Enduring Support

Donors commit millions for funds, research, scholarships and the future success of CWRU
Support students from all backgrounds through The Alumni Association of CWRU Endowed Scholarship. Many of you benefited from the investment of others—you can continue our tradition of paying CWRU education forward. Please consider a gift today.

The Alumni Association Scholarship giving.case.edu/aascholarship

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FORWARD THINKING

SPRING/SUMMER 2021
Setting Case Western Reserve students on a path to success

For all of the buildings and professorships and other programs that Barbara R. Snyder’s fundraising prowess helped make possible, none was closer to her heart than support for students.

After nearly four decades in higher education—more than half of them in classrooms—Case Western Reserve’s president emerita knew firsthand the difference that financial assistance could make for promising students.

She also recognized that providing those individual opportunities ultimately serves society at large. Take, as just one example, double alumna Nichelle Ruffin. Nine years ago, she was a Cleveland high school student dreaming of becoming a doctor. Today she is a resident physician at Penn Medicine, the University of Pennsylvania’s health system.

The bridge in between? Her own hard work—and the university’s Joan C. Edwards Scholarship, which covered undergraduate tuition, room, board, and other expenses and, if she succeeded, four years of tuition at our medical school. When fewer than 3% of all U.S. physicians are Black women, Ruffin’s achievement not only benefits the patients she treats, but also the people she inspires to follow her example.

So as we considered how best to recognize her contributions last year, student support quickly emerged as the top choice. Despite the substantial gains made during the Forward Thinking capital campaign, Case Western Reserve’s endowed scholarship funding still significantly trails totals at comparable universities. Increasing this amount helps our campus be more competitive in attracting top students, and also provides those students a greater chance to soar.

The pages that follow feature stories about some of the generous individuals who have supported this scholarship fund—as well as an expression of thanks from the president emerita herself. It also includes updates regarding contributions to the emergency fund established for students affected by the pandemic, as well as a new group that my wife, Brittan, and I co-chair: the President’s Commission on Student Success. I hope you find the articles as inspiring as I did.

Fred DiSanto
Chair, Board of Trustees
Case Western Reserve University

Incredible Achievements

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Case Western Reserve’s alumni and friends provided significant support in fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020)—topping many of the prior year’s strong numbers and even setting records for scholarship support.

Total commitments (including funds received)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<td>$167.9 million</td>
<td>$182.1 million</td>
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Scholarship fundraising

- $48.3 million total commitments in 2020 ($28.8 million in funds received in cash)
- Previous record: $31.8 million total commitments in 2019 ($18 million in funds received in cash)

Support from alumni

- $33.1 million
- Previous record: $22.3 million

Research support

- $48.5 million
- Previous record: $30.5 million

Faculty support

- $22.4 million
- Previous record: $21.6 million

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

$182.1 million

$167.9 million

$48.3 million total commitments in 2020

$31.8 million total commitments in 2019

$28.8 million in funds received in cash

$18 million in funds received in cash

$33.1 million

$22.3 million

$48.5 million

$30.5 million

$22.4 million

$21.6 million

$100M raised in scholarship support since the end of the campaign

2020 and 2019 campaign totals for Case Western Reserve University. (July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020)
Support students advisory group works to catalyze creation of 20 engineering and medical professorships.

Since then, donors have seized the opportunity, establishing 13 endowed professorships and committing an additional $13 million in support. Former university board chair and current trustee James C. Wyant (CLT ’65) was among the first to act to maximize the anonymous donor’s investment. As part of a larger gift to Case Western Reserve last fall, Wyant contributed $1 million that, matched in part by the anonymous donor’s commitment, will create the Frederick Reynolds Professorship in honor of the Nobel Prize recipient and Case Institute of Technology professor who taught Wyant as a student. The endowed professorship will be shared between Case School of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences—believed to be the first position of its kind at CWRU.

Other professorships funded through this challenge focus on areas from medical humanities to brain tumor research, cardiovascular care to computer science. Endowed professorships are among the highest honors faculty can receive, and also provide resources to support research and other academic endeavors. In her role as the Jerome Kowal, MD, Professor in Geriatric Health Education in the School of Medicine—on the university’s ability to improve geriatric care.

"It is said that a true measure of a society is how it takes care of its most vulnerable," she noted. "The impact of the pandemic on our elderly and minority population suggests that we have a long way to go. Through this professorship, we are able to continue the legacy of visionaries like Dr. Kowal. His work inspires us to build systems that truly speak to our values."

Appointed last fall as the Moll Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, Judith Mackall, MD, conducts collaborative research related to heart disease and arrhythmias. Through resources provided through the professorship, her laboratory is on the cutting edge of basic science.

"A gift to support or endow a chair in the School of Medicine can be transformational," Mackall said, noting that through her new professorship, she looks forward to “engaging with students and collaborating with faculty to advance the understanding and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.”

**Meeting the Challenge**

Anonymous gift aids in the establishment of named professorships

Two years ago, the university received an anonymous $20 million matching gift to catalyze creation of 20 engineering and medical professorships.

"The scholarship I received from Case Western Reserve was critically important, and it was a turning point that contributed more than $65 million in lifetime support to the university. "The commission’s winter meeting powerfully illustrated the impact of scholarship aid for students," Brittan DiSanto said. "It also underscored the importance of other kinds of support—including mentoring and practical experiences. We look forward to working together to identify ways to increase those opportunities as well." This commitment to students will result in more success stories like those of LaLonde.

