Gene Miles was a custom home builder and progressed to building care facilities. Building homes ceased, but caring for the elderly began. “Gene always had compassion for older people,” said his wife, Marie Miles.

Three of the four nursing homes that Miles built are still operating. When Mrs. Miles sold the last one, Sandpiper Bay Health and Retirement Center and Waterfront Assisted Living, last year, it was fitting to her that part of the proceeds fund nursing scholarships and fellowships into perpetuity.

With this gift establishing the Gene J. and Marie A. Miles Endowed Scholarship/Fellowship in Nursing, Mrs. Miles, of rural Garden Plain, Kan., wanted to memorialize her late husband, who spent 20 years in the long-term care business.

The gift also continues the momentum for the “We are Wichita State” campaign, supporting both the undergraduate and graduate facets. Beginning this spring semester, 4 undergraduate and 2 graduate students in WSU’s School of Nursing will benefit from Miles’ generosity.

“I was ecstatic when I learned that I was a recipient,” said Janet Jessep, an undergraduate. “It will certainly take a load off. I can focus on school and it will decrease the amount of any loan I may have to take out. I have four children and it will help keep some of our money at home.”

The contribution comes at a critical time for the WSU nursing program. The undergraduate class size was recently expanded by 50 percent, so the limited scholarship monies that were available were covering even more students. At the graduate level, there is a need for additional master's trained nurses to serve as faculty for undergraduate-level students.

“This gift is a blessing for nursing students and will assist in ensuring that quality nursing care is provided to our community,” said Juanita Tate, chair of the School of Nursing. “Our program is very academically challenging, so it is difficult for our students to work full time. Students spend two to three days per week in hospitals and other health care agencies in addition to classroom work.”

Miles has directed the award monies to go to needy students who have a passion for nursing. Tate appreciates the flexibility offered by Miles in opening the award to both undergraduate and graduate students.

“The caring profession takes hard work and money,” said Miles. “I want to help the students who want to do it bad enough, but who may not have the resources.”
Major Gift Highlights

The WSU Foundation received $10,000 or more from these individuals, corporations, foundations and estates between Dec. 1, 2006, and Jan. 31, 2007. The projects funded are listed with their names. We appreciate their contributions.

Jan & Jerry '53 Aaron
—All American Club
—Men’s Basketball
—Current Unrestricted Fund (General)
—Jerry and Jan Aaron Endowed
—Scholarship in Business

Edward Burns
—Welcome Center (Other)

Abercrombie Energy LLC
—Distinguished Professor of Geophysics

Darlene'72 & Bob Anderson
—Naomi Anderson Endowed Social Work Fellowship

Thorton E. ’47 & Kathleen Anderson
—Distinguished Professor of Geophysics

Mickey ’45 & Pete ’42 Armstrong
—Mildred (Mickey) & E.W. “Pete” Armstrong Faculty Development Fund (College of Fine Arts)
—Mildred (Mickey) & E.W. “Pete” Armstrong Musical Theatre Scholarship
—Joseph G. Barkely High Plains Journal Endowed Scholarship in Communication
—Mildred (Mickey) McCoy Armstrong Endowment for Excellence in the Fine Arts
—The E.W. “Pete” Armstrong Endowed Scholarship in Chemistry

Lora & Donald ’88 Barry
—Don and Lora Barry Faculty Support Fund for CRATEL
—Unrestricted Fund (Other)

Barton Charitable Foundation Inc.
—W. Frank Barton Faculty Fellow in Finance

Marvin Bastian
—Bobbie and Marvin Bastian Endowed Presidents Discretionary Fund (General)
—Bobbie and Marvin Bastian Endowed Fund for the Ulrich Museum of Art
—H. Marvin Bastian Endowed Business Fund
—Bobbie J. Bastian Endowed Fellowship in the School of Music

Sam & Rie Bloomfield Foundation
—Bloomfield Foundation Faculty Fellows in Business
—Connoisseur Series
—President’s Discretionary Fund (Other)
—San Bloomfield Chair in Engineering

Boeing Integrated Defense System
—Patrons of Musical Theatre
—Opera Producer’s Circle
—Music Student Enrichment Fund: Orchestra

Edward Burns
—Welcome Center (Other)

—Scholarship in Business
—Welcome Center (Other)

Edward Burns
—Welcome Center (Other)

David Mitchell helps back new WSU business project

What better place to hold a statewide student business plan competition than Wichita—home of entrepreneurial beginnings such as Pizza Hut and Rent-A-Center?

