

Horizon

APRIL 2008

Communicating with the Thinkers, Doers, Movers & Shockers of
W I C H I T A S T A T E U N I V E R S I T Y

WSU Foundation receives surprise \$2 million gift for scholarships



Flora Lea Wallis, unbeknownst to WSU, gifted \$2 million through her trust to the university for general scholarships.

Flora Lea Wallis, a lifelong resident of the Springfield, Mo., area where she was a cosmetologist and worked for a printing company, discreetly left the WSU

Foundation a gift of \$2 million.

The gift will create an endowed fund to support general scholarships for students at WSU.

Wallis' ties to Wichita were through her brother, Chesley, who at one time lived in Wichita and owned the beauty shop in the Beacon Building downtown. She also owned and operated a dairy farm south of Springfield with him.

Wallis, who died Feb. 8, 2007, at age 99, never attended WSU, but recognized the importance of a college education and wanted her gift to make it financially possible for students to pursue their educational dreams.

The scholarship will bear the names of Wallis, Chesley and his wife, Ruth. She was predeceased by Chesley, who died in 1988, and Ruth.

"This gift will have a significant positive impact on WSU students for years to come, as they benefit from the generosity of the Wallis legacy," said Michael Lamb, vice president for planned giving and development services for the WSU Foundation.

Lamb said the donation will generate \$85,000 a year in scholarships.

"We are most grateful to friends and alumni of the university who remember Wichita State in their estate plans," said Lamb.

"I wish we would have known about Ms. Wallis' gift before she passed away," said Lamb, "just to say thank you."



WSU students, (l-r) like Jaime Newman, Cachet Hancock and Jodi Wiley, will greatly benefit from scholarship assistance provided by the late Flora Lea Wallis.

Major Gift Highlights

The WSU Foundation received \$15,000 or more from these individuals, corporations, foundations and estates between Nov. 20, 2007, and Jan. 30, 2008. The projects funded are listed with their names. We appreciate their contributions.

Jerry '63 & Jan Aaron

- Men's Basketball
- Jerry & Jan Aaron Endowed Scholarship in Business
- National Advisory Council (WSU Foundation)

Thornton E. '47 & Kathleen S. Anderson

- Distinguished Professor of Geophysics
- Geology Diamond Anniversary Project

Pete '42 & Mickey '45 Armstrong

- Gordon Parks Papers Collection Fund (University Libraries)

Craig Barton '83

- Men's Basketball

Donald '88 & Lora Barry

- Lora & Don Barry Faculty Support for Incubator (W. Frank Barton School of Business)

Arlene Behring

- Regina L. Behring Whittaker Endowed Scholarship in Nursing

Sam & Rie Bloomfield Foundation

- Sam Bloomfield Chair in Engineering

Ellen O. Burmeister '58

- Patrons of Music

Edward C. Burns

- Welcome Center

Estate of Leota Decarsky

- Leota Decarsky Endowed Scholarship (General)

Larry G. & Jean B. '79 Elliott

- Alumni Money for Gift Report (Alumni Association)

Justus Fugate '60

- Gift in kind (Holmes Museum of Anthropology)

Garvey Texas Foundation Inc.

- James Sutherland Garvey International Center Endowed Fund

Elizabeth K. Holmer

- Betty Holmer Library Fund
- Dr. Robert Holmer Scholarship Fund (College of Education)

Professor Fran & Geri '57

Jabara Fund for Excellence

- Donna Jabara Baker Endowed Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

Ken Johnson '65

- Kenneth A. Johnson Endowed Scholarship in Management (W. Frank Barton School of Business)

Student's effort recognized with scholarship award

Larissa Sadler, a junior nursing student at WSU, was rewarded for the effort she put into being a student leader with the William Foshee Current Health Professions Scholarship in fall 2007.

"The Foshee Scholarship is the only one in the College of Health Professions (CHP) whose recipient is hand-picked by (CHP dean) Dr. Peter Cohen," said Lynette Murphy, WSU Foundation development director for the CHP. "The person who gets that is very special."

Sadler is active in several student organizations, including Future Health Care Professionals, the Kansas Association for Nursing Students and the CHP Student Leadership Council, of which she is president.

