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Your Philanthropy At Work

Dr. Linda J. Nelson, a retired professor of Family and Child Ecology at MSU, has been an avid lover of art since her childhood. Her mother, Gertrude, a home economics teacher, taught her many traditional crafts, and Dr. Nelson still has her mother's hand-painted color and value charts from her art lessons in the 1920s. This long history of arts appreciation has led Dr. Nelson to pledge \$200,000 toward a project unveiled recently to expand MSU's art museum. Specifically, her gift will name the Gertrude Z. and Linda J. Nelson Discovery Gallery.

Dr. Nelson, a charter member of the Friends of Kresge and the first major donor to the expansion project, hopes that the initiative and the fundraising it requires moves along swiftly. "I hope that the construction can be completed quickly so that the whole community can enjoy the

increased space, the opportunity to see more of the collections, and that people of all ages can be enriched by art experiences," she said. "The arts belong in a beautiful setting as part of the total learning opportunity. Arts should be experienced and appreciated throughout life. We need to encourage and support this valued part of human expression."

For more information about the art museum expansion, contact Arts & Letters Director of Development Rebecca Surian at (517) 353-4725 or surian@msu.edu.

Linda Nelson poses in the Horticulture Gardens at the Art Museum's fourth annual "Twilight in the Gardens" fundraiser on September 14, 2003.



Students, Faculty & Staff Create MLK Endowed Scholarship



Left: (left to right) Robert and Lettie Green, and Mark Forrest at the MLK celebration. Dr. Robert Green was the celebration keynote speaker, and Mark was co-chair of the MLK celebration committee.

A major goal of *The Campaign for MSU* is to increase MSU's endowment. The Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Endowed Scholarship is a newly endowed scholarship that serves as an example of how MSU students and staff have worked together to make a scholarship a reality. Students provided much of the energy and legwork needed to establish the scholarship, and faculty and staff immediately responded with enthusiasm and the contributions sufficient to fulfill and surpass the \$30,000 necessary to create an endowed scholarship at MSU.

One of the primary donors to the scholarship is Venice Smith, coordinator for Multicultural Development in the Office of Affirmative Action Compliance and Monitoring. Venice has been a staff member at MSU for eleven years and had been thinking about making a significant financial commitment to MSU for some time. "When I decided to join Presidents Club, I wanted to make certain that my contribution would really mean something to students at MSU," said Venice. "After looking at a long list of programs to which I might contribute, I learned about a new scholarship that a group of hard-working students were trying to get off the ground—the MLK Endowed Scholarship. I truly felt like this was a cause where my giving would make a difference."

"What better way to share than by giving to a scholarship fund that honors a man who made his life work that of ensuring the civil rights of all people," she added. "By contributing to the MLK Endowed Scholarship, I am helping enable a student to complete a degree at MSU. When I look at my pay stub each month and see the word 'gift' in the deduction column, I actually smile. It makes me feel good to know that I am playing a part in helping a student receive their education." Then she added, "It also makes me feel like this is really my university."

Right: Venice Smith poses in her office.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR MSU DEVELOPMENTS

FALL 2003

STUDY ABROAD STRENGTHENED BY MSUFCU \$2.5 MILLION GIFT

About 130 new scholarships for MSU study abroad programs will be funded each year by a \$2.5 million gift from the MSU Federal Credit Union (MSUFCU). When fully funded in five years, the MSUFCU Endowed Study Abroad Scholarship will offer scholarships in amounts from \$500 to \$2,000 to all qualified students, regardless of their class level and degree program.

"Michigan State University has a long history of fostering global perspectives in teaching, research and outreach," said MSU Provost Lou Anna K. Simon, during her tenure as interim president. "Today's students are not fully educated unless they have a meaningful international experience, and this transformational gift will bring that experience within reach of many more students."

MSU's Study Abroad program is the largest of any single-campus university in the nation with nearly 200 programs in more than 60 countries on all seven continents. "It is the credit union's goal to be the leader in serving MSU, as well as our local community," said MSUFCU President and CEO Patrick M. McPharlin. "Our board of directors feels that the Study Abroad Program will enhance our students' confidence, offer them a broad perspective on human relations, and will make them more valuable world citizens. Our commitment to the university through the creation of this scholarship can only further enhance



The MSUFCU Board of Directors poses with Dr. Lou Anna K. Simon (center) after the gift agreement was signed.

the long-term partnership enjoyed by both MSU and the credit union."

