

Horizon

SPRING 2009

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

Once WSU students, now WSU benefactors

Many Wichita State graduates give back to their alma mater in large and small ways. Whether they received that diploma recently, or not so recently, it is important to them that others have the educational opportunities they had.

Even though it's been more than 50 years since Betty '58 and Ernest '54 Rhodes graduated from the University of Wichita, they make it a priority to give back to their alma mater. In the 1950s, they were newlyweds working to put themselves through college.

"Education is the key to our country right now."

— Betty Rhodes '58

Betty Rhodes earned her degree in education; Ernest Rhodes got his in accounting. Now, they are retired and enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren.

"Education is the key to our country right now," said Betty Rhodes.

Rhodes said WSU is a much different place now.

"It's wonderful to see the influx of people and how it's changed," she said.

She believes education is important and gives to the university because she knows other people have had a more difficult life than she has.

"We try to be as generous as we can be," she said.

They have also been generous with their time, volunteering with organizations such as 4-H and their church. Rhodes attributes that to her education, too.



Betty '58 and Ernest '54 Rhodes in front of a portrait of Harry F. Corbin Jr., the first alumnus to be appointed president and for whom the Corbin Education Center is named. The Rhodeses give to their alma mater because they believe education is important and because they know other people have had a more difficult life than they have.

"We figured that background enabled us to be better volunteers," she said.

Ernest Rhodes still manages two investment clubs, and even though they can't attend the games in person, they follow the WSU basketball and baseball teams.

"We're very loyal to WSU," she said.

They have been WSU Alumni Association members for the past 41

years and have donated to the annual funds for the College of Education and the W. Frank Barton School of Business for more than 10 years.

Travis Heying '05 donates to WSU because he wants others to have the same positive WSU experience that he had. Read more about Heying—student turned benefactor—in the summer 2009 issue of Horizon.

Scholarships help first-generation student climb academic ladder

Encouragement from many helps her reach goal after goal

When Ana Lazarin came to the United States from Mexico, she was a frightened 13-year-old girl who couldn't speak English. By the end of her first year of school in Ulysses, Kan., she had a 3.8 GPA. In December 2008, she earned her bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from Wichita State University.

Today, she continues at WSU working on her master's degree in counseling and is employed by the College of Engineering as the director of programs to broaden participation in engineering. Lazarin focuses on outreach services encouraging young Hispanic children to learn more about engineering through robotics programs, summer camps and other activities. She mentors WSU students with scholarship, job and general program information. Lazarin also works with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the College of Engineering Hispanic Advisory Board.

In Mexico, Lazarin said her family didn't have much money, so her dad and brothers spent a lot of time in the United States working as farmers to earn money. She stayed behind with her mother and grandmother. It was rough for the family in both places. Her parents didn't have an education, so they worked hard to provide for their family. Her two brothers also dropped out of school to earn extra money.

It was Lazarin's grandmother who provided the inspiration.

"She had huge expectations of me," Lazarin said. "She would



Ana Lazarin '08 completed her bachelor's degree with the help of several scholarships. Now she is pursuing a master's degree while working as director of programs in the College of Engineering counseling minority students on possible scholarships, job placements and general program information.

always tell me that I was going to be someone in life."

Lazarin said it was that encouragement that kept her from ever wanting to quit school.

It also was that encouragement that made it so difficult for her to leave her grandmother behind when Lazarin and her mother joined the rest of their family in the United States.

"Leaving my grandma behind was so sad for me," she said. "I promised her that one day I would come back to Mexico and bring her my college diploma."

Unfortunately, that didn't happen.

A year after Lazarin left Mexico, her grandmother started to succumb to Alzheimer's and died a few years later. Lazarin couldn't return for a visit or even for her funeral. She wasn't a U.S. citizen and feared not being allowed back into the country. She knew

finishing her education here was important.

Now, she has her education and citizenship.

Since Lazarin was an immigrant student, she couldn't apply for financial aid the way many traditional students do. She wasn't eligible for federal grants or student loans, but because of her good grades, community service and leadership involvement, she was the recipient of several scholarships.

"I was blessed with scholarships and people that believed in me," she said.

Lazarin said those scholarships and additional help from her family paid the way through her undergraduate education. After she completes her master's degree, she plans on returning the generosity by helping her family.

"I want them to think all the sacrifices of coming to the United States were worth it," she said.