"Being a role model and listening to other students' ideas has been rewarding," she said of her position as president. "The organization is a great thing we have." She also works as an assistant in Cohen's office.



Larissa Sadler, a junior nursing student at WSU, is appreciative that her hard work has been noticed and rewarded with the William Foshee Current Health Professions Scholarship.

"It's nice to be able to focus on my education instead of how I'm going to pay for it,"

-Larissa Sadler, junior nursing student at WSU

"Larissa is a great team member," said Cohen. "She has served as a student assistant in the dean's office for the past two years and is an integral part of our team. She has a total commitment to the values, vision and mission of the College of Health Professions, which she demonstrates as a terrific representative of the dean's office and the president of CHP's Student Leadership Council."

Sadler is the first person in her family to attend college, and she is thankful for the assistance her scholarships provide.

"It's nice to be able to focus on my education instead of how I'm going to pay for it," she said. "Knowing that the dean

hand-selected me and noticed my hard work means a lot to me."

Sadler has been a scholarship recipient since she was a freshman. She received the William L. Graham Scholarship last year.

In addition to her job in the dean's office, Sadler took a job at Via Christi Medical Center's St. Francis campus as a nurse technician in the oncology department because she wants to gain valuable experience in her field before she graduates.

After she receives her undergraduate degree in May 2009, she would like to be a labor and delivery nurse and eventually attend graduate school to become a physicians assistant.

"Larissa has incorporated the college's values into her persona," said Cohen. "She will serve as an excellent representative of CHP, nursing and the health care professions long after she graduates."

Gridley-Hoover make 'venture philanthropy' gift

In addition to supporting WSU scientists committed to research in aging with a gift of \$120,000, Curt Gridley and Tracy Hoover are pioneers because their gift provides seed funding for more extensive research.

"This is an excellent example of venture philanthropy," said James Rhatigan, consultant for the WSU Foundation, who worked with Gridley and Hoover on the gift. "The Foundation is breaking new ground with this kind of gift. The Gridley-Hoover gift will serve as a catalyst for future efforts in aging research."



Tracy Hoover and Curt Gridley believe in the power of philanthropy. Their recent gift for the Gridley-Hoover Pilot Research Program will provide initial funding for WSU scholars interested in aging research.

The Gridley-Hoover Pilot Research Program, through the new Regional Institute on Aging at WSU, will provide initial funding for WSU scholars interested in aging research. Positive results from this kind of exploratory activity increase the possibility of additional research awards from major funding organizations such as the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation.

"One of the most difficult-to-obtain research tools," said Teresa Radebaugh, director of the Regional Institute on

Aging, "is funding for exploration and collection of pilot data to underpin future, larger scale research grant applications."

This is the first significant research gift directed toward the Regional Institute on Aging and will allow three pilot research projects to be funded up to \$20,000 each for two years.

"We have inventoried the research on aging being done on campus and know that this gift will promote additional scholarly activities in this important area," said J. David McDonald, WSU associate provost and director for the office of research administration.

"Human aging is a growing research field due to the unprecedented number of older Americans."

Gridley is a WSU alumnus with more than 20 years of successful experience in the high-tech industry. He is a consultant, advising small start-up companies on technical and management-related issues. Hoover is a WSU adjunct professor teaching private lessons in

viola da gamba through the School of Music. The Gridley Family Foundation also supports the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Gridley Scholarships and the Curtis D. Gridley Professorship in the History and Philosophy of Science.

The formal introduction of the Regional Institute on Aging was April 4, 2007. The institute has been supported by Larkfield Place Retirement Community and is designed to advance research to improve the health and well-being of older adults.

Major Gift Highlights

Kansas Health Foundation

- Beginning to Drive in Kansas (Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences)

Doris R. Klose '44

- Doris & Ralph Klose Endowed Scholarship (College of Education)

Koch Industries

- I.C.A.A. Gift Transfers (Athletics)

Sammy H. '01 & Jacqueline '01 Kouri Foundation

- Baseball Indoor Practice Facility

Alan Lipton

- Gift in Kind (Ulrich Museum of Art)

Will G. & Kristin Price

- Joyce Allison Price Endowed Scholarship/Fellowship (General)

Lee R. Riley '42

- Lee and Carolyn Riley Endowed Scholarship (General)

