In this Issue
The university community celebrates the launch of its billion-dollar fundraising effort, Forward Thinking: The Campaign for Case Western Reserve University.
Weatherheads’ $50 Million Commitment
Largest gift in university history launches billion-dollar fundraising campaign

The Case Western Reserve University community kicked off the public phase of its capital campaign with an extraordinary announcement: The Weatherhead Foundation had committed $50 million to the university to be divided equally between management education and community health initiatives. Albert J. Weatherhead III led the foundation until his death just weeks before the gift was made public. His wife, Celia, joined President Barbara R. Snyder in announcing the pledge and accepted the university medal, Case Western Reserve’s highest honor, on her husband’s behalf.

“Al Weatherhead was a brilliant businessman, a visionary philanthropist and a man wholly committed to doing all he could to advance society,” Snyder said.

The foundation’s commitment will be divided between the Weatherhead School of Management and the new Weatherhead Institute for Family Medicine and Community Health at the School of Medicine. George Kikano, MD, the Dorothy Jones Weatherhead Professor of Family Medicine—a chair named in memory of Al’s mother—will lead the new institute, which aims to build on the university’s already extensive programs in the greater Cleveland area.

“This institute will enable us to draw more students into the practice of primary care medicine, prepare them to serve as true leaders of their organizations and professions and, at the same time, develop the data necessary to affect policy changes that help patients and our country’s bottom line,” Kikano said. “My gratitude to Al and Celia cannot be described in words, but will be reflected in the activities and impact of this institute.”

“Al and Celia embody many of the ideals we seek to advance as a university: character, resilience, ingenuity, compassion and a powerful sense of public spirit.”

—PRESIDENT BARBARA R. SNYDER

The Weatherheads’ commitment is their latest in a long line of gifts that have helped transform Case Western Reserve. “The depth and breadth of their legacy is so significant that it will be decades before we even can begin to assess their impact,” Snyder said.

In addition to endowing the family medicine professorship held by Kikano, the couple’s gifts have:

- Catalyzed the development of what is now known as the Weatherhead School of Management
- Endowed the Albert J. Weatherhead III Professorship in Management, held by the school’s dean, Mohan Reddy, PhD
- Created the Albert J. Weatherhead III and Richard W. Weatherhead Professorship at the School of Law, which is held by renowned evidence scholar Paul Giannelli, JD

Every issue of Turning Point contains remarkable stories, but this one is unique: It heralds the launch of the public phase of Forward Thinking: The Campaign for Case Western Reserve University. To mark the significance of this edition, we have included a photographic insert with highlights of the campaign’s formal announcement October 13. We hope you enjoy all of the pages that follow and look forward to bringing you more news about this landmark effort in future issues.
$20 Million Gift to Natural Sciences

Commitment will transform research and teaching

A $20 million campaign pledge will enable the College of Arts and Sciences at Case Western Reserve University to make strategic investments in the natural sciences. The donor, an alumnus of the science programs of the Case Institute of Technology, wishes to remain anonymous.

The commitment will provide new faculty with state-of-the-art facilities and support graduate students and postdoctoral fellows within their research groups. It also will encourage faculty at all levels to explore exciting new topics in the natural sciences. Once they demonstrate the potential of this new research work, their chances to win competitive grants and other forms of external support increase dramatically.

Cyrus C. Taylor, PhD, dean of the college and the Albert A. Michelson Professor in Physics, unveiled the gift as part of the campaign kickoff event. The endowment “will give our science programs the dexterity to move rapidly into emerging and promising fields of study and further our reputation as one of the world’s leading research institutions,” Taylor said.

The commitment also will fund upgrades to undergraduate teaching labs and support interdisciplinary programs that have the potential to become worldwide leaders in innovation.

“This is a transformative gift for which we are tremendously grateful. The magnitude of its impact on the college’s science programs cannot be overstated.”

—CYRUS C. TAYLOR
A Legacy of Learning
Dual-alumna gives back by establishing endowed professorship in medicine

Mary W. Sheldon, MD (FSM ’53, MED ’57) has made a $2 million commitment to the campaign to endow a professorship that will bear her name at Case Western Reserve University’s School of Medicine.

“I have had a wonderful career and a wonderful life, and I wanted to give back to the school that made it possible,” she said.

As a transfer student to Flora Stone Mather College for Women, Sheldon studied chemistry and worked her way through her undergraduate studies and then the School of Medicine with multiple part-time jobs. She completed residencies at University Hospitals in Cleveland and Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia before undergoing additional training in psychoanalysis at the Boston Psychoanalytic Institute.

She worked 30 years with the Harvard University Health Service in multiple roles, including director of the multidisciplinary clinic at Harvard Law School.