Those were David Mitchell’s thoughts, too, when he was presented the idea by Tim Pett, director of WSU’s Center for Entrepreneurship. Mitchell ’70, ’72 was looking for a WSU project to support and this one fit his interests.

“There is a void and a need for this type of project,” said Mitchell. “Wichita is noted for being an entrepreneurial city and WSU’s Center for Entrepreneurship already has established a good reputation, so it all fits.”

“It’s a win-win situation, which will help continue building the relationship between the university and the community,” said Pett. “David helped brainstorm and made clear the vision.”

The first Shocker Business Plan Competition is under way for students currently enrolled in any four-year college or university in Kansas. There is a separate competition for community college students.

Prizes consist of more than $15,000.

To help students prepare, several resource nights were organized featuring speakers sharing their perspectives on business plan content. Winners will be announced April 27.

Co-sponsors of the event are Mitchell & Richards CPAs, Commerce Bank, Intrust Bank and WSU’s Center for Entrepreneurship.

Mitchell also participated as a resource speaker and will participate as a judge.

“Venture capitalists will be seeking them out,” he said, “because of the caliber of the plans.”

He also believes the competition will expose community college students to WSU where they can continue their education and further their knowledge.

“For WSU,” he added, “I hope it will involve all the university colleges because the interaction will produce great ideas. And for Wichita, I hope this will continue the entrepreneurial spirit.”

Mitchell is certainly doing his part.
Gifts to the “We are Wichita State” campaign are already having a transformational impact on many of the programs at WSU. Funding has surpassed the goal of $35 million and will support students and faculty in all areas of the university. However, programs in some of the six colleges and schools have been under-funded relative to their student enrollment and alumni pool.

A prime example is the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. While the Fairmount College has nearly 40 percent of our total alumni, gifts to support students and faculty in the liberal arts account for only 13.5 percent of the campaign total. Several gifts have helped meet LAS needs since July 1 of last year. One of those gifts is from the Claud L. Sheats Jr. Trust.

Claud L. Sheats Jr. Trust
The gift of $1,129,000 from the Claud L. Sheats Jr. Trust will create an endowed fund for graduate fellowships in the majors of earth, environmental and physical sciences or in biology with an emphasis in environmental studies.

Sheats was a Wichita native, graduating from East High School before entering the U.S. Navy in 1941. He served on a submarine crew in the Pacific. After his discharge in 1946, he returned to Wichita and enrolled at the University of Wichita where he graduated in 1950 with a Bachelor of Arts in geology. After a 34-year career as a petroleum geologist, he retired to the Ozarks in Missouri. Sheats was a member of the WSU President’s Club and the Society of 1895.

“While Mr. Sheats was not particularly fond of school,” said Michael Lamb, WSU Foundation vice president for planned giving and development services, “he did appreciate his interaction with geology professor Walter ver Wiebe. It was this relationship that planted the seed for his gift more than 55 years ago. Credit for many of our outright and estate gifts is properly directed to faculty who make a difference in the lives of our students every day.”

Sheats died in February 2002, and his wife, Jean, died in July 2004.

While this is just one of many recent donations, the campaign has received 13,119 total gifts creating 170 new funds since the campaign’s inception in July 2004. With the focus of the campaign being on people, 118 funds have been established for undergraduate scholarships, 21 for graduate fellowships and graduate assistantships, and 31 for faculty and staff support.

The campaign continues through June 30, and a celebration is scheduled for October. For information on how you can contribute to the futures of WSU Shockers, please contact Terre Johnson at (316) 978-3808 or terre.johnson@wichita.
**Recent gifts focus on campaign faculty priority**

As Wichita State University seeks to provide students with the best education available, recruiting and retaining outstanding faculty is a high priority. To help the university, two new faculty fellowships have been established. These gifts also will benefit the “We are Wichita State” campaign by enhancing the faculty/staff facet.