Ann C. & Stephen Starch

- Patrons of Music
- Patrons of Art
- Shift Space Current Fund (College of Fine Arts)

Transtecs Corporation

- Transtecs Corporation Endowed Scholarship (General)

Jeffrey L. '73 & Rhonda S. '75 Turner

- Alumni Money for Gift Report (Alumni Association)

Velma L. Wallace

- President's Discretionary Fund (General)

Flora Wallis Interim Trust

- Flora Lea, Chesley & Ruth Wallis Endowed Scholarship (General)

J. Eleanor Webb Living Trust

- J. Eleanor Webb Endowed Nursing Scholarship

Wichita Scottish Rite Charitable Trust

- Scottish Rite Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

World Trade Council

- Dharma deSilva Scholarship or Professorship in International Business

Unexpected estate gift creates two endowed scholarships

An unexpected gift from the estate of Marvel Nordyke White of more than \$200,000 to the WSU Foundation will benefit aerospace engineering and nursing students.

Though White had not previously supported the university, she was an alumna of the College of Education.

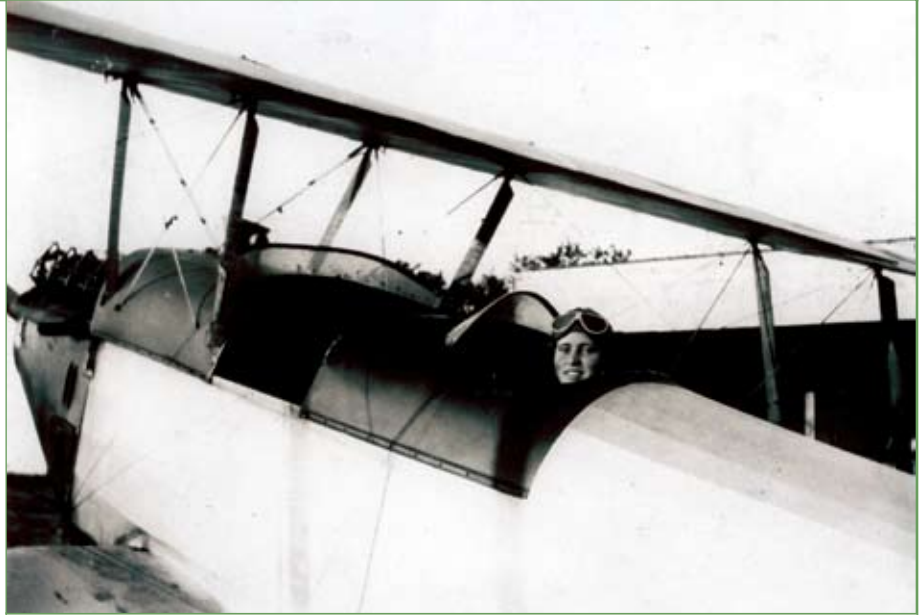
“We learned about Marvel White from her attorney, Bill Wix, also a former WSU student body president” said James Rhatigan, consultant for the WSU Foundation.

The gift was divided evenly to create two new funds: the Marvel Nordyke White Endowed Scholarship in Aerospace Engineering and the George E. White Endowed Scholarship/Fellowship in Nursing.

White had two older brothers and was a tomboy growing up. For \$25, White rode her bicycle off the boathouse roof into the river during a Fourth of July river festival. She tied a fishing bobbin to the handlebars, so after she jumped off the bike and came out of the water, she could dive for her bike. This was just the beginning of White’s active life that would endure for nearly 100 years.

White graduated from Wichita East High School in 1926, and received a bachelor’s in secondary education from the University of Wichita in 1935. In addition to teaching, she was passionate about aviation.

She was perhaps the first female pilot in Kansas. She also was a charter member of Kansas’ chapter of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers. OX5 was the type of engine in one of the planes she flew and membership in the organization was based on



Marvel White made her first solo flight on her 20th birthday in 1926.

whether you had flown or worked on that engine, according to Mary Lou Comegys, a close friend of White’s and caregiver in later years. White also was a member of Aviation Pioneers of America, an early group of female pilots.

“The happiest time in her life was when she was flying airplanes,” said Comegys.

