Ferris gift honors legacy of MSU passions

Active members of the MSU and East Lansing communities, Faculty Emeriti John N. (Jake) and Maxine Ferris recently made a $100,000 gift to assist undergraduate students in several areas of interest to them. The Ferris chose to support undergraduate education in agriculture, communication technology, debate, international experience, and athletics.

Maxine earned her Ph.D. from the College of Communication Arts and Sciences; Jake earned his from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and was a member of the Department of Agricultural Economics, now the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics. Maxine was the director of Outreach Communications and on the faculty in the Department of Agriculture and Extension Education.

The couple used the matching funds from the Spartan Scholarship Challenge to establish two scholarships. One scholarship preferences students in the Honors College in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the other supports members of the MSU Debate team. “The (Spartan Scholarship) Challenge was a real plus for us to extend our donation,” Jake said.

Maxine and Jake were both competitive debaters in their undergraduate years — he at Purdue University and she at the College of Wooster. Their appreciation for collegiate debate experiences coalesced with their desire to assist the national championship-winning MSU Debate Team in continuing to recruit top participants. The couple valued their MSU assignments in England and South Korea and are delighted that both sons have benefitted from overseas study and/or international work opportunities. Consequently, a Ferris gift honors legacy of MSU passions

Rose gift creates graduate fellowships in water research

Dr. Joan and Tom Rose, who live in Williamston, have strong ties to Michigan State University. Joan’s position as professor and the Homer Nowlin Chair in Water Research in Fisheries and Wildlife coupled with her passion for water motivated the couple to establish a fellowship fund to support graduate students on campus who are doing research in water: fresh or salt.

The Rose Graduate Fellowship in Water Research will benefit students enrolled in any graduate program at MSU to help address the looming global water crisis and support the next generation of scientists who will help solve water problems here in Michigan, the Great Lakes, nationally, and globally. A part of the Rose’s gift came from the National Water Research Institute’s Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke Water Prize, presented to Dr. Rose in 2001 for significant contributions to water science and technology. Dr. Rose’s affiliation with MSU began eight years ago, but her connection to the Great Lakes and to water quality and health goes back to the Cryosporidium outbreak in Milwaukee in 1993. The Michigan Water Works Association was one of the first in the region to invite Dr. Rose to discuss this emerging threat to public health and water supplies. Her decision to move from the University of South Florida was due to the excellence in aquatic sciences and global perspective at MSU. She co-directs the Center for Water Sciences and the Center for Advancing Microbial Risk Assessment, and supervises the Water Quality, Environmental, and Molecular Microbiology Laboratory. More important, she plays a key role in the area of water research. Her vision sets MSU leading the state and becoming Michigan’s center for water research and education as well as Rose gift creates graduate fellowships in water research

Continued on page 2

In This Issue

Award honors Gliozzo’s international commitment  Page 2
Spartan Scholarship Challenge: Giving opportunity to students  Page 3
MSUCFU Champions Study Abroad  Page 4
Award honors Gliozzo’s international commitment

G
ing up in New York City, Dr. Charles Gliozzo was a Yankees fan with an Italian family that focused on two things — education and food.

Since then, Gliozzo’s studies and work have taken him all over the world and allowed him to donate both time and funds to programs that internationalize the student experience at Michigan State University. International Studies and Programs recently designated an award in his honor, The Charles A. Gliozzo International Award for Public Diplomacy.

The award will be given to someone who as a citizen diplomat, has demonstrated a commitment to promoting intercultural relations, building relationships “one handshake at a time” and enriching international educational exchanges.

According to Gliozzo, “students should be aware of the impact of global competition. An international dimension should be intrinsic to a student’s education— if not, you will find yourself on the outside looking in.” This view echoes the bold design of President Lou Anna K. Simon, who is focused on “transiong MSU from a land-grant to a global-grant institution.”

On his first trip overseas, leading a student group to Padua, Italy, for The Experiment in International Learning, Gliozzo’s eyes opened to the excitement of international immersion.

From there Gliozzo’s passion for internationalization led to his receiving two Fulbrights before advising other Fulbright scholars. His enthusiasm continued to grow as he served as the Director of Study Abroad programs at MSU from 1973-1993. Recognized by his peers, Gliozzo was elected to national and regional leadership positions focusing on international education.

Of the various funds Gliozzo and his wife Marjorie support as members of MSU’s Snyder Donor Society, many are related to international study and development. But Gliozzo doesn’t want to stop with programs already in existence.

He would like to see every student not only study abroad, but also to take advantage of an international internship.

Although he officially retired from MSU’s teaching faculty, Gliozzo has continued to consult on special projects. Last year, he worked with the Center for International Business Education and Research to build one of the most comprehensive online directories for international internships available today.

In addition, he continues to connect MSU students to the leaders who make up his vast network of personal and professional networks.

Gliozzo is very persuasive and is often the one successfully sending top professionals to visit campus to share their advice in the areas of public, citizen and business diplomacy with the campus community.