"CWRU took a chance on me and believed in my academic skills when hardly anyone else—even myself—would," she recalled. "I will forever be grateful to this university for the opportunity to even try."
Sedona Cady chose Case Western Reserve because she could focus on both research and clinical translation in biomedical engineering. Today, the doctoral student is studying how a peripheral nerve stimulation system can restore the sense of touch to individuals with upper limb amputations—and working on one of the largest clinical trials in the world for sensory restoration in limb loss.

“CWRU biomedical engineering is unique in that there are several research groups looking at neural interfaces in human participants,” Cady said, “and this was one of the reasons why I was excited to study here.”

Also instrumental in her choice of schools: Cady earned an Aiken Fellowship, named in honor of Bob (CIT ’52) and Brenda Aiken—becoming one of more than 100 PhD students in just three years who have been able to pursue pioneering research and education through the couple’s generous support.

Cady works with Dustin Tyler, the Kent H. Smith Professor II of Biomedical Engineering, who is one of the faculty members whose achievements inspired the Aikens.

When the couple learned of Tyler’s work—including a prosthetic system that allowed a man who lost his hand to be able to regain a sense of touch—and other faculty breakthroughs, they expanded their already generous investment in the university’s biomedical engineering programs.

After initial gifts for undergraduate scholarships, the Aikens in 2018 committed $20 million to fund a multifaceted strategic initiative fund for biomedical engineering. Three years later, this investment is catalyzing...
Outstanding Student Scholars

Two-thirds of the strategic fund has gone toward expanding the biomedical engineering PhD program through Aiken Fellowships. The support helps Case Western Reserve attract and enroll more of the most promising candidates—which in turn allows the program to train future leaders in industry and academic research. “They are a critical legacy of our program,” said Department Chair Robert F. Kirsch.

Here’s a look at a few recent accomplishments of the Aiken Fellows:

- More than 20 went on to be named trainees on two National Institutes of Health T32 Training grants
- One published eight papers in his first two years
- Two earned individual National Science Foundation fellowships
- One received both an Association for Computing Machinery Computational and Data Science Fellowship and a Linda Arena Endowed Scholarship for Lung Cancer Education
- One has already earned a patent and filed a second invention disclosure

“Through the Aiken Strategic Initiative Fund, many more PhD students have the opportunity to receive this high-quality training,” said Robert F. Kirsch, PhD, the Allen H. and Constance E. Ford Professor and chair of biomedical engineering. “These students contribute to both the breadth and depth of the research that occurs in the department, extending the impact of our faculty.”

Other student-focused initiatives include the creation of the Aiken Undergraduate Laboratory, a state-of-the-art lab in the Wickenden Building. With glass walls to visually connect it to the building lobby, the laboratory opened two-and-a-half years ago. Now with COVID-19 physical and logistical modifications, the space provides all BME undergraduate students with access to microscopes, exhaust hoods and other essential instrumentation.

The fund also is used to support research with the potential of major societal impact—providing seed funding for faculty to perform the pilot studies whose results can help persuade federal agencies and philanthropic organizations to award larger grants.

One example: Anant Madabhushi, PhD, the Donnell Institute Professor of Biomedical Engineering, leads the Center for Computational Imaging and Personalized Diagnostics, where researchers apply artificial intelligence to solve medical problems such as cancer diagnosis and treatment. Through the fund’s support, his team—which comprises nearly 70 people, including undergraduate and graduate student researchers—has further established itself and become “exceptionally productive,” Kirsch noted.

And for Zheng-Rong Lu, PhD, the M. Frank and Margaret Domiter Rudy Professor of Biomedical Engineering, the fund supported renovation of space that now houses a specialized small animal magnetic resonance imaging machine—technology he hopes will help accelerate discoveries in cancer detection and treatment for humans.

Tyler’s efforts to restore sensation and purpose to individuals with limb loss, which initially spurred the Aiken’s interest, have now grown, thanks in part to the fund. Among his most recent work is technology that allows a person to experience the feeling of touch—from thousands of miles away. Last year, CWRU graduate student Luis Mesias wore a high-tech ring that linked his human hand in Cleveland to a robotic one at University of California, Los Angeles, 2,300 miles away. Mesias applied different pressures with his open hand, and the robotic arm mimicked his movements while holding a banana.

“The Aiken Fund has allowed us to push this work farther than would have been possible otherwise.”

— Professor Dustin Tyler
Through generous donor backing, the university acted quickly to support students, education and research amid the pandemic.

Everything was normal — until it wasn’t.

When COVID-19 reached Northeast Ohio last spring, Case Western Reserve had to transition quickly from a residential campus with in-person classes to one where almost every operation was remote.

In response to the growing crisis, the university quickly established a COVID-19 Response Fund to deploy a wide range of resources in areas of critical need — providing emergency funds to students, as well as additional health and counseling support; supporting mitigation efforts on campus and throughout the community; securing and creating personal protective equipment for health care workers; and investing in innovative course-delivery technology.

The response from alumni, faculty and staff demonstrated the generosity of our community, and made an enormous difference in education, research, and individual well-being.

Continued on page 14
Helping students everywhere
As students shifted to remote courses, their financial needs grew exponentially. They needed last-minute travel home from campus, technology for their new remote-learning environment, and storage for belongings still in residence halls. Enter: the university’s Student Emergency Fund.

