forward thinking

Passing the Goal:

$1.5 Billion+

> Thanks to You!

Fall 2017
## Fall 2017

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All lectures are free and begin at 6 p.m. Reservations required. Reserve tickets online at case.edu/events/thinkforum or by calling 216.368.6062.

The 89,000-square-foot Tinkham Veale University Center opened in August 2014. Named after alumnus Tinkham Veale, the building serves as a hub uniting the campus and was a key priority of our capital campaign.

Photo: Perkins+Will
To Our Alumni and Friends:

This issue of Forward Thinking marks an extraordinary milestone for Case Western Reserve.

This summer you—our wonderful supporters—sent the capital campaign past its second, expanded goal of $1.5 billion—and you did it 18 months early.

The year before we launched this effort, the university raised $68.8 million. For the 2017 fiscal year that ended this past June 30, the figure was $181 million—another all-time record.

Look at the chart on the next page. See the widening gap between the two lines? It shows that the longer this campaign goes, the more people are contributing. To some degree, that trend carries even greater meaning than making the second goal. It shows that people increasingly recognize the exceptional promise that exists on our campus, and they want to help Case Western Reserve realize even more of it.

To Our Alumni and Friends:

"The generosity of our alumni and friends continues to amaze and inspire, as do the remarkable academic achievements their contributions make possible. These gifts are transforming our university."

— Barbara R. Snyder, President

Bob (CIT ’52) and Brenda Aiken exemplify this spirit. Inspired by the breakthroughs from our biomedical engineering department, the couple first pledged funds for scholarships. Yet as they learned more about individual projects, the Aikens found themselves wanting to do more. In particular, they were struck by groundbreaking research—for example, Professor Dustin Tyler’s work that allows individuals with prosthetic hands to feel differing textures. Professor Bob Kirsch, meanwhile, developed technology that allowed a paralyzed man to feed himself for the first time in years.

These examples so moved the Aikens that this year they committed $20 million to support research and education in biomedical engineering. They consider the act a gift to themselves as well—the chance to leave a legacy of impact that benefits others around the world.

We deeply appreciate the Aikens’ generosity, as well as the support that so many others of you have given to date. You have helped students afford to enroll at Case Western Reserve, and faculty to conduct research that changes lives. You have given the campus spaces where alumni can gather, students can hone artistic performances, and everyone—including the public—can create prototypes that can lead to new companies.

This campaign closes December 31, 2018. Every gift—no matter what size—makes a difference. For all that you have done—and, we hope, have yet to do—you have our most profound gratitude.

With appreciation,

FRANK N. LINSALATA
CHAIR, FORWARD THINKING: THE CAMPAIGN FOR CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

"The generosity of our alumni and friends continues to amaze and inspire, as do the remarkable academic achievements their contributions make possible. These gifts are transforming our university."

— Barbara R. Snyder, President
A decade ago Case Western Reserve faced a $19 million deficit, 12 percent alumni giving rate and leadership turnover that included four presidents in six years. So it was understandable that fundraising experts considering capital campaign prospects weren’t exactly optimistic. The institution’s last campaign ended 14 years earlier, and had raised just over $400 million.

Given that context, the experts suggested $800 million was the absolute highest goal the university should contemplate for the next effort.

But the university’s brand-new president had other ideas. President Barbara R. Snyder might still have been getting to know the campus, but on one point she had no questions: With so long between major fundraising projects, Case Western Reserve’s most pressing needs far outstripped $800 million. A goal of $1 billion might be a reach, but they at least had to try.
Ten years later, President Snyder stood before a digital screen that read $1,545,820,641. Not only had the campaign blasted past the first goal, but three years later it had passed the second, increased goal of $1.5 billion.

Nearly 55,000 people and organizations had committed support to Case Western Reserve during the course of the Forward Thinking capital campaign. Scholarships, professorships, academic programs, research, renovations, new buildings—gifts went to a broad range of areas, but all had a common purpose: making Case Western Reserve better.

