Inspirations

Stories about loyalty, generosity, and connections

2008-2009

Gift names Avenir
Museum of Design and Merchandising

College of Applied Human Sciences

Colorado State University
From time to time, a question arises in conversations with alumni and friends – What is a chair?

While the immediate image is something we use in our households and offices every day, a chair in university language signifies a mark of particular academic distinction.

Essentially, a “chair” means an endowed faculty position. Chairs are established with significant gifts from individuals, families, organizations, or companies based on their connection, interest, professional expertise, or family legacy. As an endowment within the CSU Foundation, the chair is funded in perpetuity.

People who establish endowed chairs have a special connection to the academic area they select. For example, a person who survived a heart attack may be inspired to fund a chair in Health and Exercise Science. A long-time social worker may fund a chair in Mediation and Dispute Resolution. Or, an individual interested in healthy aging may sponsor a chair for a department faculty member associated with the Center on Aging. Something or someone important to you becomes a shared legacy.

While we'll provide guidance in the process, you may describe the criteria to be used to fill the chair. You may indicate a desired area of professional expertise, educational level, research emphasis, and what you hope the endowment will accomplish. The experience brings lasting joy and a special attachment to a Department, allowing it to grow intellectually and fulfill its mission. It’s a most wonderful gift!

The faculty member selected for the endowed position, the “chair holder,” is a highly-respected scholar who has achieved acclaim in his or her teaching and research. The chair may be filled by a current faculty member, or be used to recruit someone to come to the University. In addition to academic distinction, a chair offers opportunities for enhanced outreach activities and the opportunity to bring noted non-academic professionals into the classroom.

Looking forward, every department within the College has a desire to add one or more chairs. On the next page, you’ll find more specifics on the many benefits an endowed chair provides to you, the program, the chair holder, and most important, the students. If you would like to discuss an idea for a chair, I will be happy to have that conversation. I can be reached at (970) 491-5841, DeanApril@cahs.colostate.edu.

Warm regards,

April Mason, Ph.D.
Dean

Contact
April C. Mason, Dean
College of Applied Human Sciences
Colorado State University
217 L.L. Gibbons
1501 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1501
(970) 491-6331
DeanApril@cahs.colostate.edu
www.cahs.colostate.edu

Writers
Gretchen Gerding
Dell Rae Moellenberg
Lori Sims
Kim Winger

Design and Production
Colorado State University’s Office of Communications and Creative Services

Heavily Civil Construction Management, which has almost reached endowment level. The Lillian Fountain Smith Chair supports a noted nutrition researcher as well as sponsors an annual nutrition conference in which thousands of professionals have taken part over the years. The Joseph Phelps Chair is designed to bring in an industry professional on a rotating term to offer insight, connection, and experience to the faculty and students.

Currently, the College of Applied Human Sciences is honored to have three endowed chairs: Lillian Fountain Smith Chair in Food Science and Human Nutrition; Joseph Phelps Endowed Chair in Construction Management, and a pending chair in

On the cover: Linda Carlson, curator of the Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising
Personal motives inspire donors to establish endowed chairs and professorships

A person has a special area of interest ... a family leaves a legacy ... an organization desires to advance its profession.

The reasons for establishing endowed chairs are varied, unique, and most always, with personal stories. The decision yields many benefits to people and programs.

Benefits to Students:
• Provides direct access to the highest quality academic leadership.
• Builds a connection to other top-level scholars through the chair holder’s existing network.
• Facilitates mentorship by world-class scholars.
• Offers unique credentials upon employment.

Benefits to Donors:
• Demonstrates your support for a special area of interest and establishes a foothold for that program in perpetuity.
• Sustains a permanent commitment to the academic area.
• Provides a legacy connection with your name, if desired, e.g. the John & Mary Smith Chair in Early Childhood Education or the Anderson Family Chair in Occupational Therapy.
• Preserves information about your original motivations and intentions for the chair.

Benefits to the Program:
• Enables the College to offer a more diverse curriculum that is not dependent on usual income sources.
• Offers opportunities for collaborative connections with other programs inside and outside the University.
• Attracts the brightest and best students.
• Supplies the means to attract, retain, and honor distinguished faculty members.
• Provides mark of success which leverages other support through gifts and grants.

Benefits to the Chair holders:
• Provides an enduring connection with the chair benefactors.
• Holds a place of honor within the University.
• Acknowledges major career accomplishments.
• Offers opportunities to mentor and inspire other faculty.