Jones Trust and Wichita Community Foundation step up to continue momentum of facility campaign for Wichita State's unique dentistry program



This rendering illustrates the two phases of the building set to house the Wichita State University Advanced Education in General Dentistry program.

The Wichita State University Foundation received pledges of \$250,000 from the Walter S. and Evan C. Jones Testamentary Trust and \$100,000 from the Wichita Community Foundation for WSU's Advanced Education in General Dentistry (AEGD) facility campaign. These gifts represent the on-going commitments to the AEGD project, building on the initial joint three-year pledge from Delta Dental of Kansas and the Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation that was announced in October 2008. The AEGD program will be the only dentistry education program in Kansas.

Students and faculty are being recruited for the one- to two-year residency program with the projected first class beginning in fall 2009 at GraceMed Health Clinic, a community health center that provides medical and dental care on a sliding scale. The following semester, construction is scheduled to begin on the facility to be located on north Oliver Street, immediately south of the Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex, which will exclusively house the program and a community

clinic. Residency students will complete their first year of training there before rotating to rural and community health sites.

"We appreciate the support of the Jones Trust board members and the Wichita Community Foundation administrators in which their partnerships with this program will have such a statewide impact," said Elizabeth King, WSU Foundation president and CEO. "We also believe the confidence they have in our ability to secure additional funding will be the momentum needed to encourage others to unite, as Linda Brantner, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Kansas, said, to ensure that all Kansans have access to quality dental care."

The cost for phase one of the proposed building is \$6.6 million, which includes land, construction and equipment. The WSU Foundation continues its efforts to raise the remainder of the funds from private sources. Naming opportunities are available at all giving levels throughout the structure.

The Jones Testamentary Trust, which focuses on providing

assistance with medical care and post-secondary education to individuals primarily in the Coffey, Lyon and Osage counties of Kansas, is a continuing supporter of WSU. It gave to the renovation of the WSU dental hygiene clinic's radiology wing, which is named in the Jones brothers' honor.

The Wichita Community Foundation was established in 1986 to help donors create funds that reflect their charitable goals. Grants are made from endowment earnings to a wide variety of nonprofit organizations to enhance life in Wichita and the surrounding communities. The Wichita Community Foundation was an early supporter of the AEGD program, contributing to start-up costs to develop the program and recruit its director.

For more information about the AEGD program or facility or how to support them, please contact Lynette Murphy, WSU Foundation director of development for the College of Health Professions, at (316) 978-3441 or lynette.murphy@wichita.edu.

Society of 1895

These individuals, and two who wish to remain anonymous, were named to the Society of 1895 between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 2008, by establishing a deferred gift through the WSU Foundation. To do the same, please call Michael Lamb, WSU Foundation vice president for planned giving and development services, at (316) 978-3804 or toll-free (888) 316-2586, or e-mail mike.lamb@wichita.edu.

Joan Beren '83

Dr. Suzanne D. Calvert '79

Sandra L. Carter-Duff and

Duane H. Duff Jr.

Marsha M. Forcum

Nellie M. Graber '74

Josh Jones '02

Jim '56 and Lorraine Mann

Sherry A. Phillips

Memorials

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

Avanelle Barnett '67

Jeneva J. Brewer '46

Arthur J. Crowns

Dr. James L. Hardy

Charles W. Murphy

Honorable James D. Phillips '57

Sociology alumni pool resources for endowed impact

As WSU seeks to prepare its students for successful careers, the university also works to provide an understanding of the world in which students live. Nowhere is this more evident than in the sociology department. With classes on such topics as marriage and families, juvenile delinquency, the American male and social inequality, students are given the foundation for understanding human interaction and society as a whole.

While many WSU students take one or two sociology courses, as of the fall 2008 semester there were 168 undergraduates working toward a degree in sociology. Although this is not a large number when compared to WSU's student population of more than 14,000, it is a large number when compared to the lone scholarship available solely to sociology majors, the John J. Hartman Endowed Sociology Scholarship.

"Through the completed 'We are Wichita State' campaign which, in part, generated support for student scholarships, we became aware of some underserved academic areas," said Michael Lamb, WSU Foundation vice president for planned giving and development services. "One of these is sociology."