Among the campaign’s achievements to date are:

- $717.8 million for academic programs and research (specifically $295.3 million from philanthropic gifts and non-governmental grants for research);
- $215.7 million for student scholarships and fellowships;
- gifts for 90 endowed professorships; and
- funds to build or renovate such structures as the Tinkham Veale University Center, Wijant Athletic and Wellness Center, Larry Sears and Sally Zlotnick Sears think[box] in the Richvow Mixon Building, Linsalata Alumni Center and Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center at The Temple-Tifereth Israel.

The president’s announcement came during the Blue Block party, a celebration that kicks off Homecoming each year. She also shared news of Bob (CIT ’52) and Brenda Aiken’s gift of $20 million to biomedical engineering (story, p. 10), trustee Don Richards’ (CIT ’79, MGT ’81) $1 million commitment to undergraduate scholarships (story, p. 9), and trustee Tim Callahan’s (MGT ’98) family foundation’s $2 million pledge to the Health Education Campus project (story, p. 8).

Even as she applauded these individuals and others, though, President Snyder continued to remind the crowd that the campaign does not conclude until December 31, 2018. The university still has more to do to make Case Western Reserve more affordable for talented students, and to attract and keep top faculty across the campus.

Fundraising continues for the Health Education Campus, the renovation of the Mather Quad, and an interdisciplinary science and engineering building in the Case Quad.

“Remember,” she urged, “we are not finished yet!”

The air-conditioned, 25,000-square-foot building gives the school much-needed space.
Students celebrate 1937 alumnus Tinkham Veale II and his $20 million commitment to a new student center.

Celebration of Tinkham Veale | May 3, 2010

The $1 billion campaign kicked off with $660 million raised during its “quiet phase.”

Campaign Announcement | October 13, 2011

After passing its first goal 2.5 years early, the university set a new mark of $1.5 billion.

Campaign Expansion | August 24, 2014

Dedication of Wyant Athletic and Wellness Center | October 9, 2014

Named for lead donor James C. Wyant (CIT ’65, pictured far right), the 26,000-square-foot building completed the Village at 115.

Dedication of First Phase of Maltz Performing Arts Center | September 27, 2015

The Cleveland Orchestra performed the Violins of Hope concert in the newly renovated space. Above: Milton and Tamar Maltz

Mandel School Wall-Breaking Ceremony | June 29, 2015

Mort Mandel (CWR ’13), President Barbara R. Snyder, and the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences Dean Grover “Cleve” Gilmore mark the start of a $9.2 million renovation and expansion project.
BY THE NUMBERS
Data as of September 30, 2017

$1.545.8 billion raised

90+ professorships

$215.7 million for student support

54,893 donors—30,000+ of whom are first-time supporters

$187.8 million from current and emeriti trustees

HEC Groundbreaking | October 1, 2015

A joint project of Case Western Reserve and Cleveland Clinic, the Health Education Campus will include dental medicine, medicine, nursing and physician assistant students in a 485,000-square-foot building designed to encourage interaction.

think[box] Dedication | October 1, 2015

The first four floors of the nation’s largest university-based open-access makerspace opened. Above: Larry Sears and Sally Zlotnick Sears

Fund Forward Celebration | March 29, 2016

At its annual spring celebration of philanthropy, Case Western Reserve celebrated supporters of one of the campaign’s top priorities: scholarships and fellowships for students.
Callahan Family Foundation Gift Honors Parents, Pushes University Past $1.5 Billion Campaign Goal

Tim Callahan is the leader of the organization that made the pledge that put Case Western Reserve’s capital campaign past its historic $1.5 billion goal.

Yet before a question can be posed about either of his roles in this philanthropic success, Callahan quickly interjects: “What is important to me is that this is about Joe and Mary.”

F. Joseph and Mary Callahan are Tim’s parents, as well as originators of the family’s foundation in 1968. Whatever impact this $2 million gift has on the campaign, another equally important to Tim: It honors them.