“I always loved having a young patient population,” Sheldon recalls. “I felt I was helping my patients take the next growth step in their lives.”

Though she specialized in and eventually practiced psychiatry and psychoanalysis, Sheldon always has had a broad interest in the sciences and medicine. In 1992, the medical school launched a revised curriculum—one of the most progressive of its time—and as a member of the second class educated under the new model, Sheldon said her medical training was enriched by the integration of basic and clinical sciences, research opportunities and warm student-faculty relationships.

Sheldon continues to be inspired by the cutting-edge research happening at the school today, particularly in the genomic sciences, which include proteomics and genetics, and has designated the chair to support research in these areas. Sheldon’s interest in factors that influence neurological disease also extends to the impact of environmental pollutants, something she became keenly aware of during her many international trips as an avid birder.

Mary W. Sheldon

The Art of Law
Professorship to increase law school’s prowess as intellectual property leader

Case Western Reserve University’s School of Law has received a $2 million campaign gift from the Spangenberg Family Foundation to endow the Spangenberg Family Foundation Chair in Law and the Arts. The commitment was announced in conjunction with the university’s public launch of its capital campaign.

The gift from the foundation—established by Erich Spangenberg, JD (LAW ’85), his wife, Audrey, and their son, Christian—will allow the law school to continue to build one of the premier intellectual property and arts law programs in the world.

“The Spangenbergs are truly a remarkable family,” said Lawrence E. Mitchell, JD, dean and Joseph C. Hostetler-Baker & Hostetler Professor of Law at the law school.

“They work for the sheer love of it and give with the joy and pleasure that characterizes the highest form of philanthropy.”

Erich Spangenberg is the founder and chair of Dallas-based IP Navigation Group. Prior to founding the company, he was a partner at Jones, Day, Reavis and Pogue, senior vice president of investment banking at Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette, and president of both SmartTalk TeleServices and Acclaim Ventures Group. Prior to earning his law degree at Case Western Reserve, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Skidmore College and a Master of Science degree from the London School of Economics.

“Case Western Reserve University School of Law has had a significant impact on my life and, accordingly, on my family’s life.”

—ERICH SPANGENBERG

Erich Spangenberg and President Snyder

Mary W. Sheldon

Case Western Reserve University School of Law
The Cleveland Foundation has awarded $1.5 million to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine to advance the development of drugs that deliver targeted treatment for a host of diseases and disorders. The grant supports cellular biology research at Case Western Reserve University’s Cleveland Center for Membrane and Structural Biology (CCMSB). The center’s efforts build on the work of the Cleveland Center for Structural Biology and the university’s Center for Proteomics, each of which has received previous awards from the Cleveland Foundation.

The grant will allow the CCMSB to recruit new faculty and invest in state-of-the-art technology. In particular, it will allow researchers to expand and deepen their work to understand the ways specific proteins control cellular communications. Studying the structures of these proteins could help researchers develop drugs that deliver treatment only to diseased cells, leaving healthy ones intact. This targeted medication would enable patients to withstand higher dosages with fewer side effects.

The support also bolsters the university’s efforts to become a national leader in structural biology, said Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, dean and the Arline H. and Curtis F. Garvin, MD, Research Professor at the medical school and the university’s vice president for medical affairs.

The field first began to achieve prominence in the mid-1990s. Since then, attention to its potential applications has grown exponentially. The better scientists understand processes at the molecular level, the more they will be able to develop treatments that directly benefit patients. The university’s progress in this key medical area also will strengthen Cleveland’s position as a leader in biotechnology.

Cleveland Foundation Funds China Collaboration

The Cleveland Foundation also approved an $80,000 grant to support the university’s partnership with the China National Off-shore Oil Company-New Energy Investment Co. Ltd. (CNOOC-NEI). Working in conjunction with the U.S. Department of State, university leaders forged an agreement to collaborate with CNOOC-NEI on initiatives to identify and advance sustainable energy alternatives. This funding will allow the university and its partners in China to develop additional details regarding priority areas of research and implementation.

Turning Science into Solutions

$20 million endowment supports translational medical research

Case Western Reserve University and the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation have established a $20 million endowment to support the translation of ideas that address unmet medical needs into treatments and devices that improve human health.

The foundation and the university jointly created the endowment, which will enable the organizations’ partnership to continue in perpetuity. Case Western Reserve was one of only nine universities in the country selected to participate in the partnership program, and one of only six to receive endowment funding.

“We are delighted to have this opportunity to advance efforts to bring life-saving technologies from the laboratory to the people who need them most,” President Barbara R. Snyder said. “This endowment will expand our ability to pursue biomedical engineering research that will change the face of health care. We thank the Coulter Foundation for its generous support and strong sense of purpose.”

