Craig Barton announces $8.5 million “We are Wichita State” campaign lead gift

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—Craig Barton

The lead gift of $8.5 million from the W. Frank Barton personal estate was announced by Craig Barton, Frank’s son, in support of the “We are Wichita State” fund-raising campaign at a news conference on Oct. 14. It is the largest outright gift in the history of WSU, and will further support the faculty and programs of the W. Frank Barton School of Business.

The gift from Mr. Barton, co-founder and chair of Rent-A-Center, qualifies for the state Board of Regents Faculty of Distinction program. The program’s funds will supplement the payout of the gift, extending the impact of the contribution.

“It is my family’s desire that this gift will help create the programs and provide the necessary resources to further strengthen and carry out the mission of the Barton School for decades to come,” said Craig Barton. “My father believed strongly in the entrepreneurial spirit. I am extremely proud to have the preeminent business school in Kansas and a leader in entrepreneurial education named after my father.”

The donation will provide for three distinguished faculty chairs, which include supplemental salary support, professional development opportunities, and numerous assistantships for WSU graduate students.

“On behalf of the faculty, staff, students and alumni of the Barton School of Business, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Barton family for this landmark gift,” said John Beehler, dean of the W. Frank Barton School of Business and professor of accountancy. “This will greatly enhance our ability to compete as we strive for excellence in preparing future entrepreneurs and business leaders for success in the global marketplace.”

“The extraordinary gift from the Barton family is critical in giving us the momentum we need to make this campaign truly successful for our students, our faculty and our communities,” said Donald Beggs, WSU president.

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The WSU Foundation received $10,000 or more from these individuals, corporations, foundations, and estates between July 1 and Oct. 31, 2005. The projects funded are listed with their names. We appreciate their contributions.

**Orlin Everett ’64 & Donna ’73 Ard** — Bill & Donna Ard Scholarship (Liberal Arts & Sciences)

**Donald L. ’88 & Lora Barry** — Barry Faculty Support (Fine Arts)

**W. Frank Barton Trust** — Barton School of Business Distinguished Chairs

**Bernard Family Foundation** — Bernard Family Foundation Scholarship (NIAR)

**BG Products Inc.** — GIK—Departmental (Student Affairs)

**Douglas K. & Nancy Blackman** — GIK-SASO (Athletics)

**Bradbury Company Inc.** — Roundhouse Renaissance

**Elaine Inez ’61 & Virgil ’61 Brady** — Brady Spirit Squad Scholarship, General Fund (Student Affairs)

**James & Catherine Buck Charitable Trust** — James & Catherine Buck Charitable Trust Current Scholarship in Aerospace Engineering, Education, Business and Fine Arts

**Burch Family Foundation** — 1970 Football Memorial Scholarship

**Capitol Federal Foundation** — Capitol Federal Savings Scholarships (Business)

**Daniel M. ’53 & Gayla Carney** — Beta Theta Pi Endowed Scholarship (Student Affairs)

**Frank L. Carney Charitable Trust** — Roundhouse Renaissance

Major Gift Highlights

Elizabeth King, vice president for university advancement and executive director of the Wichita State University Foundation, announced the goal of $35 million for the three-year “We are Wichita State” fund-raising campaign at a news conference Friday, Oct. 14, in the Marcus Welcome Center.

The campaign, launched July 1, 2004, concentrates on developing support for undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships and faculty support funds including endowed professorships and chairs.

“The ‘We are Wichita State’ campaign will provide us the ability to attract and retain exceptional faculty members, and to continue to offer undergraduate and graduate students affordable and accessible quality education,” said WSU President Donald Beggs. “This in turn will offer our alumni the opportunity for meaningful careers and will offer area employers a skilled work force.”

The campaign’s total of cash and pledges as of Nov. 14 was $20,797,780.

For more campaign information, please contact the WSU Foundation at (316) 978-3040 or visit the campaign Web site at www.wichita.edu/wearewsu.
Anita & Larry Jones further demonstrate love of WSU

Larry and Anita Jones enjoy more than 50 years of each other’s company especially sharing time traveling – or in this case cruising, on the Mediterranean in 1993.

Larry and Anita Jones appreciate the little things in life – little things like sharing a laugh with the person you love, and little things like sharing $150,000 with the university you love.