The funds—split evenly with Cleveland Clinic—will support the Health Education Campus (HEC), an iconic structure the university and hospital are building together. Tim’s late father served on the clinic’s board, and strongly favored such an alliance. “He was always looking for the next big thing,” Tim said of Joe, a naval officer and MIT-trained engineer who later grew a tiny Cleveland fittings company into a $1 billion enterprise now known as Swagelok. “For Cleveland, he thought that the next big thing was medical research and education. He thought that the university, with its medical school, was a natural fit with Cleveland Clinic.”

Four years ago, the two organizations announced a joint medical education building—and later expanded the vision to include dentistry and nursing. The 485,000-square-foot HEC opens in the summer of 2018, some of its technology—like Microsoft Hololens for anatomy—is already drawing global attention.

“It was clear to him a long time ago that some of the key components were in place to create a world-class collaboration,” Tim said. As a project officer on the nation’s first nuclear submarine, Joe Callahan had seen firsthand that “smart teams working together can solve pretty much anything.”

Joe and Mary were high school sweethearts in Lima, Ohio, who married after he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1945. Tim’s sister, Connie Richards, is secretary of the Callahan Foundation, while his wife, Nancy, is its treasurer. Tim and his wife both graduated from Case Western Reserve, he with an executive MBA, and she a master’s in public health. Daughter Margaret Callahan earned her doctorate in applied mathematics in 2016, and is serving as a Congressional Fellow on Capitol Hill this year.

As for the university’s overall fundraising feats, Tim offers an explanation that no doubt would appeal to his father: “It’s persistence that pays off. We just kept going, and didn’t quit.”

A Case Western Reserve trustee and member of its capital campaign committee, Richards made his second major philanthropic commitment to the institution—$1 million for undergraduate scholarships—this summer.

“Scholarship is a priority for the university, and for me personally,” Richards said. The gift gives preference to students from Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy (CVCA), on whose board he sits.

“This [fund] was a great opportunity to support both CVCA and Case Western Reserve.”

Richards previously established a fellowship for top students in the Master of Engineering and Management (MEM) program, a one-year degree offered through a collaboration between the Case School of Engineering and the Weatherhead School of Management. In addition to financial support, mentorship and career counseling are a large component of the fellowship, both of which recent fellowship recipient Nicholas DiFranco said were important.

“People like Don are a huge reason I was able to pursue a graduate degree, and be where I am today,” said DiFranco (CWR ’16, GRS ’17, engineering and management), who is now in the Life Sciences Leadership Development Program at Lubrizol. “He not only helped me figure out what I wanted to study and do with my career, but also helped me get there.”

In addition to his continued mentorship through the MEM fellowship, Richards looks forward to advising future undergraduate scholarship recipients to help them be successful as they make the transition to Case Western Reserve, and eventually as they prepare for their future careers.
Brenda Aiken began hearing about Case Western Reserve University soon after she started dating the man who would become her husband in 1957. “From the very beginning, he told me about his love for the institution,” she recalled during a September interview. “He was very proud to be a graduate.”

A 1952 alumnus, Bob Aiken majored in mechanical engineering and organized social activities for his fraternity, Beta Theta Phi. Both experiences helped him build a successful career at the DuPont Co. until his 1990 retirement as group vice president, petrochemicals. As the years passed, the couple’s thoughts turned to charitable giving. They knew they wanted to help others in a meaningful way. Inevitably, Bob’s alma mater came to mind.

After medical issues led to stretches spent in hospitals, the two found themselves struck by the extent to which technology had become such a significant part of health care. “I thought, ‘this has to be the future,’” Brenda recalled, “engineering and medicine.”
At first, they contributed to scholarships for students majoring in biomedical engineering. One recipient, John Nam (CWR ’17), hopes to help solve challenges ranging from cancer and other diseases to ills of the health care system itself. Another, Sai Somasundaram (CWR ’18), designed and built a device that quickly cools an infant soon after birth in case the baby cannot get enough oxygen to the brain.

“I know that I am going to be able to touch the lives of many people,” Somasundaram said, “and I couldn’t have done it without the [Aikens’] generous gift.”

As the Aikens learned more about the biomedical engineering department, they found themselves increasingly impressed.