Established in 2019 through a generous gift from university trustee Vincent Gaudiani (MED ’79) and his wife, Candace, the Student Emergency Fund assists CWRU students who encounter unforeseen financial emergencies or events that may otherwise prevent them from continuing their education. This resource typically covers a range of non-tuition-related expenses, such as medications, assistance with essential household needs, and travel costs related to death or illness in the family.

The fund received about 30 requests in its first year; since the start of the pandemic, it has provided support to more than 535 students.

Pivoting research to attack the pandemic
Meanwhile, hundreds of researchers on and off campus shifted their focus almost immediately, forming Case Western Reserve’s COVID-19 Research Task Force. Recognizing the university’s potentially transformative role in the pandemic, the Eric & Jane Nord Family Fund invested $410,000 in the task force to support COVID-19-related research pilot opportunities across the university and with health care partners—and gave an additional $150,000 to the COVID-19 Response Fund.

The support of the Nord family and other donors helped catalyze the task force’s early-stage research and helped elevate promising projects—from understanding how immunity in COVID-19 patients to monitoring the pandemic’s impact on mental health—as researchers awaited approval of federal funding requests.

University trustee Virginia Nord Barbato (FSM ’72), president of the Eric & Jane Nord Family Fund, was grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the important and timely research through both the Nord Family Fund and a personal gift.

“The immediate global impact of COVID-19, the unknown long-term effects on patients, and Case Western Reserve’s reputation as a leading-edge research institution,” Barbato said, “the Nord Family Fund recognized early support of the task force fund was an important and necessary investment.”

To date, funding has supported nearly 50 research teams comprising almost 270 faculty members conducting work in areas such as virology and drug discovery, immunology and immunotherapeutics, clinical samples and trials, behavioral health and population outcomes, technology and safety.

Jonathan Karn, PhD, professor of microbiology in the School of Medicine, noted that the Nord family’s support helped his team of researchers “generate full-length infectious clones of SARS-CoV-2,” the virus that causes COVID-19, to better understand the impact of viral variants. The funds also helped him kickstart cross-disciplinary clinical studies with faculty in the medical and dental schools to examine how the virus replicates in the mouth and define local immune responses.

“Receiving this early support allowed us to start the research immediately,” Karn said. “It has now gathered support from the [National Institutes of Health]—which would have been impossible without the opportunity to obtain preliminary data.”

For Cheryl Cameron, PhD, assistant professor of nutrition, and Mark Cameron, PhD, associate professor in the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences, the Nord family’s initial funding was essential in launching their “inflammation biomarker” research.

“This funding came at a critical time when not a lot was known about why one COVID-19 patient might have a mild form of the illness versus someone else who might need mechanical ventilation,” explained Mark Cameron, who was part of the rapid-response research team during the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak in Toronto in 2003.

Through the task force, a team of researchers came together to accelerate the work—and secure additional research dollars—to identify why the immune system fails in some patients with COVID-19. The team sought to study COVID-19 patients’ genes and how they were expressed—their “biomarkers”—to find drugs that target those immune failures.

“We grew our patient research into larger grants, research papers, and new projects that went beyond the initial surges of COVID-19—to the current vaccines and long-term effects of the illness on people who recovered, those COVID-19 ‘long haulers,’” Mark Cameron said. “It’s hard to imagine that we would be where we are today in terms of research progress and funding levels if it hadn’t been for the CWRU COVID-19 Research Task Force support and team-building early in the pandemic.”

135 donors contributed more than $326,000 to the COVID-19 Response Fund
$249k raised for the Student Emergency Fund since the start of the pandemic

Continued from page 15

Photo by Allison Seib

Photo by Matt Shiffler

Senior Instructor Rebecca Renard, PhD, answers questions from her Anatomy and Physiology I students during an in-person office hour in October.

(Matt Shiffler)
When then-President Barbara R. Snyder interviewed Rick Bischoff in 2009 to become Case Western Reserve’s vice president of enrollment management, she made clear that one of her top priorities was to increase financial support for students, especially those from families with lower incomes.

So unwavering was her focus on the issue that scholarships became a cornerstone of the Forward Thinking capital campaign, raising more than $250 million. In 2016, the university committed to meet 100% of the demonstrated financial need of all its incoming undergraduate students in an effort to improve diversity and access to a Case Western Reserve education. And annual scholarship support for undergraduates more than doubled during her presidency—from $61.5 million in 2007–08 to $130.6 million in 2020–21.

At a celebration of Snyder’s leadership last fall, Board Chair Fred DiSanto announced that the trustees had awarded her the lifelong title of president emerita.

In recognition of her unwavering commitment to student scholarships, donors commit more than $37.6 million in President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder’s honor.

“Barbara’s leadership transformed our university in ways none of us could have imagined when she first arrived. This outpouring of support reflects not only gratitude for her work, but also her ability to help others truly appreciate the power of higher education to change lives.”

— Fred DiSanto, Chair, Board of Trustees

Continued on page 18
While a great honor, the designation turned out to be a prelude to even more meaningful news: The board had established a scholarship fund in her name—and they and other supporters had committed $27 million to start.

Snyder was nearly speechless, an experience she had again in February when DiSanto and Interim President Scott Cowen let her know that the fund totaled more than $36.5 million.

“Words cannot begin to capture the depth of my gratitude to everyone who contributed to this fund,” she said recently. “I am profoundly honored and humbled and, most of all, overjoyed for the students who will benefit from this support.”

Trustees, alumni and friends have come together in support of the scholarship fund, with more than 15 donors committing at least $1 million to assist future Case Western Reserve students through named funds (see p. 21).

