Simons’ Bequest Gift Looks To Future

On Saturday, October 14, at the annual President’s Brunch, Dr. Roy J. Simon, director of telecommunication and transportation systems, made a “dramatic momentum” planned estate gift. This gift will, along with their prior gifts, elevate them to the newly formed Clifton R. Wharton Society, which recognizes top-level donors who have contributed cash gifts of $2.5 to $5 million or planned gifts of at least $3.75 million.

The latest gift will be used to fund two existing scholarships and establish a third.

“The Simons once again lead by example,” Charles Webb, vice president for development, said. “Their continuing generosity will have a lasting and profound effect on our university. Major gifts like these are essential and will be appreciated even more by generations to come.”

“Our commitment of dollars reflects our commitment to our alma mater,” Roy Simon said. “While our gifts always have been in gratitude for the past, they more importantly are evidence of our enthusiasm for the future—and for those who will shape that future—a MSU sets about the ambitious goal of going from land-grant to world-grant.”

Of the total of the new Simons gift, 40 percent will be added to the Drs. Lou Anna K. and Roy J. Simon Scholarship Fund. The Simons chose to continue to increase the endowed fund that provides financial aid to students in the School of Music, especially those in the Jazz Studies Program. An additional 30 percent will be added to another existing scholarship established by Roy Simon’s parents, the Mary Jane and Theodore B. Simon Endowed Scholarship Fund. The fund was established in 2004 and will support students majoring in business or engineering who also work at the Physical Plant Division, where Theodore “Ted” Simon worked and headed for years, from the post-war until 1984.

The remaining 30 percent will establish a new scholarship in the School of Music. The Drs. Lou A. and Roy J. Simon Endowed Marching Band Scholarship will help recruit and retain exceptional students in the MSU Marching Band.

Webb said the Simons have a giving history that spans four decades and that “they have said their cash gifts will continue.” Their major giving areas also have included the Wharton Center for Performing Arts, WKAR-Radio, Kresge Art Museum, and other areas.

Givens Show Their Support For Nursing Building Campaign

Drs. Barbara and William Given have been long-time benefactors of the MSU College of Nursing. Barb is on the faculty in Nursing and Bill is on the faculty in Human Medicine. They have a generous giving history to the university as recognized by their membership in the Jonathan L. Snyder Society.

They continued their support recently with a $30,000 gift to Nursing’s Life Sciences Building Campaign. Their gift will name a faculty office in the nursing addition.

“We believe in the college’s mission of enhancing the health of the community by providing excellence in nursing education, advancing the profession of nursing and serving as advocates for optimal health care for all people,” said Bill (Social Science, Ph.D., ’69). “Helping to create a new learning environment that will benefit the students, the faculty, and staff is exciting.”

“The nursing education that students receive at MSU is top notch, but the current facilities make it very difficult for everyone’s involvement because faculty and staff are housed in five buildings on campus,” added Barb (Education, Ph.D., ’76). “While current facilities have served the college well, they do not meet our current needs for

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Mastin Among Most Generous Donors To New Graduate-Level Seminar Room

On September 15, 2006, the College of Communication Arts and Sciences dedicated and opened a state-of-the-art graduate-level seminar room, made possible with more than $50,000 in gifts from alumni, faculty and friends of the college. To Teresa Mastin, the room has special meaning.

Mastin, associate professor of public relations, is one of several donors who supported the new Bradley S. Greenberg Graduate Seminar Room with a financial contribution. Her gift was one of the most generous.

“The College of Communication Arts and Sciences is a very special place. An example of which is the great number of individuals like Dr. Greenberg who have literally dedicated their lives to making the world better by increasing our understanding of the intricacies of communication,” she said.

Dean Charles Salmon envisioned creating a room to become the hub of doctoral education in the college, and to serve as a valuable academic resource for students. The Greenberg Room holds the dissertations of all doctoral graduates of CAS, as well as Greenberg’s major scholarly works. Named a Distinguished Faculty Member in 1979 and a University Distinguished Professor in 1990, Greenberg also has been honored with the National Association of Broadcasters’ Lifetime Achievement Award (1997), the Michigan Association of Governing Boards Distinguished Faculty Award (1997), the International Communication Association Career Productivity Award (2003), and the Broadcast Educators Association Distinguished Service Award (2005). He retired in 2004.