Fifty-two years ago Larry and Anita graduated from WSU and wed, simultaneously beginning life-long relationships with the university and each other.

Even with the various successes in business and civic life that Anita and Larry have had, and their respected status in the community – those things don’t compare to the outlook on life that they have fostered.

“We’re both alumni,” Anita said. “We’ve kept a really strong contact with the faculty of this campus. We know what their needs are.”

Through simultaneous contributions of $50,000 and $100,000, the Jones’ have empowered the School of Music and the W. Frank Barton School of Business (respectively) to provide generous fellowships to three professors per year. Beginning this year – and continuing for four more years – one faculty member from the School of Music and two from the School of Business will be awarded $10,000 each.

“That just makes me almost have goose bumps,” Anita said, smiling at her husband.

Anita (’53), who donated her money to the School of Music, wishes to support those areas of the university that are often neglected by private support. Professor Fran Shelly of the School of Music recently became the first recipient of this generous fellowship.

Larry (’53) wants to support the school of business for a different reason. “In the School of Business, obtaining and maintaining (faculty) is very difficult right now,” he said. “That motivated my choice of where I wanted my monies to go.”

Larry has a long business history, which began with his major at WSU and continued by being the president and CEO of the Coleman Co., and serving on the boards of directors for Cessna, Union Pacific and Anadarko Petroleum. He continues his love of business today. He will be the keynote speaker for the W. Frank Barton School of Business Business Week in April.

“In my judgment,” Larry said, “a society that wants to be civilized and progressive needs to provide for higher education.”

The two recipients from the School of Business have not yet been announced. Finishing each other’s thoughts, as these two often do, Anita continued, “There’s nothing you can do, I think, that’s more valuable than supporting education.”

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Mr. Barton and his wife, Patsy, have a long history of supporting WSU. In 1987, Mr. Barton made a $3 million cash gift to WSU, as well as a $9 million future gift commitment, which will come from the combined estates of Frank and Patsy Barton. This $12 million combination gift resulted in naming the business school as the W. Frank Barton School of Business.

Memorials

New memorials were established in honor of these deceased friends of Wichita State through the WSU Foundation between July 1 and Oct. 31, 2005. To contribute, please call the Planned Giving Office, (316) 978-3809, toll-free (888) 316-2586, or e-mail mike.lamb@wichita.edu.

Judith Davis – ’64
L. Darlene Fearrey – ’64, ’68
Marian Eunice Geeding
Kenn R. Schouten

Society of 1895

These individuals were named to the Society of 1895 between July 1 and Oct. 31, 2005, by establishing a deferred gift through the WSU Foundation. To do the same, please call Michael Lamb, (316) 978-3804, toll-free (888) 316-2586, or e-mail mike.lamb@wichita.edu.

Norma and Bill Foshee
Leon Greene ’54
Elizabeth and Donald King
Sharon ’89 and Paul Miles
Alberta Davida Otto ’52, ’68
Marilyn ’72 and Ken ’69 Pauly

Riley has a heart for Wichita State University Libraries

In 1942, when the University of Wichita’s library moved to what is now Morrison Hall, Lee Riley—preparing to receive his geology degree later that spring—was among the students moving the materials from one building to another.

Today, he continues to support University Libraries, most recently with a $175,000 pledge to establish the Lee R. Riley Endowed Graduate Assistantship. Part of his contribution will be through a matching gift from Exxon, from which he is retired.

“The library is the heart of the university,” said Riley, of Oklahoma City. He believes having only classroom learning presents a somewhat slanted perspective.

“... You need to go read other opinions.”

Riley’s gift is the first endowed “We are Wichita State” campaign gift for University Libraries. He is grateful for the University of Wichita making him what he is today.

“When you go to school four years and it starts you out at your livelihood, you owe a little back,” Riley concluded.

CBIZ/Mayer Hoffman McCann believes in Barton School, future of WSU students

“Pure and simple, we believe that statewide, the Barton School ranks number one,” said Dick Dameron, partner with accounting firm CBIZ/MHM, P.C. “It has produced many outstanding business and accounting graduates who serve our community in great ways.”

Dameron was instrumental in the very first gift to the “We are Wichita State” campaign. The company established a $15,000 current gift, which will award two scholarships per year to accounting students.

