENTS

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## DEVELOPMENTS

For Donors and Friends of Michigan State University

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

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### Online Extra

Beginning in early October, explore the first in a series of videos featuring MSU graduate students and their work at [www.msu.edu/gradfactor](http://www.msu.edu/gradfactor)



Graduate fellowship support brings some of the brightest and best graduate students to MSU, across 200 disciplines. See page 8.

The generosity of thousands of alumni and friends empowers MSU to advance knowledge and transform lives every day.

### Ways to Support Michigan State

#### Online Giving

You may make a gift securely online using your credit card. Visit [givingto.msu.edu](http://givingto.msu.edu).

#### Cash, Stock, Real Estate and other gifts

To explore how you might provide financial support to MSU, contact the University Development office in your college or unit, or call (517) 884-1000.

#### Estate Planning

To remember MSU in your will or personal trust, qualified retirement plan or IRA, contact the Office of Gift Planning at (800) 232-4678 or (517) 884-1000. The correct reference is: Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan and the federal tax identification number is 38-6005984. If you have already named MSU in your estate plans, please contact us so we can welcome you to the Linda E. Landon Legacy Society. For more information, go to [giftplanning.msu.edu](http://giftplanning.msu.edu).



## Stars of Wharton Center

Some of the biggest stars of Broadway never appear on stage. They are recognized because their leadership and achievements warrant it, not because they seek it. MSU's Wharton Center for Performing Arts is fortunate to have such a star in Auto-Owners Insurance.

At the 2014 annual conference of the League of American Theatres and Producers, Auto-Owners received the Star of Touring Broadway Award in recognition of their support of Wharton Center.

"With almost \$1 million in support since their initial involvement in 1998, Auto-Owners makes sure the show goes on," says Michael Brand, executive director of Wharton Center.

Since the late 1990s, they have provided local underwriting

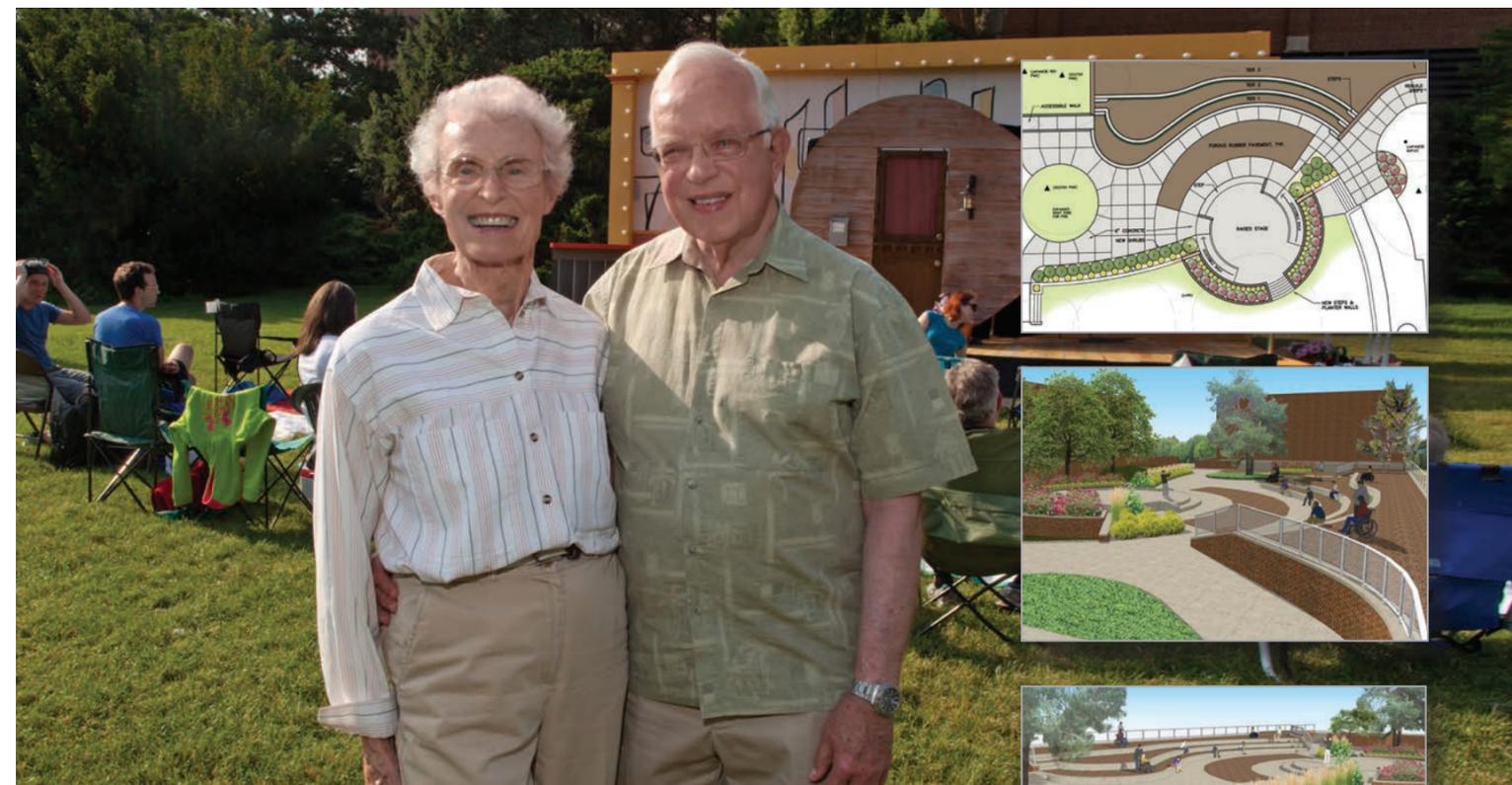
of Broadway shows. In 2008, as Wharton Center began a capital campaign for the first renovation since opening in 1982, Auto-Owners was one of the first to step forward with a gift of \$250,000. They stepped forward again with another donation of \$250,000 in 2013.

Jeff Harrold, chairman and CEO of Auto-Owners Insurance explains, "Auto-Owners has called Michigan home since our beginning in 1916. We believe it is important to support the communities where our associates, policyholders and independent agents representing Auto-Owners work and live. Wharton Center is an important part of communities throughout the state of Michigan and, therefore, a natural fit for us."



