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A NEW GIFT FROM AN OLD FRIEND
Spartans at Lear Corp. invest in the future

Thanks to Michigan-based Lear Corporation and its employees, whose gifts were matched 5-to-1 through the Lear Corp. Charitable Foundation, the Eli Broad College of Business has another $1.5 million to put toward the construction of the Business Pavilion. Upon completion, the lobby of the new pavilion will be named the Lear Corp. Lobby, in honor of both the company’s recent gift and its many years of working hand in hand with MSU and the Eli Broad College of Business. The existing career management space in the college’s Epiphany Center also bears Lear’s name.

“Lear Corporation has a long history of partnering with Michigan State University. Many MSU graduates today have key roles at Lear, many more have benefited from the Lear Career Management Center, and we are now proud to be investing in the future of the Eli Broad College of Business with this $1.5 million contribution,” says Mel Stephens, Lear vice president for investor relations and corporate communications.

Broad College alumni Jason Gardner, vice president for finance for seating, and Ray Scott, Lear executive vice president and president for seating, worked collaboratively with college leaders to build awareness for the pavilion and maximize the impact Lear will have on business students and MSU as a whole.

“Lear Corporation’s unwavering support for the Broad College has made an indelible impact on our community and across the entire university,” says Sanjay Gupta, Eli and Edythe L. Broad Dean of the college. “This is the most important endeavor the college has undertaken in the last 50 years, and it is made possible by our invaluable partnership. Lear’s name is forever linked to the success of future generations of Spartans and the impact they will have on the world of business.”

For more information about making a gift to the Eli Broad College of Business, contact Senior Director of Development Vivian Leung at leungv@msu.edu or call (517) 355-8504.

When Barbara (‘84) and Mark Gerson made a gift to help establish the Social Science Scholars Program in the College of Social Science several years ago, they knew that meeting the needs of students would be a priority.

Their most recent $1 million gift, which established the Gerson Family Mental Health Initiative, is doing just that, under the direction and expertise of Dr. Natalie Moser, director of the MSU Psychological Clinic.

The clinic has offered services to members of the MSU and Greater Lansing communities for more than 60 years. Now, students in the Social Science Scholars Program are taking part in a new comprehensive prevention- and intervention-based mental health program that offers state-of-the-art, specialized care.

Students can either self-identify or be referred to the clinic by Social Science Scholars staff. Through one-on-one contact, Dr. Moser manages crises and is available to assess student need and provide guidance toward appropriate intervention. In addition to individual evidence-based psychotherapy, the program offers options such as mental health seminars and an eight-week skills-based workshop.

Down the road, this model could serve as a baseline for the greater MSU student population.

“I am extremely pleased with the early success of this initiative,” says Dr. Moser. “Over the course of the last eight months, we have interacted with and provided assistance to a large percentage of Social Science Students, clearly validating the anticipated need for a comprehensive assessment and intervention program for college students. Thanks to the Gersons, our expanded services have undoubtedly helped more students re-engage academically and socially. The benefits of this initiative are clear to me—students struggling with mental health concerns succeed when accessible and individualized care is available.”

The Gersons couldn’t agree more.

“All students need to know that high-quality mental health services are available to them when they need support and guidance,” Mark Gerson says.

“Ultimately, we want to see expanded services for all students,” adds Barbara Gerson. “Helping students with crisis management, developing intervention plans when necessary, and providing ongoing and consistent clinical support is of the utmost importance when discussing student success in the classroom and in life. We want to see the Department of Psychology, the College of Social Science, and Michigan State University become national leaders in this area.”

For more information about making a gift to the College of Social Science, contact Senior Director of Development Nick McLaren at mclarenn@msu.edu or call (517) 884-2189.
THE PULL OF THE EARTH:  
A FATHER’S GIFT PAID FORWARD
Thorps’ bequest supports undergraduate experience

Somewhere between their time on campus and rich careers in horticulture and energy, Laurie and Joe Thorp became convinced of the importance of experiential learning for students. Laurie Thorp (’81) credits her father with fueling her passion for gardening, land, and nature—a love that eventually led her to a faculty position in MSU’s Department of Community Sustainability. Laurie’s husband, Joe (’81), a mechanical engineer in the oil and gas sector, also firmly believes in MSU’s transformative impact on students and the world.

Together, they have committed to a $1 million charitable bequest from their joint estate to support undergraduate education, split between the MSU Colleges of Natural Science and Engineering. They also make gifts annually to support undergraduate students.