Zulma Toro-Ramos, dean of the College of Engineering, is pleased that the name of an aviation pioneer is attached to the scholarship.

“This speaks to the importance of our college and aerospace engineering program,” she said.

Toro-Ramos also appreciates the positive impact scholarships have on students.

“For some students, it will make the difference between coming or not coming to Wichita State,” she said.

The other new fund, the George E. White Endowed Scholarship/Fellowship in Nursing, is named for

Marvel White’s husband, who served as a medic during World War I. After his military service, White spent most of his career in the service division of USD 259.

“The great value of scholarships/fellowships is that they reduce the amount students must borrow and mean they do not have such large student debts when they graduate,” said Juanita Tate, associate dean of the College of Health Professions and chair, School of Nursing. “In addition, this fund provides support for School of Nursing faculty who are pursuing advanced degrees. The White fund will mean that such faculty will have the burden of being a student as well as a faculty member reduced.”

“Marvel was far ahead of her time,” said Comegys.

And because of her estate planning, she will be remembered long after.

Former WSU student's love of aviation lives on

Nathan Forrest took his first airplane ride when he was three months old and loved aviation until his untimely death in July 2006 at age 25. But his life-long passion didn't die with him.

After Forrest, a test pilot for Spectrum Aeronautical in Spanish Fork, Utah, was killed while flying a Spectrum 33, his parents, Pat Hockett and Hugh Forrest, and some of Forrest's WSU fraternity brothers, decided to establish the Nathan Bedford Forrest Memorial Scholarship.

Forrest's experience with aviation began where he was raised: Cedar Airpark Airport in Olathe, Kan., a privately owned airport open for public use. While he was quite young, he ran the ground operations and helped with his family's banner tow business. He took his first solo flight in a glider at 14, and earned all of his flight licenses when he reached the minimum age requirement.

Although flying was an important part of his life, Forrest pursued other interests as well. In high school, he was a member of the football, baseball and debate teams.

As a senior in high school, Forrest was a finalist in WSU's Distinguished Scholarship Invitational competition. He received the Clark & Rowena Ahlberg Scholarship and was a Wallace Scholar while at WSU. He was grateful for the help of this scholarship, which allowed him to work as a flight instructor during college instead of having to work a non-aviation job with more hours to pay for his education.

He had a strong faith in God, and served as chaplain for Sigma Phi Epsilon during his junior year at WSU.

"He was always a hard worker," said Luke Luttrell, one of Forrest's fraternity brothers. "He had his priorities straight, and he was well balanced."

Forrest graduated magna cum laude with a degree in aerospace engineering from WSU in 2003, and subsequently began his career with Adam Aircraft in Englewood, Colo., as a test pilot/engineer. In May 2006, he joined Spectrum Aeronautical as

Wichita's aviation industry after he graduates in December 2008.

Brown, who briefly knew Forrest and shared many of the same friends, is thankful Forrest's parents created the scholarship.

"I am very grateful," he said. "The scholarship has helped out substantially."

After receiving the fund, Brown's job search focused on the knowledge to be gained versus the paycheck. The experience Brown acquired at the National Institute for Aviation Research helped him land his current job at Bombardier Aerospace.



Nathan Forrest flew in his first aerobatic contest on Aug. 20, 1999, at the age of 18.



Ryan Brown is a WSU senior majoring in aerospace engineering and the first recipient of the Nathan Bedford Forrest Memorial Scholarship.

deputy chief of flight operations, a position Hockett described as his dream job.

The recipient of the Nathan Bedford Forrest Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon majoring in engineering, and who has a love for aviation.

This year's recipient, Ryan Brown, is a senior aerospace engineering major who plans to work in

Because of the generosity of Forrest's family and friends, the Nathan Bedford Forrest Memorial Scholarship keeps his memory and love for aviation alive while helping students pursue their dreams.

"We want the scholarship to grow," said Hockett, "and see it help students like Nathan achieve engineering degrees and work in the aviation industry."

Society of 1895

These individuals were named to the Society of 1895 between Dec. 1, 2007, and Jan. 31, 2008, by establishing a deferred gift through the WSU Foundation.

To do the same, please call Michael Lamb at (316) 978-3804 or toll-free (888) 316-2586, or e-mail mike.lamb@wichita.edu.