Dean of International Studies and Programs John Hudzik noted the importance of the new scholarships. "The MSUFCU gift for study abroad scholarships is a magnificent contribution toward making study abroad—and the many benefits it affords—possible for our students," Hudzik said. "It is also a true leadership gift which we hope will prompt others to be as farsighted in the interest of providing access to all students."

The MSUFCU has supported MSU for nearly a quarter century. In 1999, it established the Endowed Chair in Financial Institutions/Investments, currently underwrites the annual All University Campaign and provides ongoing support for a variety of MSU initiatives. With this latest gift, the MSUFCU joins a prestigious group of donors who are recognized in the Williams Society.

The MSUFCU, chartered by a group of MSU professors in 1937, is now the largest university-

based credit union in the world. Serving 117,000 members worldwide, it has assets of more than \$1.2 billion and offers a full range of personal financial services.

For more information on how you can follow the leadership of the MSUFCU and help support MSU students wishing to study abroad, contact University Development at (517) 355-8257 or (800) 232-4MSU.

Malecks Endow Excellence Fund In Civil Engineering

Tom (Engineering, '66, '72, and '80) and Ellen (Education, '67 & '72, and Education Specialist, '83) Maleck believe in giving back to their alma mater. In appreciation for what Michigan State University has done for them, they have established the Thomas L. and Ellen E. Maleck Endowed Excellence Fund in Civil Engineering.

Tom currently holds three positions on campus, including associate professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, university traffic engineer, and co-director of the highly suc-

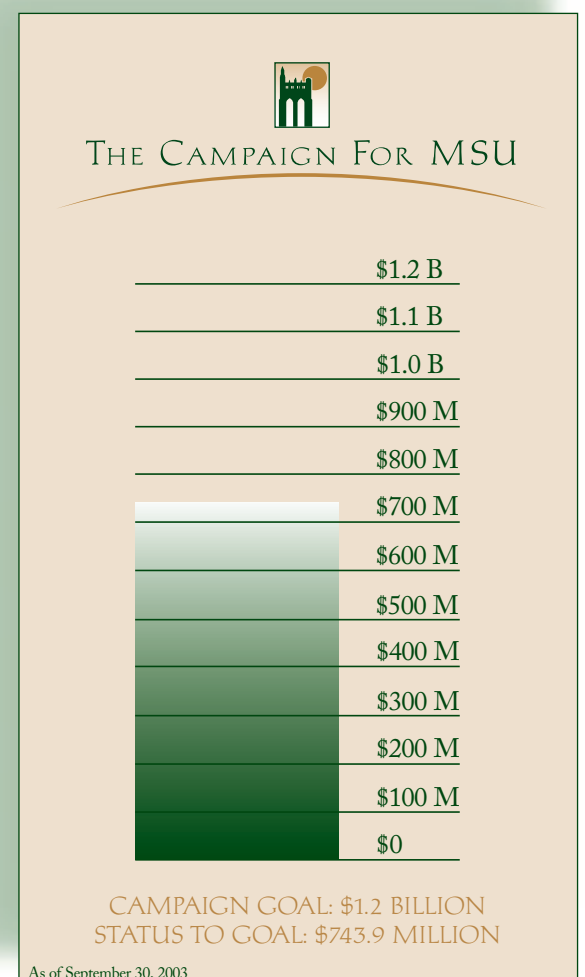


Tom and Ellen Maleck

cessful Volgograd Russia Study Abroad Program. Ellen is a retired principal from the Ovid-Elsie Area Schools. Both feel that MSU did so much for their careers and education, and they decided to support the academic activities of the university by creating an endowment. Endowed funds are never depleted because only investment income from an endowment may be used toward the fund's established purpose.

In talking about their gift, Tom said, "As a member of the faculty, I am committed to our program in every way including personal donations." He added, "If Ellen and I had waited until we could truly afford to give, we would never have made the commitment." The College of Engineering will benefit from this gift in perpetuity. It is crucial that the college has endowed funds in order to attract the best and brightest students and continue to provide an exceptional student experience.

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SCHMITT PLANNED GIFT BENEFITS COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE



Kara and Neal Schmitt

MSU Psychology Department Chairperson Dr. Neal Schmitt and his wife Kara have made a \$50,000 planned gift to benefit graduate students in the College of Social Science. The gift will fund an endowed graduate fellowship award program to be known as the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Graduate Fellowship Fund.

Dr. Schmitt has been a faculty member of the MSU Department of Psychology for 28 years and its chairperson since 2000. He is a past recipient of the College of Social Science Distinguished Faculty Award and is one of only 84 MSU faculty since 1989 to be recognized as an MSU University Distinguished Professor. Kara Schmitt retired from the State of Michigan in 2000 and now consults nationwide in writing occupational licensing and certification regulations for various professions.