A Sign of Investment

The need for endowment funds for scholarships can’t be overstated, Bischoff noted, as students regularly cite scholarship support among the deciding factors in choosing Case Western Reserve.

“Scholarships convey a sense of welcome,” Provost and Executive Vice President Ben Vinson III said in a recent discussion with the President’s Commission on Student Success (see p. 6). “They say, ‘We want you here enough that we are investing in you.’ There can be no better affirmation to enhance a student’s confidence, and to signal that this is a place where you will be your best, than with the scholarship dollar.”

And the COVID-19 pandemic made the need for supporting students even more clear: According to a recent survey by the higher education agency Carnegie D’artlet, the percentage of students reporting high or critical financial aid need jumped from 63% pre-pandemic to 70% in late 2020, with parents losing their jobs temporarily or permanently cited as the key financial hardship by more than one-fourth of the students surveyed.

Shifting Focus

Since the end of the capital campaign, which saw substantial funds raised for nearly a dozen building projects, the university has shifted its fundraising focus significantly toward scholarships, raising more than $48 million in fiscal year 2020—more than double the year prior.

“This is huge,” Bischoff said. “Without these [donor-funded] dollars, we have to tap into additional tuition revenue to cover financial aid, which means we have to make cuts to programs. So these dollars are really important to helping students afford to be here.”

Yet even with this increased emphasis, Case Western Reserve lags behind: Only 7% of student scholarships at CWRU come from endowment income and gifts, compared to approximately 33% at similar institutions, according to university data.

Efforts such as the Barbara R. Snyder Scholarship Fund, Bischoff said, “allow us to continue to be accessible to students who would in no way be able to afford Case Western Reserve, but who deserve a place like Case Western Reserve.”

CWRU shifted its fundraising focus toward scholarships, raising more than $48 million in fiscal year 2020—more than double the year prior.
Supporting Scholars

Through the extraordinary generosity of donors, incoming Case Western Reserve undergraduate students will be announced as Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholars at every Fall Convocation. Though these scholarships will primarily support undergraduate students with significant financial need, donors have created a number of different funds to assist students at all levels and with varying interests—a few of which are highlighted here.

Ann A. and David L. Brennan (LAW ’57) – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Ann A. and David L. Brennan (LAW ’57) spent much of their lives providing life-changing opportunities to students of all ages. From their first gift to a youth shelter in Akron to the couple’s wide support of scholarship, Ann said their mission has always been clear. “You hope to have an impact.”

It was this dedication to impacting young lives that led Ann to commit $2.5 million to the university in honor of both her late husband, David, and President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder. Their gift will provide two full-tuition scholarships annually to law students with financial need and outstanding leadership potential.

“David was extremely grateful for the opportunity to go to Case Western Reserve,” Brennan said. “He had been attending night classes at the University of Akron while working a day job to cover expenses.” Realizing his studies required more of his focus, he applied to Case Western Reserve and borrowed the $800 tuition from his mother.

“Of course, when he attended,” Brennan added, “tuition wasn’t quite the barrier it can be to so many today. But David always believed that money shouldn’t stand in the way of a person getting ahead.”

In her support of the scholarships, Brennan also praised the accomplishments of the president emerita. “Barbara Snyder has been such an impressive leader of Case Western Reserve University,” Brennan said. “Her vision and leadership, and her message of hope and gratitude, have been inspiring and helped transform the university.”

Smith Family – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

As founders of Lubrizol Corp., Kelvin and Kent Smith appreciated the importance of good leadership—and of solid education to propel careers. So when the opportunity to recognize the exceptional direction of President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder and support students in pursuing their degree at Case Western Reserve arose, the foundations named in the brothers’ honor were quick to step forward.

Both Kelvin Smith and Kent Smith would have loved Barbara because she was such a humble leader,” said Ellen Strin Mavec, president and chair of the Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation which, with the Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust, committed $1 million toward the scholarship fund. Strin Mavec cited President Emerita Snyder’s ability to “turn the university around monetarily” and “bring people back together to work for the better good” as key motivators for the gift—and noted that, throughout her years at Case Western Reserve, Strin Mavec regularly heard Snyder focus on the critical importance of scholarships for students.

“As a leader, it was always Barbara’s goal to bring more and more scholarship money so that all willing and able students could go to Case Western Reserve University,” she said. “I am pleased we can contribute to her great legacy in this way.”

Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Distinguished Scholar

In 1939, Morton Mandel arrived at Adelbert College—now part of Case Western Reserve University—on scholarship, ready to pursue his undergraduate studies.

Seventy-four years later, Mandel, by then a successful businessman and generous philanthropist, walked across the stage to receive his bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Case Western Reserve—an unfinished pursuit finally completed at the urging of President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder.

For Morton Mandel and his brothers, Jack and Joseph, and the philanthropic foundation they created, the power of education on people’s lives was paramount.

“Mort and the brothers believed in investing in people who can change the world—and we think among those people are university students,” said Stephen Hoffman, chairman of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation.

Through a $1 million gift, the foundation will support two half-tuition undergraduate scholarships annually, one to a student pursuing the Hebrew language or Judaic studies and the other to a student pursuing a humanities degree—and both demonstrating exceptional financial need and leadership potential.

Leadership was so important to Morton Mandel that it was the topic of his senior capstone—a 177-page treatise titled It’s All About Who. In the book, he wrote: “The forces that influence an institution the most are the human forces—the people who manage it, inspire it, lead it, and build it.”

