University Receives Largest Gift in Truman History

$3.44 Million Received from the Estate of Former Student to Establish Scholarship Program

A $3.44 million gift, the largest in University history, has been received from the estate of Lyle Ingraham to create a scholarship program at Truman State University.

The Lyle Ingraham Scholarship Fund is designed to assist students with financial need to attain a Truman State University education. The program will provide an estimated $120,000 in scholarship resources each year. According to scholarship guidelines, the maximum annual award per student is $4,000, with at least 30 students benefiting from the fund annually.

"Truman State University is grateful to Lyle Ingraham for his foresight and generosity in establishing this magnificent scholarship program," said University President Barbara Dixon. "Need-based scholarships are among our top priorities and keeping a Truman education within the reach of students with financial need is important to our future. This program will have tremendous impact on students for generations."

A native of Green Castle, Mo., Lyle Ingraham graduated from Browning High School in 1923. He attended Kirksville Normal School, now Truman State University, following high school, and began his career as a school teacher in Sullivan County.

He later enrolled at Chillicothe Business College and began a lengthy career in the community banking industry at Citizens Savings Bank in Browning, Mo. Ingraham served as the bank’s president and chief executive officer, and also managed insurance, farming and cattle enterprises.

He retired in 1976 and moved to Kansas City, Mo. Ingraham passed away on July 3, 2005, at the age of 99.

The estate gift will provide a significant boost to the Truman State University Foundation’s scholarship program, adding more than one-third in additional resources for the 2006-2007 academic year. An estimated $440,000 will be awarded to Truman students from Foundation scholarships next year.

Advan tage Capital Partners Gift $40,000 to Create Endowment to Support the Missouri Government Internship Program

Truman State University alumni Scott Zajac (’83) and Ryan Brennan (’95) along with their company, Advantage Capital Partners, have made a gift of $40,000 to establish an endowment to benefit the Missouri Government Internship Program.

Zajac, the firm’s senior managing director, and Brennan, principal, are both former participants of the program that annually sends Truman juniors and seniors to Jefferson City for a semester internship with a legislator, public official or state agency.

"Truman is delighted to receive this investment in one of our most distinctive co-curricular student programs," said University President Barbara Dixon. "The endowment will expand opportunities for students and provide a solid financial base for the future."

Earnings from the endowment will be directed to stipends received by program participants, used to defray housing and living expenses incurred during the semester. The Truman State University Foundation also supports the program through unrestricted gifts.

The gift will also be used as a catalyst to seek additional endowment support from other program participants and corporations with mutual interests, according to Mark Gambiaiana, vice president for university advancement. An estimated 500 Truman students have participated in the program since its inception in 1972.

Formed in 1992, Advantage Capital Partners is a private equity firm that invests in promising companies in connection with federal, state and local economic development initiatives. With offices in St. Louis, New Orleans, La., and several other cities, the firm has raised more than $700 million in institutional capital.

Ryan Brennan, principal for Advantage Capital Partners, is pictured at the recent Foundation Banquet with University President Barbara Dixon. Brennan presented a keynote address at the banquet and also informed the University of a $40,000 gift to benefit Truman’s Missouri Government Internship Program.
Guided by the James G. Severns Theatre Committee, Truman’s Office of Advancement began a campaign to raise $300,000 for naming rights to the theatre performance hall located in Ophelia Parrish, the University’s Fine Arts facility. The performance hall, formerly known as the Courtyard Theatre, was officially renamed in honor of James G. Severns, professor emeritus of dramatics.

Severns was a member of the Truman faculty from 1959-1991, and two of his former students — Steve Rose, of Potomac, Va., and Gail Crump, of Warrensburg, Mo. — showed generous support for the fundraising initiative.

Rose, who as a student at Truman participated in more than a dozen campus performances under Severns, made a lead gift of $100,000. Today, Rose operates a State Farm Insurance Agency in Rockville, Md., is a member of the Screen Actors Guild and has appeared in several motion pictures, on television, and commercials.

A 1964 Truman alumnus, Crump also had strong ties to Severns and made a gift commitment to the campaign that included a $30,000 cash pledge and a planned gift through the Joseph Baldwin Society valued at $115,000. As a student, Crump, along with his twin brother, Gary (’64), participated in theatre performances in virtually every capacity with Gail directing two all-school productions under Severns’ supervision. Gail is currently a professor of English at Central Missouri State University.