The Schmitts have for many years provided outright gift support to the Department of Psychology, including leadership support for sponsoring graduate students in MSU Psychology's Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology program. They are currently recognized as members of MSU's Jonathan L. Snyder donor recognition society.

"Kara and I have long believed that privately-funded graduate fellowships have been a major factor in the continuing success of MSU Psychology's I/O program" said Neal Schmitt. "We view graduate support as one of the most

efficient and effective ways in which donors can visibly impact individual programs." The I/O Psychology

program at MSU has been ranked #1 in the nation for several years running. Neal Schmitt is an industrial psychologist with research interests in personnel selection, performance appraisal, and organizational decision-making.

College of Social Science Dean Marietta Baba said, "This gift will not only help our college reach our capital campaign goals, but we also hope Neal and Kara's generosity will serve to encourage and inspire other alumni, faculty, and friends to consider doing the same." She added, "We especially invite our friends to consider giving during their lifetimes, so they can see for themselves the benefits realized from their gifts and the many students whose lives are transformed as they realize their dreams."

For more information about making a gift to the College of Social Science, contact Director of Development Bob Busch at (866) 678-2005 toll-free, or email buschr@msu.edu.

Faculty, Staff And Retirees Support MSU

MSU has one of the most successful annual campaigns for employees in the Big Ten. Faculty, staff and retiree giving and the All University (All U) Campaign continue to grow and develop during the capital campaign. Current and retired faculty and staff committed nearly \$5.7 million to MSU last fiscal year, which brings their total gifts since the start of *The Campaign for MSU* to more than \$28 million. This support is essential to the university's mission and provides a compelling case as the university seeks additional financial support.

The All U Campaign Advisory Cabinet consists of faculty, staff and retirees, including Stella Cash, Gordon Guyer, Patrick Hesch, Phyllis Kacos, James Forger, Rodney Patterson and Diana Huizar Rivera. They are in charge of providing feedback on the planning, implementation and evaluation of the All U Campaign.

NEW EMPLOYEE DONOR SOCIETY MEMBERS*

2001-02	27
2002-03	52

* Current and Retired Employees

The spirit of the MSU community of past and present employees speaks volumes through the success of this campaign. Last year there was a seven percent increase in total participation with more than 5,400 donors. "Our faculty, staff and retirees are the best," noted Marti Heil, associate vice president for University Development. "They give back to MSU in so many ways. Fifty-two current and retired employees made new donor society level commitments," she continued, "which is an amazing 93 percent increase over the previous year's total of 27." In total, there are over 1,100 current and retired faculty and staff recognized in MSU donor societies.

Many units on campus made special efforts to host a variety of campaign activities, including kickoffs, presentations at staff meetings and receptions, as well as drafting a series of emails. "We feel that these events and activities had a direct and positive impact on the number of new special, major and annual gift level participants," said Cheryl Armstrong, director of Special and Annual Giving.

Once again, the MSU Federal Credit Union (MSUFCU) provided ongoing support for the All U Campaign. This support is essential to the campaign's ability to focus attention on MSU programs and giving to the university. The commitment shown by the MSUFCU is representative of the dedication of the entire MSU faculty, staff and retiree community. MSU current and retired employees continue to bring true meaning to the idea that giving begins at home.

Malecks *continued from cover*

Their gift qualifies them for recognition in the John A. Hannah Society. Tom is using payroll deduction to fulfill their pledge, and it is their intent to further support this fund once the pledge commitment is completed. Tom stated, "We both have been fortunate to have been awarded multiple academic degrees from Michigan State University. In deep appreciation for what Michigan State University has done for us, we have established this fund to aid future MSU students."

The goal of the endowment is to help students enrich their academic experience from participating in co-curricular activities related to the engineering profession; such as study abroad, attendance at national professional conferences, and competing in national events (i.e., steel bridge and concrete canoe programs). Eligible recipients will be Civil Engineering students and other students participating in Civil Engineering sponsored programs, including graduate, undergraduate and international students.

For more information about creating an endowment in the College of Engineering, contact Associate Director of Development Jonathan Hill at (517) 355-8339 or jhill@egr.msu.edu.

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*Michigan State University is an affirmative-
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Family Fund Scholarship Benefits MSU Employees

The Family Fund scholarship is funded by the MSU family of faculty, staff and retirees and is designed to benefit the children and grandchildren of eligible MSU employees. During the 2002-2003 year, the Family Fund received almost \$5,000 in new gifts from 50 faculty, staff and retiree donors. As of June 30, 2003, there was a total of just over \$75,000 in the fund.

