The successful partnership between MSU and the automotive industry is vital to forwarding MSU’s legacy of innovation and accomplishment. Research by MSU faculty drives innovations in engineering, management and related disciplines. MSU students engage in coursework designed to equip them with practical skills and knowledge of emerging industry trends. The automotive industry provides funding, access to technology and insight into the latest developments. The Campaign for MSU will enhance the benefits of this collaboration to all parties by elevating existing programs and establishing new ones that anticipate the needs of the industry and those who will guide its future.

To celebrate this new century of partnership, alumni and friends from DaimlerChrysler, Ford Motor Company, General Motors Corporation and top tier suppliers were invited to an event on April 29 in Pontiac. Nick Scheele, president and COO of Ford Motor Company, spoke about bringing together the people in the automotive industry who are key to The Campaign for MSU and to its mission of advancing knowledge and transforming lives. Dieter Zetsche, president and CEO of Chrysler Group of DaimlerChrysler, appeared via video and talked about the importance of university-industry partnerships to students, as he was personally the beneficiary of such a partnership while pursuing his Ph.D. Rick Wagoner, president and CEO of General Motors Corporation, also appeared via video and spoke about their need to attract the best and brightest young people to work in the industry and how the partnership with MSU enhances this recruitment.

MSU administrators and guests who spoke included Board of Trustees member Dolores Cook; Interim President and Provost Lou Anna K. Simon; College of Engineering Dean Janie Fouke; College of Engineering student Maia Broadway; Eli Broad College of Business Dean Robert Duncan; alumnus Spencer White; and Coaches Joanne P. McCallie, John L. Smith and Tom Izzo. Industry representatives also included Lynn C. Myers, General Motors Corporation and national co-chair for The Campaign for MSU; Jon Pepper, Ford Motor Company; Sue Unger, DaimlerChrysler; and Dave Cooper, Ford Motor Company.

The MSU Jazz Band and Sparty ended the program with the MSU Fight Song. Guests from the Big Three mingled with each other, the coaches and administrators after the event.
Kresge Art Museum Expansion Unveiled

It was standing room only at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center on April 8 when Kresge Art Museum unveiled plans for an expansion that will create more room for exhibitions, educational programs and visitor amenities. Architectural renderings were shared with the mid-Michigan community at the event, which served as the official kickoff of a campaign to raise $11 million for the expansion.

“Although the museum’s permanent collection, traveling exhibitions, exhibition-related programs and educational programs have grown immensely in the last three decades, the museum has not increased in size since the 1967 addition of the North Gallery,” says Susan J. Bandes, the museum’s director. “We are currently unable to display more than 10 percent of our collection at any given time, and we lack the space necessary to adequately accommodate our growing number of visitors and programs for university and K-12 students.”

The effort to raise funds for the museum’s expansion is part of The Campaign for MSU, the university’s seven-year capital campaign that aims to raise $1.2 billion in support of building and sustaining programs of excellence and quality.

“The expansion of Kresge Art Museum is one of the key capital campaign initiatives for the College of Arts & Letters,” says Wendy K. Wilkins, dean of the college. “We need a building that is worthy of the impressive works of art already in the museum’s collections. Private support of the expansion will help us extend the many benefits of the museum’s outstanding exhibits and programs even further into the academic and regional community.”

Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm and MSU alumnus Glenn S. Schafer were among the honorees at commencement ceremonies on May 2. Governor Granholm received an honorary doctor of laws and addressed 6,000 undergraduates at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center. Her advice to graduates was summed up in three rules.

Rule number one: Don’t be afraid to fail. In fact, have the courage to be willing to risk and to fail. Rule number 2: On your climb to success, eventually, you have to put your ladder against the

continued on page 2
The expansion concepts call for a north wing and entrance to the museum on Auditorium Road that will feature a one-and-a-half story glass-walled lobby. The first floor will also include a gallery of works of art from the permanent collection, a Works on Paper gallery, a discovery gallery, a learning center, the museum store, an education room, collection storage, a roof sculpture garden, a roof terrace, and visitor amenities. An interior promenade will extend from near the entrance along the north side of the museum to the second floor galleries, where the permanent collection and changing exhibitions will be displayed. The two-story south wing will include additional permanent collection galleries, a river lobby, and terraces on each floor that have views of the Red Cedar River.

Bandes and museum staff members are working with the College of Arts & Letters Development staff and the museum’s Friends organization to raise money for the expansion. In 1999, the Friends of Kresge Art Museum formed the Better Art Museum, Because Art Works fundraising campaign for University Development.