To help remedy this problem, Lamb, a WSU sociology graduate, began contacting sociology alumni in February 2008. A direct mail letter, with seed money funded by a donor, asked for help to establish another endowed scholarship for sociology students. So far, the fundraising effort has generated \$1,200 from 16 donors toward the goal of \$15,000, the minimum for an endowed scholarship.



Ron Matson, chairperson and associate professor in sociology, instructs WSU students during an introduction to sociology class.

Scholarship support continues to be increasingly important to students since the percentage of WSU's budget coming from the state of Kansas has dwindled from 62 percent to 59 percent since 1995. Consequently, the percentage of WSU's budget funded by student tuition has risen from 32 percent to 42 percent over the same time period.

"The reality is that today's students are paying a higher proportion of the university budget, resulting in increased student loan balances and, in some cases, students who must drop out to earn enough money to continue their education," said Lamb. "Endowed scholarships like this one provide long-term stable support to assist students."

To find out how you can help contribute to the sociology scholarship fund, contact Lamb at (316) 978-3804 or mike.lamb@wichita.edu.

If you need help initiating a fundraising effort for your major, contact Terre Johnson, WSU Foundation vice president for development, at (316) 978-3808 or terre.johnson@wichita.edu.

Major Gift Highlights

The WSU Foundation received \$15,000 or more from these individuals, corporations, foundations and estates between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31, 2008. The projects funded are listed with their names. We appreciate their contributions.

Jerry T. '63 & Janis L. Aaron

- Alumni Money for Gift Report
- Jerry and Jan Aaron Endowed Scholarship in Business
- Vicki Pettit Foss Memorial for Women's Golf
- Men's Basketball
- All American Club
- National Advisory Council

Thornton E. Anderson '47

- Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization
- Wichita Radio Reading Service
- Distinguished Professor of Geophysics

Mildred '45 & Edward '42 Armstrong

- Men's Basketball Margin of Excellence
- Baseball Indoor Practice Facility

Richard Batchelor '66 Estate

- Richard A. Batchelor Endowment for Art Acquisition

BG Products Inc.

- Gift-in-Kind – Alumni – General Support
- Gift-in-Kind – Student Affairs – Departmental Support

Sam and Rie Bloomfield Foundation

- Sam Bloomfield Chair in Engineering

The Boeing Company

- College of Engineering GEEKS Program
- Society of Women Engineers Student Chapter Operating Fund
- National Society of Black Engineers – WSU Chapter Current Fund
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers Operations
- Education Operating Fund
- Globalization Initiative (General)
- Boeing Current Graduate Fellowship in Engineering
- Boeing Female Engineering Recruitment Scholarship
- Boeing Engineering Recruitment Scholarship
- Boeing Engineering Scholarships
- Boeing/Society of Women Engineers Current Scholarship

Big impact from loyal Wichita State donors

In this series, we offer you a chance to find out why people have made a special and altruistic connection to Wichita State University.



For nearly 20 years, Randy Ford '86 has been giving back to WSU's academic and athletic programs because he believes he benefited from his education and wants to give others an opportunity.

Some donors find inspiration in family or colleagues, but Randy Ford '86 found his own way to philanthropy. He said he benefited from his education and wanted to give others an opportunity. Ford earned a degree in accounting from Wichita State in 1986.

For 19 years, he has been donating to the W. Frank Barton School of Business, WSU Alumni Association and Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization.

"I thought it would be a good way to give back," Ford said.

Ford followed WSU athletics as a kid and said it was natural for him to attend the university. He has season tickets to men's basketball, but he also

watches volleyball and baseball.

"I really follow all the teams," he said.

Ford is a member of Busby Smith & Ford LLC and has been there since 1990. He coordinates the audit practice of the firm and works closely with school districts and non-profit organizations. Ford said after all these years as an accountant, he still enjoys his work.

In his free time, he likes to exercise and spend time with his wife, Jill, and their two daughters. His parents also have men's basketball season tickets, which allow him to spend time with his family and follow the Shockers at the same time.

Major Gift Highlights

- Boeing National Society of Black Engineers Scholarship
- Boeing Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
- Boeing Scholarships for Student Support Services
- Upward Bound Math and Science Scholarship
- Boeing Science Scholarships
- Boeing Scholarships for the W. Frank Barton School of Business
- Boeing Science Technology Engineering and Math Student Scholarship/Fellowship
- Boeing Undergraduate Education Scholarships
- Boeing Student Teaching Scholarship
- Engineering Open House
- Senior Projects
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Support
- Switched-on Saturdays Academy II
- Kansas Science Olympiad

Boge Iron & Metal Co Inc.