At CSU, there are various set endowment gift levels for specific purposes. The gift may be funded in one lump sum, in installments, or through planned gifts such as estates and trusts.

A chair creates a legacy and is one of the most meaningful contributions you can make. We will be happy to discuss your wishes at any time.

University Chair .................................................................................. $3 million
The institution’s highest honor and brings pre-eminent scholars to CSU. Completely self-sustaining endowment.

College Chair .................................................................................. $1.5 million
Position is supplemented by the home department.

University Professorships ...............................................................$750,000
Provides an opportunity for collaborative support.

College Professorships ......................................................................$375,000
Provides meaningful support to an area of interest.

Mike Pagliassotti (center) is the holder of the Lillian Fountain Smith Chair and is a leading scientist studying type 2 diabetes and obesity.
The home to a collection of 12,000 artifacts including historic clothing, lace, shoes, textiles, accessories, and chairs is now named the Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising with a $1.25 million gift for the continued preservation of the collection.

The gift, from the Avenir Foundation, provides an endowment to support exhibitions, salary expenses, conservation, and the completion of the collection’s new home in the University Center for the Arts. The funds will help finish storage areas, a gallery, and the conservation laboratory.

The Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising houses one of the most significant teaching collections in the United States that contains such a breadth of work. The collection is one of a few of its kind in the region that allows hands-on access under controlled conditions.

The collection is under the constant, careful watch of Linda Carlson, curator for more than 20 years. “The gift enables the museum to continue to provide students and the public with an opportunity to study and appreciate the history of textiles and clothing, and its role in culture,” said Carlson. “Placing an artifact, a 19th-century dance slipper or an early 20th-century Chinese robe in the context of its time, understanding and knowing the stories behind each object, adds to their value. We can appreciate the beauty or uniqueness of an artifact, but it is the stories that make them come alive.”

While other design and merchandising collections at U.S. universities house historical clothing and textiles from the United States, this collection is one of the few with an added emphasis on international pieces, including an extensive collection of 500 kimono. A recent gift to the collection includes more than 300 textiles from Central and South Asia. Western artifacts include Civil War era hoop skirts and men’s jackets, elaborate fans and hats, beaded flapper dresses, hand-made lace, and famous designer apparel. Among the jewels of the collection are designer dresses from Mr. Blackwell, Arnold Scaasi, Carolina Herrera, and Calvin Klein, and a lace collection valued at more than $140,000.

The museum is also beginning a collection of historical chairs with an initial grouping of 20, mostly from the 19th and 20th centuries, including a Victorian lady’s boudoir chair. Some chairs in the collection are from important designers, and the museum began the collection because chairs clearly reflect changing times, just as clothing does.

The collection recently moved from the Gifford Building, where it had been housed for more than 30 years to the University Center for the Arts, just east of College Avenue. The collection will be fully unpacked and ready for students to study next spring. The new space is unique to university collections as well, with greatly improved accessibility to university students studying the collection, a design gallery, and state-of-the-art storage with museum-standard humidity, temperature, and...
lighting control. The new space will also allow the collection to expand.

In order to maintain the quality of the collection as it outgrew its dated space, the college has sought private support, says Lori Sims, director of development. “Student fees provided much of the funding needed for the literal brick and mortar of the renovation, supplying funds for the renovation of the museum’s new space in the University Center for the planned, giving the public a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes. A hands-on workshop on the care, storage, display, and preservation of family artifacts will be part of the museum’s outreach efforts.

The Avenir Foundation gift provides funding for additional exhibits in the future, and at least two exhibits per year are planned. Workshops and lectures will be held in conjunction with each exhibit.

“Members of the Avenir Foundation’s Board have a strong interest in textiles and museums. This truly generous donation provides the department with the opportunity to create a museum dedicated to educating students, the University community, and the public about the inter-relationships among material artifacts, history, and culture.”

~ Mary Littrell

Arts, but private donations such as the Avenir Foundation gift provide for the heart and soul – which are the exhibitions, educational programming, and on going conservation of the artifacts.”

The first exhibit in the new center, Window to the World, will open April 9, 2009, and will feature artifacts from around the world. A special open house tour of the new facility is also be wrapped in acid-free paper and placed in archival-quality boxes. Dozens of large, museum-quality storage cabinets, along with more than 100 drawers, were transported out of the Gifford Building and are being re-installed in the new space. Then each cabinet must be cleaned and filled again with artifacts. Additional storage units will be purchased with the Avenir Foundation gift.