Laurie and Joe met at MSU and married soon after graduation. She was completing a doctorate program at Texas A&M when her father became critically ill, bringing her home to Michigan.

“She came back to tend to her dad’s garden and take care of his estate; it was a healing period for her,” Joe says.

Back in Lansing, Laurie began a project in a local school district setting up an entire curriculum around a schoolyard garden.

“This continues to be a big part of my work today—mentoring students and looking at food, food systems, food access, and health and nutrition,” says Laurie, who was one of the founders of the MSU Student Organic Farm and is currently the director of MSU’s RISE (Residential Initiative on the Study of the Environment) program.

Laurie and Joe lived in many cities in the United States and around the world before returning to the Lansing area.

Joe is chairman emeritus of the American Petroleum Institute’s Committee on Refinery Equipment, former head of the U.S. delegation to the International Standards Organization technical committee on oil and gas equipment, and a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Joe lends his expertise to MSU engineering research in additive manufacturing of turbo-machinery components, development of high-efficiency air conditioning concepts, supercritical CO₂ power cycles, and ultra-high efficiency combustion engines. He also serves on the college’s Mechanical Engineering Advisory Committee.

“Our bequest is about making sure people have access to education in the future, so they can become engaged citizens in the world,” Laurie says. “We know how critically important that is and how much it’s changed our lives.”

Learn more about options for making a charitable bequest by contacting the Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000 or giftplan@msu.edu.

When Bill and Yvonne Lockwood created an Endowed Romani/Gypsy Librarian position at MSU, they knew it was an important step in establishing MSU as a prominent site for Romani/Gypsy Studies.

Before they were married, Bill and Yvonne had shared interests in cultural anthropology, folklore, foodways, and the people known as Roma, or Gypsies. Their relationship with the Roma began in Central California in the late 1950s when they attended several extravagant dava celebrations with the Roma. These celebrations included vast tables of whole roasted pigs, hanging fruits, and large chunks of bread, along with spirited live music and dancing.

They were fascinated with the Roma community and were dedicated to collecting everything they could on Gypsy history and culture, especially on the subject of Gypsy stereotypes. At the same time, they were also collecting materials on national, ethnic, and regional foodways. Both of their careers provided opportunities to travel frequently and purchase materials for their collections.

“When we’d go to a conference, in say, Romania, we’d schedule a week or two weeks extra to travel around the country,” recalls Bill. “All my colleagues would go home, and I’d still be there trooping around the city and countryside, visiting bookstores.”

Bill Lockwood received his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley and is now professor emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Michigan. Yvonne Lockwood received her PhD from the University of Michigan and is now curator emerita of Folklife at the MSU Museum. Bill and Yvonne both have extensive bibliographies of published research.

After decades spent building their collections on foodways and Gypsy culture, they decided to donate the materials and artifacts to MSU, making them accessible to researchers specializing in Roma. They also established endowments for Special Collections and the MSU Museum to acquire new materials, provide conservation, and support digitization of the collections.

Now, they are establishing the William G. and Yvonne R. Lockwood Endowed Romani/Gypsy Librarian position through a charitable bequest. It will be a dual appointment at MSU Libraries and a secondary curatorial assignment at the MSU Museum. The future endowed librarian will conduct scholarly research in Romani/Gypsy Studies and manage the Romani/Gypsy collections at MSU Libraries and the MSU Museum.

“We’re leaving a legacy for a future generation,” Yvonne explains. “We’re hoping that our donation will, in fact, strengthen Roma studies. As far as I know, there’s nothing quite like that in the United States.”

Learn more about options for making a charitable bequest by contacting the Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000 or giftplan@msu.edu.
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Detroit
Grand Rapids
Chicago
Dallas
Houston
New York City

Hundreds of Spartans celebrated and learned more about the impact of the campaign at key regions for MSU, gathering in:

$765M already received and at work since the start of the campaign

For me, one of the enduring characteristics of MSU is its striving toward excellence. MSU has always strived to be better tomorrow than it is today. What’s most extraordinary is that the legendary Spartan ‘can-do’ spirit assures that even more will be done for decades to come.

— Clifton Wharton Jr.
President Emeritus of MSU
New York, New York
Thanks, in part, to the Glenn and Thelma Buell Scholarship, film student Elise Conklin ('17) traveled to India with MSU’s Beyond Bollywood Study Abroad, and she learned an essential lesson about storytelling from the everyday women she met there.