“We’ve always believed in and supported the university and this was just the next logical step for us,” said Dameron. “We felt it was important to support deserving and hard-working students through these scholarships. And some of them will be our future workforce— we want them to know that we’re interested in their future.”
Dr. Amy King (MA ’60) is passionate about helping students learn about mathematics, and she is using charitable gift annuities to help support this interest.

After earning a bachelor’s degree at the University of Missouri and then her masters’ degree in mathematics at the University of Wichita, King began what would become a 40-year career teaching math. She would eventually earn her Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky. From the high school level to universities including Wichita State, Washburn, the University of Kansas and 25 years at Eastern Kentucky University, King helped to unlock the mysteries of math for thousands of students. Her student-centered commitment to education earned her multiple teaching awards.

King retired in 1998, but has continued to plan for the future of mathematics students at Wichita State through the creation of the Dr. Amy C. King Endowed Scholarship in Mathematics. Over the past six years, King has made gifts creating five charitable gift annuities, all of which will support her math scholarship.

When asked about her motivation for using gift annuities to support mathematics students, King responded, “I received a small scholarship as an undergraduate and it meant so much to me.”

The charitable gift annuity has multiple benefits. In exchange for a gift (usually cash or securities) to the WSU Foundation, the donor receives guaranteed fixed payments for life. Charitable gift annuity payments are age-related and provide the greatest financial benefit to older donors (see sample chart). In addition to a fixed-income stream, the gift annuity may also provide an income tax deduction and federal estate tax savings. At the death of the last beneficiary, the WSU Foundation would use the remainder of the annuity for the purpose directed by the donor, such as student support through scholarships or fellowships.

The charitable gift annuity provides donors with the security of fixed-income and the added benefit of supporting the university.

For a personal, confidential charitable gift annuity illustration, contact J. Michael Lamb, associate vice president for planned giving, at 316-978-3804 or mike.lamb@wichita.edu. Additional information may be found at www.foundation.wichita.edu by clicking on “Ways to Give” and then “Gift Annuities.”

The dedication of the Kansas Gas Service Networked Seminar Complex, the result of a $100,000 gift by Kansas Gas Service, a division of ONEOK Inc.; was held Nov. 8 in Ablah Library. The seminar complex was designed to create a technology enhanced-learning environment for faculty and students.

It includes two rooms equipped with wireless projection capabilities, PCs loaded with a range of software, DVDs and VCRs, and teleconferencing capability. In addition to the seminar rooms, the gift allowed for more than 9,900 electronic books to be added to the libraries’ collections.
Four new members join National Advisory Council

Wichita State University Foundation’s National Advisory Council added new members for fiscal year 2006, which began July 1.

Four new members joined the NAC, bringing the total membership to 111. Members of the NAC are individuals committed to the advancement of WSU. They provide guidance to the foundation through the board of directors and eight committees. The group meets biannually for campus updates and feedback sessions.

Joining the NAC this year is Robert “Bob” D. Blackwell, Clinton “Clint” J. Everton, Carolyn M. Harrison and Sheryl L. Wohlford.

Robert D. Blackwell
Blackwell attended WSU on a football scholarship, graduating from WSU with a BA in education majoring in physical education with minors in education and psychology. He is retired from a 25-year career with IBM, where he served as the director of Greater Chicago Consulting Services Business. Currently, he is the president and CEO of Blackwell Consulting Services, the largest minority-owned IT consulting company in the Midwest.

The company was founded by his son, Robert Blackwell Jr. Robert Sr. joined the business in 1992, and bought the company in 1995. His list of community involvement includes serving on the boards of Illinois Institute of Technology, Arts and Business Council, Joel Hall Dance Company, Neighborhood Writing Alliance, serving as Chairman of the Board; ETZ Creative Arts Foundation, serving as Chairman of the Board; and Mayor’s Council of Technology Advisors. In March, Blackwell was the keynote speaker for Business Week for the Barton School of Business. He resides with his wife, Marjilee, in Beverly Shores, Indiana.

Clinton J. Everton
Everton attended WSU during the 1980s and 1990s. He was president and founder of Knowledge Communications, a Wichita-based software company, which became one of the leading producers of interactive multimedia management training CD-ROMs for Fortune 2000 companies.