## A Green & White Evening

In July, donors and guests celebrated MSU's initiatives in Northern Michigan at a reception with President Lou Anna K. Simon at The Boat House in Harbor Springs. Hosts Ward ('72, Business) and Mari Margaret Walstrom are pictured here with President Simon (second from left) and MSU College of Law Board Member Linda Orlans ('87, Law) (far right).



Mary and Sam Austin were among the first to arrive for MSU's Summer Circle Theatre last June and two of the first to contribute to the theatre's new and improved home.

## WHERE DRAMATIC FLAIR MEETS THE GREAT OUTDOORS

### MSU opens new \$1.2 million outdoor theatre

Sam and Mary Austin arrived for their last night of the 2014 season fortified with bug spray, sun protection, snacks and their own lawn chairs.

They enjoyed the early, suitable-for-all-ages performance, an MSU original by faculty member Rob Roznowski, followed by a campy Broadway musical parody that inspired the crowd to a standing ovation. They stayed on for a late night finale of one-acts based on cult classic horror stories.

Sam and Mary say they are looking forward to MSU's next season of outstanding outdoor drama...sans lawn chairs.

The Austins have been ardent supporters of Summer Circle Theatre for fifty years and counting. In 2011 they suggested to George Peters, then chair of the Department of Theatre, that they would like to see a new permanent home

for Summer Circle and would help to fund it; this idea was endorsed by Kirk Domer when he became department chair. Their lead gift has now resulted in the just completed, state-of-the-art \$1.2 million outdoor theatre at MSU.

The new performance facility, located in a courtyard between the Kresge Art Center and the Auditorium Building, features three tiers of built-in seating for 400 surrounding a circular sub-stage. Rubberized and porous flooring allows rain water to pass right through.

As longtime members of the MSU community—he the former head of MSU's cyclotron, and she, a former university staff member—Sam and Mary know that outdoor performances add mightily to the vibrancy of MSU life. They wanted to make sure there was a permanent, high quality and accessible home for outdoor theatre.

The Austins' leadership inspired

several other past faculty to support the project: Gretal Geist Rutledge, former costume faculty and widow of the late Frank Rutledge, theatre founder; Linda Nelson, retired faculty from the Department of Human Development and Family Studies; and Selma Hollander, alumnus of the Department of Art, Art History and Design and widow of the late Stanley Hollander, a faculty member in the College of Business, all joined the Austins with major gifts.

Friends of Theatre, a community organization dedicated to supporting MSU's Department of Theatre, also committed \$100,000 to the project.

**Contributions are still being sought to complete the funding of the project. To learn more, contact Director of Development Bridget Paff at [paff@msu.edu](mailto:paff@msu.edu) or call (517) 353-4725**



## Orchestrating a Musical Legacy

Some of the most beloved theatrical music, from Broadway classics to Hollywood movies, has come together under the attentive eye—and ear—of alumnus William David Brohn ('55, Music).

A music theory graduate of the College of Music, Brohn's celebrated career includes arranging and orchestrating music for *Ragtime*—for which he won a Tony Award—*Les Miserables*, *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*, *Mary Poppins*, *Wicked*, *Oklahoma!*, *Miss Saigon*, *The Sweet Smell of Success* and many others.

At MSU, he says, his eyes were first opened to the possibilities that giving his life to music might bring. He hopes to pass that on to the next generation.

Brohn established the Alexander Schuster Endowed Principal Violinist Award for student scholarships, has taught master classes on the future of musical theater and is a charter member of the College of Music National Leadership Council. A member of the Jonathan L. Snyder Society, he recently contributed \$50,000 to renovate a space in the Music Building as a professional-quality Green Room for musicians performing in Cook Recital Hall.

"For me, it is trying to pass something on to a younger person who is going forward," Brohn says. "The only kind of payback is to pay forward."

See the whole story at <http://msutoday.msu.edu/sagas/2014/orchestrating-a-musical-legacy/>

## TAKING FLIGHT WITH ROTC

by Paula M. Davenport



After seeing her in highly decorated Air Force uniform, it may be hard to believe that Lt. Gen. Judith Fedder ('80, Agriculture and Natural Resources) initially pursued a white-coat career in dietary research and hospital administration.

But a serendipitous moment during her freshman year at Michigan State University gave flight to a different direction.

"I happened to see a group of Army ROTC cadets run by in formation, in uniform, and it immediately seemed familiar," recalls Fedder, who'd grown up on Army bases before her parents put down roots in Manistee.

Fedder joined MSU's Air Force ROTC detachment—back in the days of classic Quonset huts.

Senior year she applied for pilot training.

"When I didn't qualify because I was two inches too short I decided to ask for the career field that would get me on the flight line and closest to flight ops—aircraft maintenance. It turned out to be a very good choice and I love it," she says.

Today, Fedder is Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support at U.S. Air Force Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

It is such a fulfilling career that she and her husband, an Air Force retiree, have created an endowment to support future cadets of MSU AFROTC Detachment 380.

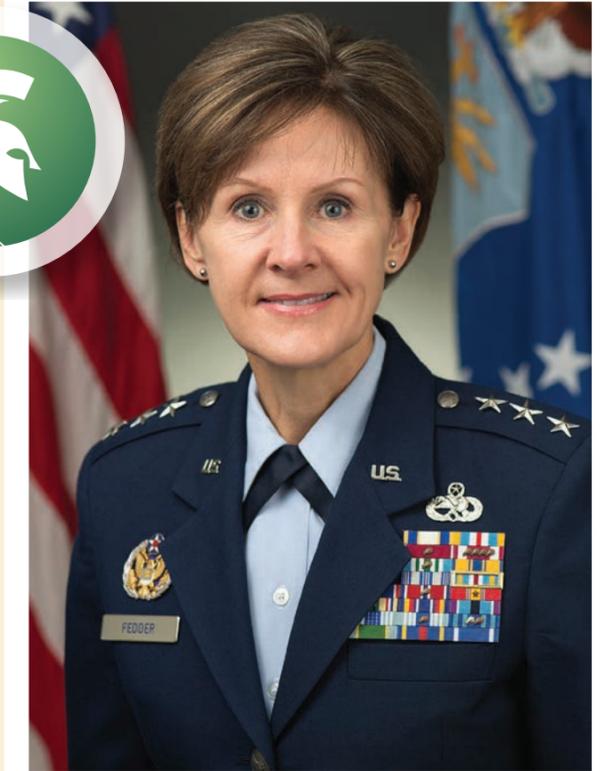
She's grateful for her officer training corps experiences. "ROTC provided leadership opportunity, a focus on physical fitness, and a sense of team accomplishment that inspired me to really stretch myself and get out of my 'comfort zone' as I entered active duty."