Fitting, then, that the foundation chose to recognize President Emerita Snyder and the late Mandel brothers through this recent gift.

“Mort and Barbara did great things together for the university and for Cleveland,” Hoffman said. “At the end of the day, neither of them did it for themselves—they did it on behalf of others.”

Additional Distinguished Scholarship Supporters

Brittan and Fred DiSanto – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Thalia Dorwick – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Shelby and Frederick Gans – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Frank N. and Jocelyn K. Linsalata – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

The Susan P. Mucciaroni Scholarship

Eric and Jane Nord Family – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Donald J. Richards – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Great Neck and Elissa Richman/Richman Foundation – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Gifts as of May 2021. Anonymous donors have also generously contributed to the fund.
Supporting Scholars
(continued)

Nancy and Tim Callahan – Barbara R. Snyder Distinguished Scholar

Tim (MGT ’99) and Nancy (GRS ’01, public health) Callahan know scholarships don’t merely help one student through four years of college. They are transformative for the recipient and future generations of their families—while also having profound impact on the Cleveland community and society as a whole. This understanding is shared among the Callahans and President Emerita Snyder—and is one of the many reasons the couple chose to endow a scholarship in her honor.

Forward Thinking talked with Tim Callahan, who chairs the Case Western Reserve Board of Trustees’ development committee, about the importance of scholarships and the former president’s long-lasting impact on the university.

Forward Thinking: Tell us a bit about your experience working with President Snyder over the years as a trustee.

Tim Callahan: One of the things that makes Barbara such a great leader is she’s great at listening to people. She’s careful to get her trustees’ input, and she values it. She is also a very straightforward and transparent person, and ... very good at building trust over time.

Forward Thinking: President Snyder garnered significant support for major university projects, which was evident throughout the Forward Thinking campaign. How important was her support of these fundraising efforts to Case Western Reserve’s success?

Tim Callahan: She’s someone who is very hard to say no to! As trustees, we wanted to get behind her vision, and a big part of her vision was that the physical plan of the university needed improvement. Whether it’s the Tinkham Veale University Center, [Sears] think[box], Health Education Campus, Maltz [Performing Arts] Center or so many others—the list is pretty long—she had a tremendous impact on the plan for the university and improving the physical attributes of the university.

Forward Thinking: Her other core area of focus since she arrived at Case Western Reserve was scholarships.

Tim Callahan: Raising scholarship dollars wasn’t a big focus before Barbara’s tenure, but she came in and wanted to make higher education affordable for all sorts of people. That’s because she realizes that scholarship changes people’s lives. You go from being the first in your family to go to college, and then you get a scholarship at Case Western Reserve University—and that changes the socio-economic outcome for your family for the better, usually forever. And society benefits from scholarship as well. Having endowed funds for scholarships allows the university to use other funds to sponsor research, find medical breakthroughs, try to solve the difficult problems we’ve made for ourselves on this planet, and address systemic economic, social and racial inequilities. Scholarships help enhance a civil society and build a diverse and successful community.

Forward Thinking: You and your wife, Nancy, funded a scholarship as part of this campaign. Why was it important to you, personally, to support students and to honor President Emerita Snyder?

Tim Callahan: We understand how important it is for people to get that first college degree. It’s a game changer. And we also view our philanthropy from a regional perspective. As we bring more scholars to Cleveland and fund more scholarships in Cleveland, we help the region—both by having more educated scholars and having an institution with an enhanced reputation that is financially stable. Great cities are typically aligned with great universities. If you want Cleveland to do well, you need Case Western Reserve, and we help the region—both by having more educated scholars and having an institution with an enhanced reputation. Great universities are typically aligned with great universities. If you want Cleveland to do well, you need Case Western Reserve. As we bring more scholars to Cleveland and fund more scholarships in Cleveland, we help the region—both by having more educated scholars and having an institution with an enhanced reputation. Great cities are aligned with great universities. If you want Cleveland to do well, you need Case Western Reserve. And society benefits from scholarship as well.

Forward Thinking: In the year following his graduation, Tinkham Veale II (CIT ’37) made his first gift to his alma mater. Throughout his next 75 years of life, Veale gave annually—and generously—to Case Western Reserve including, through the Veale Foundation, incredible support to create the Veale Convocation, Athletic and Recreation Center and the Tinkham Veale University Center. Since his passing in 2012, his support of students continues through the foundation, with initiatives such as the Veale Institute for Entrepreneurship and, most recently, a $1 million gift to the Barbara R. Snyder Scholarship Fund to back budding entrepreneurs.

As a co-founder of Alco Standard Corp.—what became by the mid-1990s a company with more than 36,000 employees and $10 billion in annual sales—Veale was the epitome of a successful businessman. So through this recent gift, the Veale Foundation is honoring the leadership of both Veale and President Emerita Snyder by funding real-world entrepreneurial experiences for current students. “Tinkham Veale had great respect for Barbara Snyder’s leadership and vision for the university,” said Dan Harrington, board chair of the Veale Foundation, noting especially President Emerita Snyder’s concept for a university center that would serve as a campus hub—a concept that Veale embraced. “The creation of the Tinkham Veale—Barbara Snyder Entrepreneurial Fellowship is another opportunity to continue their joint support of CWRU students.”

It also represents yet another way to give back to the university and to the region that Veale, who grew up in Kansas, came to call home.

“Mr. Veale loved CWRU,” Harrington said. “He appreciated the education he received and recognized the tremendous impact the university had on him, both personally and professionally. Through his giving, he knew he was making a worthy investment not just in the university, but in Northeast Ohio.”

