Boeing Supports Program Designed to Develop Next Generation of Corporate Leaders

The Boeing Company continues its long-standing support for students at Truman State University with a gift of $10,000 for scholarships in Business and Accountancy and Math and Computer Science and a gift of $5,000 for the Boeing Truman Leaders Future Executives Academy.

The Truman Leaders Future Executive Academy at Truman is a select program for under-represented students with high potential that provide advanced professional development and individual mentoring. Designed to develop the next generation of corporate leaders, students will receive special opportunities to enhance their professional acumen through corporate visits such as to The Boeing Company, personal interaction with management and executives, and short seminars such as the “Boeing Blitz Day.”

Boeing is the world’s leading aerospace company and the largest manufacturer of commercial jetliners and military aircraft combined. In recognition of The Boeing Company’s contributions to the University, Truman bestowed its 2007 Distinguished Corporation/Foundation Award on the aerospace company.

Truman Parent Project Supports Technology in Classrooms

Based on the results of a technology survey conducted among students on the Truman campus, the fundraising project selected for the 2008-2009 Truman Parent Project is generating funding for classroom technology. The survey revealed that Truman students requested more technology in the classrooms, such as rooms equipped with a base set of technology systems, as well as a more advanced set of technologies, such as smart boards and lecture-capture systems.

Smart boards and lecture-capture systems allow the classroom environment to be captured either through notes written on the smart board or through a video/audio capture of the actual lecture that can be replayed or reviewed at a later date. Students at other universities who have access to these technologies have reported that having the ability to return to the actual lecture materials has been invaluable in their academic pursuits.

In order to implement these new kinds of technologies, it is important to have the base infrastructure in place as well, and the Truman Parent Project proposes to upgrade targeted classrooms to a base level of technology and implement lecture-capture technologies in those areas that would be best served by these systems.

St. Louis Alumni Chapter Donates $10,000 for Scholarship Fund

This summer, the St. Louis Alumni Chapter presented a $10,000 gift to the Truman State University Foundation to support the St. Louis Alumni Chapter Scholarship fund. Each year, the scholarship, which was endowed in 2003, is awarded to an incoming freshman at the Truman Freshman Send-Off hosted by the St. Louis Chapter which welcomes incoming Truman students from the St. Louis area.

The St. Louis Alumni Chapter was the first regional chapter to endow a scholarship through the Truman State University Foundation, and the Iowa, Kansas City, and Northeast Missouri Alumni Chapters have also endowed chapter scholarships. The alumni chapters located in Chicago, Dallas, and Mid-Missouri each award an annual scholarship to Truman students as their endowed funds are building. The Mid-Atlantic Alumni Chapter is building an endowed scholarship fund to assist students who are chosen by Truman State University to participate in an internship program in Washington, D.C.

Gift to the Truman Endowment Fund for Excellence

The Truman State University Foundation has received a $25,000 gift for the Truman Endowment Fund for Excellence from Marian Wadsworth, wife of the late Francis T. Wadsworth, a 1939 Truman alumnus. The Endowment Fund for Excellence provides perpetual resources to support the programs and activities of Truman State University by providing funds to meet the greatest and changing needs of delivering a high-quality education to students.

Earnings from the Truman Endowment Fund for Excellence support a variety of value-added student-learning experiences that range from study abroad, technology and equipment upgrades, scholarships, faculty development, library enhancements and other programs deemed to benefit students and student learning.
Deltasigs Celebrate 30th Anniversary with Fundraising Competition

Delta Sigma Pi, a professional fraternity that fosters the study of business, has a long history of encouraging scholarship support, and in honor of the Iota Nu chapter’s 30th anniversary, the Truman Deltasigs issued the Delta Sigma Pi 30th Reunion Challenge. For the fundraising challenge, the Iota Nu chapter’s pledge classes competed against one another to see which pledge class could raise the most money. At the Deltasig 30th Anniversary Reunion held on campus Nov. 15, 2008, the Alpha pledge class received special recognition as the top fundraiser.

The fundraising effort was seeded five years ago during the Iota Nu chapter’s 25th reunion when Larry Lunsford (’81, ’83), who was serving as the emcee for the event, announced that he realized that the chapter had missed out on an opportunity to raise some funds for Truman State University and the School of Business and that they should do better next time. Several Deltasigs who were alumni board members for the School of Business Advisory Board at Truman began discussions last spring about a challenge that would encourage members of the Iota Nu chapter to give $30 in honor of the chapter’s 30th anniversary. Susan Plassmeyer (’86) spearheaded the 30th anniversary fundraising campaign along with fellow committee members Randy Hultz (’81, ’82), Brian Krippner (’89), and Janet (Claypoole) Ravenscraft (’89).

“Our reunions every five years give us a chance to reflect on our memories of Delta Sigma Pi and the impact our experiences have had on our lives both personally and professionally,” said committee member Janet Ravenscraft. “Many of us want to see that opportunity continue for others and supporting our scholarship programs and the School of Business in general is just one way we can do that.”

