

# PHILANTHROPY ANNUAL | 2017

THE STORY AND IMPACT OF  
PHILANTHROPIC GIVING AT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

## A WORD FROM THE CHANCELLOR

The University of Denver today is bustling with excitement and innovation, collaboration and planning – all by our strategic vision as set forth in DU IMPACT 2025.



As we begin to implement that plan, we are creating the future of education for the sake of our students and the society they will soon lead. At DU, our students gain emotional intelligence and problem-solving skills crucial for leadership in our ever-changing world. They partner with each other and with world-renowned faculty to create solutions for the pressing issues of the day. They impact our city as they implement those solutions in internships across Denver and beyond.

Their education is our future, and it is made possible through your generosity. In giving to the University of Denver, you bring into reality the vision and innovation that will define our society in the decades to come. Your gifts, both large and small, help us create the educational excellence that will enable our students to lead.

I am pleased to share with you this snapshot of the impact of philanthropy over the past year. Thank you for your generous partnership that will benefit our students for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca Chopp".

Rebecca Chopp  
Chancellor

IMAGINATION IS  
OUR ONLY LIMIT



# YEAR IN REVIEW: TRANSFORMATIVE GIVING IN FY17

As the University continues to implement strategies that advance Chancellor Rebecca Chopp's vision as expressed in DU IMPACT 2025, we forge deeper connections with alumni, donors and friends through engagement and philanthropy.

We continued the decades-long tradition of Founders Celebration this year, honoring outstanding leadership, philanthropy and achievement. Ralph J. and Patricia M. Nagel received the 2017 Founders Medal, the University's highest non-academic honor awarded to individuals and families whose transformative leadership and engaged philanthropy represent the pinnacle of DU's mission and values. Dr. Condoleezza Rice (BA '74, Ph. D. '81, HDR '96) received the 2017 International Achievement Medal, an honor presented to an alumna/us who has had an immeasurable impact on the world and whose leadership and civic engagement on the global stage exemplify our values at the University of Denver.

A new tradition debuted at the University this year, drawing remarkable involvement among the University's alumni. Alumni Weekend brought together individuals from across the globe for two days of service,

learning and collaboration. Six individuals received the inaugural Alumni Awards in recognition of their professional achievements that advance DU's spirit of excellence. The recipients of the 2017 Alumni Awards were:

**Brenda J. Hollis**  
*JD Law '77*  
Prosecutor of the Special Court of Sierra Leone

**Craig Patrick**  
*BSBA '69*  
Member, Hockey Hall of Fame

**Crisanta Duran**  
*BA Public Affairs & Spanish '02*  
Speaker, Colorado House of Representatives

**Debra Crew**  
*BA Spanish & International Studies '93*  
CEO, Reynolds American

**Imran Khan**  
*BSBA Economics & Finance '00*  
Chief Strategy Officer, Snapchat

**Jim Kennedy**  
*BSBA Management '70*  
Chairman, Cox Enterprises

Alumni support of the University – and that of its friends and donors – included significant philanthropic involvement this year as well. The University raised more than \$55 million in private support, including a \$10 million gift to name the Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise. Nearly 2,300 donors participated in One Day for DU, contributing more than \$400,000 in a single day. We are honored to earn the philanthropy of our alumni and friends through gifts of all sizes. In giving to scholarships, research, innovative collaboration, experiential education initiatives and more, these individuals advance the future of DU for the students of today and the decades to come. □