As members of the community we felt we could share our knowledge and understanding of the collection and museum with the community and actively help the museum try to raise money to expand,” says David Greenbaum, a St. Johns native, is president of Pacific Life Insurance Co., based in Newport Beach.

For more information and additional images of the planned expansion, visit www.BAMatMSU.org.

DADC Scholarship Fund Going Strong

A dozen MSU alumni and friends gathered in 1996 to establish the Detroit Area Development Council (DADC).

“Our goals,” remarked former Council Chair John Huetteman (MSU friend), “were to raise MSU’s visibility in the Metropolitan Detroit Area, promote a positive image for MSU, provide assistance with special events, and raise funds in support of the university’s goals.” The group now has over 30 members, and attracting the “best and brightest” to their alma mater through a growing scholarship endowment of more than $125,000 has become their highest priority.

The members hit upon the idea of holding an annual golf outing to raise their scholarship funds. Greg Liposky (Business, ’85), the first event chair for the outing in 1997, notes that “we got off to a pretty good start. But it wasn’t until 1998 and beyond—when Tom Izzo lent his name to our effort—that our annual profits began hitting the $25,000 mark.”

The DADC signed an agreement with MSU and for the 1999-2000 school year, Glen Skop from Warren Mott High School in Warren was named their first student scholarship recipient. Glen received a $500 scholarship in each of his four years of undergraduate school; another student would be chosen in each successive year to yield a steady annual cohort of four recipients. “That’s when it really became exciting for us,” states Mike Morrow (Social Science, ’72), the DADC’s current council chair. “Matthew Hynes was named our second student recipient beginning in the 2000-2001 school year. He was valedictorian at Clarence M. Kimball High School in Royal Oak. We all felt great about helping him get to MSU.”

The 7th Annual Tom Izzo Spartan Golf Classic will be held on August 20, 2003 at Boulder Pointe Golf Club and Conference Center in Oxford. Event Chair Jack Withrow (Engineering, ’54; Business, ’71) notes, “This is going to be the biggest outing yet, bringing MSU friends together for a great day of golf as well as a putting contest, raffle, auction, reception, dinner, entertainment, and prizes for our winners.” Bill Brink (Business, ’54), event vice chair, notes they have a lot riding on the event’s success—success that comes only through a full year of work on the part of members and volunteers. “Now we have Elizabeth Handran, our 2001-2002 student from Fraser High School in Fraser, as well as Alexander Fox, our 2002-2003 student from Wylie E. Groves High School in Beverly Hills. We have bigger awards and more students in mind!”

The scholarship program is not the DADC’s sole effort. “From the earnings of the golf outing,” explains Treasurer Carole Winnard Brumm (Business, ’79; ’81), “we also support two additional funds.” One is the MSU President’s Special Initiatives Endowment Fund that allows the president to choose something he would like the DADC to support. In 2000, for example, the group joined others in providing improvement funds for Cowles House, the president’s home and a key event location on campus. The DADC also supports the MSU Athletic Director’s Special Initiatives Fund, most recently tapping it to help complete the Alfred Berkowitz Basketball Complex.

The DADC provides more than cash support. For example, the members maintain a list of the clubs to which they belong. “When the College of Social Science wanted to host several important events in the Detroit area,” reports Marietta Baba (Business, ’94), dean of the college, “a DADC member offered access to a wonderful venue that otherwise would have been unavailable to us.” On May 28, 2003 the members will host an Estate Planning Seminar at Orchard Lake Country Club to provide information to area alumni and friends on how to make future gifts that result in support for MSU and tax benefits for them. And their monthly breakfast meetings provide a chance for camaraderie with other Spartans.

Commencement continued on cover

To learn more about contributing to the museum’s expansion project and for the list of naming opportunities, call Rebecca D. Surian, Director of Development, College of Arts & Letters, at (517) 355-4725, or Susan J. Bandes at (517) 355-9836. For more information and additional images of the planned expansion, visit www.BAMatMSU.org.
On Thursday, May 8, MSU students, administrators, faculty, staff, alumni and friends gathered at the formal dedication of the Delia Koo International Academic Center. The center is named for Delia Koo, whose desire to provide a place for international students to learn English and acclimate to American society prompted her to make a gift to fund the third floor addition to the International Center building. The 12,000 square foot expansion provides classrooms, an office for the Volunteer English Tutoring Program (VETP), and additional space for the Office of International Students and Scholars and the Asian Studies Center.