The ongoing campaign has already raised nearly $16,500 for the Truman State University Foundation and is also encouraging support for the Iota Nu Scholarship Fund managed by the Delta Sigma Pi Central Office. Gifts made to the Truman State University Foundation are being distributed among five funds that have a connection to the fraternity including the William C. Holper Memorial Scholarship, the Delta Sigma Pi/Tina Schmidt Memorial Scholarship, the Robert A. Dager Scholarship, the Iota Nu Finance and Leadership Fund, and the Susan K. Hatcher Traditions in Excellence Fund. For information on how to make a gift to Truman State University for the Delta Sigma Pi 30th Reunion Challenge, visit http://giving.truman.edu/DeltasigChallenge.asp.

Gift Creates New Lectureship Honoring Former History Professor

The late Arnold Zuckerman, a Truman professor known for making history interesting for students, will be remembered for generations to come through a lectureship established by his stepdaughter, Judi G. Schweitzer (’89).

Schweitzer has made a cash and deferred gift commitment through Truman State University’s “Bright Minds Bright Futures” campaign to endow the Dr. Arnold Zuckerman Lectureship in History. The lectureship, which commemorates Zuckerman’s distinguished career as a scholar, research historian, and dedicated teacher, is designed to provide Truman students an opportunity to learn and interact with noted historians and will be supplemented through gifts from friends and colleagues, as well as a deferred gift from Schweitzer’s living trust.

Zuckerman, who joined the Truman faculty in 1963, retired as professor emeritus of history in 1990, and he died on Feb. 15, 2008. During the nearly 30 years he taught at Truman, he challenged his students to think critically and made the study of history relevant by reminding students of the associative value of events, people, and dates.

The lectureship will continue the tradition Zuckerman established by bringing guest lecturers to campus whose experience and expertise are relevant to the interests of the History Department at Truman. A preference will be given to speakers whose experience and expertise encompass medical history, a passion of Zuckerman’s.

Schweitzer received a bachelor of science degree from Truman in 1989 and resides in Lake Forest, Calif. In 2006, she founded Schweitzer & Associates Inc., a real estate development consulting firm for investors, organizations, developers and builders creating sustainable community developments and green-building practices.
New Planned Giving Officer Joins Advancement Staff

Brad Chambers, a 1986 graduate of Truman, was appointed to the position of planned giving officer at Truman State University. Chambers, who had worked for the University’s Admission Office for the last 21 years, has held a variety of positions, including regional admission coordinator, assistant director of admission, co-director of admission and director of admission communication and scholarships.

"With such a long and distinguished career with Truman, Brad offers a very attractive combination of institutional knowledge and experience representing the University," said Mark Gambaiana, vice president for University Advancement.

As Truman’s planned giving officer, Chambers is available to provide information on planned giving to alumni and friends of the University. Planned gifts can provide donors with substantial tax savings and income while providing a gift to benefit Truman State University. Planned giving opportunities include retained life estates, bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, life insurance, real estate, and retirement plan assets.

New Way to Give to Truman: Electronic Funds Transfer

Donors can now make a gift to Truman State University through electronic funds transfer (EFT), a giving option that allows supporters to deliver a gift to the University automatically from a bank without writing a check.

By taking advantage of the EFT service, a gift to Truman State University can be divided into multiple payments that are automatically debited to a checking or savings account each month. The owner of the bank account retains control throughout the process and may change or cancel the service at any time.

For more information on EFT and other ways to give to Truman, visit http://giving.truman.edu.

Students Benefit from Gifts for Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends of the University who have established new scholarships or have given to existing scholarship funds, the amount of direct financial support available to Truman students has more than doubled over the last five years. This growth in scholarship funding enables Truman to offer more assistance to deserving students; the Truman State University Foundation now awards more than 500 scholarships to Truman students.

Newly Established Endowed Scholarships

Conservation Biology Scholarship
Peter Goldman has established the Conservation Biology Scholarship to assist students at Truman State University who are entering the field of conservation biology. Goldman joined the faculty at Truman in the early 1970s and has taught at the University for more than 35 years. In the late 1990s, he took several years off to participate in bird conservation projects in California. Goldman’s main interests include the evolution of behavior, primarily the behavior of birds, and during his career, he has studied vocal communication, foraging behavior, social behavior, parental care and community organization.

L. Scott Ellis and Carol D. Ellis Scholarship
The L. Scott Ellis and Carol D. Ellis Scholarship was endowed by Scott Ellis, dean emeritus of science and his wife, Carol (Goettmann) Ellis ('91). Scott joined the faculty at Truman in 1980 and taught courses in anatomy, biology, ecology, histology, mammalogy and zoology. He was named the E.M. Violette Advisor of the Year in 1993 and became a full professor in 1994. He was named division head/dean of science in July 1998 and played a key role in developing the plans and overseeing the renovations of Magruder Hall in the early 2000s. He retired as dean emeritus in 2007. Carol received her master’s degree in education from Truman in 1991 and taught elementary school in the Kirksville School District for 26 years. The scholarship is designated for international students with financial need who are studying agricultural science, biology, chemistry and/or physics.

Dr. Walter Ryle International Student Scholarship
This scholarship was established by Noemy Gomez Jibben ('48) in memory of former University President Walter Ryle. Noemy, a native of Costa Rica who was recruited to the University by Ryle in 1943, was among the school’s first international students. She met and married a Kirksville native, Robert Ellis Jibben ('47) and spent several years teaching Spanish at Truman while Robert completed his medical degree at Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. Noemy established this scholarship to assist current and future international students and to honor Ryle for the outstanding support he provided her as a student and especially for his vision to encourage cultural globalization.