**Richard D. Kincaid Faculty Fellow in Business**

Richard D. Kincaid recently established a faculty fellowship in the W. Frank Barton School of Business. Kincaid, who received his master's degree in business administration from the University of Texas and his bachelor's degree from WSU, has enjoyed a successful career in the business world. From 1995-2007, he was with Equity Offices, a Fortune “Most Admired Company,” and was president and CEO since 2003. He serves on the board of directors for several organizations, including the WSU Foundation's National Advisory Council.

“I was interested in funding the fellowship to help the university continue to attract and retain strong faculty at the Barton School of Business,” said Kincaid. “The smaller class sizes and the quality of professors at WSU really appealed to me, and I would like to help make sure that future students have the same opportunity I had during my tenure at the university.”

Jim Wolff, recipient of the Richard D. Kincaid Faculty Fellow in Business and associate professor in management, said that the award is “encouragement for me to continue working hard to provide the very best instruction and rigorous educational experiences for students. This fellowship tells us that, as professors, we do make a difference and that alumni, by gifts like this, do care about the next generation of business leaders.”

**Sullivan Higdon & Sink Faculty Fellow in Integrated Marketing Communications**

Sullivan Higdon & Sink (SHS), a full-service advertising, branding and public relations agency, was founded in Wichita in 1971 and serves an array of clients in the United States and abroad.

The local principals of the company, Joe Norris, Sam Williams and Tom Bertels believe that quality education is very important for their future employees.

Bertels said that SHS decided to establish the fellowship because “the evolving needs of the university coincide with those of SHS.”

One of those needs is quality faculty. “SHS gets highly qualified applicants by having quality teachers,” he said, “so the relationship between WSU and SHS has been mutually beneficial.”

It’s also a domino effect, as he said, “Underlying SHS' commitment to support WSU is the desire to help the community.”

Williams said, “Where we can help, we want to help. WSU must be successful for Wichita to be successful.”

Through this faculty fellowship, SHS is supporting the mission of the Elliott School of Communication to attract and retain

Please see Campaign, page 5
WSU donors using new law to make IRA gifts

WSU alumni and friends are quickly taking advantage of a new law allowing charitable distributions from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) without any adverse tax impact. Through 2007, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows individuals age 70½ and above to make charitable distributions of up to $100,000 per year from their IRAs.

As of the end of January, the WSU Foundation already has received eight of these gifts supporting such programs as social work, music, geophysics, journalism, education and engineering. Among donors making recent gifts using IRA distributions were Bob and Darlene Anderson and Jerry Pike.

The Andersons’ gift supported the Naomi Anderson Social Work Fellowship. Darlene Anderson shared that “the new IRA law helped us do something we thought would be helpful.”

Several years ago, Jerry Pike and his daughter, Jane McHugh, established a scholarship in memory of his aunt, a rural schoolteacher. The Adra Jones Scholarship supports education students during their student teaching semester because they cannot work for the entire semester. The scholarship is now the largest scholarship in the College of Education. This year, Pike increased the scholarship using the provision from the Pension Protection Act of 2006 to make a tax-free charitable distribution from his IRA.

If you already are planning to direct IRA assets to WSU upon your death, the new law may allow you to see the gift assist the university now—during your lifetime. You also may benefit from this law if you take the required minimum distribution each year, but do not need the income for living expenses. In this case, you may be able to use a charitable gift distribution to meet the required minimum distribution, avoid the income tax and help the WSU program of your choice.

Here is how it works:
- You must be age 70½ or above.
- The gift may be from a traditional or Roth IRA.
- IRA gifts may not exceed $100,000 during 2007.
- You must instruct your IRA custodian to make the transfer directly to the WSU Foundation. Distribution directly to you would require reporting as taxable income.
- IRA gifts under this law qualify as the required minimum distribution. If you have scheduled an automatic withdrawal as your required minimum distribution, you may need to contact your IRA trustee to adjust your withdrawal order.

Using an IRA to make a tax-free charitable gift is a wise planning option, because these assets will be subject to income taxes when withdrawn by you or your heirs. For a brochure detailing how you can maximize your gift potential through this new legislation, contact Michael Lamb, vice president for planned giving, at (316) 978-3804 or mike.lamb@wichita.edu. Please consult your advisers for legal and tax counsel.