“I was overwhelmed by seeing the artificial hand that can feel,” Brenda said of Professor Dustin Tyler’s breakthrough. “It just blew my mind. I told everyone about it.”

They were similarly moved by Professor Bob Kirsch’s work to allow a paralyzed man to control his limb with his brain—with wires and electrodes doing the work previously managed by injury-damaged nerves. Ultimately, the Aikens decided to make an additional commitment to biomedical engineering, specifically $20 million to support both education and research. Bob knows firsthand the influence of an exceptional academic experience. And they both recognize that breakthroughs like those from Tyler and Kirsch have the potential to help hundreds—perhaps thousands—of people.

“It’s a gift to us as well,” Brenda said. “There is a very emotional feeling... to look forward and see that we can make a mark on the world.”

— Brenda Aiken
Case Western Reserve has a long history of embracing diversity among its students, but hasn’t been nearly as successful in recognizing their accomplishments after graduation.

That is, until now.

This year’s Homecoming Weekend witnessed the unveiling of the inaugural six portraits of the Trailblazer Project, an initiative designed to broaden representation of accomplished alumni on campus.

“The project allows us to honor these great trailblazers, while also inspiring current and future generations of leaders,” explained Vice President of Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity Marilyn S. Mobley, whose office commissioned the paintings by local artist Bob Raack. “These portraits are yet another way for the university to demonstrate our commitment to diversity.”

While a half-dozen pictures represents a strong start, Mobley hopes to expand the collection in the years to come. Her office funded the initial efforts, but will be seeking philanthropic support for subsequent images.

The Trailblazer Project is an initiative designed to broaden representation of accomplished alumni on campus.

Fred D. Gray, JD (LAW ’54, HON ’92)

The Alabama native renowned for representing civil rights icons came north to Case Western Reserve because no law school in his home state would admit African-Americans—and Cleveland had a welcoming reputation.

Gray was determined to become an attorney to defeat segregation across the South. He was just 24 when he began working with Montgomery Bus Boycott heroine Rosa Parks; less than a decade later, he represented Martin Luther King Jr. and other activists seeking the right to march safely from Selma to Montgomery. He later represented victims of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study and continues to practice law to this day.

Sara J. Harper, JD (CLC ’48, LAW ’52)

Harper’s pioneering legal career began on this campus, when she became the first African-American woman to graduate from the university’s law school. The Cleveland native, who grew up in a public housing project, worked as a prosecutor while the city’s first black mayor, Carl Stokes, served his first term.

She went on to be the first woman to serve on the judiciary of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and co-founded the nation’s first victims’ rights program. She was one of the first two women to serve on the Ohio Court of Appeals, and then became the first African-American woman to become a justice on the state’s Supreme Court.
The project allows us to honor these great trailblazers, while also inspiring current and future generations of leaders. 

—Marilyn Mobley

Robert P. Madison (ARC ‘48, HON ‘04)

After earning his undergraduate architecture degree from Western Reserve University, this World War II veteran won one of 15 spots in a Harvard master’s degree program led by the founder of Germany’s renowned Bauhaus School.

But while his classmates were flooded with job offers after graduation, no firms reached out to him, the only African-American in the group.

Instead, Robert P. Madison did a Fulbright in France and then returned to Cleveland, where he opened the state’s first architectural firm led by an African-American (and the ninth in the entire country).

His projects included work on Cleveland Browns Stadium, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and other local landmarks. But the project that makes him proudest is the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal—built on the site of a former slave port.

“...will be an inspiration for future generations to emulate, succeed, and multiply. This is the most important reason for blazing a trail.”

—ROBERT P. MADISON

David Satcher, MD, PhD
(GrS ’70, anatomy; MED ’70; HON ’90)

David Satcher has devoted his life and career to advancing and promoting health. He earned his MD and PhD at Case Western Reserve University. Satcher was the 16th U.S. Surgeon General, and also served as assistant secretary for health in the Department of Health and Human Services and director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Satcher held leadership positions at the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, Meharry Medical College, the Morehouse School of Medicine and the Kaiser Family Foundation. He has received over 50 honorary degrees and numerous awards, including the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award.