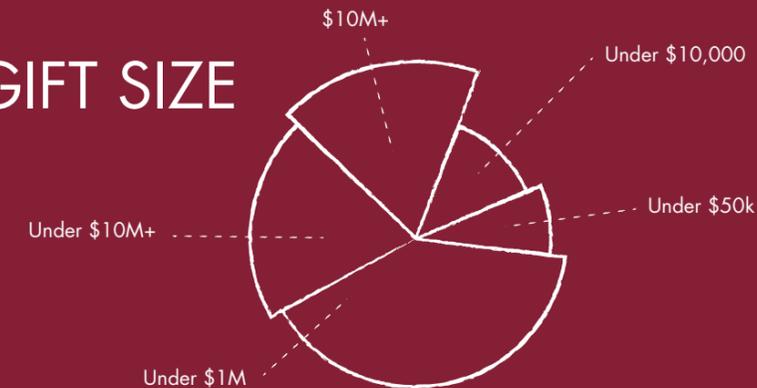


2017 Alumni Honorees (left to right) Duran, Patrick, Khan, Crew, Hollis (not pictured: Kennedy)

# \$55,030,964

TOTAL GIFTS IN 2017

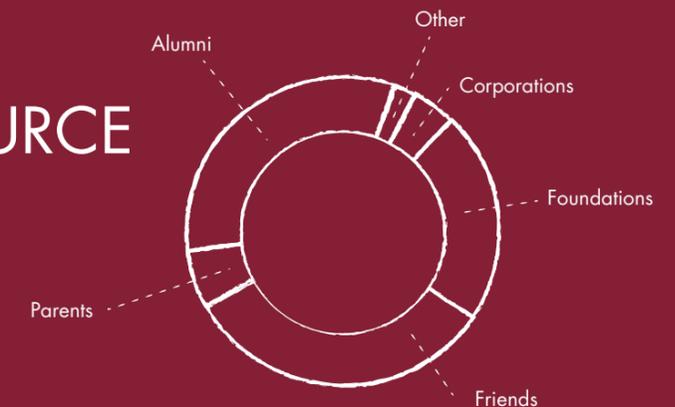
## GIFT SIZE



## GIFT PURPOSE



## GIFT SOURCE

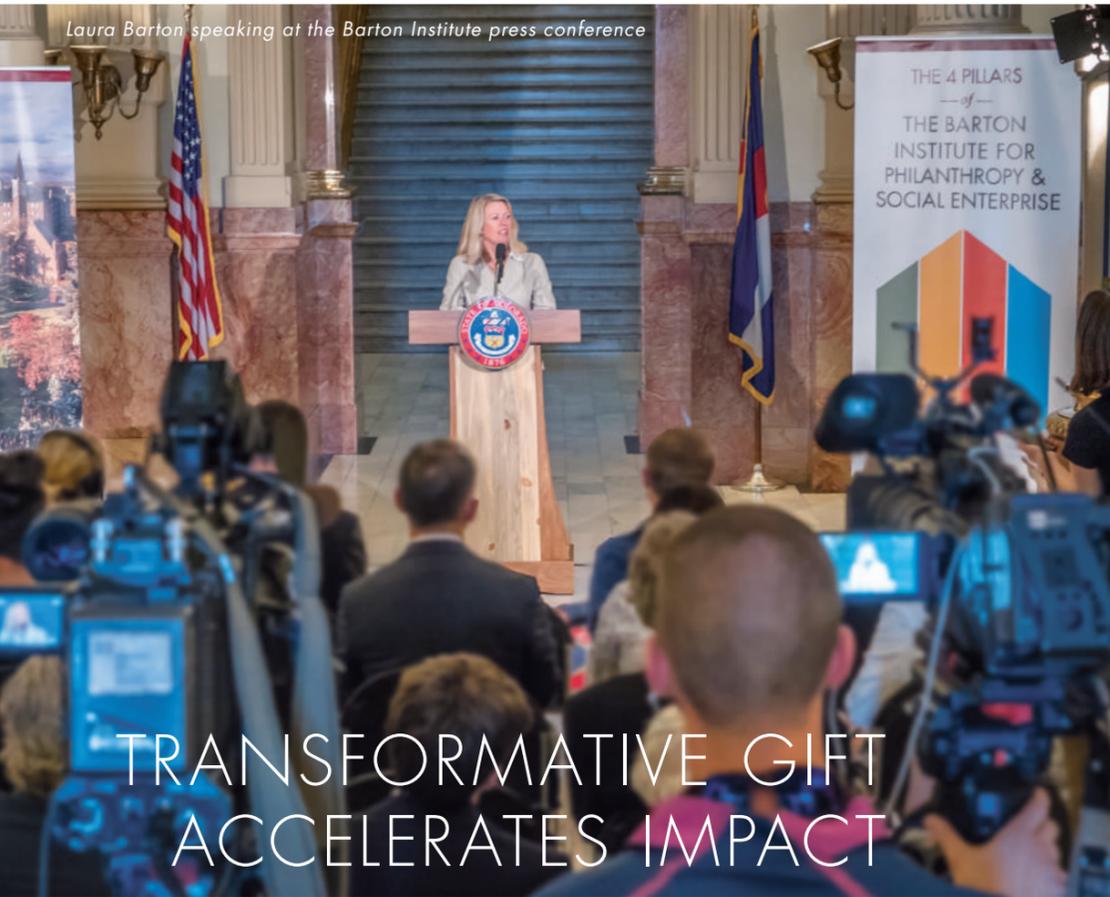




# KNOWLEDGE & INNOVATION

At the University of Denver, we design knowledge to address the local and global problems of a changing world. Diverse academic disciplines come together, making the most of their collective strengths, to identify and solve the pressing issues of the day. Philanthropy fuels that engine of innovation. Visionary alumni and friends make possible our collective vision to create solutions that improve our world.

Laura Barton speaking at the Barton Institute press conference



of 12 DU graduate students from seven different graduate schools. These students will work in teams for a social enterprise in the Denver area, focusing on improving the lives of people who face challenges like poverty and homelessness.

\* The Tiny Homes Initiative - The Institute convenes people from different sectors and connects them with DU resources to address major social challenges. In its first cross-sector partnership, the Institute partnered with the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado and members of the Beloved Community

Village to help develop Denver's first tiny homes community, creating stable housing and services for those previously experiencing homelessness.

\* The Restorative Practices Initiative - Educators are turning to "restorative justice" to address discipline issues and keep students in school and learning. The Institute is partnering with Denver Public Schools to expand their work in this area.

"The generosity of Laura Barton and her family made it possible for us to be immediately effective as a leader and partner in addressing important issues in our community," said Miller. □

## \$10 MILLION GIFT FUNDS NATION-WIDE EARLY EDUCATION RESEARCH

More than 93 percent of brain development occurs before the age of five – a person's lifelong well-being is closely tied to early learning. This means that the quality of learning opportunities that young children experience affects what they will be able to accomplish throughout their lifetimes.

The Kennedy Institute for Educational Success seeks to identify innovative and cost-effective means for promoting and sustaining the educational success of vulnerable children from early childhood through post-secondary education. Made possible by a \$10 million gift from James C. Kennedy, the Institute established a program endowment that supports the research and operations of three faculty chairs in the Morgridge College of Education, including Dr. Douglas H. Clements, Executive Director of the Marsico Institute of Early Learning and Literacy and the Kennedy Endowed Chair for Early Childhood Learning and Dr. Julie Samara, the Kennedy Endowed Chair in Innovative Learning Technologies. A search is currently underway for the third chair, the Kennedy Endowed Chair in Urban Education.