Delia Koo was born in China in 1921. In 1941 she attended Radcliffe College (Harvard University), where she completed a master's degree (1942) and doctorate (1947) in English.

She received an M.A. in Mathematics from Michigan State University in 1954, and subsequently launched a twenty year teaching career as Michigan State University in 1954, and subsequently launched a twenty year teaching career as an international alumna and the largest gift to date to International Studies and Programs. MSU Board of Trustees member Dolores Cook spoke about the need for a more global atmosphere at MSU, and the importance of international studies. Board of Trustees member Don Nugent was also present at the ceremony.

Charles Webb, vice president for University Development, provided his insight into Delia's personal side, sharing memories from the past twenty years of Koo's involvement with MSU. Physics graduate student Xiaodong Liu spoke about how participating in VETP transformed his life at MSU, and his appreciation of Koo's willingness to give of herself to international visitors. Anthropology and African Studies student Zakia Louise Posey explained how the new wing has changed the atmosphere for international students, allowing them to congregate and learn from one another.

Interim President and Provost Lou Anna K. Simon spoke about MSU's international presence, and the importance of being globally focused and locally grounded. Through the Study Abroad Program, thousands of MSU students have benefited from an international experience, bringing the knowledge and perspective they gained back to East Lansing.

Koo remarked that the completed center allowed for much-needed space to create an office for VETP, classrooms, additional space for the Office of International Students and Scholars and the Asian Studies Center, and essential space for international and American students to meet and get to know each other. Her gift will enhance the lives of the entire MSU community.

Jeannine Warrington James (Human Ecology, '57) have created the Sylvan T. Warrington Visiting Lectureship in Ethics and Leadership in The Eli Broad College of Business with a gift of $150,000.

Jeannine and Ed believe ethics starts in the home and develops throughout the entire education process. Jeannine is chairman of the Chicago Foundation for Education, where the emphasis is Character Education in the public schools. Ed is the incoming President of the Western Golf Association, which supports Evans Scholars Foundation, the largest privately funded scholarship foundation in the country. Michigan State has 68 current Evans Scholars in the Evans Scholarship Chapter House on campus.

The lectureship, named for Jeannine's father, is designed to bring high profile persons with real life experiences with ethics and leadership to the students at MSU. Her father was a strong believer that land-grant colleges provide an opportunity for citizens of all different economic circumstances to gain an education. MSU fills that need.

“We're looking forward to the first lecture, as I want to see the values espoused by my father established as a beacon for students to follow,” said Jeannine.

“Our society and our economy depend on good will and trust. We hope these guest lecturers will inspire MSU students to hold these values high for themselves and pass them on to future generations.”

Robert Duncan, Eli and Edythe L. Broad Dean of Business, elaborated, “Our mission at the Broad School is to develop strategic change leaders for the global marketplace, and the first role of a leader is to create an ethical climate in an organization. We’re grateful to the James family for a gift that enables us to bring lecturers to campus who will serve not only as teachers, but also as living role models for ethical behavior.”

For more information about creating a lectureship or other endowment, contact The Eli Broad College of Business Development office at (517) 353-4340.
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The Campaign for MSU Update

cince the kickoff of the public phase of The Campaign for MSU on September 20, 2002, several gatherings have brought Spartans together to focus on growing MSU’s endowment and maintaining MSU’s excellence. Small discussions were held in East Lansing, Lansing, Austin, Texas, and Dallas, Texas. These events allow MSU administrators to share their vision of the challenges facing MSU, and the goals of the capital campaign.

On February 27, former MSU President Gordon Guyer hosted a gathering of alumni and friends in Lansing. On March 10, former First Lady Pauline Adams hosted a similar gathering in East Lansing. Provost Lou Anna K. Simon (now Interim President) attended both discussions and greeted the groups with remarks about the elements of partnerships and future that make MSU special. She also commented on making graduate education accessible, in addition to undergraduate education, recognizing that MSU needs scholarships to make that possible. A major goal of The Campaign for MSU is increasing MSU’s endowment to $1 billion.

In February when they received invitations to events in Austin and Dallas, little did Texas Spartans know they would also be hosting Michigan State basketball at the NCAA Tournament in San Antonio the same weekend. The success of the team heightened the excitement of the discussions. President Peter McPherson traveled the state, making appearances at many of the weekend activities. While rightfully proud of our team’s accomplishments, McPherson stressed the opportunities The Campaign for MSU makes possible for academics and the core mission of MSU.

