A beautiful Northeast Ohio autumn was the backdrop for a number of signature events for donors and friends of Case Western Reserve University. On September 4, the Inamori International Center for Ethics and Excellence rolled out the red carpet to an international crowd for its inaugural Inamori Ethics Prize Gala. In October, the Board of Trustees honored members of the President’s Circle, which celebrates lifetime giving of $1 million and above. The evening featured a look back at significant gifts from the past year—the announcement of several major new commitments.

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Adding to the celebratory atmosphere of this year’s President’s Circle event was a standing ovation at the announcement of a $3 million commitment from Frank N. Linsalata, the outgoing chair of the Case Western Reserve University Board of Trustees, and his wife, Jocelyne.

Linsalata, who graduated from the Case Institute of Technology in 1963 with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering, is the first undergraduate alumnus to serve as chair of the university’s Board of Trustees. He has been a member of the Board since 1999, served as vice chair in the 2003-2004 academic year and has been chair since 2004. He was also recently honored with the university’s highest accolade—the University Medal.

The gift will be allocated in two ways, with $2 million earmarked for capital projects relating to enhancing the student experience on campus and $1 million for undergraduate student scholarships.

“Jocelyne and I want to make sure that smart and talented students like those who attend Case Western Reserve have the resources they need to learn and discover. Now more than ever it is important to invest in our future leaders,” Frank Linsalata says.

In addition to this gift, an anonymous donor matched the enthusiasm for the need for capital projects to enhance the student experience with a $1.5 million commitment.

“I am very grateful to Frank and Jocelyne Linsalata for their continued support,” says President Barbara R. Snyder. “Even as a student at Case Institute of Technology, Frank demonstrated his leadership and dedication. This gift is just one example of his service and commitment as an alumnus and the outstanding leadership that both Frank and Jocelyne have provided to Case Western Reserve University.”

Kazuo Inamori, (upper left) founder of the Kyocera Corporation and KDDI, joins Case Western Reserve Chair Frank N. Linsalata and President Barbara R. Snyder for a celebratory toast at the Inamori Ethics Prize Gala.

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Patricia B. Kilpatrick (FSM ‘49, GRS ‘51) (above left) and President Snyder celebrate the Flora Stone Mather Alumnae Association’s combined commitment of $5 million through the final distribution of its remaining endowment, which was highlighted at the President’s Circle event.

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Celebrations: Fall Highlights