- Allen Boge Endowed Scholarship (General)
- Allen Boge Endowed Baseball Scholarship
- All American Club
- Alumni Association

Frances D. Brinegar '51

- KMWU Radio
- Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences General Fund
- Wayne and Frances Brinegar Endowed Scholarship (Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences)

Buckley Industries Inc.

- Duane J. and Janet W. Buckley Endowed Scholarship (General)
- Buckley Family American Indian Scholarship Fund

Kelly E. and Jon M. Callen '83

- Deferred Maintenance – Duerksen Fine Arts Center
- Plaza of Heroines
- Current Unrestricted Fund (General)
- Distinguished Professor of Geophysics

Evelyn D. Cassat Estate

- Current Unrestricted Fund
- Research Administration Departmental Fund

Cessna Aircraft Company

- Kansas Best (College of Engineering Dean's Circle)
- Rockin' the Roundhouse

Kansas bill passes to aid in faculty development and recruitment

The Kansas Partnership for Faculty of Distinction Program, administered by the Kansas Board of Regents since 2000, enhances your gift to Wichita State University faculty funds, extending the impact of your gift by matching the interest earnings equivalent. The faculty funds, in turn, enhance the ability of Wichita State to attract and retain high-caliber faculty.

However, until recently, the cap on the amount distributed by the Board of Regents was \$5 million per year for all Kansas public post-secondary educational institutions. A bill that was passed by the Kansas House and Senate, and approved by Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius in May 2008, provides for \$6 million in fiscal year 2009, \$7 million in fiscal year 2010 and \$8 million in fiscal year 2011.

Faculty of Distinction funds for endowed professorships supplement salaries and provide additional operating support for assistants, travel, equipment or other expenses of the endowed professorships.

"It is difficult to imagine mounting a serious effort to develop a deep roster of distinguished faculty without this important program," said Gary Miller, provost and vice president for academic affairs and research. "The university and its students continue to benefit enormously from our ability to attract the very best faculty."

After receiving a minimum gift of \$350,000 for an endowed professorship, the WSU Foundation notifies the Board of Regents with appropriate documentation and then a specific amount is transferred to WSU's Faculty of Distinction fund.

Prior to the inception of the program, the WSU Foundation had secured only seven endowed professorships and chairs. Primarily because of the matching funds provided by the program, the university currently hosts 30 endowment-supported professorships and chairs, 23 of which were created within the Faculty of Distinction Program. Nine of those 23 were dedicated to new positions in high-demand fields. The other positions have been used to retain high-impact faculty members in critical research areas in business, engineering, science, health and the arts. The Foundation now provides more than \$800,000 in support of faculty in the Faculty of Distinction Program. Total support provided is a little more than \$1.5 million.

Your partnership with the WSU Foundation and the Faculty of Distinction Program can bring additional first-rate faculty to Wichita State. To learn how, please contact Terre Johnson, WSU Foundation vice president for development, at (316) 978-3808 or terre.johnson@wichita.edu.



Wichita pediatrician Nancy G. Powers is the first to fill the Janice M. Riordan Distinguished Professorship in Maternal Child Health at WSU. The endowed professorship is the first in the College of Health Professions and School of Nursing.

"Many people express surprise that we need further study of a natural process like breastfeeding," said Powers. "I often make an analogy to the field of obstetrics: Pregnancy and childbirth are also natural processes, but there is an entire field of study devoted to the scientific underpinnings and the medical complications."



WSU professor and director of graduate studies Pat Dooley is the first recipient of the Betty and Oliver Elliott Professorship.

"When you're a named professor, you really ought to give back a little bit," said Dooley, who wants to use this distinction to take on more of a leadership role.

She plans to do this by helping the ESC develop as a research unit. Dooley is now researching her next book, which is a look at how communication played a role during World War II when the government turned thousands of people out of their homes to make way for giant war plants and military installations.