“One of the things they said that really stuck with me was to find stories that no one else told,” she says, “giving voice to people who don’t have a voice.”

Back on campus, she put that lesson to work, becoming one of Michigan State’s first-ever students to win a Student Academy Award for the 2016 documentary, From Flint: Voices of a Poisoned City.

Elise served as director of the film, created with four other passionate students through their capstone documentary class and Media Sandbox. The film features the stories of Eugene Davis, Melissa Mays, and Julie Durbin, all Flint residents deeply affected by the water crisis, and others like poet Alexis Harvey and activist LeeAnne Walters.

The students flew to Hollywood to attend the awards ceremony, where Elise accepted the award on the group’s behalf. She had a lot of people to thank but stayed true to her inspiration.

“Most importantly, I want to thank the citizens of Flint for trusting us with their story,” she says.

Learn more at go.msu.edu/elise-conklin
The right chemistry to power our future

John R. Dorgan, one of the newest endowed chair holders on campus, is an expert in polymeric materials and a nationally recognized leader in developing composite materials for manufacturing.

Thanks to a 2014 gift, Dorgan is the first David L. and Denise M. Lamp Endowed Chair in Chemical Engineering at MSU.

Dorgan came from the Colorado School of Mines, where he guided a successful effort to organize C2B2—an industry-sponsored research center involving four institutions. He also served as a technical lead for the federal Institute for Advanced Composite Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI), developing composite materials for wind turbines.

MSU is a key partner in IACMI with an emphasis on lightweighting to improve performance and reduce costs.

“In my project, we are trying to drive down costs by reducing the time it takes to mold a turbine blade; at the same time, we are developing new resin systems that make the wind turbines easier to recycle,” says Dorgan.

He has received more than $10 million in research funding from federal sources and is a past president of the Bioenvironmental Polymer Society.

President Lou Anna K. Simon notes that endowed chairs are helping MSU to accelerate its impact on campus and beyond. “Endowed chairs enable us to build a base of highly regarded faculty who are considered leaders in research and teaching,” she says. “There is a ripple effect as these stellar faculty members help us to attract the brightest students. We are profoundly thankful to Dave and Denise Lamp for investing in our students and for advancing our college in such significant ways.”

Dorgan will be celebrated at MSU’s 2017 faculty investiture ceremony with a cohort of endowed faculty recruited to MSU this year.

Learn more at go.msu.edu/msu-investiture-2016 or by contacting Senior Executive Director for University Development Kris Bradley at kbradley@msu.edu or call (517) 884-1084.
During the Rwandan genocide, nursing student Nadege Sesonga ('17) became paralyzed from having been carried on her mother’s back for months. She recovered fully through therapy, and her family was eventually reunited.

Today, Nadege’s dream is to become a psychologist to help the many people of Rwanda who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. She came to MSU thanks to a scholarship from The MasterCard Foundation and the encouragement of alumna Linda Naugle, a former UNICEF director then working in Africa, who helped Nadege complete her MSU application.

As a student, Nadege was able to pursue an internship with the Human Development Initiative (HDI) in Rwanda, where she worked to promote health in rural areas. Using a rights-based approach, HDI promotes sustainable, community-based interventions, such as disease prevention, health training, and capacity building at both the individual and institutional levels.

Nadege plans to pursue a master's degree in clinical psychology, and she credits her internship and other hands-on experiences at MSU for helping her find her path. “I want to promote health, especially in the rural areas, and I want to focus on the youth. I believe the knowledge I have learned at MSU, and the skills I have gained through my internship and my passion, will help me through the process,” she says.

Learn about another MasterCard Foundation Scholar at go.msu.edu/mayan

Gifts received and already at work:

$104 million in expendable research support

An additional $2.3 million in endowed research support and $300K+ in gifts-in-kind
Building a lot more than buildings

When the Michigan State women’s golf team captured the 2017 Big Ten Championship, the win followed a Spartan tradition of the powerful impact donors have on competing for championships.

After DeMartin Soccer Stadium was built with a gift from Doug and Valerie DeMartin, men’s soccer landed three Big Ten Championships and progressed to the Men’s NCAA Elite Eight in 2013. Following McLane Baseball Stadium’s completion with a gift from Drayton and Elizabeth McLane in 2009, the baseball team won the 2011 Big Ten Championship and a place in the 2012 NCAA Tournament, both for the first time since 1979.