On a rotating schedule, each folded piece is removed, refolded in a different configuration to prevent fiber cracking along fold lines, and then returned to drawers in a reverse order so that no object is constantly under the weight of other artifacts. Museum standards, such as wearing white cotton gloves at all times when an object is examined, are also enforced.

The Avenir Foundation, located in Lakewood, Colo., derives its name from the French word for future and primarily supports educational, arts, and cultural activities.
Ed Haselden spearheads Preconstruction Center development plan

The historical Industrial Sciences Building in the Department of Construction Management will undergo an extensive renovation to transform it into a Preconstruction Center. Funding is being provided by construction, mechanical, and electrical contracting firms, secured with the help of Ed Haselden, who led the effort as a volunteer and initial donor to the project.

Haselden, president of Haselden Construction in Centennial, Colo., and a member of the Board of Governors of the CSU System that oversees the University, led with the initial donation and urged other industry leaders to do the same.

The collaboration is believed to be the first of its kind at any university.

Work has begun on the $4 million project, all privately funded through donations and in-kind products and services. The building, constructed in 1883, is being completely renovated and will feature a state-of-the-art preconstruction laboratory, classrooms, lecture hall, study lounge, technology center, and public spaces.

Several renovated rooms will bear the names of the sponsoring firms with business footholds in Colorado: Haselden Construction, Saunders Construction, PCL Construction, Hensel Phelps Construction, G.E. Johnson Construction, and Gerald H. Phipps Companies. Many CSU alumni work at these firms, are on the department’s advisory board, or hire construction management interns.

The second floor Technology Center is expected to be named for a group of mechanical and electrical contractors who are coming together to fund the building’s electrical, plumbing, and heating operations. They include Mechanical Contractors Association, U.S. Engineering, Trautman & Shreve, Murphy Company, Braconier Plumbing and Heating, NECA-Rocky Mountain, Intermountain Electric, Dyna Electric, and Sturgeon Electric. Renovation of the courtyard off the Oval will be sponsored in partnership by Concrete Frame Associates and Valley Crest Landscaping.

“After Ed made his own gift, he spoke peer-to-peer to other company principals and asked them to be part of this new Center. This is a most unique collaborative joint venture.”

~ Mostafa Khattab

Mostafa Khattab, Head, Department of Construction Management
Sue Jones ‘exercises’ her option to start scholarship

Sue Jones is a strong advocate of giving back. The 1959 physical education graduate credits her educational experience at Colorado State with providing her a foundation for her career. “Colorado State opened the door for a lot of opportunities,” she says. “I had excellent teachers, including Elizabeth Forbes, the former department head. I took golf from her and she was quite a character.”

Sue has been giving to the Department of Health and Exercise Science for more than two decades, supporting the Elizabeth Forbes Scholarship, the department general fund, and then starting the Sue Jones Health and Exercise Science Scholarship in 1994. The scholarship is given annually to a student who is involved in department activities and shows financial need.

Sue has always been interested in exercise, especially from a scientific perspective. She grew up playing sports with her two younger brothers, so physical education was a natural fit for her.

Sue says there were about 30 women physical education majors in her class at CSU when she attended – at that time, women and men were in separate departments. According to Sue, “CSU was quite a different campus when I graduated; it was much smaller with approximately 5,000 students.”

Sue was born in Texas, but as an adolescent moved to Colorado Springs, and then to the mountain town of Manitou Springs where her family owned a gift shop. She graduated from high school in Manitou Springs in a class of 34.

Some of Sue’s best memories from her days at CSU are the close relationships she formed after she pledged the Gamma Phi Beta sorority. “I lived in the sorority house and made some terrific friends. We used to play bridge before dinner for an hour, had an intramural softball team, and made floats for the Homecoming parade.” She also had friends on the ski team and traveled with the team during some of their training sessions.

Sue’s education from CSU took her to California where she taught physical education at Monterey High School for three years. Then she completed her master’s degree at the University of Washington in Seattle and joined the faculty at the University of Arizona in Tucson where she taught for 16 years, until 1980.

During her tenure at the U of A, she earned her Ph.D. in five summers and a sabbatical year at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. After her academic career, she joined State Farm Insurance, where she retired after 23 years in sales and agency management.

Sue is passionate about giving back. She thinks education is vitally important, and, since costs continue to rise each year, she encourages everyone to do all they can to advance educational opportunities for students. Sue encourages everyone to open the door and make an inquiry into starting a scholarship or making any size contribution.
Friendship ended too soon, but Shaun O’Brien Scholarship continues to change lives

Lisa Ford honors her college study buddy

Lisa Ford always knew she wanted to do something to remember her college friend, and when she earned a sales bonus a few years ago she immediately decided to name a scholarship in Shaun O’Brien’s memory.