On March 28, alumni and friends were hosted by Fred and Marilyn Addy at their spacious home in the hills of Austin. Guests had an opportunity to meet President McPherson and hear about campus plans for the future. The Addys were wonderful hosts, and everyone enjoyed the evening’s conversations, which sparked some new friendships. Some of the guests were later driving to San Antonio to see the Men’s Basketball team play the Maryland team.

Jim and Dianne Pasant hosted over twenty area alumni and friends in their Dallas home on March 29. President McPherson answered questions and shared his insights into the challenges MSU will face in the next few years. Spartan guests were animated and informally chatted together, sharing experiences and learning about connections with each other from campus and in their current daily lives. Matt Pasant was the newest MSU alumnus to attend, and his sister Sarah, a senior at MSU, will soon be joining the ranks of alumni.

For more information about The Campaign for MSU, visit www.givingto.msu.edu, or contact University Development at (517) 355-8257.

$1.3 Million PeopleSoft Software Grant Benefits LIR

ichigan State University’s School of Labor and Industrial Relations, a premier center for teaching, research and outreach on issues related to work and employment, human resources management and labor relations, is one of the latest institutions to join PeopleSoft On Campus. PeopleSoft USA, Inc. of Pleasanton, California, recently awarded the school a software and faculty training grant valued at $1.3 million.

Michigan State will offer several graduate human resource information systems courses based on PeopleSoft Human Capital Management. In commenting on the software gift, Professor James Dulebohn, assistant professor of Human Resources and Information Management, stated, “We are very grateful to PeopleSoft for their generous gift to MSU. This gift will enable us to provide our master’s students, majoring in human resources management, with cutting-edge software skills using the world’s premier commercial human resource information system software product.” In addition, the university plans to integrate PeopleSoft software into future HR Strategy and Compensation courses. The implementation, faculty training and curriculum development began last fall.

PeopleSoft On Campus is an industry-academic partnership that provides software, faculty training, educational materials and technical support to higher education institutions. The program’s primary goal is to help colleges and universities update their curricula and produce graduates with expertise using enterprise management tools.

“This gift will enable the school’s graduate students in human resources management and labor relations to be more effective strategic business partners in the organizations in which they will become employed,” School of Labor and Industrial Relations Director Theodore Curry stated. “Along with our recent computer lab upgrade project, provided through a generous gift from IBM, and smart classroom renovation project, provided through a generous gift from Ford Motor Company, MSU LIR students will be second to none in technology enhanced learning.”

Students use the PeopleSoft software in the LIR lab with hardware donated by IBM.

For more information about making a gift to the School of Labor and Industrial Relations, contact Bob Busch or Allian Jerome toll free at (866) 678-2005.
RACE FOR THE PLACE AIDS MSU SHELTER

The ninth annual Race for the Place 5K benefiting MSU Safe Place, the nation’s only on-campus domestic violence shelter and prevention program, took place on Sunday, April 13, on the campus of MSU. The race included a team competition for groups of five or more participants, where team members raise money and participate together using any combination of running, walking or wheeling. Teams are encouraged to identify themselves with self-designed T-shirts, with banners or in other creative ways.

“This is a great opportunity for groups of friends, families, students or co-workers to exercise, support a worthy cause and have a really good time,” said Holly Rosen, director of MSU Safe Place. Co-chairs for this year’s race—MSU First Lady Joanne McPherson, First Lady of MSU Basketball Lupe Izzo and MSU women’s basketball coach Joanne P. McCallie—noted that the race is a great family event that helps raise awareness as well as funds.

Undergrads Fund Sparty Project

There are some pretty amazing students on the Michigan State University campus, and recently, the Sparty Project has benefitted from the actions of two of them.

Mike Hanak, Human Biology senior in the Lyman Briggs School, and Nick Spina, Political Science and Policy and Applied Economics dual major junior, have led the fundraising campaign to ensure that Sparty stands tall and proud for generations of Spartans.

The Spartan (or Sparty as we affectionately call him) was dedicated in 1945 and is believed to be the largest free-standing terra cotta sculpture in the world. At 9 feet 7 inches and 3,000 pounds, he is a cherished icon. Although he underwent a major refurbishing in 1989, the Michigan weather has taken its toll.

In 1989, during the Save Our Sparty (SOS) Campaign, someone had the foresight to make molds of the refrubished statue. These molds will be used to cast a bronze Sparty so the original statue can be kept in an indoor public place (yet to be determined) and out of the elements.