In June 2016, the Lasch Family Golf Center, the new 15,000-square-foot home of the MSU men’s and women’s golf teams, was officially dedicated, following a $2 million leadership gift from Rick (’90) and Suzanne Lasch of East Lansing. The facility builds on the winning tradition of the men’s and women’s golf programs, with the women’s team earning a bid to the NCAA Regionals in 16 of the last 17 seasons. This year the Spartan women advanced to the NCAA Nationals and received the 2017 Athletics Director’s Award for the highest team GPA. The men’s team made the NCAA Tournament for the second year in a row.

Meanwhile, across campus, donors are helping the Eli Broad College of Business and the College of Human Medicine build on two other winning traditions at MSU. Once completed, the Business College Pavilion and the Grand Rapids Research Center will position future Spartans for excellence in business and research.

Learn more about the Lasch Family Golf Center at go.msu.edu/lasch-golf.

IMPACT

Completed:
Lasch Family Golf Center
North End Zone Expansion
Berkowitz Complex Renovation
Duffy Daugherty Renovation

Underway:
Business College Pavilion
MSU Grand Rapids Research Center
Breslin Center Renovation
PARTNERING TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS IN AFRICA

$13 million gift from The MasterCard Foundation

A five-year, $13 million collaboration between Michigan State University and The MasterCard Foundation will help 15,000 young people access employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in expanding horticulture, aquaculture, poultry, cassava, and related sectors of Tanzania and Nigeria.

The partnership, the AgriFood Youth Opportunity Lab, will focus on young adults (ages 18 to 24) in major food shed regions surrounding Lagos, Nigeria, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The Ag Youth Lab will assist economically disadvantaged, hard-to-reach, and out-of-school youth to transition into employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

“Working with The MasterCard Foundation and African partners to address one of the most critical problems facing the continent—youth unemployment—reflects how we pursue MSU’s global vision,” says MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. “We see great potential to expand youth agrifood employment both on and off the farm.”

The program will have a special focus on gender equity, aiming for equal representation of young men and women across its programs by addressing the shortfalls of existing policy, training and mentoring, and other constraints that affect the ability of young women to start enterprises or obtain employment.

The Ag Youth Lab will respond directly to opportunities for youth-related programming identified in the 2016 Agrifood Youth Employment and Engagement Study, a joint undertaking of MSU and The MasterCard Foundation.

“This partnership with Michigan State University is an excellent example of using evidence to address youth unemployment,” says Reeta Roy, president and CEO of The MasterCard Foundation. “By engaging the private sector to develop business opportunities for young people, the project also addresses some of the challenges youth face in seeking work.”

MSU will lead implementation of the Ag Youth Lab in close collaboration with regional partners to build the capacity of local organizations, address key policy constraints, and reduce the cost of expanding youth employment. Regional partners include the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture; Venture Garden Group, a Nigerian company; Tanzania’s Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurs Cooperative (SUGECCO); and Nigeria’s Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology.

Using policy research, data, and analytics, the Ag Youth Lab will develop a cost-effective, scalable model for youth training and facilitation.

Local colleges and their graduates will train the trainers (community participants) to pass on skills to young adults, using an experiential learning approach. The project will give youth skills to build their own businesses and, in turn, create employment opportunities for other out-of-school youth. “Agriculture is much more than just farming,” says Anna Andrew Temu, founder of SUGECCO. “Equipped with the right entrepreneurial and technical skills, and with guidance from experienced mentors, youth can imagine and bring to life their own innovative agribusinesses.”

To learn more about making a gift to the College of Veterinary Medicine, contact Senior Director of Development Angha Childress at angha@msu.edu or call (517) 353-8722.

NEW ENDOWED FACULTY CHAIR POSITIONS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

CVM alumni’s $12.6 million charitable bequest is largest in college’s history

T he Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine has received the largest single gift in its history: a $12.6 million charitable bequest from the estate of the late alumni Albert C. Dehn. The gift will initially fund two new endowed chairs in the Large Animal Clinical Sciences and the Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation departments, with a plan that the gift could eventually support four endowed positions.

After earning his veterinary degree from MSU in 1950, Dehn returned to his hometown of Abbotsford, Wisconsin, where he practiced for his entire career, primarily treating cows on local dairy farms. Fondly known as “Doc” to his friends and neighbors, Dehn also served on the board of the local bank and spent his life giving back to his community from his place firmly outside the spotlight.