The Tinkham Veale—Barbara Snyder Entrepreneurial Fellows

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The Tinkham Veale—Barbara Snyder Entrepreneurial Fellows

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It’s a bit embarrassing to admit now, but I really didn’t want to have a scholarship campaign in my name. I had no objection to the cause; I have advocated for student support throughout my entire career. I just didn’t want the effort to be about me.

From the moment I became Case Western Reserve’s president in 2007, I fought to keep the focus on the university community. I must have been asked about my “vision for CWRU” at least five dozen times in my first few months. “It’s not about ‘my’ vision,” I always replied. “It has to be our vision.”

Journalists wanted to interview the institution’s first woman president. Or they wanted to hear how I felt about inheriting a nearly $20 million deficit. Or what I was going to do to repair relationships with alumni.

That first year, I declined every such request. My job then, and throughout all of the years that followed, never changed: to serve—and celebrate—the faculty, staff, students and alumni who make Case Western Reserve such a special place. So the idea of ending my tenure with a campaign that abandoned that approach—one specifically about me—it just felt all wrong.

I said as much when the university’s fundraising leader, Carol Moss, first proposed it. “Think about it,” she said. “We can talk more later.” When we discussed the subject again, she emphasized the campaign as an opportunity to support students. She expressed confidence that it would inspire people who might not otherwise give to scholarships. And she spoke about all of the additional young people who would be helped.

My mind flashed to events where students spoke of the dreams realized through donor support. Their gratitude was palpable—as was their immense potential.

And so, I agreed.

When I heard that the campaign had raised $27 million before the end of September, I could barely speak. To learn that the campaign had grown to $37.6 million by spring—weeks later, I am still stunned. I am also deeply moved.

These dollars will make an enormous difference for generations of Case Western Reserve students. I cannot wait to see all that they learn and experience during their time on campus—and all they achieve after they graduate.

From the bottom of my heart...

A Message from President Emerita Snyder

Barbara R. Snyder Scholarship Fund as of May 2021

$37.6M

raised for Barbara R. Snyder Scholarship Fund as of May 2021

thank you.

Barbara R. Snyder

President Emerita
Center Stage

New theaters and other spaces highlight Maltz Center’s Phase Two

After breaking ground on Phase Two of renovations in the fall of 2019, the transformation of The Temple – Tifereth Israel into Case Western Reserve University’s first dedicated performing arts center is nearly complete. “For many years, my family came to services in this historic space,” said Milton Maltz, who with his wife, Tamar, committed $30 million to launch Phase One. “Never could we have imagined then what it has become today.”

When open, the Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center will include a Black Box theater with 150 moveable seats made possible in part through support from Walter and Jean Kalberer; the Roe Green Proscenium Theater with seating for 250, a 2,000-square-foot Grand Atrium and foyer; and rehearsal studios, practice rooms, and costume and scene shops.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for students to work with modern equipment in state-of-the-art facilities,” said philanthropist and university trustee Roe Green, whose $10 million gift fueled this recent phase of renovations. “Phase one was done so beautifully, I’ll be thrilled to see the completed Phase Two.”

Christopher Panichi, the university’s director of planning, design and construction, is encouraged by the progress. “The building will be substantially complete this summer—followed by several months of internal preparation and staff facility training,” he said. “We’ll welcome our first performance in the spring of 2022.”

Building to crescendo

The Phase Two improvements are a “seismic shift” for the performing arts at Case Western Reserve, said Jerrod Scott, chair and artistic director of the Department of Theater, noting that the Maltz Center gives these programs their first dedicated home on campus. “We will now have a facility equal to the talent of our faculty, staff and students,” he said. These enhancements elegantly complement the Phase One development, which included the transformation of historic Silver Hall. With seating for 1,200 people, the space has featured student musical and vocal ensembles, a symphony orchestra, and the Case Concert Choir.

“While Tamar and I may have provided the spark that spurred this transformation, the fact that so many people have come together to complete Phase Two has been most gratifying,” he continued. “We can’t wait to see the newly finished building come to life with the activity of learning, rehearsals, and theater productions.”

Since its opening in 2015, the Maltz Performing Arts Center has become a destination for the Cleveland community to enjoy classical, jazz and gospel music concerts by local and national performers as well as the exchange of thought-provoking ideas. During the pandemic, the Maltz Center continued to engage audiences with virtual performances.

Philanthropists Gerald and Jane Kesselman, whose names adorn the entrance to the center’s “green room,” were thrilled to play a role in making the project a reality. “This building has long been one of Cleveland’s architectural jewels,” they said, “and the renovation has made it shine even more brightly.”

“The center continues to honor its roots as a sacred place of worship—now as a gathering place to celebrate performing arts education and professional-level performances in state-of-the-art facilities for Case Western Reserve and Northeast Ohio communities,” said Milton Maltz.

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A Legacy of Learning

The late L. David Baldwin’s generosity propels new interdisciplinary education and research initiative

When L. David Baldwin graduated from Case Institute of Technology (CIT) in 1949, a state-of-the-art computer weighed nearly 9 tons and occupied 490 square feet.

More than 70 years later, having built and subsequently sold a thriving electronics firm, Baldwin decided to try his hand at computer programming, ultimately developing software that eased the display of content on webpages.

He was, in short, the ultimate lifelong learner.

More, he loved supporting learning and discovery at his alma mater.