The foundation has supported such projects at Case Western Reserve since 2006, when it awarded the university a $4.58 million grant to establish the Wallace H. Coulter Translational Research Partnership Program at Case Western Reserve.

The program already has helped launch six startup companies and has funded 28 key technology platform investments. Such projects range across a broad spectrum of biomedical disciplines—from advanced imaging technology techniques to thermally stable insulin development. Each is based on an active collaboration between a biomedical engineering researcher and a practicing clinician.

Sue Van

“This program started out as an ambitious endeavor to link the relatively new discipline of bioengineering to translational research,” said Sue Van, president of the Coulter Foundation. “With the capabilities and financial sustainability of this endowment, Case Western Reserve is now a champion at the forefront of translational research and can systematically and successfully move innovation out of the university to benefit humanity.”
Attracting Star Power
Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation continues support of medical school

The Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation recently awarded two grants—totaling $3 million in support of the campaign—to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. The awards will help the school continue to attract talented researchers to its basic science departments.

The foundation’s $2 million grant will continue funding for the school’s Mt. Sinai Scholars Program, which has supported 18 young basic science research stars at the medical school since the program’s inception in 1998. The scholars have gone on to garner more than $27 million in external federal and foundation funding to date. The latest grant will provide startup funds to support six additional scholars over the next three years.

“Mt. Sinai Scholars are some of the school’s most promising young faculty members, who have initiated research careers here and grown Cleveland’s bioscience community,” said Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, dean and the Arline H. and Curtis F. Garvin, MD, Research Professor at the medical school and the university’s vice president for medical affairs. “This program has bolstered the school’s research programs in physiology and biophysics, molecular biology and microbiology, pathology, nutrition, biochemistry and pharmacology, and we’re most grateful for the Mt. Sinai Foundation’s continued support.”

The foundation’s second grant to the School of Medicine will initiate a challenge grant in support of the Dean’s Catalytic Fund, which plays a critical role in leveraging strategic opportunities and advancing investments in the medical school. This funding will allow Davis to continue to implement her vision for the school by investing in faculty recruitment and retention, shared equipment and special educational programs.

Fowlers Support Melanoma Research
Studies look to prevent disease that took couple’s young daughter

The Char and Chuck Fowler Family Foundation recently committed to the campaign $1.25 million over the next five years to fund research on malignant melanoma, a deadly form of skin cancer that killed Angie Fowler in 1983. She was just 14.

During their daughter’s battle with the disease, Chuck Fowler said he and his wife, Char, routinely traveled from their then-home of Chicago to Houston for treatment and advice. Local physicians had limited exposure to Angie’s form of cancer—one in which there were no visible traces of the disease on her skin.

“In the nearly three decades since Angie passed away, little has changed to advance our basic understanding and treatment of adolescent malignant cancers,” said Chuck Fowler, who is a Case Western Reserve trustee. “Char and I visited research programs around the country before determining to make this gift to Case Western Reserve. It is the most promising research we’ve seen.”

The grant will fund the work of Meg Gerstenblith, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Dermatology at the School of Medicine and University Hospitals Case Medical Center. Gerstenblith’s work focuses on the molecular classification of melanoma to understand better the correlations of risk factors and outcomes of various subtypes of the disease. The goal of Gerstenblith’s research is to prevent melanoma or catch it at an early stage, when the best chance of cure exists.

“This funding from the Fowler family will help us identify who is at increased risk for melanoma—who should be followed by a dermatologist,” Gerstenblith said. “I am honored to receive this gift of support from the Fowler family, and I hope to uncover new knowledge that may ultimately lead to the development of new treatments for this deadly disease.”

Meg Gerstenblith
Good News
A selection of recent gifts from around campus

Nordson, a leading producer of precision dispensing equipment founded by Eric (CIT ’39) and Evan (CIT ’41) Nord, made a leadership campaign gift of $100,000 to support the university’s Summer Health and Academic Enrichment Program (SHAEP), which brings 90 Lorain High School students to campus to participate in academic programs and to learn about personal development and career opportunities.

Campaign gifts from The Parker Foundation and the Helen Moss Cancer Research Foundation, among other donors, will establish an umbrella program for integrative oncology and endow the inaugural Parker Hannifin – Helen Moss Cancer Research Foundation Professorship in Integrative Oncology. The professorship seeks to change the way cancer is treated using a more holistic and natural approach, along with traditional medicine.