Louis Stokes, JD (CLC ’49, HON ’91)

A 15-term congressman who became one of the most powerful leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives, Louis Stokes initially had little interest in elected office. It was his younger brother, Carl, Cleveland’s first African-American mayor, who persuaded the successful civil rights attorney to enter politics. In 1968, Lou became the first African-American congressman from Ohio, and he spent the ensuing decades advocating for housing and medical programs for the poor; among his proudest legislative accomplishments was the establishment of the Office of Minority Health as a distinct federal agency.

Stokes retired from Congress in 1999, and returned to Case Western Reserve as a distinguished visiting professor at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

“...will be an inspiration for future generations to emulate, succeed, and multiply. This is the most important reason for blazing a trail.”

—ROBERT P. MADISON

Stephanie Tubbs Jones, JD
(FSM ’71, LAW ’74)

Stephanie Tubbs Jones earned her undergraduate and law degrees from Case Western Reserve University, where she helped found the African American Society. She became the state’s first female African-American Common Pleas Court judge, the first female African-American county prosecutor in Ohio and the first African-American woman to represent Ohio in the U.S. House of Representatives. As a congresswoman, Tubbs Jones advocated for health care, education, children, voting rights, improved retirement plans and elimination of predatory lending practices. In 2016, Case Western Reserve dedicated its newest residence hall in her name, making the building the first on campus named for an African-American woman.

“The project allows us to honor these great trailblazers, while also inspiring current and future generations of leaders.”

—Marilyn Mobley
With workers installing premium sod this fall, the Nord Family Greenway is starting to live up to its colorful name. After eight months of construction, the dramatic urban landscape project connecting Case Western Reserve’s main and west campuses is on schedule for a spring 2018 opening.

Stretching the length of roughly six professional football fields, the greenway extends from the Tinkham Veale University Center to the east over to the Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center at the Temple-Tifereth Israel on the west. The work to date includes improvements to irrigation, grading of landscapes, and installation of 7,500 feet of pathways—80 percent of the total to be completed.

While the university is leading the project, part of the park-like space passes through land that the Cleveland Museum of Art owns. The City of Cleveland and Northeast Ohio Sewer District also have completed work key to the effort, while the Cleveland Foundation sponsored its original design competition and awarded the university a $1 million grant to support the project and a neighborhood engagement program. It is named in honor of the greenway’s lead donor, the Eric and Jane Nord family.

PROGRESS TO DATE:
- 75+ mature trees preserved and enhanced
- 200 of 275+ new trees planted
- 100 of 130+ light poles featuring advanced light fixtures donated by General Electric adorn pathways
- 8,000 of 9,000+ linear feet of pathway installed
- 100 of 650+ linear feet of precast seat walls—comfortable seating built into the landscape—installed

UPON COMPLETION, THE GREENWAY ALSO WILL FEATURE:
- 28 benches
- 20+ security cameras
- 12 bike racks
- 6 safe pedestrian crossings that feature pedestrian-activated crosswalk warning beacons to maximize pedestrian and cyclist safety
- 5 emergency phones
- Wi-Fi coverage throughout
Daniel Kingsley was 12 when he met doctors Alex Huang and Agne Petrosiute under distressing circumstances—he had just been diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Now cancer-free, the fourth-year biology major at Kent State University is pursuing a career in medicine, inspired by the children and physicians he met during his treatment.

Before starting college, Kingsley sought career advice from Huang, also a researcher at Case Western Reserve University. Huang suggested the student start work in his lab.

"With pediatric oncology," Huang said, "once you’re their doctor, you’re their doctor for the rest of their lives."

Not only has Kingsley spent the past three summers doing research with his former doctors, but he also secured fellowship funding from the St. Baldrick’s Foundation—an organization that has awarded investigators at the School of Medicine more than $2 million since 2008 to advance efforts to defeat childhood cancer.

"Things change so quickly," Huang said. Philanthropic support like St. Baldrick’s has provided "allows us to adapt in real time to what we think the most fruitful direction will be in research, and go after things that are a bit more risky—but potentially higher reward."