Lisa met Shaun during her sophomore year after losing her father in a car accident. “Shaun was very impactful on me during a crucial time. Shaun was very deep and introspective. He helped me understand myself better and coached me with my boyfriends. I was never good at choosing boyfriends,” Lisa jokes.

Following graduation, Shaun joined the Peace Corps and moved to the Philippines. Lisa recalls a vivid dream she had about Shaun. He indicated he missed her and that he was disappointed that she hadn’t written to him. Lisa immediately wrote to Shaun, but he never received the letter. The letter traveled all the way to the Philippines and was returned to his mother in Cheyenne, Wyo. Months later, Lisa read in a CSU newsletter that Shaun had been killed in a bicycle accident. The very next day Shaun’s mother called Lisa. In their conversation, Lisa learned that Shaun lay in a coma the very night of her dream. “I thought it so profound that he would visit me of all people while he was in his coma. Now looking back, I really think it was that dream that motivated me to start the scholarship.”

The Shaun O’Brien Memorial Scholarship awards two annual scholarships in Human Development and Family Studies. “I really enjoy getting letters from the recipients each year. The first year I received a letter from one recipient who wrote with such passion that I was deeply moved by her research and her letter. It really solidified my decision to contribute to the scholarship every year. The student had gone online to research Shaun’s life. It was very touching.”

Lisa trains financial advisors at a leading financial firm and volunteers with high school Junior Achievement teaching ethics and success skills. Lisa’s story is inspiring in many ways, especially since she is one of the youngest people to start a scholarship in the College. Lisa originally wished for her name not be mentioned as the donor. “I want to make sure it’s about Shaun.” But Lisa considered that it could help others to give as well. “Maybe others will say, ‘If she can do it, I can do it too.’

“I first met Lisa when she spoke at our scholarship luncheon shortly after I came to CSU, and I can still recall the inspiring details of her story. I remember thinking at the time, ‘I’m incredibly fortunate to be joining a College with such supportive and caring alumni.’ Friends such as Lisa are clearly making a difference in the lives of our students.”

~ Lise Youngblade
Social issues, and especially mental health, are a product of Gail Cotton’s family heritage and her personal passion. Her father and grandfather were both psychiatrists, and today, her mantra is in public policy for mental health care.

Gail is also a model of resilience toward education. After graduating high school in Princeton, N.J., she went to a private college in Florida, got married in 1965, and didn’t finish her degree at that time.

Gail later moved to Fort Collins in 1968, and restarted her college career “as a grandmother” in 1985 in the School of Social Work, graduating in 1989. During her adult life, she had volunteered in the human services arena, so Social Work was a natural fit. “I wanted to turn my avocation to a vocation,” she said.

As a student she was inspired by professors Victor Baez and Vicky Buchan, and by her classmates. “Other students were very accepting of nontraditional students, which were not uncommon in Social Work.” She immersed herself in her studies. “I was the first intern under Martha King with National Conference of State Legislatures in Denver and also had an internship in downtown Denver,” she said.

A series of circumstances close to her heart brought her to the core of mental health issues. “Currently, family members cannot intervene or admit someone who needs mental health help in a crisis,” she said. “My dream is to see that loosened, but not go back to the days where it might be abused.” Gail would like public policy amended to allow a concerned family member, along with a mental health professional, provide documentation that could get help to an affected person before they harm themselves or others.

Not only is Gail offering her help to her alma mater, she has been a consistent donor to her program. “Social workers go on to help people make their lives better,” says Gail. “It’s important to me to help provide resources to advance the School of Social Work.”

Gail and her husband, Dennis Miller, reside in Greeley, Colo., and together they have six children. Gail and her daughter, Anne, are planning to speak in a social work class this year about mental health. Her son, Colton, is also a CSU alumnus.

“Gail will be involved in an inaugural effort to develop case studies which will help students learn to think productively and creatively to solve critical social problems. We’re fortunate to have Gail’s background, knowledge, and perspective in this timely project.”

~ Deborah Valentine
Families find a calming presence in Anne Munro

Look into the heart of Anne (Jubitz) Munro ’67 and you’d find a quote on volunteerism that describes her:

No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.

Colorado called Anne as an undergraduate student in occupational therapy, but her native Portland, Ore., beckoned her back at the end of her CSU journey. Today, her calling is to be a caring and thoughtful volunteer.