The Sparty Project also includes a new plaza area in the north end of Demonstration Hall Field and an endowment to care for Sparty in perpetuity. Road re-design improvements are planned once MSU funding is secured. The Sparty Project fundraising only includes the new statue, plaza area and the endowment.

Mike and Nick are active members in the Student Alumni Foundation (SAF). They felt it was very important that current students lead the way in this fundraising effort. With their leadership, the Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) and SAF have made gifts totaling $100,000. Before approaching any MSU alumni, Mike and Nick were the catalysts for 20% of the campaign total! They both felt it was important for current students to be major donors for this project. Students should be very proud knowing they are a huge part in keeping Sparty and that they are setting a philanthropic example for current, past and future Spartans to follow.

Fundraising for this project is scheduled through June 2004. MSU hopes to unveil the new statue during the Sesquicentennial celebration in 2005.

To learn more or to make a gift, log on to www.givingto.msu.edu/spartyproject. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Wenk at (517) 355-9582 or by e-mail, wenk@cpp.msu.edu at the Campus Park and Planning development office.

Wylie Gift Creates Human Ecology And Business Scholarships

Like so many MSU alumni couples, Jon and Monica Wylie met while attending Michigan State University during the 1960s. They married soon after Monica graduated in 1967 with a degree in Human Ecology; Jon graduated in 1966 with a degree in Business and Marketing.

The couple recently relocated from Southern California to Walnut Creek in Northern California and last month opened up their new home for an alumni reception to meet the Dean of Human Ecology, Dr. Julia Miller. It was at this reception that the Wylies were presented with their Snyder Society plaque honoring them for their $200,000 commitment made through a deferred gift.

Their planned gift will create scholarships for both of their colleges: The Monica & Jon Wylie Scholarship in Human Ecology; and The Jon & Monica Wylie Scholarship in Marketing. Their love of education and MSU has never waned. It is their desire to help other students attain the education they were able to provide their own three children. In doing so, they hope that those receiving these scholarships will someday want to reach out and help others.
A new $30,000 endowed scholarship fund established by F. Brooks and Jan Thomas will benefit worthy and capable students enrolled in The School of Hospitality Business. The announcement was made at The School’s 2002 Patriarchs Breakfast.

The F. Brooks and Jan Thomas Endowed Hospitality Business Student Scholarship is intended to encourage and assist qualified needy and deserving hospitality business students at MSU to be more competitive in business by providing an opportunity for them to broaden their educational and cultural experiences. “Because of the vision and kind generosity of Jan and Brooks Thomas, our students—the future hospitality business leaders—will benefit forever. These two Michigan State alumni serve as inspirations for those of us who are also MSU graduates,” says Dr. Ron Cichy, director of The School.

Brooks Thomas was raised in southwestern Michigan and worked in the hospitality industry as a youth. He graduated from Michigan State College in 1947 with a bachelor’s degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management. He met his future wife, Jan, on campus when both were students. They married in 1946, with Jan graduating that same year with a degree in journalism.

Brooks began his professional career as an assistant catering manager at the Orrington Hotel in Evanston, Illinois. In 1954, he accepted a newly created position as foodservice director with Marathon Oil Company and developed a top quality dining facility for executives and employees at the company’s world headquarters. He was then promoted to worldwide foodservice director, which included in-flight foodservice, offshore drilling rigs, and leased hotel suites. Brooks completed the MBA Executive Program at Stanford University in 1965.

In 1967, he was again promoted to division manager of office properties worldwide and eventually retired in 1981 after 27 years of service with Marathon Oil Company. During his long and illustrious career with Marathon, Brooks employed Michigan State University graduates and influenced several students to enroll at MSU.

His formula for success in business was to master the art of communication, build problem-solving abilities, and focus on guest satisfaction. In 1996, the Thomas’ began co-hosting The School’s Patriarchs Breakfast, where graduates of 50 years or more gather together each year to share stories and memories. In 1998, Brooks was inducted into The School of Hospitality Business Alumni Association’s Wall of Fame Class of Builders.

“The techniques of management and leadership acquired at MSU were invaluable in my professional life, but most of all it was the support provided by the university during the years after graduation that made the difference in my success,” said Brooks. “Faculty members were not only teachers; they were mentors and continued to be so when I was no longer a student. Every job I held after getting my degree was referred to me by Michigan State. The opportunities I had are directly attributable to MSU, and it’s our hope that this scholarship will provide similar opportunities for generations to come.”