Faculty and students alike have been aided by these generous gifts from Richard Kincaid and Sullivan Higdon & Sink. You, too, can impact the future and make a difference in the lives of people at WSU. For more information, please call (316) 978-3040.

Major Gift Highlights

John A. See
— John A. See Endowed Health & Emergency Fund (Student Affairs)

Deborah & Bob ’68 Shields
— Welcome Center (Other)
— Current Unrestricted Fund (General)

Rebecca & Dean ’67 Smith
— Linwood Sexton Endowed Scholarship (General)

Clifford W. Stone
— Unrestricted Fund (Other)

Barbara & James ’69 Stucky
— James B. and Jason T. Stucky Endowed Jazz Scholarship
— James B. and Jason T. Stucky Endowed Business Scholarship

Daniel Taylor ’67 Family Charitable Foundation
— Roundhouse Renaissance Campaign
— Men’s Basketball

Transtecs Corporation
— Transtecs Corporation Endowed Scholarship (General)

United Methodist Health Ministry
— United Methodist Health Ministry Fund Grant (College of Health Professions)

Velma Wallace
— School of Performing Arts
— Dwane L. & Velma L. Wallace Scholarship (College of Engineering)

Wichita Scottish Rite Charitable Trust
— Scottish Rite Speech/Language/Hearing Clinic

Campaign, from page 4
An idea that started with a conversation among John Gries, department of geology chair, WSU Foundation staff and members of the WSU Geo Advisory Board is now well on its way to becoming tangible. Many professionals, including WSU alumni, are supporting the funding for a geophysics professorship.

Geophysics is an important part of the current geology industry. More and more frequently, those working in the oil patch use a technique of 3-D seismic exploration. The technique is one of many that geophysicists employ, develop and interpret. WSU’s department of geology has a focus on sedimentary geology and has long been known for producing petroleum geologists. Having a geophysicist on the faculty will strengthen the preparation of petroleum geologists and others working in sedimentary geology.

“The hiring of a distinguished professor of geophysics would provide opportunities for students in the program to enhance their training in petroleum geology with some geophysics expertise or to tailor their master’s degree program with an emphasis on geophysics,” said William D. Bischoff, dean of the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “Also, the addition of the geophysicist would enhance our outreach to advancing the local geological community’s knowledge and use of these new geophysical techniques through offering of short courses on the subject.”

When a professorship is supported by philanthropic contributions, the state’s Faculty of Distinction program supplements the WSU Foundation’s earnings on the endowed fund. The state’s award is combined with the WSU Foundation’s award to provide additional incentive dollars for the new faculty of distinction.

“We have pledges of nearly $200,000 toward our $350,000 goal,” said Sharon G. Miles, WSU Foundation senior development director for the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, “and we continue to secure the remainder, which will enable us to reach the minimum requirement for the State of Kansas Faculty of Distinction Program.”

In addition to the wealth of information this professor will afford students, s/he will have the ability to write grants to further enhance the geology department and maintain financial resources for students.

For named endowed funds, the minimums are:
- $15,000 for scholarships,
- $25,000 for graduate fellowships,
- $150,000 for faculty fellowships and
- $350,000 for professorships (through the Faculty of Distinction program)
John “Jack” Morgan remembered

There were many diverse facets to John “Jack” Morgan—scholar, businessman, military man, family man, civic leader and lifelong student with multiple interests. Mr. Morgan passed away Jan. 23 surrounded by his family.

Morgan graduated from Wichita University in 1937 with a bachelor’s degree in political science. While a WU student, Morgan was among the founders of the Student Forum, which sought to bring distinguished speakers to campus. A life member of the Alumni Association, he received the Achievement Award in 1966. Other honors Morgan received through WSU included becoming a Newcomen Honoree and receiving a Distinguished Alumni award, both in 1997. Morgan was a Fairmount Society Life member and a member of the Society of 1895.

Morgan held the Native American Indian culture in high regard. He began collecting Native American pottery in the 1970s, educating himself, visiting reservations, meeting artists, attending seminars, and reading and building a large library on the subject of the Southwest American Indian. In 2002, WSU received as a donation to enrich the education of students an outstanding collection of 112 pieces of high-quality Pueblo pottery valued at more than $400,000, 249 books and magazines about Southwest culture and pottery, and a $100,000 endowment for research and care of the collection.