In 1999, Knowledge Communications was acquired by Harcourt General Inc. Everton is currently senior vice president of product development and technology for Thomson NETg, which is part of the Thomson Corporation. At WSU, he was a Gore Scholar, a member of Phi Delta Theta, Student Government Association, Student Alumni Association, and worked as a co-op student. His wife, Jessica, graduated from WSU with a MA in communications. They live in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Carolyn M. Harrison
Harrison received her BS degree in nursing from the University of Missouri and her Master’s degree in nursing from WSU. She is an RN and educator, and serves as education director with Kansas Health Ethics, Inc., located in Wichita. At WSU, she serves on the WSU Foundation’s “We are Wichita State” fund-raising campaign cabinet and is a life member of the Alumni Association.

A strong supporter of the College of Health Professions, she serves on the Dean’s Advisory Committee and has been involved with the Professional Society Association of Nursing. She is also involved with the Medical Society of Sedgwick County Auxiliary and Kansas

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Children’s Service League. Her husband, Paul, graduated from WSU with a BA in biology. Together with Preferred Health Systems, their gifts enabled the purchase of a SimMan, a simulated human, this past summer for the College of Health Professions. The Harrisons reside in Wichita.

Sheryl L. Wohlford

Wohlford received her degree in health care administration from WSU. She and her husband, Doug, own Automation-Plus Inc., a company that makes, sells and installs automated product identification equipment. As a student, Wohlford was active in Student Government Association, Omicron Delta Kappa, and was a Senior Honor Woman. Since graduation, she has continued to give her time and energy to WSU. She is past president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and has served on numerous Alumni Association boards and committees. In 1999, she was honored by the association as recipient of its Young Alumnus Award. In addition to her work with the Alumni Association, she is a past member of the SASO Board, the ICAA Board and the Board of Trustees. In August Wohlford became a member of the WSC Advisory Council. Her community involvement includes serving on the boards of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, Wichita Chamber of Commerce, Old Town Association, the Sedgwick County Zoo and Wichita Festivals. Sheryl and Doug, who received his BS in Electrical Engineering from WSU, live in Wichita.

To learn more about the NAC, please contact Michele Renberger, director of the NAC, at (316) 978-3838 or e-mail michele.renberger@wichita.edu.

WSU Foundation staff awarded CFRE credential

Sharon G. Miles and J. Michael Lamb of the Wichita State University Foundation have been awarded the professional designation of Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). Individuals granted the CFRE credential have met a series of standards set by CFRE International, which include tenure in the profession, education, professional achievement and a commitment to standards of ethical practice. CFRE candidates must also pass a written examination testing the knowledge, skills and abilities required of a fund-raising executive.

Miles serves the WSU Foundation as the director of development for the College of Fine Arts and the Ulrich Museum and as associate director of planned giving. Lamb is associate vice president for planned giving and development services.
Former SGA president supports successors

When was the last time you spent a thousand dollars on books? SGA president Michael Schlotterbeck knows exactly when he did. It was last semester; he spent $1,100 just for textbooks—that's $700 more than the average student. Those science books certainly add up. Fortunately for him, he recently became the inaugural recipient of the Jessica Greis Edwardson Endowed Scholarship for the SGA President.

Dramatically sighing with an ironic grin, he said, “I’ll probably be buying books with it…”

This endowed scholarship isn’t your everyday, book-buying scholarship, though. It’s a scholarship that has been created exclusively for Student Government Association (SGA) presidents by a former president.

The scholarship’s creator is Jessica Greis Edwardson (’98), one of only a dozen female past-SGA presidents. “It’s an honor to be an SGA president,” she said. “I was hoping that [the scholarship] would make it more special.”

“I wanted the scholarship to be in recognition of hard work,” she said. Being an SGA president isn’t the only thing one does on campus, she continued. Work, classes and involvement in other organizations take up a lot of non-SGA time.

This is something Greis Edwardson knows firsthand.

Back in her WSU days, she enjoyed sorority life and divided her time between SGA and various WSU clubs.

Greis Edwardson now spends her time with her husband, Eric, in Virginia, where she practices law—specializing in domestic violence—for Legal Services of Northern Virginia, a non-profit firm.

“During my presidency, I’d been thinking about wanting to give a scholarship someday,” she said. “…I’m glad that Eric and I were able to do it.”