Where can today's young men and women go as a result of ROTC? "The sky's the limit," she says, "no pun intended. With a degree from MSU, the ROTC programs offer a military commission and incredible opportunities. The Air Force is particularly interested in engineering disciplines and of course, those with a desire to lead, follow and serve."

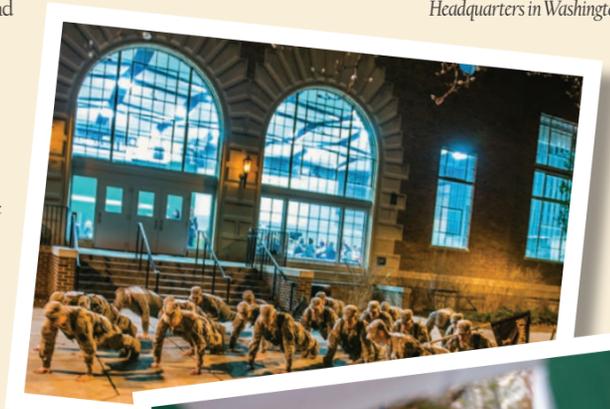
In fact, our nation depends on its bright, dedicated service men and women.

Through the Fedder Endowment for Air Force ROTC at MSU, Spartan students will benefit from additional support as they pursue their military careers.

"I am proud to be a Spartan," she says. "My husband shares in my delight at being able to give back to the university that gave me so many opportunities. I join others who are making that possible for young men and women who want to do something they never thought possible."



Lt. Gen. Judith Fedder is Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support at U.S. Air Force Headquarters in Washington, D.C.



# JAMMING WITH JAZZ GIANTS

MSUFCU endowment brings top artists to Michigan

Trumpet virtuoso Jon Faddis encourages the next generation of jazz musicians during a master class made possible by the MSU Federal Credit Union Jazz Artist in Residence Program at MSU.



Called “one of America’s best jazz programs” by legendary jazz icon Branford Marsalis, the Jazz Studies Program in MSU’s College of Music has amplified its reach with a new artist in residence initiative, thanks to a \$1 million endowment from the MSU Federal Credit Union.

The endowment is enabling the college to offer a plethora of live performances and opportunities for students and communities across Michigan to learn from some of the world’s most notable jazz musicians.

In the 2013-14 inaugural year, three artists in residence presented dozens of workshops and performances to connect with 650-plus students and more than 7,200 patrons. The lineup of jazz masters included Antonio Hart, considered one of the top alto saxophonists in jazz today; composer, educator and Dizzy Gillespie protégé Jon Faddis, characterized by *The Wall Street Journal* as “a trumpet player of prodigious lyrical force;” and drummer and master teacher Jeff “The Hammer” Hamilton.

Each residency includes a week spent teaching and touring with MSU’s Professors of Jazz and their students. The tour stops help inspire and strengthen music programs in schools and communities throughout the state.

“This was by far the highlight of my 12-plus years teaching,” says Greg Wells, director of Northview High School Band in Grand Rapids, of a concert and educational visit by Faddis and MSU’s Jazz Orchestra One.

Plans are under way for an equally impressive lineup next year including Christian McBride, jazz bassist, composer, arranger, educator, curator and administrator; trombonist Robin Eubanks of the critically acclaimed Dave Holland Quintet; and jazz guitarist Peter Bernstein, a mainstay of the New York jazz scene since 1989.

**Go to [music.msu.edu/news-archive/jazzresidents](http://music.msu.edu/news-archive/jazzresidents) to learn more. For more information on making a gift to the College of Music, contact Director of Development Rebecca Surian at [surian@msu.edu](mailto:surian@msu.edu) or by calling (517) 353-9872.**

# CONSTRUCTING A BETTER FUTURE

by Christina Schaffer

**More Spartans will build the structures where we live, work, recover, travel, vacation and play—thanks to an endowment for the Construction Management Program being created through the estate plans of Steven and Kristine Black (both '91, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources).**

Motivated by MSU’s Construction Management Program that provided the foundation for Steve’s success in the industry, the Barrington, Illinois couple has seen the important role construction plays in driving the local, state and national economy.

“There is much at stake in a construction project; beyond the dollars, there is the environment, people’s lives and livelihoods, relationships with all manner of entities from municipalities to contractors, to owners, to design and engineering firms and professionals, to suppliers and vendors. It is a complex and challenging industry,” Steve says.

Steve and Kris met on campus and got married at the Alumni Chapel. Steve was a player on two Big Ten Championship football teams. He says the team experience at MSU translated directly into his career in construction—lots of hard work alongside people with different backgrounds and experiences, all working toward common goals.

“Education is a key ingredient to a successful life. Learning how to learn is what education is truly about and MSU provided that for both of us. A degree is not the finish line. It represents a major milestone along the road of lifelong learning,” Steve says.

Kris’s passion for MSU started at an early age as her dad worked as an officer and detective at the MSU Police department.

“It is beautiful, the people are awesome, and I had no reason to look elsewhere. There is nothing more breathtaking than north campus on a crisp fall day, especially football mornings—simply cannot be duplicated, anywhere!” Kris says. Kris says her two passions are MSU and Mystic Lake YMCA Camp, where she was a staffer during high school and college summers, and currently serves on the alumni committee.

“We are happy to support those things which hold importance and meaning for us,” Steve says. “I would say my MSU experience was the foundation of my adult life, which sounds a bit over the top to some when I look back. We’re both proud Spartans and are fortunate to be able to ‘pay it forward’ for future Spartans.”

*Kris and Steve Black created the Black Family Building Your Future Scholarship Endowment for students in MSU’s Construction Management Program.*





# The Bright Stuff

*MSU graduate students contribute mightily to the research, teaching and discovery happening at the university. The availability of graduate fellowship support makes a difference in attracting the brightest and best to work side-by-side with MSU's faculty.*

## CHANGING THE WORLD, ONE FELLOWSHIP AT A TIME

*by Lois Furry*

**If you were charged with assembling a dream team to solve a critical problem, no doubt you would look for great thinkers and experts to help lead the effort. But you also would want to inject fresh perspective with motivated new stars eager to help lead in bold, new directions.**

A collaborative environment, where emerging scholars are shaped and put to the test by experienced faculty, is perhaps a university's greatest asset when it comes to generating new ideas and innovation.