“While the magnitude of this gift is unprecedented, the motivation is not,” says John Baker, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. “Our culture of humble philanthropy is well known and well documented here. It’s not uncommon for us to receive estate gifts from alumni who maintained a quiet passion for the college and its mission over decades.”

This was true of Dehn, who had tremendous respect for his alma mater and designated the gift in his estate plans because he felt there was no greater philanthropy than to fund a named endowed chair.

“Endowed chairs enhance the quality of the faculty and the educational experience, which is the foundation for academic excellence,” says President Lou Anna K. Simon. “We are especially grateful that Dr. Dehn chose to support one of our most important priorities—the academic program. This gift will enable us to attract faculty leaders in veterinary medicine with a stable stream of support to actively engage in leading-edge work.”

A lifelong proponent of education and enrichment, Dehn spearheaded the creation of a charitable foundation in Abbotsford, the mission of which was to support community projects that would make life better for its citizens.

Jennifer Jaleel, a longtime neighbor and friend of Dehn’s, believes he would be proud to see his life’s work culminate in a gift that will impact even more lives, far beyond his hometown.

“The gift endowed by Dr. Dehn is reflective of the man himself,” she says. “He was a man who lived without fanfare; working long hours, always increasing his knowledge, and very quietly giving back to the community. As a promoter of lifelong education while he lived, it is not surprising his charitable bequest to his alma mater would do the same.”

The Albert C. and Lois E. Dehn chairs will be established at the College of Veterinary Medicine in 2017. The college is now in the process of identifying qualified candidates for the initial chairs.

To learn more about making a gift to the College of Veterinary Medicine, contact Senior Director of Development Tim Stedman at stedman@msu.edu or call (517) 353-8722.

Dr. Albert C. Dehn
Wendy and Russ Palmer

BUSINESS PAVILION PUTS CAREER SERVICES FRONT AND CENTER

$2 million gift from Russ and Wendy Palmer names center

WITH a $2 million gift to the Eli Broad College of Business, alumnus Rüssel “Russ” Palmer and his wife, Wendy, are supporting the Business Pavilion construction and ensuring that business students have the resources to pursue their dream careers.

In honor of the Palmers’ gift, the college will name the future home for its career management teams the Rüssel Palmer Career Management Center.

“MSU’s new Business Pavilion will enhance our position to be in the forefront of helping our students to make the right career choice,” Palmer says. “The new Russell Palmer Career Management Center will bring both together on the first floor of the pavilion, making them more visible and accessible for students.”

“Great facilities and resources are critical components of a world-class education, and the Business Pavilion will position our business students to thrive after they graduate from Michigan State,” says MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. “We are grateful to Russ and Wendy Palmer for their support as we create a place for students to take that world-class business education into the job market.”

Palmer graduated cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. Currently, he is chairman and chief executive officer of The Palmer Group, a private investment firm in Philadelphia. Prior to that, he worked in accounting and consulting for nearly 30 years, during which time he was managing partner and CEO for Touche Ross International (now Deloitte). At 37, he was the youngest professional to obtain a CEO title at one of the world’s “big eight” firms. Palmer went on to serve as dean of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Palmer’s strategy behind the gift was one based on his passion and personal experience. “The career center will work more closely with students than ever before to maximize real opportunities and launch successful careers,” he says. “I have come to realize how important the choice of career is in a fulfilling life that is happy, productive, and meaningful, both to the individual, his or her family, and society in general.”

Currently, Broad College’s undergraduate and graduate career centers are housed separately, as the Lear Corporation Career Services Center for undergraduates and the Graduate Career Management Center for MBA and master’s students. The new Russell Palmer Career Management Center will bring both together on the first floor of the pavilion, making them more visible and accessible for students.

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ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP HONORS PHYSICS PIONEER

Family honors late father, former MSU professor with $1 million gift

A $1 million gift from the family of former MSU professor Wu-Ki Tung will establish a professorship in his honor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

The Dr. Wu-Ki Tung Endowed Professorship in Particle Physics is named for the internationally known particle physicist who taught and conducted research at MSU from 1992 to 2007. Tung passed away in 2009.

He is best known for creating the Coordinated Theoretical-Experimental Project on Quantum Chromodynamics (CTEQ) at MSU, which brought particle physicists from two camps, experimental and theoretical, together into one research program. It is one of only a handful of such groups, widely known and appreciated for changing the way in which measurements are made in the world of particle physics.