Soon after returning to Portland, she met David, who later became her husband. “My mother and his stepmother were best friends and introduced us,” chuckled Anne.

After getting married, life quickly filled with the love and fulfillment of family. Anne and David have two grown daughters and two grandchildren, all of whom live close by. Today, Anne’s passion is service.

“I volunteer at a hospital which I love,” she said. “I help families while they are in the waiting mode. These are families involved in kidney transplants, heart bypass surgery, and other critical conditions. With our help, families know where things are, how to reach people, and get what they need. It’s very gratifying.”

Time in critical care can be a very tense time, she admits. “But I feel it’s not. The families could rightly be very irritable with us, but quite the reverse is true. They are so desperate for a presence. We pay attention to them. That’s what they care about.

“We try to get our families to stretch out and rest on our couches,” Anne explains. “We can get pillows and blankets for them. If they have not been to the unit before, I accompany them to the room. We also make coffee and have plenty of hot chocolate, tea, and snacks available.”

Giving also involves gifts to her alma mater, with priority support for the Occupational Therapy program. Anne and David’s loyalty extends over three decades.

“Even though my family paid out-of-state tuition, I know that state schools need alumni support in addition to state funds,” said Anne. “I have tried to give some back to help the next generation of students. I always designate the gift to Occupational Therapy to honor the excellent teaching and camaraderie that I enjoyed during my time at CSU.”

As a new department head for OT, I am truly inspired by people like Anne Munro. Anne is special to us for sharing why CSU is still relevant in her life and for passing that on as a lasting tribute for the benefit of all students and future alumni.”

~ Wendy Wood

Wendy Wood, Head, Department of Occupational Therapy
In the mid-1960s, Bill Ford decided it was time to get his degree. “I came back to college at the age of 47 and was initially not admitted,” said Bill. He contacted Professor Milton Larson, who helped Bill through the process. Dr. Larson taught many of Bill’s classes and was his advisor, mentor, and lifelong inspiration.

Bill went on to not only get his bachelor’s degree in 1969 in vocational-technical education, but also his master’s degree in 1972 in trade and industrial education.

Today, Bill and his wife, Loretta “Lee” Ford, are inaugural donors to the Milton E. Larson Memorial Scholarship, established in 1988. Dr. Larson died in 1987 and Mildred Larson, who had resided in Fort Collins, died in August.

Bill and Lee continue to make generous gifts to the scholarship and encourage others to do the same. “It’s an important scholarship for the future,” said Lee. The scholarship is awarded to an upper level student in vocational technical education.

One of this year’s recipients, Daniel Wilson, wrote: “Almost all of us had one special teacher in our lives—that person who unquestioningly changed the path and purpose of our lives for the better. That is why…I have decided to pursue the path less traveled: education. Real learning does not come from the outside in, but rather the inside out.”

Lee had been the Dean of the School of Nursing and Interim Dean of the School of Graduate Education at the University of New York, Rochester. Lee remains an internationally-recognized leader in the nursing profession. Bill and Lee taught before they moved to Rochester, and Bill also taught vocational education there.

Bill was one of the forerunners in vocational education and has a reputation for helping students achieve success against the odds. Many of his students were underprivileged or had difficulty in school and at home. Bill proved to be an advocate through constructive interaction and positive feedback. “I didn’t take them for face value,” said Bill. Often it was the little things that made a big difference. “One day a boy came into class limping. The side of his shoe was apart. He didn’t have much money, so I took him to a shoe store and bought him some boots.”

Now retired, Bill and Lee split their time between Florida, and upstate New York. This year marks 61 years of marriage.

“Over the past 20 years, the Fords have shown heartfelt generosity and loyalty to this scholarship through which they have a personal connection. They have dedicated their lives to students in their own careers and have made it their passion to promote educational opportunities at CSU.”

~ Tim Davies
Life, college led Ruth Nash to establish charitable gift annuity

A native of Colorado, Ruth (Lowe) Nash grew up on the family farm near Greeley.

“I had always been interested in the health care field and medicine. I considered nursing, but found that dietetics had more allure. Colorado A & M seemed like a logical program to investigate. It was large enough to be a challenge, but small enough that it was not overwhelming. I wouldn’t trade my four years there for anything. It was a great experience.”

Ruth graduated in 1953 with high distinction in Food and Nutrition. To this day, Ruth attributes her career success to the training she received at CSU. Her e-mail address even contains “CSURams!”