And graduate students are at the core of what makes such academic dream teams click.

Beyond earning degrees in preparation for their own careers, MSU's graduate students are often the driving force behind new investigations. They work alongside faculty, enabling the research that helps teams translate their creative ideas for both the academic and business marketplaces. In fact, outstanding graduate students are essential to attracting the most talented faculty to join team MSU.

Students at the graduate level also are critical to the education of undergraduate students.

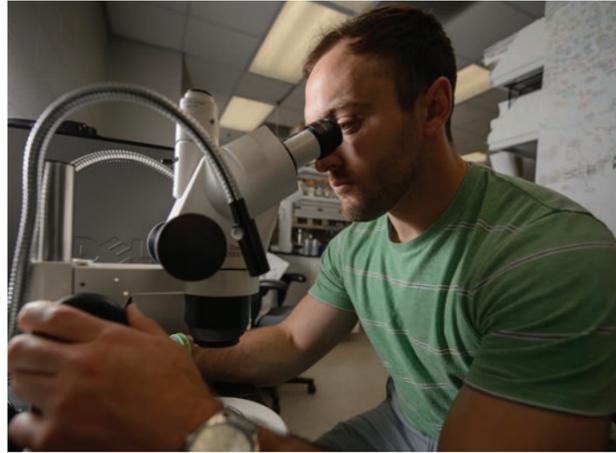
Moreover, when you mix all these energetic, high-aspiring people into a dynamic learning environment focused on solving big problems, magic happens.

"The advanced education that our students receive in their graduate programs is put into practice in every sector of society," says Karen L. Klomparens, associate provost for Graduate Education and dean of the Graduate School at MSU. "Similarly, the research that is conducted by all doctoral students and many master's degree students, along with their faculty advisors, results in important improvements in K-12 education, food and health, agriculture, nursing, social work, engineering and business processes, environmental and energy concerns, our understanding of ourselves and of our society and culture, as well as all the other research areas at MSU."

As the magic within faculty research and teaching continues to grow, so must the university's graduate programs. That's why providing more graduate fellowships to attract and retain the best graduate students is a high priority at MSU. The following MSU graduate fellows are but four examples to illustrate how private support is making a difference in bringing the very best to MSU—and in building a brighter future for us all.



Derrick Stobaugh, the Krueger Distinguished fellow, is bringing data analysis to bear on health care practices.



Dan Hollern, the Aitch fellow, recently published in Breast Cancer Research.

### FIRST DONOR-FUNDED UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIP

Derrick Stobaugh, a neuroscientist and highly skilled data analyst, believes the work he'll do as a graduate student at MSU will help define him as a health care researcher—which in turn will allow him to have a direct impact on how medicine is practiced.

Derrick is the first Krueger Fellow at MSU, and has entered an interdisciplinary College of Social Science and College of Business doctoral major in MSU's top-ranked Industrial and Organizational Psychology program.

Two MSU alumni, Blake ('75, Honors College, Business) and Mary ('77, Natural Science; '79, Engineering) Krueger of Grand Rapids, created MSU's first donor-funded University Distinguished Graduate Fellowship.

Professor Steve Kozlowski was impressed with Derrick's research and scholarly leadership, and the strong recommendations of former teachers and mentors. He saw numerous ongoing projects at MSU where Derrick's research interests and experiences would be invaluable. He also knew that a student like Derrick would be heavily recruited by other institutions.

"The strength and reputation of our program—that we are ranked number one, not only in the U.S. but internationally—helps us to recruit top students," Kozlowski says. "However, given his distinguished record, other top-tier programs were likely to offer substantial funding packages. The Krueger Fellowship definitely enhanced our advantage in successfully recruiting Derrick to our program."

Derrick's career in neuroscience started in research to help curb drug addiction. That led to a position analyzing FDA data from millions of patients to clarify the safety profile of some very potent, but also beneficial new medications, he says. It was important work, but he felt detached from patient care.

"Just because I published my discoveries didn't mean it was going to change practice, or that attention would be paid to the literature," he says.

A position on the Clinical Analytics Team at Chicago-area NorthShore University HealthSystem changed all of that.

"I was given the opportunity to evaluate how medicine was being practiced and my findings were being put into practice, directly helping patients," he says.

Graduate school was the next logical step on his journey to make a difference in people's lives.

"Leveraging my background to help people and to work on very pressing and fascinating problems is a dream come true," Derrick says.

Blake Krueger graduated as a member of MSU's Honors College in 1975 with a B.A. in business administration. He currently serves as chairman of the Board, CEO and president of Wolverine World Wide, Inc.

Mary Krueger received B.S. degrees in 1977 and 1979 from the MSU colleges of Natural Science and Engineering, respectively. She is a retired engineer from the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality. Both Kruegers are active volunteers in the West Michigan community.

"It is our hope that this fellowship endowment will allow MSU to attract graduate students that they would not have otherwise been able to bring to study at

Michigan State," says Blake. "It is important for us that our alma mater continues to be able to compete at the highest levels in graduate education."

### COURTING A CURE FOR CANCER

Young alumni are not commonly thinking about the possibilities they hold for giving back to the world through funding a graduate fellowship. But Lauren Aitch ('09, Communication Arts and Sciences) is very uncommon.

A standout center on the MSU women's basketball team, Aitch turned pro after college, taking her game to Europe. She also founded a women's clothing line, Lady Aitch, and earned her master's degree at MSU.

Lauren used the competitive drive that she developed on the basketball court to take on a much larger opponent: cancer. She started the Aitch Foundation after six members of her family were affected by various forms of the disease and three of them died from it. Though it's less than five years old, the Aitch Foundation is providing annual support for an advanced graduate student at MSU and ultimately—Lauren hopes—the ability to detect and cure cancers.

Dan Hollern, a graduate student in the College of Natural Science studying cell and molecular biology, has been named the first Aitch Fellow. Lauren has high hopes for the work he pursues.

"To help such a young mind develop is so exciting. I feel very blessed to have him in our Aitch family and the MSU family," she says.