This year, the foundation honored Huang with one of its first Innovation Awards. The grant—his third from St. Baldrick’s—will allow Huang and his team to build on their recent progress in triggering children’s immune systems to attack cancer cells. One of his key collaborators on the project is Petrosiute, the physician who helped treat Kingsley—who is currently a St. Baldrick’s Scholar.

Providing guidance is important to Huang, who creates much of his own success to the support he received during the course of his career. Beyond offering research advice, Huang also tries to help members of his lab manage the emotional toll of working in pediatric oncology.

This year, Case Western Reserve recognized his efforts with the John S. Diekhoff Award for Graduate Mentoring. "Dr. Huang helped me navigate funding resources—including the St. Baldrick’s Award—and pursue a career as a physician scientist," Petrosiute explained. "Not only has he helped her as a researcher, "but most importantly, he taught me to be humble, show kindness to others, and believe in myself."

For Huang, such efforts are part of a virtuous circle. The more scholars he can help to succeed, the greater the odds of curing more young people like Kingsley. Support from organizations like St. Baldrick’s makes both missions possible. Huang has been so inspired that he organized the first head-shaving fundraiser with Case Western Reserve and University Hospitals in 2012; since then it has become an annual event that has raised more than $500,000 for St. Baldrick’s.

"We have great pediatric cancer research being conducted in Northeast Ohio," Huang explained. "With the right investment, there’s enormous potential to make an impact, not just locally, but to strengthen our leadership in the field nationally."
Dental Clinic to Find New Home as Part of Health Education Campus

Ken Chance decided to become a dentist after seeing elementary school classmates losing teeth because their parents could not afford to take them in for treatment. He attended Case Western Reserve University in part because of the dental school’s commitment to serving area residents in need—and returned as its dean for the same reasons.

Now, he was standing on a dusty stretch of cleared land, about to mark the start of construction on a new, 200-chair dental clinic adjacent to one of Cleveland’s most impoverished neighborhoods.

It is “more than a building,” Chance (DEN ’79) told the crowd gathered for the groundbreaking. “It is a dream come true.”

The three-story, 125,000-square-foot clinic is part of the Health Education Campus, a major project that the university and Cleveland Clinic first announced in 2013. Originally proposed as a modest-sized medical education building, the effort since has grown to include dentistry and nursing students taking classes, studying and dining together in a 485,000-square-foot main building just across the street from the dental clinic. Both buildings are scheduled to open in the summer of 2019.

“Having a dental clinic in its own building will allow it to have more space for instruction,” university President Barbara R. Snyder said during the event. In addition “dental clinic patients will have a much easier time finding it.”

Tucked in the far corner of a driveway between health sciences and hospital buildings, the current dental clinic is notoriously difficult to find. The new clinic will stand on Chester Avenue, one of the city’s primary east-west thoroughfares. Not only will the building be highly visible, but it also will have adjacent surface parking—rather than the separate dark garage that patients use now.

Donors for the dental clinic and dentistry’s share of the larger project include both prominent health care entities and individuals. Present at October’s groundbreaking were Gerry Reis and Cary Major, executives of STERIS Corp whose foundation pledged $5 million to the effort. The estate of dental alumnus Oneste “Russ” Zanni (DEN ’73) has committed $3 million, and Henry Schein Co. $2 million.

Cleveland Clinic and President Toby Cosgrove, meanwhile, noted that the hospital system also would build a playground in the area to encourage children to exercise and play. “We have been part of this neighborhood for almost 100 years,” Cosgrove said. “Cleveland Clinic is here to serve the people of Northeast Ohio, first.”

President Snyder also thanked Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson and City Council President Kevin Kelley, both of whom attended the event and played pivotal roles in securing the project’s approval.

“Thank you for investing again in Cleveland,” Jackson told Snyder and Cosgrove during the event, “but more for investing in the people of the city of Cleveland.”
Philanthropic Commitment Advances Wellness, Supports Leader of Medical School Initiatives

Hope Barkoukis’ inspiration to become a dietitian and wellness advocate came from an unlikely place: her first job out of college with a utility company.