“When I learned the Bradley Greenberg Seminar Room was being planned, I felt compelled to honor those who have dedicated their lives to making the world a better place through the communication process,” Mastin said, “while also helping provide an elegant, welcoming space for those currently following in their footsteps as well as for those who have yet to come.”

For more information on making a gift to the College of Communication Arts & Sciences, contact Director of Development Belinda Cook at (517) 432-5672 or cookbp@msu.edu.
A Conversation With Dr. Charles Gliozzo

Charles and Marjorie Gliozzo of East Lansing are steadfast supporters of Michigan State University and have made financial contributions over the years that have created three endowed funds. The funds have supported a Study Abroad scholarship, an award for outstanding employees in the Clerical Technical Union, and most recently a scholarship for students seeking professional internships before graduation.

Dr. Gliozzo is professor emeritus of history, director emeritus of Study Abroad and currently consultant to the dean of International Studies and Programs. In a recent conversation, he talked about the reasons he and Marjorie focused their most recent gift on professional internships.

When establishing the Dr. Charles A. and Marjorie A. Gliozzo Endowed Scholarship Fund for Domestic and International Internships, you honored your daughters, Christine and Kim, both of whom benefited from internship experiences.

Why do you think internships in general are valuable to MSU students?

Students are always seeking to acquaint themselves in a practical way with opportunities available in their fields of study. An internship serves as a bridge between education and preparation for career opportunities.

Internships allow students to test the validity of their academic career choices while making a contribution to an organization. An internship experience can give a student an edge in seeking career opportunities. An internship serves as a bridge between education and preparation for career opportunities.

International internships allow students to test the validity of their academic career choices while making a contribution to an organization. An internship serves as a bridge between education and preparation for career opportunities.

Why is MSU a place deserving of your generosity?

MSU is a dynamic, energetic institution that has a synergy, particularly in the international field, that is unparalleled. The land-grant philosophy, a primary pillar of MSU, extends its academic learning to the community, to Michigan, and beyond its parameters nationally and internationally. This spirit of giving its expertise and helping individuals locally and in under-developed countries is another motivation.

The diversity of MSU’s environment—culturally, academically, internationally, the sciences and other fields too numerous to mention—truly manifests its mission of “advancing knowledge and transforming lives.”

Similarly, there is community camaraderie that adds to a quality of life that is meaningful to colleagues and to families.

You’ve chosen to endow the fund which means that the principal remains in perpetuity and grows over time while a portion of the annual interest earned is used to fund your internship program. Why did you decide to designate that the fund be managed in this way?

Perpetuity is the key word. The continuity means that within time more and more students will be the beneficiaries. The goal is to have sufficient funds to enhance the professional development of any eligible student. The fund’s longevity gives those students that opportunity.

What do you hope is the ultimate, long-term outcome of your gift for MSU and for the students it will benefit?

The outcome of the endowment is that it establishes a precedent. That it acknowledges the importance of internships for students in maximizing career opportunities and provides the motivation for them to seek internships. It is our hope that domestic or international internships will be a requirement in a student’s education since it will be a formidable step in preparing them as learned citizens of the 21st century.

I saw first-hand the benefits that our daughters received from their internships during their collegiate careers in learning the qualities of leadership, the nuances of issues and personalities, public relations, and placement opportunities.

What type of motivation can you offer to a person thinking about supporting MSU with a financial contribution?

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

The impact of this statement by Winston Churchill conveys a lesson to anyone who wants to make a difference. We are not immortal. To give a gift during your lifetime is to make a contribution that constitutes a family legacy, has the potential of changing lives, and implements that long-lasting desire to enhance interest in your field of study.

The time is now when you are living to see the fruits of your beneficence. The enjoyment of giving cannot be measured in words but in knowing that you had taken a small step in helping someone. Who knows in the future what cause and effect will have on that individual and society? Make a difference and you will be a better person for it.

Wilcox And Del Buono Create Collections Endowment

Michigan State University Libraries were pleased to learn of a collections endowment established by Provost Kim A. Wilcox (Com Arts/Honors College, ’76) and his wife, Diane Del Buono. The endowment is for the Library Agricultural Collections.