After interning, she worked in dietetics at a private hospital in Oklahoma City, Okla., where she also did some work for the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation. Two years later she joined their staff and participated in conducting metabolic research studies. It was there that she met her husband, Howard, who was an aspiring physician. They were married in 1957.

In 1959, they moved to Iowa City, Iowa, where Howard completed his residency. Then, at age 32, Ruth became a widow with three small children. The challenge also became her saving grace. “The children made life go on,” said Ruth.

“It was then that I came to fully realize the importance of quality education. My excellent preparation allowed me to practice a profession that was gratifying and enabled me to rear my two sons and daughter and provide them each with a university education.”

Ruth worked in metabolic research at the VA Hospital in Iowa City. She then moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she pursued a career in clinical and administrative dietetics at Mercy Medical Center until retiring in 1998.

Ruth and her sister, Fae Kerbs, live in Cedar Rapids. “After our father retired, my sister and I managed the family farm from a distance,” said Ruth. After our mother’s death, we made the very difficult decision to sell the family farm. We therefore had some funds available to invest.”

In 2001, Ruth established the Ruth Lowe Nash Charitable Gift Annuity. She continues to receive quarterly distributions based on set annuity rates until her death, at which time her gift will establish an endowed scholarship in her name.

“When considering my gift to CSU, I looked for an opportunity to assist students who might make valuable contributions to the profession,” she said. “Somehow I felt real stability at CSU. It has been a wise investment.”

“I am impressed with the total growth of CSU, and I am equally impressed with the College of Applied Human Sciences. The scope has increased so much, not only in our College, but overall in the University while not sacrificing quality for quantity.”

“Like so many of us, Ruth’s story is that of a person who considers CSU as part of her success in life, family, and career. She looks fondly upon her college experience and is creating a legacy through her scholarship.”

~ Chris Melby

Chris Melby, Head, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
Mary Dyar had been a stalwart supporter of the College of Applied Human Sciences for many years. And upon her death in February at the age of 93, she provided a generous portion of her estate to the College. Remarkably, Mary never attended CSU. Rather, it was through her sister, Elizabeth Dyar Gifford, that she held the College in such high esteem.

Elizabeth Dyar Gifford became a faculty member in food science and human nutrition in 1940; later she became the first dean of the College of Home Economics in 1950. Upon her retirement in 1974, the Elizabeth Dyar Gifford Scholarship was established. The Gifford Building on campus is named in her honor.

Dean Gifford left a large bequest to the scholarship fund when she died in 1997. Inspired by the family connection, her sister Mary added to the scholarship at the time of her death. Mary Dyar graduated from Carlton College in Minnesota, as did her sister Elizabeth. Mary went on to attend the University of Minnesota Library School and spent her entire career at the Minneapolis Public Library where she worked from 1939 until her retirement as associate director in 1976.

Mary always enjoyed receiving correspondence from the College, especially thank you letters from the student recipients of the Gifford Scholarship. She regularly answered with a thank you note, even as she became older and writing became difficult. She also wrote to the student scholarship recipients on occasion.

Of Elizabeth she wrote, “All her intellect and energy was devoted to the College of Home Economics. I remember her devotion and enthusiasm.”

Apparently Elizabeth’s enthusiasm for Colorado State carried over to Mary. She wrote in one letter, “I had noted with pleasure the CSU Rams win over the CU Buffs!”

Mary Elizabeth Bezanson, a professor of communication, media, and rhetoric at the University of Minnesota, Morris, and Elizabeth and Mary’s niece and namesake, said of her two aunts, “Aunt Mary and Aunt Elizabeth both loved the out of doors. Aunt Elizabeth was a wonderful fisher person, and Aunt Mary loved golf.”

Mary Elizabeth’s mother, Margaret Bezanson, was the third sister in the family. Margaret also enjoyed receiving correspondence from the College regarding the Gifford Scholarship recipients. Mary Elizabeth said, “My aunts and mother were indeed remarkable women. Every one of them was committed to learning, doing her best, maintaining high standards for themselves and others, and having fun.”

Today, the Gifford Scholarship endowment provides five significant annual awards to students in the disciplines of the former College of Home Economics: Design and Merchandising, Food Science and Human Nutrition, Human Development and Family Studies, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Occupational Therapy. Because of the dedication and foresight of these remarkable sisters, students will benefit in perpetuity.

A personal touch to giving – contact us if we can help!