Assigned to visit inner-city Cleveland homes to discuss the benefits of electric appliances, she quickly realized the residents had more immediate concerns—first among them, access to nutritious food. “I saw unimaginable home life conditions which impact me to this day,” she said.

Barkoukis came to Case Western Reserve to find answers, ultimately earning her doctorate in nutrition and then joining the medical school faculty. In more recent years, she has transitioned from advising individuals about nutrition to showing future physicians how to encourage healthy behaviors. With support from the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation, Barkoukis has led development of a wellness pathway for medical students. More recently, she was named the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Professor of Wellness and Preventive Care, with a formal university chairing its Professional Achievement Award; she previously received the university’s John S. Diekhoff Award for graduate student teaching and mentoring.

While the wellness pathway is just starting its second full year, Barkoukis already sees significant benefits. As she explains, “it will have a ripple effect for generations to come.”

“It will have a ripple effect for generations to come.”

—HOPE BARKOUKIS

To honor the legacy of legendary venture capital (VC) investor and former business partner David Morgenthaler, Case Western Reserve trustee Bob Pavey has led the launch of a novel university-based startup competition. Its most distinctive feature? Students participate on both sides of the equation: making pitches and assessing them.

At one end of the Morgenthaler-Pavey Startup Competition—created with JumpStart Inc., the Morgenthaler Family and the Weatherhead School of Management—students in Professor Scott Shane’s Entrepreneurial Finance course hone their VC skills evaluating the startup presentations.

At the other, teams of students and recent alumni (graduates within the last five years) compete for JumpStart investment and mentoring. Pavey, whose relationship with the late Morgenthaler goes back 50 years, shared thoughts on his friend and mentor and his hopes for the new program.

How did you and David Morgenthaler first connect?

Dave recruited me in 1967 as a newly minted MBA to join Foseco Inc. in Cleveland, where he was CEO and building a successful company for a New York City-based venture capital firm. In 1968, Dave sold out and became an angel investor (who invests private capital in a small, new enterprise). In 1969, I joined him again and we formed Morgenthaler Associates as a very early Cleveland-based VC firm.

What was the most important lesson you learned from David about identifying promising ventures?

There are four key elements of every successful company: business strategy, large market, good people and sensible financing. At Manufacturing Data Systems Inc., an Ann Arbor (Michigan) computer services company, we found all four of those and had our first great success. We made 100 ‘times investors’ money, taking a raw startup in 1969 to an IPO in 1976 to a sale in 1981 to a technology provider to the oil and gas industry.

What, specifically, do you want students to learn from the experience — on either side of the equation?

I want them to learn to try, make mistakes, figure it out and eventually be part of a great success.

How will you judge whether the competition has been successful?

It will be a success when we have over 100 business-plan entries— but that is many years from now. We need to start with a few and build every year until there is real excitement among Case Western Reserve students and faculty about the competition.

Ready to Launch: New Startup Competition Supports Budding Entrepreneurs

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From the Ground Up: Professor Helps Complete Geotechnical Engineering Lab Years in the Making

When Adel S. “Tony” Saada arrived on campus more than 50 years ago, one of his first questions was, “Where is the laboratory?” The answer? A hole in the ground.

Fresh from earning his PhD from Princeton University, Saada was launching Case Institute of Technology’s program in soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering. A few years later, the hole in the ground had become the first soil mechanics laboratory on campus.

But Saada was never content. He continued to develop the facility, seeing its growth as central to the success of the department’s teaching and research. More than a half-century later, Saada’s determination—along with support from his family and others—resulted in a $1 million upgrade to the geotechnical laboratories, now housed in the Bingham Building.

The enhanced spaces include the Saada Family Geotechnical Research Labs, the Richard A. Saada Intelligent Geosystems Lab, the Frank E. Gerace Geotechnical Teaching Lab and the Warren C. Gibson Library.

“There is no way to have civil engineering without soil mechanics and foundations,” Saada said, “and you cannot have soil mechanics and foundations without a laboratory to study the properties of the soil you are building on, under or with.”