At MSU, Dan has been using cutting-edge technology in breast cancer research in the laboratory of Dr. Eran Andrechek, assistant professor of physiology in the College of



Lauren Aitch ('09, Communication Arts and Sciences) created the Aitch Foundation to provide graduate support targeted at cancer research.

## Demonstrating a commitment to graduate study

This year, MSU's Graduate School, the foundation of postgraduate study at the university, celebrates the 20th anniversary of its current organizational form. Appropriately MSU is demonstrating its commitment to graduate and professional students with a \$6.2 million renovation of a historic campus building to serve as the school's new headquarters.

The renovated Chittenden Hall on West Circle Drive is providing a dedicated space for graduate programs, study and workshops, as well as offices for the Graduate Student Life and Wellness Program, PhD Career Services, the Teaching Assistant Program, the Council on Graduate Students and other administrative services.

Learn more about graduate education at MSU at [grad.msu.edu](http://grad.msu.edu). Beginning in early October, you can view the first in a nine-week series of videos featuring MSU graduate students and their work at [www.msu.edu/gradfactor](http://www.msu.edu/gradfactor)



Ronald Jackson (center, left) is shown with Graduate School Dean Karen Klomparens and members of the TIAA-CREF Board, who are supporting Ronald's work in understanding anti-apartheid history.



Susan Weirs (right), a family nurse practitioner, is using her Petry Fellowship support to expand knowledge in the diagnosis and treatment of urinary incontinence.

Human Medicine. Dan mastered the use of microarray technology, which allowed him to study the expression of more than 14,000 genes in a tumor sample.

Dan then used sophisticated mathematical methods to uncover information about the genes that may cause differences in cancer progression in different patients. His work, which analyzed data from more than 1,000 preclinical models and equal numbers of human breast cancer tumors, was recently published in *Breast Cancer Research*.

He is now using a cross-disciplinary approach to study the process of how breast cancer cells spread to other organs of the body.

His computational analysis on a large database of breast cancer patient data led to the identification of a gene known as E2F1.

"In my experiments, I found that this gene allowed cancer cells to invade blood vessels and allowed tumors to grow in distant organs such as the lungs," Dan says. "Importantly, by comparing genes that changed when we removed E2F1, I found how E2F1 controls tumor cell spreading. For example, I found that E2F1 controls blood vessel recruitment to the tumor, which allows tumor cells to get into the blood stream."

Dan's research mentor, Assistant Professor Eran Andrechek, says that Dan's contributions to the lab have been extensive, including findings that have directly led to new research directions and have contributed to successful grant applications, resulting in significant research funds coming in to the lab.

"Lauren Aitch is to be commended for her investment of time and energy into generating support for graduate students," Andrechek says. "These fellowships have impacts not only on the research being done at MSU, but also are a key component of the development of students."

Now nearing completion of his dissertation, Dan believes his MSU experiences have prepared him for the next step of his career as a cancer researcher.

"The investment in my training by Dr. Andrechek, MSU, and the Aitch Foundation will echo in the new research goals I will pursue as a postdoctoral researcher. It has been truly a blessing to pursue my graduate degree with meaningful cancer research made possible by their support."

#### CONTINUING A SOCIAL JUSTICE LEGACY

Ronald Jackson hopes to shed new light on the contributions of African American entertainers involved in the anti-apartheid struggle of South Africa, thanks to a gift from financial services organization TIAA-CREF.

A doctoral candidate and instructor in MSU's Department of History, Ronald is using the TIAA-CREF Ruth Simms Hamilton Graduate Merit Fellowship to explore the role of race within the cultural boycott of South Africa by entertainers during the mid-20th century. He will conduct research in the United States and South Africa.

He believes studies that examine the intersection of popular culture and social movements have a way of generating interest in history among people that otherwise may not be intrigued.

Named after longtime MSU Social Science Professor Ruth Simms Hamilton, who died in 2003, the fellowship supports doctoral students whose research is related to the African diaspora. For decades, Hamilton worked with MSU graduate students to investigate the international presence and societal status of African descendants. In addition, she served as an executive board member for TIAA-CREF, also sitting on the board's corporate governance and social responsibility committees.

Ronald hopes his work will align with the popular culture component of Hamilton's scholarly activism.

"TIAA-CREF is honored to recognize the contributions and the life of Dr. Hamilton through this fellowship, and to see her legacy carried on through the work of students like Ronald," says Jerome Miller, senior vice president and chief diversity officer at TIAA-CREF.

In 2005, TIAA-CREF established the Ruth Simms Hamilton Research Fellowship at TIAA-CREF. The fellowship supported students throughout a six-year period, awarding fellowships to one or more graduate students studying the African diaspora at an accredited U.S. college or university. By establishing the new endowment at MSU last year, TIAA-CREF brought the fellowship back to Hamilton's home university.

"No words can truly express how thankful I am for the support of TIAA-CREF," says Ronald. "Your generosity and selflessness have greatly assisted me in my efforts to achieve a dream that for many years appeared to be unattainable."

At MSU, Ronald also has carved out time to serve as a mentor in the My Brother's Keeper Program, working with middle school students from Paul Robeson, Malcolm X Academy in Detroit. He says volunteering gave him a respite from dense theoretical graduate class discussions and gave him a clearer perspective of how history is understood.

"Communicating with these younger students motivated me more than ever to find more innovative ways to make history appealing to undergraduate students," he says.

#### HONORING MSU'S FIRST PHD

Since 2003, alumni, faculty and friends have contributed to the Edward J. Petry Endowment in Support of Graduate Fellowships, named after the first individual to receive a Ph.D. (1926, Botany) from Michigan State. Gifts to the fund are invested as principal, and a portion of the annual interest earned provides fellowship support to outstanding graduate students.

Susan Wiers ('81, BS; '99, MSN, Nursing) of Romeo, a family nurse practitioner, is one of the 2014 recipients.

She returned to the MSU College of Nursing for her doctoral degree more than 30 years after earning her first degree.

"The high cost of acquiring my doctorate was my only reservation about returning to school," Susan says. "My husband and I value education and invested heavily in the education of our children; I deferred my personal goal of pursuing a doctoral degree until they finished college."

Receiving funding from the Petry Fellowship was an unexpected gift.

"I will be forever grateful to those who value education enough to have supported me," she says. "It is my goal to honor this support by using my degree to improve the lives of others."