Far from his family dinner table in NYC, Gliozzo continues to encourage students and MSU community members toward a more global perspective by giving funds. Most important, he gives of his time, as he lives by the ideal of “thinking globally, but acting locally.”

For more information on making a gift to MSU International Studies and Programs, contact Director of Development Rolf Dietrich at (517) 432-7091 or visit www.isp.msu.edu/supporting.

Ferris Gift

number of years ago they established an endowed fund to support study abroad, international travel and other global initiatives for Agri-business and CANR Communication students. A new endowment will now support students in the Information and Communication Technology for Development Initiative, a collaboration of the Colleges of Communication Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and the Honors College that includes a specialization and study abroad program.

The remainder of their gift to MSU was designated for the George Webster Scholarship, a fund named to honor a former Spartan Football great that helps athletes to complete their MSU education. The couple has held season tickets to Spartan Football throughout their 45 years together and to Spartan Men’s Basketball since the 1970s. “It was important to us to find a way to give back when athletics has given us so much enjoyment,” Maxine said.

Jake and Maxine utilized the 2009 IRA rollover provision for their gift to MSU, which extended tax advantages for charitable gifts from IRA accounts.

For more information on making a gifted gift, contact the Development Officer in your college at MSU or the MSU Office of Gift Planning at (517) 884-1000.

For more information on the Spartan Scholarship Challenge, see page 3.

Rose Gift

water science and technology. Tom has a degree in landscape horticulture from the University of Arizona, where he focused on native plants and water savings. He maintains a strong interest in gardening and landscaping. He joined the MSU Administrative Information Services team in 2007 and works in the Help & Support Center.

“Water is the most important resource on earth,” Dr. Rose said. “Scarcity and pollution are impacting every part of our lives here at home and throughout the world. Water is at the nexus of energy and climate issues; important to food security, recreation, and our health. Water research will ultimately be important to sustaining life on this blue planet,” she added, noting that MSU is a leader in addressing and solving global problems.

The Roses’ decision to support graduate students, the Graduate School, and MSU through an endowed fellowship will make an immediate and long term impact not only because endowed funds grow over time, but more importantly because they will benefit graduate students for years to come.

For more information on giving to the Graduate School at MSU, contact Maria Benten, the Office of University Scholarships and Fellowships at (517) 353-0007.
Spartan Scholarship Challenge: Giving opportunity to students

Faculty, staff, and retirees from across campus are responding to the Spartan Scholarship Challenge to significantly increase scholarship support for students in need. Of the 50 new undergraduate scholarships that have been created, more than a dozen are the result of gifts from donors within the university.

Launched on November 1, 2009, the challenge leverages $7 million from a $10 million anonymous scholarship. For every two dollars given to establish scholarships, more than a dozen are the result of gifts from donors within the university.

Friends pool raises

Among the first to step up to the challenge were a group of MSU friends and colleagues. As the university faced reductions in state funding this past year, more than 130 faculty and staff donated their annual raises back to the university to support student scholarships. Five friends took this a step further by pledging to give back their raises for several years while also capitalizing on the matching opportunity.

Wives were consulted and the MSU Leadership Endowment for the Spartan Scholarship Challenge was created through gifts from Bill Latta (73, Social Science, 75, 83, Education) and Mary Ann Latta, (74, Human Ecology); Bill Beckman (89, James Madison) and Cindy Beckman (89, Business); David Brower (69, 70, Business); David Gift (75, Natural Science, 80, Engineering) and Debra Gift (77, Human Ecology); Jeff Kacos (71, Social Science) and Phyllis Kacos.

Recognizing tough climate

Wanting to help during a tough economic time, Sociology Professor Harry Perlstein and his wife Tari created their scholarship to benefit any undergraduate student with financial need. Harry has been a dedicated member of the MSU faculty for over 40 years and Tari has worked for the MSU Libraries. He is recognized internationally for his expertise in medical sociology, health care organizations and delivery, and evaluation research. The couple made their gift just before embarking on a new MSU adventure. They are currently living in Budapest where Harry is a Fulbright Scholar at Semmelweis University.

MSU Board of Trustee Member Dianne Byrum (74, Agriculture and Natural Resources) and her spouse James Byrum (74, ANR) were also motivated to give back in order to help students. Dianne is a partner with Byrum & Fisk Advocacy Communications and a veteran politician who served more than 20 years as a county commissioner, state representative, and state senator. James is the president of the Michigan Agri-Business Association. The couple credits their MSU education as an important part of their success. They established the James and Dianne Byrum Spartan Scholarship to help others succeed. "MSU, and in particular the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, has been a major force in our careers and we wanted to provide assistance to others who may benefit from experiencing the same educational opportunities," Dianne said.