David Zeng, chair of the Department of Civil Engineering, said the renovated laboratories do more than help attract new grant-funded research and top faculty.

“The space ties into Case Western Reserve’s focus on experiential learning,” said Zeng. “Students develop the skills that are important for their careers.”

Lab improvements have helped students and faculty to conduct advanced research with funding from agencies such as the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, NASA and others.

The Saada family, including Saada’s son, Richard, provided significant funding for the space along with the Gerstacker Foundation, whose support was in honor of the late civil engineer Frank Gerace’s (CIT ’48) career. Contributions from alumni, particularly Saada’s former student Warren C. Gibson (CIT ’65; GRS ’69, ’71, mechanical engineering) completed the space.

The laboratories build upon the Saadas’ earlier contributions, which created the Saada Family Graduate Student Fellowships 17 years ago. To date, they have helped support 12 doctoral students, including Xu Yang—who is now also benefiting from the renovations.

“Technology has come a long way in the last few years,” she said. “It’s great to have access to high-tech equipment like this.”

Professor Adel S. "Tony" Saada works with a student in the Geotechnical Research Labs

Scholarship Continues International Reach of Social Work Pioneer Terry Hokenstad

Sun couldn’t wait to get to Cleveland after earning admission to Case Western Reserve’s top-ranked master’s in social work program. But after her first year on campus, the Shanghai native was unclear about her life and career goals, and began exploring resources in the school to connect her culture with American culture.

Then, she received one of the first Hokenstad International Scholarships.

“It helped me stay focused, motivated and confident as a change agent,” said Sun, who accepted her scholarship in May.

For Distinguished University Professor Emeritus M.C. “Terry” Hokenstad, the story helps illustrate why he and his wife launched the scholarship in 2014—and added another $100,000 upon his retirement from teaching this year.

“International students” enrich our academic programs, and go on to hold very important roles here and in their home countries,” he said. “But I’ve often seen them struggle financially, which encouraged me to set up this fund.”

Throughout his 43-year academic career at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Hokenstad has worked with, taught and mentored many international students, who make up 12 percent of the school’s enrollment.

Former dean of the Mandel School, Hokenstad’s career focused on international social welfare—particularly policies and services for the elderly—and the exchange of ideas. He taught abroad, and helped develop social work educational programming in former Soviet Union countries and China.

For nearly 20 years, Hokenstad also has represented the International Association of Schools of Social Work on the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Ageing at the United Nations, and helped draft the International Plan of Action on Aging.

Today, Sun (SAS ’17) is volunteering with international students attending a local university in China. She plans to return to the U.S. next year, and begin a career like her benefactor’s.

“While all my work has been important,” Hokenstad said, “working with students—and then seeing those students go out and do great work—has been the most personally rewarding part of my career.”

Distinguished University Professor Emeritus M.C. “Terry” Hokenstad

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As Lisa Huisman Koops watched a group of boys deftly play the drums in the West African country of The Gambia, she wondered how they developed such skill.

“They teach themselves,” their father told Koops, who was conducting her dissertation research at the time.

This discovery—that children can instruct themselves when surrounded by a rich musical environment—inspired the Case Western Reserve faculty member’s latest project. Made possible through a GRAMMY Foundation grant, the study explores how parents’ musical practices, beliefs and perceptions influence early childhood music development.

Koops, an associate professor and area head of music education, plans to publish findings in a scholarly book that will focus on musically parenting—which she defines as purposefully parenting to help children grow musically through such activities as music lessons—and parenting musically, which uses music in everyday tasks to accomplish a goal, such as singing to comfort a child.

In addition, the book will critique messaging on music found in popular parenting books, which she said often portray music education as a burden on children who are already overtaxed with other activities.

“I want to push back against the narrative that paints music in a bad light,” Koops said. “There are lots of ways to incorporate music into a simple family routine—and it doesn’t have to be classes.”

Music Education Researcher Strikes a Chord with Parents

Leave your mark on campus with a custom paver stone on the grounds of the expanded Frank N. and Jocelyne K. Linsalata Alumni Center.

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