Susan is taking advantage of her clinical practicums to learn about the diagnosis and treatment of urinary incontinence in women. Over the past 15 years in her practice, she recognized that urinary incontinence is a highly prevalent and undertreated condition that negatively affects quality-of-life for many women physically, psychologically and socially.

"Primary care providers need to be on the forefront of addressing this prevalent and distressing condition," she says. "However, most primary care providers lack awareness of the condition and do not possess the knowledge and skills to treat urinary incontinence."

She plans to develop a business plan to implement an incontinence program within her practice and hopes to teach aspiring nurses.

#### THE GROUNDWORK OF DISCOVERY AND TEACHING

Graduate students at MSU are accomplishing much to improve lives. And MSU is committed to continuing to create a cadre of outstanding graduate students who make a difference as they work alongside faculty in teaching and research. Private support for graduate fellowships is an important part of ensuring progress.

"We are tremendously grateful to Blake and Mary Krueger, Lauren Aitch, TIAA-CREF and all those who contribute to graduate fellowships," says MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. "Fellowships help us attract and retain the best and brightest graduate students to work and study at MSU. Graduate students conduct the research and scholarship with faculty that ultimately drives our ability to be innovative in ways that contribute to the economic development of Michigan, the country and the world."

"We expect these students to change the world. And donors who support fellowships are part of that future."

For more information on making a gift to support graduate education at MSU, contact Senior Director of Development Jennifer Bertram at [bertram9@msu.edu](mailto:bertram9@msu.edu) or call (517) 432-7345.

## The funding behind fellowships

Funding a fellowship takes \$30,000 to \$45,000 annually and may support tuition, health care, stipends, or positions in teaching and research.



## Graduate School Points of Pride



**18** MSU National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellows have been selected for 2014

This is the largest class of fellows at MSU since the program began in 1952.

More than 12,000 graduate and graduate-professional students are enrolled in programs of study at MSU.



**OVER 200 PROGRAMS**  
13 colleges provide more than 200 programs of graduate study at MSU.

## U.S. News and World Report Rankings:

MSU's College of Education has five graduate programs ranked No. 1 or 2 - more than any other education school in the country.



**#1** MSU's graduate programs in nuclear physics and in industrial and organizational psychology rank first in the nation.

A total of 28 of MSU's graduate programs rank in the top 20 in the nation.

**28 Top 20's**

# CONFIDENCE: THE MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENT

## *Food and consumer safety research expands at MSU*

MSU scientists frequently provide a voice of reason among many voices in helping consumers, regulators, government and industry to make the best, science-based decisions possible.

Now, a new center dedicated to independent research, graduate training and communication of the state-of-the-science on the safety of ingredients is being created at Michigan State University and will help bring science to bear in decision-making related to processed foods and other goods.

The Grocery Manufacturers Association and many of its member companies have partnered with MSU to help establish the Center for Research on Ingredient Safety (CRIS). The center will serve as a reliable source for information, research, training and analysis on the safe use of ingredients in consumer packaged goods including foods, beverages, cosmetics and household consumer products.

The partnership will include the creation of the Food and Consumer Product Ingredient Safety Endowed Chair at MSU with \$4 million in contributions and grants provided by the GMA and consumer product companies.

The endowed chair faculty member will provide scientific and organizational oversight for CRIS. A national search is currently underway to recruit this initial leader who will work with the estimated 20-30 companies that are expected to provide input and ongoing financial support of nearly \$1 million annually for the research and training components of the center's agenda.

MSU successfully competed in a proposal process to host the center, citing academic expertise and a strong record of credible scientific research in toxicology, food and product safety. The university has committed to creating two additional faculty positions in this important field as part of the plan to establish CRIS.

"Michigan State University has what may be the largest and most diverse cohort of faculty in the nation working directly on food and consumer product safety issues, and the university has great strength in the discipline of toxicology," says Fred Poston, dean of MSU's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. "It is natural that a center devoted to food and consumer product ingredient safety will be located at MSU."

MSU is uniquely positioned to provide unbiased, relevant information in ingredient safety that will benefit the public, says Norb Kaminski, director of MSU's Center for Integrative Toxicology.



*"Ensuring the safety of our products – and maintaining the confidence of consumers – is the single most important goal of our industry,"*

*GMA's Chief Science Officer  
Leon Bruner*

"Our work is rigorously reviewed by the scientific community, both on campus and throughout the world as we share and publish research approaches and findings," Kaminski says. "Our goal is to apply the best and most current science to the complex biological and toxicological issues surrounding food and ingredient safety."

CRIS will be modeled after existing, successful centers of expertise at other academic institutions. An advisory board composed of multiple stakeholders, including academic, industry, non-governmental organizations and regulatory representatives will govern the center.

"Ensuring the safety of our products—and maintaining the confidence of consumers—is the single most important goal of our industry," says GMA's Chief Science Officer Leon Bruner. "We are very pleased to be part of the founding of the Center for Research on Ingredient Safety. The center will be an independent resource for a broad range of stakeholders that provides analysis and information on the safety of ingredients used in foods and consumer products."

CRIS will work to expand the opportunity to conduct basic and applied research and to develop and validate the testing methods and strategies for evaluating the safety of ingredients in food, packaging, cosmetics and household care products. The center will also be expected to establish a graduate training program that prepares scientists for a career in ingredient safety and to share research findings widely.

Also participating in the endeavor is the University of Michigan Risk Science Center (RSC). The RSC will lead the communications component by developing innovative approaches to connecting the CRIS research with stakeholders. In addition, CRIS and RSC will provide responsive and evidence-informed risk/benefit insights into topical issues on food ingredient safety.

"Partnerships, like the one that creates the Food and Consumer Product Ingredient Safety Endowed Chair with the GMA and its members, show that safe and secure food and consumer products truly change the world," says Fred Derksen, chairperson of MSU's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition. "In addition to the support of the endowed chair, MSU is committed to establishing this center whose core is research, educating the next generation of scientists, informing regulators and serving the public."

**For more information on supporting CRIS, contact Associate Director of Development, Megan Hirschman at [hirschm8@msu.edu](mailto:hirschm8@msu.edu) or by calling (517) 353-5507.**

# THE Front Line in STEM

By Sarah Wardell

## Wipro partnership to train urban school teachers



Azim Premji, chairman and founder of India-based Wipro Ltd., is a driving force behind significant investments toward the goal of equitable, effective education in India and across the globe.