Major Gift Highlights

William C. and Dorothy J. Cohen

- Deferred Maintenance – Non-Designated
- KMUW Radio Support Fund
- Golf Indoor Practice Facility

Delta Dental of Kansas

- Advanced Education in General Dentistry Building Fund
- Rockin' the Roundhouse
- Alumni Association

Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation

- Advanced Education in General Dentistry Building Fund

Virginia H. Farah Foundation

- Eck Stadium Skyboxes

Gridley Family Foundation

- Biological Field Station

Geraldine Hammond Estate

- Geraldine Hammond Scholarship Fund (Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences)

Professor Fran and Geri Jabara Fund for Education

- Donna Jabara Baker Endowed Scholarship in Entrepreneurship

Kansas Health Foundation

- Youth Education Programming at the Ulrich Museum of Art

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

- Project Lead The Way – Transforming the Supply Chain of Engineers

Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation

- Mary R. Koch Scholarship in Fine Arts
- Fred C. Koch Scholarship in Business
- General Scholarship Fund
- Students in Free Enterprise

Koch Industries

- Barton Business Week
- I.C.A.A. Gift Transfers
- Economic Outlook Conference

LSI Corporation

- Switched-on Saturdays Academy II
- Kansas Best (College of Engineering Dean's Circle)

Meritrust Credit Union

- Gift-in-Kind – Student Affairs
- Barton Business Week
- Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization

Emprise Bank is honored for art support



Mike Michaelis, Emprise Bank chair (back row, right) represented the bank, which was honored at The BCA Ten (2008) gala dinner at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Beside him (left) are his son, Matt, wife, Dee, and granddaughter Isabella. Diana Gordon (far right, standing) and Patricia McDonnell (seated) are from the WSU Foundation and Ulrich Museum of Art, respectively, both of which nominated the bank for its ongoing commitment to the arts.

For decades, Emprise Bank, which is privately and locally owned in Wichita, Kan., has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the arts via funding and human resources support for a wide range of cultural activities. As the bank's chair, Mike Michaelis has generously donated to many of the projects within WSU's Ulrich Museum of Art, such as Artscape and the Tom Otterness Sculpture fund.

"Emprise generously contributes to the Ulrich and that support is critical for our exhibitions and programs," said Patricia McDonnell, director of the Ulrich Museum of Art. "Mike chairs the museum's Advisory Board fundraising committee and works tirelessly to draw attention and support to the museum and the difference it makes in the quality of life in Wichita."

Because of Michaelis' and

Emprise's dedication, the bank was nominated by the Ulrich Museum of Art and the Wichita State University Foundation and was chosen for The BCA Ten (2008), which is a national list created by the Business Committee for the Arts Inc. (BCA) to recognize businesses of all sizes for their exceptional involvement with the arts that enrich the workplace, education and the community.

"We nominated Emprise for this award because it was abundantly clear their contributions to the arts—both in their financial support and in their own collecting policy—rival those of any big company in any big city in this country," said Diana Gordon, WSU Foundation development director for the College of Fine Arts. "We thought they deserved recognition, and obviously the BCA Ten judges thought so, too."

Major Gift Highlights

MTS Systems Corporation

- MTS Systems Corporation Fund

Eric S. '80 and Tracy L. Namee

- Baseball Indoor Practice Facility

Preferred Health Systems Inc.

- Alumni Association
- Eck Stadium Skyboxes
- All American Club

Lee. R. Riley '42

- Library Expansion Project
- Lee and Carolyn Riley Endowed Scholarship (General)
- Lee and Carolyn Riley Distinguished Graduate Assistantship, University Libraries
- Geology Diamond Anniversary Project

Donald D. Sbarra

- Donald D. Sbarra Endowed Fellowship (General)
- Donald D. Sbarra Endowed Scholarship (Graduate School)

Schwab Charitable Fund

- Mike and Mary Nell Beatty Endowed Fellowship in Accounting

Stephen and Ann Starch

- Patrons of Music

Daniel J. Taylor '67 Family Charitable Foundation

- Men's Basketball

Via Christi Sports Medicine

- Gift-in-Kind – Athletics – Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization

Velma L. Wallace

- Alumni Money for Gift Report
- Wichita Radio Reading Service
- School of Performing Arts
- National Advisory Council
- Don and Pat Hysko Rainy Day Strings Fund
- Shirley and Don Beggs Scholarship for Children of Physical Plant Employees
- Band Instrument Repair and Restoration Endowment
- President's Discretionary Fund
- College of Engineering Dean's Circle Fund

Klee R. '01 and Jennifer Watchous

- Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization
- Eck Stadium Skyboxes

Elenore Rudd memorial helped students immediately

When Elenore Rudd died in July 2007, the money received from friends and family in her memory could have gone into her scholarship that was established in 2007 by her children, Leslie Rudd and Andrea Skibell—but it didn't.