Saint-Gobain, a worldwide leader in materials, is fostering the creative spirit on campus by fully funding its student design competition for the third year in a row. Innovative, multidisciplinary teams representing engineering, arts and sciences, management and the Cleveland Institute of Art participate in the annual competition. Last year’s second-place winners have formed a company to bring their product—electronic shelf labels—to stores and warehouses.

The St. Baldrick’s Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity dedicated to raising money for childhood cancer research, awarded John Lettiero, MD, professor of pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and chief of the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital, nearly $100,000 to the campaign for his work in pediatric cancer research.

The Treu-Mart Fund, a supporting organization of the Cleveland Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, awarded a two-year grant of $270,000 for the university’s Treu-Mart Youth Development Fellowship program, which provides training, resources and networking opportunities to professionals working with local youth during out-of-school time.

The Woodruff Foundation, in support of its mission to change perceptions of mental illness and substance abuse, awarded a campaign gift to the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences—a $13,650 research grant to investigate the overall effectiveness of the Magnolia Clubhouse, a community-based rehabilitation center for adults with severe mental illness.

Celebrations

1. Winner of the 2011 Inamori Ethics Prize Beatrice Mtetwa (center) celebrates the honor with (from left) Toyomi Inamori, President Barbara R. Snyder, Hiroo Imura, MD, and Kazuo Inamori, founder of Inamori Foundation, which established the prize.

2. New York Times technology columnist David Pogue presents “The Digital Generation Comes of Age” as part of the Town Hall Speaker Series. Case Western Reserve is the academic sponsor of the series.


4. Allen Roth, MD, (MED ’83) (right) and Jerry Silver, PhD, professor of neuroscience, enjoy a Faculty Spotlight Series event at Harcourt House. The event featured Silver’s research to restore breathing to victims of upper spinal cord injuries.

5. Coleman P. Burke, JD (LAW ’70) (right) and Leon Gabinet, JD, celebrate Gabinet’s installation as the first Coleman P. Burke Chair in Honor of Professor Leon Gabinet in the Legal Areas of Tax, Trusts and Estates.
Financial Spotlight

Bequest supports scholarships in engineering, business

John “Jack” Dannemiller (CIT ’60, MGT ’64) believes tomorrow’s economy will hinge on three important developments: the discovery of new technologies, the creation of new products and services, and the founding of businesses that bring these inventions to market.

That’s why he and his wife, Jean, have made provisions in their will to endow the Jack and Jean Dannemiller Scholarship Fund. The scholarship will provide support to Case Western Reserve University undergraduates majoring in engineering and graduate students pursuing MBA degrees.

“We wanted to support an engineering scholarship to encourage young people to pursue technical professions that develop the kind of scientific advances that will keep the United States competitive,” Jack Dannemiller said. “But we also recognize that if one doesn’t understand the business side of things, he or she won’t be able to contribute to the economy.”

The commitment goes beyond the practicalities of developing a competitive workforce. “We think it appropriate to give back to the community that helped us achieve what we did in life,” he said.

Jack Dannemiller is a member of the visiting committee for the Case School of Engineering’s think[box] program, an initiative emphasizing hands-on learning, design, development and product commercialization. He is a retired chair, CEO, COD and president of Applied Industrial Technologies Inc.—formerly Bearings Inc.—in Cleveland. He also is a former president and COD of Leaseway Transportation Corp.

Jack and Jean Dannemiller’s generous bequest will carry on the couple’s legacy of kindheartedness, which they have exhibited throughout their lives.

Jack is a retired trustee of Cleveland Clinic Foundation; a former board member at Lamson & Sessions, US Bancorp and Leaseway Transportation Corp.; and a life trustee of Community West Foundation. He is the recipient of the Weatherhead School of Management’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and the West Side Ecumenical Ministry’s (WSEM) Lamplighter Humanitarian Award. A co-founder and director of the Values Institute and chair of Living Dialogue Ministries, he also has co-authored a series of Christian discipleship books that present a biblical worldview of the meaning and purpose of life.

Jean is a 1960 graduate of Michigan State University. She is an avid piano and organ player at both Bay Presbyterian Church in Bay Village, Ohio, and Sanibel Community Church in Florida. She has sent more than 30,000 handwritten notes in a “ministry of correspondence” to provide encouragement to members of her community.

The Dannemillers said they take a team approach to their marriage—which is in its 50th year—and approached their philanthropic decision together as they discussed their estate plans.

“We think it appropriate to give back to the community that helped us achieve what we did in life.”

—JACK DANNEMILLER

To learn more about leaving your legacy at Case Western Reserve, please contact Susan St. Onge, John Shelley and the other estate-planning professionals at 216.368.6952 or giftplan@cwru.edu, or visit cwru.edu/giving/planned.