Professor Punya Mishra (right), who was instrumental in launching the new MSU-Wipro STEM & Leadership Teaching Fellowship program, works with fellows in Chicago.

**W**ith the help of a \$2.8 million, multi-year grant from global tech giant Wipro, Ltd., faculty at Michigan State University's College of Education are working to meet a critical need for math and science education through a distinctive fellowship program.

Twenty-five teachers from Chicago Public Schools attended a face-to-face component of the fellowship this summer in Chicago, which has a strong STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) focus. Upon completion, fellows will receive a Graduate Certificate in STEM Teaching and Leadership, and will be equipped with innovative, creative teaching techniques that can be shared with colleagues.

"Urban districts face steep challenges, and fellows will go on to lead and support their peers," said Sonya Gunnings-Moton, assistant dean at the College of Education. "Through our long-standing partnership with Chicago Public Schools, these fellows will become change agents."

India-based Wipro has a history of supporting education initiatives around the globe, and has worked with faculty at MSU previously to improve teacher education at Azim Premji University, in India. Wipro, Ltd. founder and philanthropist Azim Premji—an adamant supporter of education and equity—also spoke at MSU's spring 2014 commencement and received an honorary doctorate of humane letters.

Fellows receive a stipend to cover expenses, and commit to teaching in an urban district for at least two years. Beginning this fall, fellows will take courses through the Master of Arts in Educational Technology (MAET), a flexible, award-winning program at MSU.

MSU alumna and current fellow Ashley Keine '08, says that, as the need for STEM education continues to grow, professional development becomes even more important. "We all have our niche, our comfort zone that we feel most confident in," she adds, "Moving forward starts with us and then continues with colleagues—it hopefully has a ripple effect that will inspire others."



# 810

The number of MSU teacher candidates recommended for STEM endorsements over the past 10 years.

**G**etting along with a roommate, finding a social niche and deciding on a major, are archetypal challenges on a university campus. But students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) often face additional hurdles to finding acceptance and emotional wellbeing.

Support for the LGBT community is strong at MSU thanks to a university leadership with foresight bolstered by recent backing from alumni donors.

Last month, the MSU Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Resource Center was named the beneficiary of a \$1 million bequest that, when realized, will be used to improve and develop

In 2012, donors Stephen Wilensky and Mark Ritzenhein created the Wilensky-Ritzenhein LGBT Community Enrichment Endowment, also to support the efforts of the LGBT Resource Center. Mark passed in 2013, after more than 30 years of life together with Stephen. The couple also donated about 2,000 gay-themed books and ephemera to MSU, along with endowments for both the MSU Libraries and the MSU Museum.

Stephen P. Wilensky attended the University of Michigan as an undergraduate and obtained his MD degree there in 1963. He joined the Michigan State University Radiology Department in 1992, where he spent 19 years prior to his retirement.

Mark S. Ritzenhein earned his MA in Musicology from MSU in 1990, and had his own

MSU Junior Aaron Kuhn, 2014 recipient of the Stephen P. Pougnet and Christopher J. Green Endowed Scholarship, is pictured here with Stephen Pougnet ('85, Business), right, and Christopher Green, center.

Photo by Aran Kessler.



# LGBT STUDENTS FIND SUPPORT AT MSU

*Alumni gifts fund scholarships and enhance resources*



Deanna Hurlbert, director of MSU's Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgender Resource Center.

Photo by G.L. Kohuth.

new programs and resources. The gift comes on the heels of other significant gifts to fund scholarships for LGBT students and to support an ongoing university commitment to the LGBT community.

"We are pleased to partner with alumni and donors who understand the value of our work in making certain MSU is one of the best living and learning environments in the world," says Denise Maybank, vice president for student affairs. "These funds will have a significant impact on our ability to empower students by fostering intellectual, personal and professional growth throughout their engagement at MSU, while also advancing the dialogue regarding the intersections of identity."

The \$1 million charitable bequest from the estate of an MSU alumnus and his partner, who wish to remain anonymous, will create the Support, Outreach, Action and Respect (SOAR) endowment. Objectives of the SOAR fund include empowering and encouraging LGBT students to succeed; providing programs to educate and support students; and promoting respect and building self-esteem among LGBT community members.

piano tuning and restoration business in Lansing for 28 years.

Stephen and Mark wrote that their gifts were to the community, to MSU and to the wider cause of knowledge, understanding and tolerance for all humanity.

R Cole Bouck ('84, Social Science) recently made an \$80,000 charitable bequest to support student-driven activities such as service-learning experiences, internships, leadership conference participation, study away programs and community engagement, which he hopes will continue to positively affect the LGBT community. He notes that while equality for LGBT people has already surpassed his wildest dreams, much work remains to be done.

"I hope my endowment will help ensure there are relevant and challenging opportunities for students to work first hand at advancing LGBT equality and public policy," he says.

He believes strongly that his gift will have a positive impact by enhancing the work of the division of Student Affairs and Services at MSU.

## A present that makes a Spartan's future

MSU is also home to several scholarships supporting LGBT students. They are among a handful of such scholarships offered by U.S. universities.

Aaron Kuhn, a junior from Rochester Hills studying social relations and policy in James Madison College, aspires to a career in Washington, D.C. crafting public policy. He recently learned he was the 2014 recipient of the Stephen P. Pougnet and Christopher J. Green Endowed Scholarship.

Stephen Pougnet ('85, Business) together with his husband Christopher Green, established the scholarship in 2005 to support MSU students who demonstrate academic excellence and make contributions to the LGBT community. Stephen is a former vice president of the Colorado School of Mines and has been the mayor of Palm Springs, California, since 2007.

"It means a lot to me that members of the Spartan community thought I was worthy of selection," says Aaron, adding that he appreciates the support of the LGBT Resource Center at MSU. "Knowing that it's there and that a community is present and ready to catch you when you stumble is a good feeling."

MSU's Pride scholarship was founded in 2000 by Bill Beachler ('68, '71, Business) and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Faculty, Staff and Graduate Student Association of MSU. Awards go to incoming freshmen with academic achievement who are already active in supporting the LGBT

community. In 2000, the scholarship awarded was \$500; it has since grown to awards of \$3,000 and \$5,000.