**Robert '68 and Roseann '80 Dool
Marvin D. and Aleta M. Gile**

Memorials

New memorials were established in honor of the following deceased friends of Wichita State through the WSU Foundation between Dec. 1, 2007, and Jan. 31, 2008. To contribute, please call Natalie Olmsted, manager of special projects, at (316) 978-6842, toll-free (888) 316-2586, or e-mail natalie.olmsted@wichita.edu.

**Connie Claire Arnold
Ardeen Burkett Casado '44
Dr. Randall M. Chambers
Rex McNicol
Michael Stephen Moody '68
Katherine Postier '36
Janette Pucci**

Flossie E. West Memorial Trust Foundation continues cancer research funding

Since 1989, the Augusta, Kan.-based Flossie E. West Memorial Trust Foundation has provided funding for cancer research at Wichita State University. The trust was created by Lyman A. West, who lost his wife, Flossie, to cancer in 1953. West made a provision in his will to establish the trust, which was to provide funding for “hospitals, medical clinics, foundations or organizations devoted ... to research in the treatment of cancer.” Following his death in 1962, the trust began granting money to cancer researchers.

The generosity of the trust has allowed WSU researchers to continue their fight against cancer and has made it possible for them to attract additional funding.

Just within the past six years, WSU research has leveraged the funds received from the trust by attracting nearly \$1.5 million in external funding.

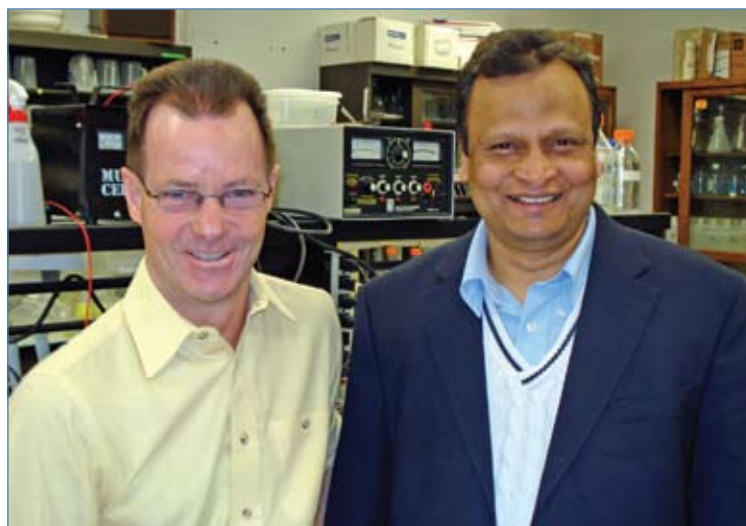
Two recent WSU research projects for which the Flossie E. West Memorial Trust has provided funding are “A Pilot Project to Probe the Role of Inflammation in an Experimental Model of Estrogen-Dependent Uterine Cancer” conducted by Dr. William Hendry, professor and chair, biological sciences; and “Probing Porphyrin-DNA Interactions: Activation and Reactivity Aspects Related to Photodynamic Therapy” conducted by Dr. Francis D’Souza, professor, chemistry.

“While earlier awards allowed us to completely define how the uterine cancer phenomenon progresses, more recent awards are allowing us to: 1) develop new

strategies to identify the DNA alterations (gene discovery) that drive the process, and 2) test the new hypothesis that out-of-control inflammatory activity is a key contributor to the cancer phenomenon,” said Hendry.

D’Souza’s research studies how treatment drug molecules interact with DNA, an integral component of each cell in the body.

“DNA as carrier of genetic information is a major target for drug interaction because of the ability to interfere with transcription



Dr. William Hendry, WSU professor and chair of biological sciences, and Dr. Francis D’Souza, professor of chemistry, conduct cancer research projects with the help of funds from the Flossie E. West Memorial Trust Foundation and funds leveraged by the trust.

(gene expression and protein synthesis) and DNA replication, a major step in cell growth and division,” said D’Souza. “The research being carried out at Wichita State aims to address how different porphyrin-DNA (a drug molecule) affects both the structural and mechanical properties of DNA.”

Because of entities such as the Flossie E. West Memorial Trust Foundation and the diligence of researchers everywhere, progress is being made in the fight against cancer.