Before he died this spring at 96, Baldwin made the last of several generous investments in education and research at Case Western Reserve, directing that $4 million from an earlier broad commitment go toward Expanding Horizons, an innovative initiative at the College of Arts and Sciences.

“David’s support,” Dean Joy Ward said earlier this year, “will allow generations of students and faculty to work together to help solve some of society’s greatest challenges.”

Born in 1925 in Cleveland, Baldwin arrived at CIT with a passion for physics and an affinity for wrestling and concert band. After earning his undergraduate diploma here, he headed to Columbia University for his master’s degree. He went on to work in General Dynamics’ Radio Communications Lab—where, in 1961, he published a piece on parametric amplifier circuits in the journal of the Institute of Radio Engineers.

By the mid-1960s, Baldwin felt ready to launch his own company. He founded Frequency Sources Inc. (FSI), which produced devices related to the microwave industry. Started with a $4,000 investment, the Massachusetts company had a valuation of $1.2 million within six years. By 1979, when it was acquired by a larger firm, FSI had $27 million in sales.

In the ensuing years, Baldwin contributed to Case Western Reserve’s athletic facilities and fledgling SAGES program, and also provided funds for academic leaders to use for strategic distribution in science and engineering. He also supported renovation of teaching labs, and support for particularly promising faculty. Few knew of his philanthropy; however.

“David Baldwin was a quiet gentleman and a force for good. He felt a deep commitment to physics and other fundamental science education, and demonstrated his support through philanthropy that he often insisted be anonymous. He was a true inspiration to us all.”

In January of last year, Case Western Reserve announced Ward’s appointment as the next dean of the college. She was able to meet with Baldwin in person before COVID-19 arrived, and later engaged with him several times by telephone.

A few months after assuming her new role last summer, Ward spoke with Baldwin about her idea for a multipronged program that would strengthen and expand research, encourage instructional innovation, and ignite interdisciplinary activities. She followed up with written proposals and, by late fall, Baldwin agreed to allocate funds for the effort.

In April, the college made its first round of Expanding Horizons awards. The 13 grants included support for:

- interdisciplinary research at the intersection of health sciences and the environment;
- a participatory printmaking project engaging young people in Cleveland and East Cleveland in learning visual literacy and self-advocacy;
- an immersive dance effort that includes laser projection, motion tracking, and spatial audio; and
- new courses on “digital, civic and community engagement in Cleveland” and “the big questions of human existence.”

As grateful as Ward was for Baldwin’s backing of the initiative, however, she also felt profound appreciation for the opportunity to talk with him about his life and ideas. As one example, he and his late wife, Virginia, made generous donations to programs for the homeless and victims of domestic violence in St. Petersburg, Florida.

“He was an extremely humble, wise and thoughtful person,” Ward said. “I am better for knowing him, and he will be very much missed.”

L. DAVID BALDWIN

... was a quiet gentleman and a force for good. He felt a deep commitment to physics and other fundamental science education, and demonstrated his support through philanthropy that he often insisted be anonymous. He was a true inspiration to us all.”

— Roger Cerne, executive advisor for development at Case School of Engineering
Adapting to Today’s Environment

Two years in, the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law remains true to its mission

The timing certainly seemed auspicious. It was the spring of 2019, and Case Western Reserve leaders and law students had gathered to celebrate the launch of the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law. Its inaugural director, Jonathan Adler, could point to a long record of impressive environmental law scholarship, and was already planning a major fall symposium to mark the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The center would support new courses, student scholarships—even summer placements at key organizations. In total, students had gathered to meet for the first time a few months before.

The timing certainly seemed auspicious. It was the spring of 2019, and Case Western Reserve leaders and law students had gathered to celebrate the launch of the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law. Its inaugural director, Jonathan Adler, could point to a long record of impressive environmental law scholarship, and was already planning a major fall symposium to mark the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The center would support new courses, student scholarships—even summer placements at key organizations. In total, students had gathered to meet for the first time a few months before.

Burke died last fall, but his legacy will live on in the center’s work and the professors, alumni, and students that it helps train to be environmental lawyers. His legacy will live on in the center’s work and the professors, alumni, and students that it helps train to be environmental lawyers.

Reminding a Philanthropist and Environmentalist

Coleman ‘Coley’ Burke, a 1970 law alumnus so dedicated to the planet that he committed $10 million to launch an environmental law center at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, died Nov. 8 at his home in New York. A Manhattan real estate developer, Burke maintained an active interest in the natural world. For more than 40 years, Burke engaged in organizations such as the National Audubon Society, the National Forest Foundation, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, the New York Botanical Garden and the Wildlife Conservation Society, among others.

In 2010, Burke honored his mentor and former professor Leon Gabin with an endowed professorship focused on tax, trusts and estates. Nine years later, his gift to establish the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law became the largest gift in the school’s history.

“Coley Burke’s generosity has enabled us to expand our environmental programs and serve students with a deep interest in environmental law,” said Jonathan Adler, director of the Burke Center. “In a law school with a long history of environmental law, Burke’s generosity will live on in the center’s work and the students that it helps train to be effective environmental lawyers.”

FORWARD THINKING | CASE.EDU
A New Home for Nurse Leaders

The late alumna Marian Shaughnessy once imagined an academy to prepare nurses to become leaders in health care; today it is thriving and, thanks to her family, soon will have a physical home.

“Now, more than ever, nurses must seize the opportunity to be not just facilitators of health care, but rather leaders in their own right.”