Diane and Kim wanted to make a financial commitment during The Campaign for MSU and chose to apply their donation to a cause dear to their hearts. They share a deep concern for sustainable farming systems throughout the world.

“A strong library is the core of a university, and Diane and I are proud to help strengthen MSU’s core,” Kim said.

“It is even more satisfying to be able to also invest in one of our personal interests, world hunger and sustainable agriculture, and one of the institution’s historic strengths.”

Diane and Kim look forward to seeing scholars use the resources purchased with proceeds from their endowment. These scholars will then add to the body of research necessary to one day eradicate hunger through agricultural practices that are sustainable.

“It is our fondest hope that library materials will continue to be used by MSU researchers to produce cutting edge research that may address sustainable agricultural system development for the benefit of those who will follow us,” remarked Libraries’ Director Clifford Haka upon learning of this generous gift. “We applaud Kim and Diane for their forethought and empathy.”

Provost Kim Wilcox and his wife, Diane Del Buono.

The Wilcox and Del Buono bookplate designed for the collections endowment their gift is funding in the MSU Libraries.

www.givingto.msu.edu
established in 2006 by Professor Emeritus of Teacher Education Joyce Putnam and her husband Jim, the Joyce and Jim Putnam Endowed Fund in Urban Education comprises two components, an endowed scholarship and a chair. The Joyce and Jim Putnam Endowed Scholarship in Urban Education provides significant financial support for students from urban districts interested in and committed to working with PreK-12 learners from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, particularly with students living in poverty. Equally important to the sustainability of this vision, the Putnams have created the Joyce and Jim Putnam Chair in Urban Education. This prestigious position will be awarded to a faculty member whose interest is in urban education. The Putnam Chair will oversee the Putnam Scholarship Program.

The Putnams observed through their work and experiences in both Flint and Port Huron, Michigan, that many urban students prevailed over difficult conditions in their home and neighborhood environments. Due to a lack of financial support, however, many of these bright, energetic students could not go on to realize their full potential. In many cases, these students ended up pursuing life directions that were not fulfilling and not of their primary interests. Through their gifts, the Putnams are supporting the dreams of talented urban students who want to pursue a career in teaching, and giving them the opportunity to realize this dream at a top nationally-rated teacher preparation program.

Your Philanthropy At Work

or 40 years at MSU, everywhere from the Leroi Lab in the basement of the Chemistry Building to the Dean’s Office at Natural Science, Dean George Leroi has played an instrumental role in teaching, research and leadership. He has touched the lives of thousands of students, faculty and staff at MSU. During his tenure, the college experienced growth in facilities, graduates, and research funding, and he never lost focus on the students and the fundamental importance of education. With this in mind, the college invited six former colleagues and students to return to campus on October 6, 2006 for a symposium honoring the Dean. At a dinner following the symposium, guests expressed their appreciation of Dr. Leroi and were informed of the creation of the George E. Leroi – College of Natural Science Strategic Visioning Fund, an endowment that will give the college flexibility to seize the benefits of continually evolving opportunities in science and mathematics. It will provide the resources necessary to compete internationally in the evolution of the physical, mathematical, and life sciences. Contributions to the endowment will ensure that the legacy of Dr. Leroi’s strategic vision will forever be a part of the College of Natural Science. For more information on supporting the fund, contact Suzette Hittner at (517) 353-9855 or hittner@msu.edu.

Dean Leroi posed with family friends Thuy-Tram Nguyen (left) and her parents, Thuy-Lien and Phuong Nguyen. Photo: Matt Swope

The Leroi family, from left: sons David and Christopher, George and his wife Ellen, and sons John and Ben. Photo: Matt Swope

Retiring Dean George Leroi visited with President Lou Anna K. Simon who spoke at his retirement dinner. Photo: Matt Swope

Dean Leroi (center) listened along with other guests to the many presenters who spoke at the symposium held in his honor. Photo: Tom Atkinson

John Davis, Joselle Gilding and Elizabeth Simmons were among the guests enjoying dinner. Photo: Matt Swope

Dinner guests share a laugh during the program. Photo: Matt Swope