“Tung was a mentor to generations of experimentalists and theorists. He loved the community of particle physics and actively sought to make it a more welcoming place for women, minorities, and those who were just starting out in their careers,” says University Distinguished Professor Sanjay Gupta, the Eli and Edythe Broad Professor of Physics.

“This middle ground of active teamwork between theory and experiment was not as mainstream as working strictly in theory or strictly in experiment, but Wu-Ki saw that collaboration was needed and made it the centerpiece of the second half of his career,” says University Distinguished Professor Raymond “Chip” Brock, who was a close friend and colleague of Tung’s, and an original member of CTEQ.

Tung’s family members—wife Beatrice, sons Lei and Bruce, daughter-in-law Cecilia, and grandchildren Allie and Max—hope the professorship will support future faculty members who share not only his passion for particle physics research but also for scientific collaboration and collegiality.

“Collaboration between those steeped in the theoretical and the experimental, or even among entirely different disciplines, can result in exciting advances in knowledge,” MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon says. “We are so thankful to Dr. Tung’s family for this gift that will allow his legacy to live on in a faculty member who shares his—and MSU’s—commitment to collaboration.”

Tung, born in Yunnan, China, earned his doctorate at Yale. In 1983, he joined the faculty at Yale University, where he worked as a postdoctoral researcher and as an assistant professor. He then worked in the physics departments at the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Illinois Institute of Technology, and the University of Washington (as an affiliated professor of physics), but he always considered MSU to be his spiritual and academic home.

“We had talked about this endowment even before he retired in 2007,” says Lei Tung, Wu-Ki’s son. “He wanted it established at MSU, where he found such strong support for his principles and aspirations.”

To learn more about making a gift to the College of Natural Science, contact Senior Director of Development Craig Longley Palmer at longleyc@msu.edu or call (517) 353-1637.
Making Great Programs Even Better

$1 million gift from Crooks family creates scholarships in basketball, football

Helping to ensure the future success of Michigan State University Athletics, alumna Mary Helen Crooks and her husband, Craig Crooks, have made a $1 million gift to endow scholarships for student-athletes in men’s basketball and football. The Crooks Family Men’s Basketball Scholarship Endowment will provide a full-ride in-state scholarship. The Crooks’ names are also part of the Athletics Endowment Donor Recognition Wall at the North End Zone Expansion of Spartan Stadium.

“As we continue to pursue excellence in our athletics programs, gifts like this help us maintain the momentum of success,” says President Lou Anna K. Simon. “The men’s basketball and football programs are a source of pride for all Spartans and an engine of opportunity for the student-athletes in the programs. We are grateful to the Crooks family for their support and vision.”

Director of Athletics Mark Hollis adds: “An athletics scholarship to Michigan State can be life-changing for recipients, and we are so grateful to Mary Helen and Craig. Endowed gifts like this not only help support our department today, they also provide financial resources in perpetuity. We thank Mary Helen and Craig for leaving a legacy with Spartan Athletics today, tomorrow, and forever.”

Mary Helen Crooks, a 1980 graduate of the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, is CEO and president of Harlo Corp., which owns and operates a diverse group of companies. From its origin of serving the electrical utility industry, Harlo Corp. now serves a multitude of industries, including oil and gas, agriculture, construction, and more.

“I was raised by immigrant parents who only had the opportunity for a formal education up to third grade, so I was raised with a very strong emphasis on higher education. My dad’s mantra was ‘never stop learning,’” says Mary Helen. “Throughout our married life, Craig and I have been supporters, both through volunteering and financially of our K-12 school districts and other school districts. The idea that we have reached a point in our lives where we can give back through a full scholarship to student-athletes is very rewarding. We have been Spartan fans for decades, which makes the opportunity to make this kind of impact on a student-athlete’s education even more special.”

The Crooks are members of the Athletic Director’s Campaign Leadership Council, a group of leadership donors and campaign volunteers from around the country. To learn more about making a gift to MSU Athletics, contact Executive Associate Athletic Director for Development Charles Sleeper at sleeperc@sath.msu.edu or call (517) 432-4612.

Craig and Mary Helen Crooks
Chef Allan Sherwin says he never would have come to MSU but for an endowment. The opportunity allowed him to lead, mentor, and teach—lessons which will undoubtedly echo on through his students’ lives and careers. Sherwin is the Dr. Lewis J. and Ruth E. Minor Endowed Chef-Professor of Culinary Management, part of The School of Hospitality Business at the Eli Broad College of Business.

Learn more at go.msu.edu/allan-sherwin