In this Issue

In admiration of dreamers like Jim Williamson and inspired by memories of Jack Mandel and Robert Reinerger, Case Western Reserve begins the 2011–12 academic year with optimism and a sense of possibility.

On the Cover

A wall hanging by Gabrielle Banzhaf from the Mandel Foundation’s campus art collection.

Save the date! October 13, 2011

Celebrate the ingenious and revel in the unexpected at BlueBash—a special kickoff to alumni weekend. Visit case.edu/bluebash or contact Jennie Szegedy at jennie.szegedy@case.edu or 216.368.0565 for more information.

Daring to Dream Dreams
$23.5 Million Legacy Celebrates Generations of Accomplishment

Williamson family gifts support efforts around campus

For two centuries, the Williamson family made an indelible impression on the city of Cleveland. This spring, it became clear that the family responsible for many of the institutions that define Cleveland as a center of industry and philanthropy will continue to shape dreams at Case Western Reserve University.

The family’s last local descendant, James Wood Williamson, passed away in 2009, but not before securing the Williamson legacy on campus with $23.5 million in gifts. “This extraordinary commitment will touch every corner of our campus and benefit students, faculty and society itself for decades to come,” President Barbara R. Snyder says.

The commitments will support scholarships, professorships and programs at the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Medicine, the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and the Case School of Engineering.

“As a university we’ve always been committed to the proposition that any student who has the qualifications to attend and wants to attend should be financially able to,” says Cyrus C. Taylor, PhD, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Albert A. Michelson Professor in Physics. Taylor says scholarships created from the Williamson commitments will go a long way toward helping well-qualified students find success at Case Western Reserve.

At the School of Medicine, the Williamson’s legacy will help bring fresh produce to local food deserts by supporting the Department of Nutrition. “There are many neighborhoods in inner-city Cleveland where fruits and vegetables are rare, and fast food is abundant,” says Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, dean of the medical school and vice president for medical affairs. “This gift will help in our efforts to make healthy foods more available and reduce the incidence of chronic disease in the Cleveland population.”

Grover C. Gilmore, PhD, dean of the Mandel School, says the commitment will live on for generations through graduates of the social work school, who work in the community to address child welfare, poverty, homelessness and other social concerns. “The gift from the Williamson family is transformational,” he says.

A Long Line of Dreamers

In designating $23.5 million in gifts to Case Western Reserve, James Wood Williamson paid tribute to his family’s distinguished legacy.

“The problems of the future are not easy ones to solve,” he once wrote. “It is young men and women who are supposed to ‘dream dreams.’ Problems get solved, I guess, by teaching students how to solve them.”

Samuel Williamson
founded Society for Savings
(now KeyBank)

James DeLong Williamson
co-founder of the Community Chest and the Welfare Foundation, predecessor organizations of the United Way and the Center for Community Solutions
founding pastor of the Church of the Covenant
teacher, trustee and two-time acting president of Western Reserve College

Arthur P. Williamson
developed and manufactured valve stems, which were critical to the successful development of air-filled rubber tires

James Wood Williamson and Angela Bowen Williamson (FSM ‘53)
He was a developer of software that helped inform policies for the alleviation of poverty. She was a nutritionist who promoted good nutrition throughout her life.

William D. Ginn, a friend of the Williamson family and senior retired partner at Thompson Hine LLC

“It is young men and women who are supposed to ‘dream dreams.’”
—James Wood Williamson
Richey-Mixon Building Will Think Outside the Box

$5 million commitment supports “think box” approach to innovation

The recipe for starting a successful new business is simple, according to Joseph B. “J.B.” Richey II (CIT ’62) and A. Malachi Mixon III: Take one part technology, mix it with one part business plan and add a few generous helpings of chicken wings.

“We used to go to a place that had free chicken wings and plot how some day we’d have a business together,” Mixon recalls.

It was during one of those wistful conversations that he and Richey—whose adaptation of X-ray tube and electronics technology created the first full-body CAT scan—began to discuss a struggling wheelchair manufacturing company. The two co-led the leveraged buyout of the company in 1979. Mixon turned to Richey to capitalize on the engineer’s talent for seeing the product potential in new technologies.