Recently, a third endowment joined the list of scholarships supporting LGBT students at MSU when Jim Westbury ('92, Business) created the Westbury-Buck Endowed LGBT Scholarship Fund. Jim, a finance major who lives on the West Coast, wished to honor his grandparents Vincent A. and Dierdre A. Buck and his parents James G. and Brenda E. Westbury.

The endowment is a celebration of the LGBT community as well. Framed in the same year that marriage equality in California was affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court, Jim hopes that the MSU scholarship recipients will honor the LGBT community by continuing the campaign for equal human rights, and by becoming activists and philanthropists themselves.

## Healing and progress

Deanna Hurlbert, director of the LGBT Resource Center, sees the emotional and spiritual impact of donor support on students first hand.

"Through these gifts, there is a sense of healing for alumni and empowerment for LGBT students," she says. "It says that my life is important, that my identity impacts my experience as a Spartan and that people recognize that we still have a ways to go."

The center leads and collaborates on university-wide initiatives that prepare all students to succeed through educational programs on sexuality and gender identity

and direct support for LGBT students.

"MSU is one of the best kept secrets in the country in terms of the range of opportunities and support for the LGBT community," Hurlbert says. "There is a wide and deep network of LGBT-identified students, faculty and staff; multiple ways to connect with resources, as well as a supportive university environment."

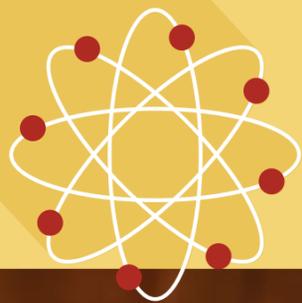
MSU is the only campus in the nation to create LGBT caucuses in its neighborhoods that are supported by the Residence Hall Association.

Additionally, the LGBT students have seats on the Associated Students of MSU and therefore a voice in student governance.

There also are some 15 LGBT student organizations on campus. It is believed that MSU had the first officially recognized LGBT student organization in the nation when the Gay Liberation Movement student group formed in September of 1969, just months after the famed Stonewall Rebellion in New York City.

Collectively, these efforts help MSU to be a safe place for LGBT students to express pride, embrace their identities and become an important part of the MSU community.

**For more information on supporting the Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Resource Center, programs and scholarships, contact Director of Development Ann Marie Lindley at [alindley@msu.edu](mailto:alindley@msu.edu) or by calling (517) 432-7543.**



# A Spartan at work



*“There is vision and foresight here to keep us in the forefront of current teaching and research. But, I can see the difference that endowments make both in accomplishing that mission and in enabling great people to do great work.”*

Between his time as a student and as an employee, Marc Conlin ('69, Engineering; '72, MBA) has invested some 50 years in Michigan State University. His Spartan legacy goes beyond eager learning, devoted professional acumen and trusted leadership to significant financial support.

The longtime administrative spearhead of one of MSU's largest and most distinguished academic departments, Physics and Astronomy, Marc was recognized in 2009 with the Jack Breslin Award, MSU's highest honor for non-academic staff. With cash and future gifts incorporated in his estate plans, including from his university 403b retirement plan, he has provided endowed support for graduate students in Engineering and in physics and astronomy. He also created an endowment for recognizing and empowering the outstanding service of university staff in Physics and Astronomy.

Marc says his reasons for giving back to the university are easy to list.

“I have been fortunate to have gone to school here, and to work here with the people that I do,” he says. “There is vision and foresight here to keep us in the forefront of current teaching and research. But, I can see the difference that endowments make both in accomplishing that mission and in enabling great people to do great work.”

Along the way, Marc has been active in MSU Alumni Clubs in Mid-Michigan and Southwest Florida. He became a lifetime member of the MSUAA, as well as a member of the Spartan Fund. At one time, he was tapped to manage and lead the development of MSU's student radio station, despite having no broadcasting experience or ambition. He stays connected with each college he's touched: Engineering, Broad Business, Natural Science and Communication Arts and Sciences. His expertise is continually sought for initiatives across campus.

“I get a lot of invitations,” he grins.

As an engineer with an MBA, and recognized skills, Marc could have easily launched a career in business and industry, but he says he never gave serious thought to leaving MSU.

“I came to school and then I started working,” he says.

“I never got bored. I have always been challenged to learn and do new things, trying to do things better or more efficiently. No day is the same but I use both my engineering and business background every day.”

Indeed. No one is encouraging Marc to take an early retirement.



Something  
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Watch your mail and email for an invitation to a history-making event on October 24, 2014.

Learn more at [EMPOWER.MSU.EDU](http://EMPOWER.MSU.EDU).

## Now You Know!

*The work you do to advocate on behalf of Michigan State is critical for recruiting and retaining outstanding students and building our network of Spartans. All alumni, donors and friends can point with pride to many strengths of our university.*

### MAKING WAVES

More than 100 MSU faculty members are working on water issues through centers such as the Institute of Water Research and the Center for Water Sciences. Joan Rose, MSU's Homer Nowlin Chair in Water Research and international water expert, and her team of “water detectives” are developing new genetic analytics to study waterborne viruses that live in the world's waterways and affect our health.

### PITCHING IDEAS

In 2014, MSU students already have won more than \$200,000 in business plan competitions. Five MSU students were chosen to attend the prestigious Business Association of Stanford Entrepreneurial Students 2014 e-Bootcamp to pitch their ideas to Silicon Valley execs. For two consecutive years, MSU has been the only university to send a team to the Entrepreneurial Eight of Student Startup Madness at South By Southwest Interactive.

### ANCHORING ARTIFACTS

Designated an anchor organization by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the MSU Museum is the state's leading public natural and cultural history museum. The museum's Mammal Research Collection includes more than 38,500 specimens, of which about 8,000 are from the Great Lakes region. The museum's holdings of cultural artifacts are estimated at nearly 900,000 objects.

### Upcoming Events

Watch your mail and email for more information on these and other events.

#### Green and White Evenings

Las Vegas, Nevada  
October 1, 2014

Los Angeles, California  
October 2, 2014

Portland, Oregon  
November 12, 2014

Seattle, Washington  
November 13, 2014

#### 19th Annual Estate Planning Seminar

Lansing, Michigan  
October 9, 2014

#### An Evening with President Simon

Gull Lake  
October 9, 2014

#### President's Brunch

East Lansing, Michigan  
October 25, 2014

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