Immediately helping students in financial need was the goal of Rudd's children. Therefore, the Elenore Rudd Scholars Awards were established and at last spring's WSU Student Support Services banquet, 22 Wichita State students received those awards.

Skibell said one of their mother's regrets was that she never attended college. It was through her inspiration, however, that both her children did—demonstrating her devotion to education.

"Many students are facing economic challenges at this juncture," said Leslie Rudd, "and we wanted to distribute the funds so that there could be a more immediate impact in remembrance of our mother."

"Leslie was a student of my husband, Dharma," said Deema de Silva, director of Student Support Services. "We were very close. When Elenore returned to Wichita from Texas, we would go out for breakfast every Saturday. Dharma was a pall bearer. Elenore was like family to us."

Recipients of the Elenore Rudd Scholars Awards are enrolled full- or part-time in the Student Support Services program and are first-generation students and/or have limited income.

"Elenore followed the struggles my students went through," said de Silva. "She knew they were deserving because they met their goals and 92 percent of them graduated."

For information about establishing memorials, please contact Natalie Olmsted, WSU Foundation planned giving associate, at (316) 978-6842 or natalie.olmsted@wichita.edu.



Ruth Harries, WSU senior majoring in art history in the College of Fine Arts, was one of 22 students to receive the Elenore Rudd Scholars Awards at last spring's WSU Student Support Services banquet. "It enabled me to continue my studies," said Harries, "so it meant a lot."

Major Gift Highlights

Flossie E. West Memorial Trust

- Flossie E. West Memorial Trust Research (Research & Grant)

Wichita Scottish Rite Charitable Trust

- Scottish Rite Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic
- Wichita Scottish Rite Endowed Fellowship in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Wichita State Phi's Educational Foundation

- Phi Delta Theta Endowed Scholarship

It's not too early to make a planned gift | Planned giving today helps Shockers tomorrow

Meet Josh Jones. He's a Wichita State alumnus and is a financial advisor for Edward Jones. He's also a member of the WSU Foundation Society of 1895 because he has established two planned gifts with the university as one of the beneficiaries. Not surprising, considering his career path, that he thinks about life insurance policies and retirement plans, but it may be a bit surprising that he's only 29 years old.

"I know how important college was to me," said Jones, "and I wanted others to have the option to continue their education."

The majority of the more than 400 members of the Society of 1895 are 60 and older, but it's the hope of Foundation planned giving staff that Jones and other young alumni will inspire those who want to support WSU with a planned gift to do so now.

Jones' gifts will go to the Shocker Athletic Scholarship Organization (SASO) and a general scholarship fund with SASO.

While Jones attended WSU, he became a member of Beta Alpha Si and participated for a year in Students of Free Enterprise. He also played hockey on a club team.

"Sports was a part of my life in college and continues to play a role in my life today," said Jones. "I knew that is where I wanted to start with my gifts."

A few key WSU instructors played a major role in helping Jones find his way to his current career.

"I knew in high school that I wanted to be a financial advisor," said Jones, "but I didn't know exactly how to get there.

"I selected WSU because I wanted to stay close to home and I believed WSU would keep me motivated to finish my degree."

After completing an accounting



Motivated by his positive experiences at WSU, Josh Jones '02 established two planned gifts to help give back to the university that helped him get where he is today.

minor, Jones switched gears to major in finance and received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 2002.

With diploma in hand and a good start on his career, Jones began to think about giving back.

"Whose life do I want to make better—my family's, but also someone who has a skill or a knack for something that can be enhanced with further education," said Jones. "I don't want the excuse for that person to not attend college to be money."

Jones has taken out a life insurance policy with WSU as one of the beneficiaries. He also established another planned gift with his retirement plan.

In his profession, Jones works with local estate planning attorneys. One of the questions for their clients is, "How do you want to leave a legacy?"

"We ask them about family, church, the community and education," said Jones. "Those that

"When I think of the steps that helped me get where I am today, I think of WSU. If it wasn't for my education and my college experience, I wouldn't be where I am today and because of that, I want to give back."