To learn how you can join the effort, contact Terre Johnson, WSU Foundation vice president for development, at (316) 978-3808 or terre.johnson@wichita.edu.

New members enhance experience pool of the National Advisory Council

Five new members have joined the WSU Foundation's National Advisory Council for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Their first official participation was in September with the orientation and fall NAC events. The varied backgrounds and areas of interest of the new members help diversify the council's abilities.



Robert L. "Bob" Bailey
Bailey graduated from WSU in 1971 with a bachelor's in electrical engineering and received his master's in

electrical engineering at Southern Methodist University. Bailey is a distinguished engineer at Apple Computer. He is a life member of the Fairmount Society, a member of the Society of 1895 and a member of the College of Engineering Dean's Circle. As part of the "We are Wichita State" fundraising campaign, Bailey and his wife, Sharon, established the Robert and Sharon Bailey Endowed Presidential Scholarship in 2006 to benefit engineering students at WSU. They reside in La Selva Beach, Calif.



Marvin C. "Clark" Bastian
Bastian graduated from WSU in 1975 with a bachelor's in business administration. He is chairman and CEO

of Fidelity Bank. Bastian is the President's Club representative for Fidelity and a life member of the WSU Alumni Association. His activities in the community include serving on the boards of the Wichita Symphony Society, Heartland Community Bankers

Association and Downtown Rotary. He has served on the Old Cowtown board and also served as chairman of its \$4.5 million capital campaign. Bastian and his wife, Sharon, reside in Wichita, Kan.



Linda L. Brantner
Brantner graduated from WSU in 1974 with a bachelor's in education and in 1990 with her master's of business administration.

She is the newly appointed president and CEO of Delta Dental of Kansas. Brantner joined Delta Dental in January 1988, serving in several positions including director and chief operating officer. In the community she has served on the boards of Roots and Wings (court appointed special advocates), Make-A-Wish and the 2006 United Way of the Plains Campaign Cabinet. Brantner also is involved on a national level with Delta Dental Plans Association, serving on the Compliance Committee, Dental Policy Committee and Communications Committee. She and her husband, Douglas, reside in Wichita, Kan.



Timothy W. "Tim" Buckley
Buckley graduated from WSU in 1971 with a bachelor's in history. He is

vice president of Austin, Texas-based Polyplastics, a division of Buckley Industries, where he is a director and co-owner. Buckley is a life member of the WSU Alumni Association and, in 2005, he helped to establish the Duane and Janet Buckley Scholarship, which is named for his parents. Buckley also has been very active with Rotary. In April 1979, he became one of the first fourth-generation Rotarians in the Rotary Club of Wichita, Kan. In November 2006, he and his wife, Gail, joined 95 Rotarians from across the United States, and other international Rotarians, in a Rotary Foundation-assisted effort to immunize children against polio during the National Immunization Days in Ghana, West Africa. He is currently the Rotary Governor for the State of Texas. The Buckleys reside in Austin, Texas.



Edmund D. "Ed" Pack Jr.
Pack received his Master's of Business Administration from WSU in 2002. He is currently the vice president of Support

Services for Cessna Aircraft Co. Pack has been a member of SASO and a men's basketball season ticket holder. He is a board member of Goodwill Industries Easter Seals of Kansas and Boys and Girls Clubs of South Central Kansas. Pack and his wife, Renee, reside in Wichita, Kan.

Horizon

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Pension Protection Act increased gifts to students



More than half of the dollars WSU received through the provisions of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 were designated for student support funds.

Through provisions of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, the WSU Foundation received \$524,000 through 26 charitable distributions from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs).

Of the gifts received during the 18 months ending Dec. 31, 2007, 46 percent represented an increase over typical giving of the donor. Though the gifts benefit a variety of university

programs, half of the gifts were to scholarships or fellowships and more than half of the dollars received were to student support funds.

Although the legislation, which allowed individuals age 70 and above to make charitable distributions of up to \$100,000 per year from their IRAs, has expired, many other tools exist to direct retirement or estate assets to the program of your choice at WSU.

For information, contact Michael Lamb, vice president for planned giving and development services, at (316) 978-3804 or mike.lamb@wichita.edu.



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