Brooks and Jan Thomas have three grown children: Brad, who lives in the Detroit area; Bruce, Houston, TX; and daughter, Sydney Stevens, Savannah, GA. They also have six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. We salute these loyal Spartans!

If you are interested in establishing an endowment fund to benefit The School of Hospitality Business or The Eli Broad College of Business, please contact the Broad School’s Development Office at (517) 353-4340.

Thomas’ Endow Hospitality Business Scholarship

On Saturday, February 15, 2003, the annual President’s Spartan Basketball Reception hosted major donors at the Breslin Basketball Complex. President Peter McPherson and Trustee David Porteous thanked and encouraged the audience for their continued support to MSU. Men’s Basketball Head Coach Tom Izzo and Women’s Basketball Head Coach Joanne P. McCallie rallied spirit for their Green and White. After a few words from Football Head Coach John L. Smith, fans moved to Breslin Arena to cheer the Spartans to victory.

Men’s Basketball Head Coach Tom Izzo talked about the importance of donors.

PRESIDENT’S SPARTAN BASKETBALL RECEPTION

 Athletic Director Ron Mason provided an autograph to a young fan.

President McPherson greeted guests.
RIVERSIDE HOSPITAL GUILD FUNDS
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIPS

Riverside Hospital in Trenton, Michigan, may no longer exist, however its legacy will live on forever through the students of MSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine. Riverside Hospital, formerly part of the Henry Ford Health System, closed its doors on December 31, 2002. While preparing for the closing of the hospital, the Riverside Osteopathic Hospital Guild and members of the staff at the hospital found themselves with some funds remaining. Rather than divide the monies between themselves, an idea was spawned to put it to charitable use. Dr. Margaret McQuiston, a graduate of the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and a doctor at Riverside Hospital, wanted to make sure that the hospital's legacy would remain. Dr. McQuiston inspired the members of the volunteer guild, who had worked very hard to raise money for hospital equipment, interns and resident assistants, to make positive use of the money remaining. Together the women of the guild created the Riverside Osteopathic Hospital Guild Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship was finalized and is endowed for $79,000.

The story doesn’t end here though. Dr. McQuiston and the fellow staff members of Riverside Hospital decided to follow in the footsteps of the guild and help out osteopathic medicine students as well. “Medical education has been important in my life, and I wanted to assist with an endowment. Assisting with the endowment will ensure that osteopathic education will continue,” stated Dr. McQuiston. Together the staff of the hospital was able to create an additional endowed scholarship for $45,000.

These scholarships are available for students of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. By creating an endowed scholarship, this gift will keep on giving for years to come. The average medical student graduates with a debt of $120,000. “Any defraying of the cost of education will help keep students in primary care medicine,” said William Strampel, dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine. “It’s the idea of paying it forward. If somebody does a good deed for you, then in the future that good deed can be magnified through others.”

For more information about creating an endowed scholarship in the College of Osteopathic Medicine, contact Director of Development Sharon Snyder at (517) 355-8355.

Calhoun County Students To Benefit From Ryason’s Generosity

With an eye on the future, Louis Ryason of Battle Creek has designated a vast majority of his estate to go to Michigan State University for student scholarships. With an initial planned gift of approximately $750,000 made through a charitable bequest from his estate, he has established the Louis H. Ryason Endowed Scholarship/Fellowship Fund.

Ryason, a lifelong resident of Calhoun County, hopes to enrich the future of the county as well as the lives of countless students by providing scholarships and fellowships. The Ryason Fund will pay for half of the cost of tuition for undergraduate and graduate level recipients who are graduates of high schools in the county.

“Hopefully, the students who receive the scholarships will come back to Calhoun County and contribute good things to the world,” said Ryason. The gift annuity provided a useful charitable deduction and will provide the university a future gift to my endowed fund while I get a nice return for as long as I live. In fact, much of my annual income is tax free.”

A modest man who made his money the old fashioned way through hard work and a simple, disciplined lifestyle, Ryason founded, owned and operated Grinding Services Company in Battle Creek. An avid ham radio aficionado, he also enjoys his antique radios and equipment and his antique pottery collection. Most importantly for MSU and its future students from Calhoun County, Ryason has a practical view of the importance of sharing one’s good fortunes.

“As far as I’m concerned,” Ryason said, “people should help someone else along rather than acquire possessions. People in this country live pretty well, and how many more television sets do we need?”

For more information on establishing a charitable gift annuity or charitable bequest in support of MSU, contact the MSU Office of Planned Giving at (517) 353-9268 or (800) 232-4MSU.

www.givingto.msu.edu