Today, Elyria, Ohio-based Invacare Corporation is the world’s top manufacturer of home medical products. To celebrate their successful partnership as a model for the region’s next wave of entrepreneurs, the duo has made a $5 million commitment to name a Richey-Mixon Building at the Case School of Engineering. The space will house the school’s “think box” programs—a collection of initiatives that seek to leverage and enhance the university’s culture of innovation.

In addition to creating a critical space for students, the building will provide state-of-the-art workspace in the heart of University Circle for startup and established companies to do collaborative work with the university and others—from prototyping to business plan development.

Richey and Mixon plan to have offices in the building after they retire to support the startup of new businesses.

“We want to be a part of helping the next generation of young people with vision take some risks and generate some companies and a new birth for Cleveland, and we hope others will join us,” Mixon says.

For more information about supporting “think box” programs, please call Daniel Ducoff at 216.368.0835.

Engineering the Future

Business strategist makes a $2 million investment

When 1949 Case Institute of Technology alumnus Charles Phipps imparts advice to current engineering students, he focuses on an ever-changing future:

“Commit to continuous learning. Take courses. Be adaptable. Learn to sell your ideas to those around you.”

Above all else, he says, “Think ahead several years about what you want to accomplish and what it will take to get there.”

As a leadership donor, Phipps already has thought ahead about the tools the Case School of Engineering will need to take electrical engineering and computer science to the next level. Through a $2 million commitment, Phipps will create an endowment that will help support the department’s needs as they emerge.

Adaptability has been critical for his career, which has spanned six decades, taking him from the test engineering program at GE, through the classrooms of the Harvard Business School and eventually to Texas Instruments, where he made a name as a business strategist. Today, he is general partner at venture capital firm Sevin Rosen Funds, where he still believes that a strategic outlook is critical to growth.

Applying an entrepreneurial style to his own philanthropy is not new to Phipps. In 2005, he and his brother, the late John B. “Jack” Phipps (CIT ’49)—who attended the Case Institute of Technology with him after World War II—created the Myron Phipps Dean’s Discretionary Fund in memory of their father. The endowment already has provided essential funding by helping to research, plan and launch the university’s Great Lakes Energy Institute, founded in 2007.

“Our gift was based on a venture capital model of giving,” says Phipps of the early success of the endowment. “We supplied the seed money to make things happen. As a donor in that model, you’ve got to have faith in the institution. You can’t micromanage it.”

His philanthropy also captures the spirit of his late wife, Mary Claire, who hailed from a philanthropic family whose endowments live on at a number of institutions.

“Through targeted investments you can be a critical part of helping a department or school really grow. That’s very gratifying.”

—Charles Phipps
Honoring a Lifetime of Generosity

Tinkham Veale II receives Case Western Reserve’s President’s Award for Visionary Achievement

Tinkham Veale II’s support of his alma mater began soon after his graduation from the Case Institute of Technology in 1937. His generosity has been a constant over the past 74 years and has been punctuated by a series of leadership gifts that have helped transform the campus for faculty and students. In recognition of these ongoing and inspiring commitments to Case Western Reserve University, Veale received the 2011 President’s Award for Visionary Achievement.

Established in 2008, the award recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves through exceptional support of Case Western Reserve and whose history of philanthropic service has made a profound, positive and lasting impact on the university’s mission.

Most recently, Veale—through his philanthropic organization, the Veale Foundation—gave the university an opportunity to significantly enhance student life on campus with a $20 million commitment to build the Tinkham Veale University Center.

“We’ve never had a true university center on campus. Tink Veale’s generosity will allow us to transform a long-awaited concept into a meaningful reality for our community,” President Barbara R. Snyder says.

Veale’s previous leadership gifts have been utilized to build, enhance and maintain the Veale Convocation, Recreation and Athletic Center and the Veale Natatorium, among other initiatives.

“Case Western Reserve University has played a significant role in my personal and professional life,” Veale says. “It is gratifying to know that investments we make in students today will help the region and nation prosper for decades to come.”

Veale registered as a professional engineer with the state of Ohio in 1940 and bought a stake in a prosperous engineered goods manufacturer in 1941. In 1960, he and his associates formed Alco Standard Corporation, which grew to be a leader in the manufacturing, distribution and resource fields.