Teachers honored

College of Engineering Dean Sarith Udpa and Professor Lalita Udpa saw the challenge as an ideal opportunity to honor the individuals who laid the foundation for their education and careers. The couple is establishing a scholarship in the names of their parents: Vasanthi and S. Ramamohan Udpa and Janaki and S. V. Srinivasan. "Our parents played a vital role in our early education," Sarith explained. "They were our first teachers and mentors, and the first to introduce the notion that knowledge is valuable for its own sake."

Careers marked

For Howard (Mac) (MA ’69, Education) and Helen (MA ’76, Human Ecology) Dashney, the challenge offered a chance to expand their support of excellence in education. The Mac and Helen Dashney Spartan Scholarship pays tribute to their lifelong careers dedicated to the education of students at Michigan State and in Michigan public schools. In Helen’s tenure at the Eli Broad College of Business, she has advised countless students in her roles as director of MBA Career Services and the Financial Markets Institute.

Bob and Reggie Noto established the Noto Spartan Scholarship Challenge to celebrate Bob’s fifteenth anniversary serving as MSU’s vice president for Legal Affairs and 30 years as a higher education attorney. A preference for College of Music students was a natural fit for the Notos, who have made previous donations to benefit MSU music students and have made music education a family priority. "We’ve been deeply impressed by the faculty and student performances we’ve attended," Bob said. "Most important, helping the College of Music attract the best students is critical to public recognition of MSU’s commitment to excellence in the arts and humanities, a necessary component of the university’s success, central to its ability to bring the most talented faculty, students, and staff—whatever their disciplines—to MSU."

Team spirit and leadership

The College of Arts and Letters, led by Dean Karin Wurst, together with Associate Deans Marilyn Frye, David Prestel, and Janet Swenssen, pledged gifts to create the CAI Dean’s Spartan Scholarship. The gift honors the team’s commitment to high quality programs and access. “The scholarship effort honors the collaborative nature of this leadership team in moving the College of Arts and Letters a significant step forward in enhancing the student experience, fostering, cultivating, and rewarding high quality teaching, research, and outreach,” said Dean Wurst.

Lasting impact

To students at MSU, there is no more important help than the gift of a scholarship. Scholarships ease the financial burden for many who otherwise might not have been able to afford the opportunity. MSU senior Jeremy Blaney came to MSU after four years in military service and noted he was humbled to receive a scholarship. “The gift of a scholarship is life-changing and transformative,” he said. “A Spartan can really change another Spartan’s life, who in turn could change another Spartan’s life...making it possible for one Spartan to really change the world.” Watch a video about Jeremy at www.givingto.msu.edu/ssc/testimonials.cfm.

Learn more at www.givingto.msu.edu or contact Director of Development for University Scholarships and Fellowships Jennifer Byerstam at (517) 432-7332 or speak with the development officer in your college or unit.

www.givingto.msu.edu
Each year Michigan State University’s faculty, staff, and retirees prove to be among the most dedicated and generous in the nation in giving back to support their university. Among those who have demonstrated steadfast and exemplary pride and commitment to MSU is Faculty Emeritus Marilyn Mook (MS ’73, Food Science and Human Nutrition). Marilyn has a 35-year history of giving to the university. She has been a leader in establishing significant support for WKAR and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) through cash contributions and through a charitable bequest.

A member of MSU’s Shaw Donor Society, Marilyn has established two endowments. The Marilyn Mook Endowed Scholarship is awarded annually to an undergraduate student in dietetics or nutritional sciences. The scholarship honors Marilyn’s years of service as a valued member of the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition where she was recognized as an outstanding advisor and instructor.

She also created a unique endowed fund to support professional development efforts at WKAR. As an educator, she recognized the need for continuing education for the staff in order to maintain excellence in public broadcasting. The Marilyn Mook Staff Development Endowment Fund supports many of WKAR’s professional staff in attending conferences and participating in other educational opportunities each year.

Marilyn has also made annual gifts, designating support for various MSU initiatives including classical music at WKAR.

Last year, Marilyn agreed to tape a testimonial for WKAR broadcasts due to her long history of support for the station and her desire to encourage others to do the same. In it, she noted “I contribute to WKAR because I feel the station is mine.”

She has also been a devoted volunteer for both WKAR Radio/TV and for the CANR, helping with pledge drives, Radio Talking Book reading, fundraisers, auctions, and the CANR Autumnfest. Her volunteerism was recognized by the MSU Alumni Association in 2006 when she was presented with the Alumni Service Award.

For the fifth year in a row, MSU has led the nation in undergraduate study abroad participation thanks in part to the MSU Federal Credit Union Study Abroad Scholarship, established in 2003 with an endowed gift of $2.5 million. The endowment provides scholarships for approximately 130 students each year to participate in an international academic experience.

At the 2010 annual scholarship recognition luncheon, President Lou Anna K. Simon extended remarks of appreciation for MSUFCU’s support, adding that MSU has both the capacity and an obligation to help students, Michigan, and beyond to benefit from new global realities. She noted that MSUFCU’s gifts to study abroad help the university to meet these responsibilities by enabling more students to broaden their global perspective.