“He was careful to collect good quality pots and had a wonderful eye for form and design,” said Jerry Martin, director of the Museum of Anthropology and the Holmes Museum of Anthropology. “He kept very careful records on the purchase and provenience of each pot, which will certainly help students doing research on the collection.”


“The death of Jack Morgan is a great loss to Wichita State University, the Holmes museum and those people interested in Southwest art and culture,” said Martin, “but he will always be remembered for his generosity, his passion for southwest pottery and the collection he left behind.”

In addition to his donation to WSU, Morgan was a KUMW FM89 donor and contributed to the Arthur H. Rohn Museum Fund. He and his sister established the Leo and Maud Memorial Book fund in memory of their parents, but more for their mother, who loved history.

After receiving an MBA from Harvard University in 1939, Morgan started at Butler Manufacturing Co. as a clerical worker in the advertising department. During World War II, he served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946. After the war, on March 30, 1946, Morgan married Martha Patricia “Pat” Crowe, whom he met at a USO dance in New York City. He returned to Kansas City with Pat, established their home and raised six children. Morgan returned to Butler Manufacturing Co. where he quickly rose into management positions. He became general manager and then president in 1957 and chairman of the board in 1967. He retired from Butler in 1974. Pat passed away in 1975.

“My father leaves a legacy of integrity and leadership,” said one of Morgan’s daughters, Christine Glenski. “He is a man who lived life to the fullest and embraced family and community. This honorable man will be deeply missed.”

Memorials

New memorials were established in honor of the following deceased friends of Wichita State through the WSU Foundation between Dec. 1, 2006, and Feb. 28, 2007. To contribute, please call the Planned Giving Office, (316) 978-3809, toll-free (888) 316-2586, or e-mail mike.lamb@wichita.edu.

Clark Ahlberg
Rachel Bannon
David Bernard
Ester Gunther
Geraldine Hammond
Edith Herrin
Harry Litwin
Frances Long
Val Verde Webster
Harold “Hal” Edwards
Elton “Buddy” Greenberg
Mary Lee Heaney ’01, ‘04
Frances A. Long
Marjorie N. Selby
Fred Sudermann ’58, ’60

Society of 1895

These individuals were named to the Society of 1895 between Jan. 1 and Feb. 28, 2007, 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.

Dr. Nancy ’69, ’74 and Richard ’86 Bereman
Kerry ’74, ’83 and Mercideth Crisp
Bob and Marjorie ’50 Gloe
Fran ’70 and Dan Sandoval
Each year, thousands of WSU alumni and friends support the highest needs of the university through the Annual Fund for Excellence. By making gifts in response to direct mail contact or a telephone call from a WSU student, you provide the university deans with a critical pool of unrestricted funding. Last year, you gave more than $450,000, which the deans of each of our six colleges plus the University Libraries used for student support, educational equipment and materials, and the promotion of academic research.

These needs vary each year and by each college. The annual fund provides a renewable source of support in a way that allows the deans to adjust as their needs change.

Two-thirds of our annual fund support comes through the efforts of student callers. The 17-station telefund call center is located in the Woodman Alumni Center on the WSU campus. The call center is a hub of activity as these student employees contact alumni during six calling sessions over five days and nights each week till the end of June. Beyond the important fundraising purpose of these calls, they also provide an opportunity for students and alumni to connect as reflected in the following note from Pauline Dobrott Crowley, a Virginia alumna, writing in response to her WSU telefund call:

“I am writing this to advise you that the young lady from the Spanish Department, Rachel, was most gracious when she called to ask for money. Before she even mentioned “donation,” she asked me about my life at Wichita University. We went into detail talking about our respective academic lives. I felt like I was being interviewed. I could not have felt more important if I had been on Charlie Rose’s show. She brought a lot of interest to my evening, and for an old lady who wistfully often wishes for someone to talk to, it made my day. Thank Rachel for me.”

Thank you for your support of the Annual Fund for Excellence. If you have not yet made your annual fund gift, you can do so online at www.wichita.edu/foundation and click on “Donate Now.” For more information, contact Krista Voth, director of the annual fund, at (316) 978-3819 or kvoth@wichita.edu.