April C. Mason, Dean
(970) 491-5841
DeanApril@cahs.colostate.edu

Lori Sims, Director of Development
(970) 491-5669
Lori.Sims@colostate.edu

Kim Winger, Donor Relations Manager
(970) 491-2797
Kim.Winger@colostate.edu

Joan Trussell, Development Coordinator
(970) 491-1938
Joan.Trussell@colostate.edu
Lucile’s Legacy: Education opens a new world

It is simple if you ask Lucile Hawks about her secret to health and longevity. Eat good food, exercise, and keep busy. “When people sit around, have no goal or purpose in life, they go downhill fast,” says Lucile, age 91. This year marks her 50th anniversary of receiving her master’s degree in Home Economics Education from Colorado State University. Eleanor Roosevelt delivered the commencement address.

A native Kansan, Lucile received her bachelor’s degree in Home Economics and Art from Kansas State College (now University) at Manhattan in 1939. She taught Home Economics for 39 years; six years were out in the state and the last 33 years were in the school system in Kansas City, Kan., where she taught clothing and textiles. She retired from Wyandotte High School in 1978 after 23 years there. She now resides in Hiawatha, Kan.

When Lucile changed schools in Kansas City in the early 1950s, her supervisor suggested CSU for her master’s. She knew Colorado, as her sister lived in Denver. Each summer she, her mother, and sister would drive to different parts of the state on vacation. Lucile had spent several summers working in Denver, one with the Girl Scouts of Denver in the Pike National Forest.

“The choice of a school was just perfect, as visiting professors from all over the country would come for the four-week courses and the climate,” said Lucile. “Four weeks for two graduate courses was a tough assignment.”

Like many others of the era, Lucile remembers Miss Gustafson as a meticulous professor. Miss Gustafson brought to the classroom not only the history of the costumes and textiles, but also the cultural influences related to fabric dyeing and clothing construction methods. With these advanced classes and her history of architecture, art, and painting, Lucile was well prepared for travel, especially after completing additional work beyond a master’s degree.

Lucile has traveled to both eastern and western Europe four times, has been to all but one of the lower 48 states, Morocco, Canada, Guatemala, and to Mexico twice. The last trip in 1985 was an art trip to Russia where the cathedrals, art, and museums far exceeded her expectations. Bus trips from the large cities gave a good picture of villages and rural life. Markets in all countries were a must.

On one visit to see her former supervisor who was
living in a retirement home in Topeka, Kan., Lucile was introduced to a resident who had taught in a large college and who had spent numerous summers doing research in Guatemala in the 1920s and ’30s. They became friends and she gave Lucile all her Guatemalan articles of clothing and textiles. These were used and displayed in Lucile’s classroom, but after retirement she decided to give them to a place where they would be preserved. Linda Carlson, long-time curator of the historic costume collection (now renamed the Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising), accepted them along with a stick loom which was purchased from a little Mayan girl who was learning to weave on it.

“I remember when Lucile first sent me the Guatemalan textiles,” said Linda. “She included a letter that meticulously described and documented each object. I have so enjoyed visiting with Lucile on the phone over the years. We have so much in common. Her knowledge and appreciation for what we are about is so gratifying. We’re so proud to include her as part of the College’s legacy. She is a very special lady.”

Currently, the Museum is being moved from the Gifford Building to its new permanent home in what many people know as the “old Fort Collins High School” on College Avenue. The building became University property in recent years and has been transformed into the University Center for the Arts (see related story on pages 2-3).

Since Lucile knew no one in town after moving to Hiawatha, she soon started volunteering at the local hospital gift shop. It wasn’t long until she was managing it and making items to sell. After seven years she left and started volunteering at the library and is still there. “At first I did anything that needed to be done, but when too much modern technology became involved, I said I’ll do only the genealogy department, which is an endless, ongoing job.”

Lucile quilted with the Brown County Historical Society Quilters for a number of years, and also quilted for others. She especially liked designing the quilting motifs. After making three large scrap quilts, she decided to make miniature quilts which are more of a challenge and require more skill and patience. Nearly 100 of these have been accepted by Carlson for the Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising.

Two years ago, Lucile explored the idea of a charitable gift annuity to provide a supplemental income for herself as well as to support her campus connection: the historic costume collection. She established an annuity through the CSU Foundation in 2006.

“You’ve heard the saying that it’s better to give than to receive, but with a charitable gift annuity, you can give AND receive!”