The James G. Severns Theatre, newly constructed in 2000, is host to numerous plays and performances. Resources from the fundraising campaign will be directed to an endowment, and annual earnings will be used for equipment, technology enhancement, refurbishment, and ongoing maintenance of the theatre.

James G. Severns: Professor Emeritus of Dramatics

James G. Severns has dedicated his life to the teaching and performance of theatre. He began his career at the University in 1959 and served as professor of dramatics, director of the College Players (later known as the University Players) and chairperson of the Theatre Department for 32 years.

He directed and produced two to three plays a year with University students and worked with the Traveler’s Community Theatre in Kirksville, Mo. Severns also co-founded and served as general manager of The Ice House Theater in Hannibal, Mo. While at Truman, he received a Fulbright Award to study in the People’s Republic of China, and when Severns retired from the University in 1991, he was granted the status of professor emeritus of dramatics.

Severns and his wife, Patricia (Harris) Severns (’66/’67), reside in Chicago, Ill., his hometown, where he has continued teaching and working in theatre. He has been involved in acting with the Equity Library Theatre Chicago Company and is on the Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee. He is a member of Actors’ Equity and several academic theatre societies.

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Alumni Chapter Kicks Off Campaign to Assist Students from Iowa

The Iowa Alumni Chapter recently began fundraising efforts to raise $10,000 to endow a scholarship for Iowa area students. With more than 6,000 alumni in the state of Iowa, we are a community that has the ability to help make a difference in the lives of younger Iowans today," says Cindy Spiker ('93), president of the Iowa Alumni Chapter. "Many of us are unable to fund scholarships on our own, but by pooling our gifts, we can hopefully make it a little easier for the younger Iowans to pay their college tuition at Truman."

If you are interested in supporting the Iowa Alumni Chapter Scholarship, please contact Jamie Hansen, (800) 452-6678, jhansen@truman.edu.

Gift Creates Student Leadership Development Series

A $5,000 gift commitment from 1972 alumna Ann Patterson and Gary Patterson, of Wichita, Kan., has created a series designed to introduce and instill leadership qualities in Truman students.

The new Student Leadership Development Series will bring together representatives of the University’s 200-plus student organizations for development and training. The Series will consist of a plenary session presented by a renowned leadership development speaker as well as breakout sessions moderated by student leaders that will allow students to learn from each other on relevant leadership topics. The conference will culminate with a luncheon.

Skills developed while on campus will assist student organizations in becoming more effective and begin a process to help student leaders ignite the life-long leadership development process.

The inaugural conference is planned for the fall of 2006. Members of the Student Alumni Council, with assistance from the University’s Student Life and Advancement Offices, will plan and coordinate the conference.

Employer Matching Gifts

Last year, corporate matching gift programs generated nearly $55,000 in additional revenue for student scholarships at Truman, as well as a wide range of University programs and needs. You may work for a company that will match or even triple the contribution you make to Truman State University. All you have to do is complete a matching gift form provided by your employer and send it along with your contribution to Truman State University.

The top companies that have provided a matching gift to Truman State University recently include:

- AmerenUE
- Emerson Electric
- Pfizer
- Anheuser-Busch Inc.
- Company
- Procter & Gamble
- Boeing
- Ernst & Young
- Sprint
- Caterpillar
- IBM Corporation
- State Farm Insurance

To find out if your company will match your gift to Truman, visit http://www.matchinggifts.com/truman or contact your company’s personnel or human resources office for information on their matching gift programs.

Operational Endowment Fund Created for Business and Accountancy Division

The Randy R. Rogers Endowment Fund was recently established to provide resources for the greatest needs of the Division of Business and Accountancy. Alumnus Randy Rogers of Kirksville, Mo., established the fund due to the changing conditions of the funding environment, such as state appropriation fluctuations and unseen future priorities of the University. This fund will generate interest income annually to help supplement the needs of the Division of Business and Accountancy.

Rogers has long believed in the importance of education and has established this fund in part to encourage other alumni to consider creating such an endowment to benefit Truman now and in the future. "I think we all realize that the state has had budgetary challenges the last few years which resulted in program funding cuts, including education," says Rogers. "What I like about an operational endowment is that the principal amount in the fund is never spent; only the interest income derived from the fund’s investments is used to help support the program of my choice for perpetuity. This is just one small way that I can give back."

As the associate vice president for institutional advancement at A.T. Still University of Health Sciences, Rogers has more than 16 years of experience as a leadership professional in fundraising program management, strategic market planning and the development and implementation of innovative programs. In 1979, he received his bachelor of science in business administration from Truman (then known as Northeast Missouri State University) and later earned a master of arts in social science with an emphasis in human resource management from the University in 1987. Additionally, he is licensed as a certified financial planner.