— Josh Jones '02

feel as I do about WSU may find it a natural next step to help the university and make a difference."

"With our help," said Darin Kater, WSU Foundation director of development for planned giving, "and your professional advisors, we can identify the most appropriate technique for you to help the future of WSU using your estate assets."

For more information, please contact Kater at (316) 978-3887 or darin.kater@wichita.edu. Through your gift, you can shape and develop the future of WSU.

First recipient of Ashok and Trish Bajaj Memorial Scholarship named

Not only will Giovanni Hernandez be the first in his family to graduate from high school, with the help of the Ashok and Trish Bajaj Memorial Scholarship he will be the first to receive a college degree.

Hernandez, a Wichita State freshman majoring in engineering, demonstrated the leadership skills or community service experience that the scholarship guidelines requested.

While attending North High School in Wichita, Hernandez was a member of student council, National Honors Society, Spanish Honors Society and Site Council (a group of students who discussed issues and improvements in the community).

He also maintained a job and helped take care of his two younger siblings. He continues his extracurricular activities at WSU by participating in HALO (Hispanic American Leadership Organization).

“My wife, Raj, and I wish

Giovanni all success in life,” said Prem Bajaj, Ashok Bajaj’s father and WSU associate professor emeritus in mathematics and statistics. “Ashok and Trish tried to help others at all times and in different situations. The scholarship is only a small step in that direction.”

That “small step” has relieved Hernandez of a lot of stress.

“I would have had to work two jobs,” said Hernandez.

He currently tutors 15 hours a week at North High.

“For the second semester I didn’t want to take out a loan, but I didn’t know how I was going to pay,” Hernandez said. “I prayed to God to help me out.”

Hernandez lives with his mother, two younger brothers and his grandfather.

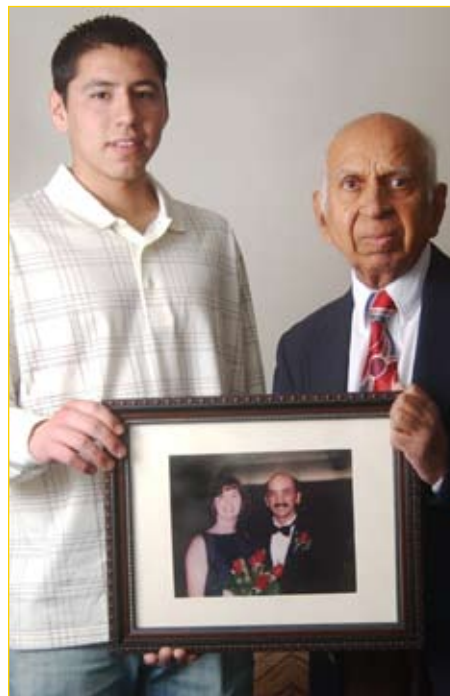
“My grandfather is from Mexico and the standard was very low for going to school,” said Hernandez.

“He wants me to excel—he pushes me a lot, but I understand why.”

Hernandez has childhood memories of his mother crying in her room because she could not give her children the items they wanted.

“I’ve grown to realize that not being able to give your children the life that you want for them is one of the most depressing and heart-crushing feelings that a parent could have,” he said.

Hernandez’s main drive is to repay



Giovanni Hernandez, left, the first recipient of the Ashok and Trish Bajaj Memorial Scholarship, meets Prem Bajaj, father of Ashok Bajaj and WSU associate professor emeritus in mathematics and statistics, to thank him and his wife, Raj, for their part in his academic journey and to tell him, “you had such a great son.” They hold a photo of Ashok and Trish Bajaj.

his family. He also wants to set a good example for his youngest brother.

Hernandez wishes he could have met Ashok and Trish Bajaj and gotten to know them. From what he has read, he is impressed with what they have done with their lives—especially Ashok Bajaj coming from India and becoming a medical doctor.

The families of Ashok and Trish Bajaj established a memorial after the couple was killed in a plane crash in February 2008. The memorial is the largest memorial to WSU made through individual contributions.

Donations can still be made to the memorial through the WSU Foundation. For more information, contact Natalie Olmsted, WSU Foundation planned giving associate, at (316) 978-6842 or natalie.olmsted@wichita.edu.

To read the full story about Ashok and Trish Bajaj in the online issue of the Fall Horizon, go to foundation.wichita.edu and click on Media Room then Horizon newsletters.

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