A charitable gift annuity is a gift type that pays you (and an additional annuitant, if you desire) a predetermined amount each year for life. The gift can be established with cash, securities or other property, and in return you receive fixed annuity payments on a regular basis. Your gift to the Colorado State University Foundation to benefit the College of Applied Human Sciences can provide the following additional benefits to you, including:

- Charitable income tax deduction
- Favorable capital gains treatment
- Tax-free portion
- Lifetime payments
- Estate taxes

If you would like more information about charitable gift annuities or other planned giving options, please feel free to contact Bill Sheets at bsheets@ua.colostate.edu or (970) 491-4679, or Marianne Blackwell at mblackwell@ua.colostate.edu or (970) 491-7862. We also invite you to view our planned giving website at www.plannedgiving.colostate.edu.
Preference to pass on personal values to heirs

“To benefit students” is the reason many donors give to the College of Applied Human Sciences. Above, Dean’s Leadership Council members are stellar examples of the energy, commitment, and “people-first” attitude toward their studies, careers, and community service. Each year, the Dean’s Leadership Council makes thank you calls to many college donors. They enjoy your conversations! At right is April Mason, dean of the College.

As a result, parents, aunts, and uncles are more frequently involving their families in estate planning and finding ways to uphold their values in the process. Perhaps a person’s legacy is to say, “I believe in children” or “I believe in health and nutrition.” Leaving part of an estate to these areas makes a statement about one’s values and creates a legacy that will last across future generations.

Legacy giving is especially important to those who do not have close heirs. “People who make estate gifts based on their values will always have a family connection here that—in a special way—will live on in our students,” said Lori Sims, director of development. “The act of giving, no matter how one chooses to do it, brings a sense of satisfaction and joy.”

A sense of humor, knowledge, support for the community, and churches.

These are the most-cited values that people at or close to retirement years say they prefer to leave their heirs, according to a global survey published in May.

In the largest study of its kind, Oxford University’s Institute of Aging conducted a survey of 21,000 people in 21 countries. According to the study, when individuals across generations and continents were asked “what would you like most to leave to your family,” 60 percent said they wanted to leave their perspective on life, while less than 10 percent said they wanted to leave money to their heirs.

This newer thinking stems from several recent studies that find between 80-90 percent of people who come into a windfall, whether it be an inheritance, settlement, or lottery, spend all of it within two to five years.

“To benefit students” is the reason many donors give to the College of Applied Human Sciences. Above, Dean’s Leadership Council members are stellar examples of the energy, commitment, and “people-first” attitude toward their studies, careers, and community service. Each year, the Dean’s Leadership Council makes thank you calls to many college donors. They enjoy your conversations! At right is April Mason, dean of the College.

As a result, parents, aunts, and uncles are more frequently involving their families in estate planning and finding ways to uphold their values in the process. Perhaps a person’s legacy is to say, “I believe in children” or “I believe in health and nutrition.” Leaving part of an estate to these areas makes a statement about one’s values and creates a legacy that will last across future generations.

Legacy giving is especially important to those who do not have close heirs. “People who make estate gifts based on their values will always have a family connection here that—in a special way—will live on in our students,” said Lori Sims, director of development. “The act of giving, no matter how one chooses to do it, brings a sense of satisfaction and joy.”

A sense of humor, knowledge, support for the community, and churches.

These are the most-cited values that people at or close to retirement years say they prefer to leave their heirs, according to a global survey published in May.

In the largest study of its kind, Oxford University’s Institute of Aging conducted a survey of 21,000 people in 21 countries. According to the study, when individuals across generations and continents were asked “what would you like most to leave to your family,” 60 percent said they wanted to leave their perspective on life, while less than 10 percent said they wanted to leave money to their heirs.

This newer thinking stems from several recent studies that find between 80-90 percent of people who come into a windfall, whether it be an inheritance, settlement, or lottery, spend all of it within two to five years.

“To benefit students” is the reason many donors give to the College of Applied Human Sciences. Above, Dean’s Leadership Council members are stellar examples of the energy, commitment, and “people-first” attitude toward their studies, careers, and community service. Each year, the Dean’s Leadership Council makes thank you calls to many college donors. They enjoy your conversations! At right is April Mason, dean of the College.

As a result, parents, aunts, and uncles are more frequently involving their families in estate planning and finding ways to uphold their values in the process. Perhaps a person’s legacy is to say, “I believe in children” or “I believe in health and nutrition.” Leaving part of an estate to these areas makes a statement about one’s values and creates a legacy that will last across future generations.

Legacy giving is especially important to those who do not have close heirs. “People who make estate gifts based on their values will always have a family connection here that—in a special way—will live on in our students,” said Lori Sims, director of development. “The act of giving, no matter how one chooses to do it, brings a sense of satisfaction and joy.”