A native of Kirksville, Rogers graduated from Kirksville High School in 1975. He has a son, Ryan, age 22, and a daughter, Jenna, age 19.
New Scholarships

Adair County Giovannini Scholarship
The Adair County Giovannini Scholarship was established by Marianna Giovannini, a 1964 and 1967 alumna of Truman State University. Giovannini serves as head academic advisor in the Residential College Program at Truman and has had many Adair County students as advisees since she first became an advisor in 1967.

The Adair County Giovannini Scholarship is building toward endowment. The scholarship is designated for a graduate of an Adair County high school who has at least a 2.75 GPA at Truman who has financial need and is not receiving other institutional scholarships.

Bob Groff Memorial Scholarship
This annual scholarship was established in memory of Bob Groff, a 1970 Truman alumnus. He was a member of the football and track teams at the University and a member of Sigma Tau Gamma. He passed away on Sept. 3, 2005.

Groff spent his life serving as a beloved teacher and coach. The majority of his career was spent in the Ft. Zumwalt School District in Missouri at both the North and South High Schools. He also coached football at McCluer High School and track at Hazelwood Central High School. This scholarship was established in his loving memory by his family and many friends. The Bob Groff Memorial Scholarship is an annual scholarship that will be awarded to a member of the football or track team at Truman who is a former member of one of the following high school teams: Ft. Zumwalt North High School football or track, Ft. Zumwalt South High School football or track, McCluer High School football or Hazelwood Central High School track. The inaugural recipient is Ryan King, a Truman football player from Ft. Zumwalt South.

TSB Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Bill and Barb Steen
Sue Braun and Pam Gomez established the TSB Nursing Scholarship in memory of their parents, Bill and Barb Steen. Braun graduated from the University with a bachelor of science in nursing in 1982 and appreciates the financial aid she received as a single parent. Gomez had a brain aneurysm rupture in 2002 and credits excellent nursing care for her recovery.

The scholarship is designated for a single, female parent with financial need who is a junior or senior in Truman’s nursing program. The annual scholarship fund is designed to provide a $1,000 scholarship for a deserving student for the next four years.

Steve Rose Receives President’s Leadership Award
During the Truman State University Foundation Banquet held on campus April 8, University President Barbara Dixon named Steve Rose as the recipient of the 2006 President’s Leadership Award. Presented in recognition of significant personal contributions made to Truman State University by its alumni and friends, the award is one of the most prestigious honors bestowed by the University.

A 1969 Truman alumnus, Rose exemplifies the characteristics of an outstanding leader and serves as an inspiration to the entire Truman community. He serves on the Truman State University Foundation Board of Directors, a volunteer group whose mission is to build relationships and create involvement opportunities for alumni and friends, secure private gift support to benefit students and further the objectives of the University, and serve as excellent stewards of donor resources.

Last December, Rose made a leadership gift of $100,000 toward a special fundraising initiative to name the theatre performance facility in Ophelia Parrish in honor of James Severns, professor emeritus of dramatics. In addition, Rose continues to fund the Annual Steve Rose Performing Arts Scholarship, providing needed resources to deserving theatre students at Truman. He is a member of Truman’s Mid-Atlantic Alumni Chapter and has hosted several alumni events in the Washington, D.C., area. He is also a frequent participant in campus events.

Rose operates a State Farm Insurance agency in Rockville, Md.

University Honors AT&T Missouri with Distinguished Corporation/Foundation Award
Truman State University named AT&T Missouri as its inaugural recipient of the Distinguished Corporation/Foundation Award. Established in 2006, the award recognizes corporations and foundations for exemplary support to Truman State University and its students. Examples of collaborative efforts include recruitment of interns and graduates, participation in lectures and seminars, intellectual exchanges, research alliances and financial support of University priorities.

AT&T Missouri (formerly SBC) is the University’s largest corporate donor, with a cumulative gift history of more than $312,000. Included in the company’s gift history is the $200,000 Rural Link Program, designed to place much-needed teachers in northeast Missouri, fortified with scholarships and technology packages.

The company also invested $85,000 in two previous technology-laden programs designed to benefit the teaching and learning process at Truman.

University President Barbara Dixon presented Steve Rose (’69) with the 2006 President’s Leadership Award at the annual Truman State University Foundation Banquet.