Today he is chair and the largest shareholder of HTV Industries, Inc., a private holding company with diversified business holdings, including manufacturing, distribution, technology and banking.
In Memoriam

Jack N. Mandel
Case Western Reserve University mourned the loss of a renowned businessman, revered philanthropist and respected community leader with the death of Jack N. Mandel this spring at the age of 99. Mandel and his brothers Joseph and Morton created the Mandel Foundation, a generous supporter of Case Western Reserve, in 1953. The foundation’s support has included significant grants to name the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences and to build the home for the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations. Mandel also served as chair of the Jack N. and Lilyan Mandel Foundation and as a life trustee of The Temple - Tifereth Israel and the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

Robert N. Reinberger
Robert N. Reinberger (CIT ’43), a longtime university supporter and tireless advocate of bettering Cleveland and its people, passed away this spring. Reinberger, who retired from a successful career in the aerospace industry in 1986, was co-director and trustee of the Reinberger Foundation, which he began with his twin brother, William C. Reinberger (CIT ’43). The foundation is committed to enhancing the quality of life for all individuals, regardless of circumstance.

A Future of Caring

Two new nursing endowments promote the profession

Case Western Reserve University’s Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing will have two new tools—in the form of endowed funds—to nurture leaders and those who educate them. The Marilyn E. Brentlinger Scholarship Fund for Doctoral Students will support PhD candidates at the nursing school—particularly those who are interested in being leaders in their profession. The fund was established by Marilyn’s husband, Paul, and their children, Paulea, David and Sara, to memorialize their beloved wife and mother, a dedicated nursing instructor at Queen’s Hospital in Honolulu and St. Luke’s Hospital in Cleveland, who passed away in 2010.

Marilyn Brentlinger—who was dedicated to her career, family and community—earned an RN license from Dayton’s Miami Valley Hospital School of Nursing and a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Ohio State University. In addition to serving on the advisory board of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, she served as president of the Great Lakes Theater Festival and the Cleveland Play House and on the board of the Cleveland Sight Center, among many other institutions.

Just as the Brentlinger’s endowment will support students, another endowment will ensure faculty leaders have the tools they need to be the most effective nursing educators possible. The Donna Ballantyne Endowment Fund is a professional development fund intended to enhance development opportunities for nursing school faculty to improve student learning. The endowment was created by Andrew Putka (ADJ ’49, LAW ’52) in memory of his dear friend, Donna Ballantyne (NUR ’55; GRS ’65, education), who died in 2009.

During her decades-long career, Ballantyne served as the first chief of nursing at Fairview Hospital on Cleveland’s west side and was selected to attend the prestigious Johnson & Johnson Program for Management of Nurse Executives at the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School. “Donna and Marilyn were both nurse leaders ahead of their time,” says Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN (GRS ’91, nursing), dean of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing and the May L. Wykle Endowed Professor of Nursing. "These endowments celebrate not only their respective achievements, but also the future of nursing as a profession—one that is built on a deep commitment to helping others.”

—Dean Mary E. Kerr
James Berick (LAW ’58) knew he wanted to follow in his father’s footsteps since just about the time he was taking his own first steps.

“I was heading for the law from about age 3,” Berick jokes. Inspired by his father’s decades-long career as an attorney, Berick says he never seriously considered any other career. He also credits his father with inspiring his philanthropic drive.

“My father graduated from his law school in 1918, and I’m confident that he donated every year, from the year he graduated to the year he passed away,” Berick says. “So I grew up with that example—that you support the schools that have been there for you.”

Berick has matched his father’s example, giving regularly to the Case Western Reserve University School of Law Annual Fund since his graduation in 1958. In addition, he has made a generous will commitment to provide additional support to his alma mater. While his father provided the inspiration, Berick’s commitment to the university finds continued support in his wife of eight years, Christine, who shares his philanthropic priorities. “Our support is a joint decision,” he says. “Christine is a strong supporter of my affection for Case Western Reserve.”

Supporting the annual fund allows the Bericks to have a wide-ranging and immediate impact, since the school draws on the fund for everything from capital improvements to financial aid to curriculum improvement. Berick’s will commitment has been similarly designated—giving the school flexibility.

“We tried not to be specific,” Berick says of the bequest. “We can’t know what the school will need in the future.”

The couple says their support comes from their belief in Case Western Reserve University as an institution—and it shows support for the city they’ve both called home for most of their lives.

“We were both born and raised in Cleveland, and we both feel that institutions like Case Western Reserve are the key to keeping Cleveland a healthy, viable and competitive city,” Berick says.