MARIAN SHAUGHNESSY >>

Three years ago, alumna Marian Shaughnessy (NUR ’57, ’17) and her husband, Michael, committed $5 million to realize a vision she had articulated in a 2013 assignment for her graduate program: “Now, more than ever,” she wrote, “nurses must seize the opportunity to be, not just facilitators of health care, but rather leaders in their own right.”

Her instructor for the course, former nursing dean and current Distinguished University Professor Joyce Fitzpatrick, collaborated with Marian to transform the ideas into the academy that now bears her name. Since the academy’s launch in 2018, it has introduced a global post-doctoral leadership program as well as a senior nurse executive fellowship program with three national nursing and health care organizations. Shaughnessy died last year, but to mark the one-year anniversary of her passing, Michael and their daughters, Anne and Kate, honored Marian with a $2.5 million commitment to give the academy the one piece it still lacked: a physical location.

Located in the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion at the Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic, the Marian K. Shaughnessy Nurse Leadership Academy will offer a collaborative, welcoming and high-tech space for students and faculty to deepen their learning, research and—most importantly—leadership skills to impact change.

“Marian Shaughnessy’s vision already has benefited nurse leaders across the world participating in academy programs,” Case Western Reserve University Interim President Scott Cowen said at the time of the gift announcement. “This additional commitment will deepen and extend her legacy in transforming health care. We are deeply grateful to the Shaughnessy family for continuing Marian’s vision and making this space a reality.”

Forward Thinking: What does this gift mean for the future of the leadership academy?

Joyce Fitzpatrick: When we fully recover from the physical-distancing restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Marian K. Shaughnessy Nurse Leadership Academy will have a new home and wonderful space in Samson Pavilion.

This permanent space will bring high visibility to our programs and students. Scholars and fellows will now have a place to gather, and we’ll have additional space for our interprofessional research projects. We’re extremely grateful to the Shaughnessy family for continuing Marian’s vision and making this space a reality.

FT: How are the academy’s programs progressing after its formal debut a year-and-a-half ago?

JF: We’ve made terrific progress in launching three programs so far—the Executive Leadership Post-Doctoral Program, the Miller Scholars Program and the Coldiron Senior Nurse Executive Fellowship—along with an alumni leadership lecture series.

The Samuel H. and Maria Miller Foundation is supporting 11 Miller Fellows in the first class of the Executive Leadership Post-Doctoral Program as well as 13 Miller Scholars enrolled in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Executive Track. In March, our Coldiron Fellows began their yearlong Coldiron Senior Nurse Executive Fellowship. These nurse leaders include a diverse group from academia and care delivery and represent communities ranging from the largest public health system in the U.S. to a community hospital in rural Texas. Through generous support from Arnold and Wanda Coldiron, the fellowship is a collaboration among the academy, the American Nurses Association, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership, the Healthcare Financial Management Association and Weatherhead School of Management.

FT: What are the plans ahead for the academy?

JF: We have a very ambitious agenda. Over the next 18 months, we intend to embed leadership knowledge, skills and attitudes in all of our academic programs at the school of nursing. We are also recruiting for the second cohort of Coldiron Fellows and continuing our alumni leadership lecture series. Our latest project, a children’s book profiling historical nurse leaders, is the creative idea of my colleague, Dr. Mary Beth Modic—a nurse leader at Cleveland Clinic and a former student of mine. Mary Beth’s dream was to share the value of nursing—and the accomplishments of nurse leaders—with middle-school age children. By putting our energies and talents together, we have written the book, which profiles the accomplishments—sometimes against all odds—of 50 extraordinary historical nurse leaders. Luminaries of the Past: Stories of Fifty Extraordinary Nurses was published in early 2021, and profits benefit the Marian K. Shaughnessy Nurse Leadership Academy.

As we move to accomplish those goals, we will continue to identify options to develop nurses as leaders across the world.

The nursing profession has been in the national spotlight more than ever during COVID-19. Has the pandemic influenced how nurse leadership is perceived?

JF: The public has a better awareness of nurses—and nurses have been given well-deserved accolades during the pandemic—but this is also the continuation of a trend. In studies for the past 18 years in a row, nurses have been identified as being the most trusted profession by adults in the U.S. Nurses, particularly in hospitals, are leading day-to-day care of patients and are the ones communicating with families who can’t be physically present. So while the pandemic has elevated the visibility of nurses leading care at the bedside, it is important that the public understands the important role of the nurse leader in organizing care delivery.

Nurses comprise 35% of health care jobs, but just 5% of hospital board positions.

Joyce Fitzpatrick, the academy’s inaugural director, spoke with Forward Thinking on how this additional gift will advance the academy’s mission and the possibilities ahead.
"I feel a sense of hope and palpable optimism about the near future—even though we are still coping with the impacts of the pandemic. Clearly, people on our campus are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel."

— Interim President Scott Cowen

Home. Again.

This fall, reconnect with Case Western Reserve University—and each other—as we recognize the achievements of our alumni and once again celebrate the time-honored traditions of CWRU Homecoming.

Please plan to join us for events on campus and online, **Oct. 21-24.**

Stay tuned to [case.edu/homecoming](http://case.edu/homecoming) for more information.

As federal and state guidelines continue to evolve with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will plan events accordingly—considering both in-person and virtual options. Please watch for more information this summer, including event schedules and registration instructions.
There’s still time to support our Day of Giving. If you make a gift before June 30, you can increase your impact on CWRU students for the upcoming academic year.

Visit giving.case.edu and go All [In] Together.