This year, twelve incoming students were awarded \$1,000 each to help defray their college expenses. The interests and experiences of these



Jeff Aldrich and his mom, Barbara Walkington, who works in the Counseling Center.

students vary from Civil Engineering, Computer Science and Technology, to Horticulture and Arts and Letters.

Transfer student Jeff Aldrich attended another Michigan university for awhile, but didn't do very well—even though his standardized test scores were extremely high. He came back to the Lansing area and went to Lansing Community College for a short time, then enrolled at MSU. With the help of the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, he is doing well at MSU. This scholarship has made a significant difference in the number of hours he needs to work while going to school. His mom, Barbara Walkington, who works in the Counseling Center, said that as an employee of MSU, she is privileged to know such wonderful people who have been able to help, advise and direct her son with his educational process. Barbara said, "This award is good for Jeff's sense of self-esteem. We appreciate that this award has changed his life and he is working really hard to live up to his potential."

Christopher Mosser, a Haslett native whose mother works at the Small Animal Diagnostic Lab as a microbiologist, and who plans to go to law school after receiving his undergraduate degree said, "With rising tuition costs coupled with the myriad of years I plan to attend school, this scholarship helps provide the monetary funds necessary for me to accomplish all of my academic goals. Furthermore, this scholarship allows me to forego a part-time job and focus more free-time on schoolwork."

When asked what the scholarship meant to her, Jessica Kolp said, "It was an honor to be picked for this award. The recognition makes me really proud."

Her mother, Jill Kolp, a graduate secretary in the College of Agriculture and Natural



CANR graduate secretary Jill Kolp and her daughter Jessica.

Resources, said about the Family Fund, "My husband and I plan to give back to this scholarship." Because her husband works for General Motors there will be a matching gift, so that for every dollar she gives, General Motors will also give one dollar to the same account.

As members of the MSU family, we should be proud! We can be proud of these students and proud of ourselves for making this money available to them.

For more information about contributing to the Family Fund, contact University Development at (517) 355-8257.

Staff Create Endowment For Campus Fountains

If all the world's a stage, then somebody needs to be behind the scenes to keep it all running smoothly. That's part of the inspiration for the gifts from staff members Mary Mertz-Smith and Gavin Smith. As Hannah Society members, they have pledged a combination of cash and planned gifts to numerous MSU units, in addition to creating an endowment to ensure that funds are available in perpetuity. Their contributions include gifts to: WKAR Radio and TV, MSU Museum, Radio Talking Book, SOAR Telescope, Kresge Art Museum, Wharton Center for Performing Arts, Horticulture Gardens, Abrams Planetarium, and Campus Park and Planning.

Mary and Gavin believe strongly in funding areas that often go underfunded because they are unseen. One example of this is their endowment to Campus Park and Planning, which will provide for maintenance of the fountains, irrigation needs, benches and outdoor furniture, and annual and perennial display beds. With parents that were gardeners, it seemed a great match for them. Another bonus of giving back to MSU is the ease of setting up payments through payroll deduction. "With auto renewal and payroll deduct, we can continue giving to areas we've chosen without having to fill out forms every year," Mary said. "And if we want to change our designated gifts, it's very easy."

When considering their philanthropic gifts, Gavin said, "We give to MSU because the university plays such a large role in our lives." They have donated bricks to the Horticulture Gardens path-

way, and enjoy walking through the gardens and seeing them there. Their gift to the SOAR Telescope came as a result of their interest in astronomy. Mary added, "I enjoy listening to WKAR Radio in my car, so that was an obvious reason to donate there."

Gavin, whose dad was a professor at Central Michigan University, grew up in an academic environment. He stated, "We've chosen to remain close to academics, in a place where we are

encouraged to think and continue learning." Mary and Gavin enjoy the park-like atmosphere of the campus, which they feel enhances the unique learning experiences available at MSU. Gavin continued, "We wanted in some way to contribute to maintaining the beauty of campus in the hope that it would continue to attract world-class faculty who want to teach and conduct cutting-edge research in this special environment."

Mary and Gavin met while working at the



Gavin Smith and Mary Mertz-Smith pose in front of the Library fountain. The endowment they created is designed to keep the fountain running.

Wharton Center for Performing Arts, which is another reason that the MSU campus is a special place for them. They have each moved on to other positions at the university, with Gavin serving as assistant director/director of operations at the Breslin Center, and Mary serving as executive assistant in the governmental affairs office. They were married at the MSU Alumni Chapel, forever linking them to the campus. "We hope our gift inspires others," they both echoed.