The professors are currently leading a national research project to improve learning outcomes for young math

students. Learning trajectories (LTs) are tools that guide how schools across America plan and assess the teaching of math. LTs are one of the bases for the nation-wide Common Core mathematics standards. Clements and Samara are doing the country's first-ever evaluation of if and how LTs contribute to improving student achievement in early mathematics. Their findings empower math teachers across 36 participating states to be more successful educators.

"Teachers were immediately able to enhance and enrich their math curriculum and assessment skills. The LTs have expanded our teachers' understanding of the

complexity of mathematical thinking in young children," said Rowland Hall, an elementary school principal whose school is participating in the program.

"Mr. Kennedy's generosity was instrumental in getting Julie and me to consider moving here from positions we already enjoyed," said Professor Clements, who prior to joining DU in 2012 was a State University of New York (SUNY) Distinguished Professor of Education at the University of Buffalo, SUNY. "His gift makes you so appreciative of the willingness of those who have been successful and lucky in their careers to wish to give back to society." □

The Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise launched its programming last fall after receiving a \$10 million naming gift from Laura Barton and her family in honor of the late Peter Barton. The transformative investment provided seed capital and long-term funding for the institute, established at the University of Denver in 2016.

"My family is excited to partner collaboratively with the University and leverage our philanthropy to make a difference in our community," said Barton.

Led by Executive Director

David Miller, former CEO of The Denver Foundation, the Institute exists to address major social issues and improve society by promoting and enhancing traditional and new forms of philanthropy, social enterprise and partnerships among the private, public, nonprofit and academic sectors.

In its first year, the Institute has already advanced its mission and the University's strategic vision as expressed in DU IMPACT 2025 in several important ways, including:

\* The Social Enterprise Fellows Program - This fall, the Institute welcomed the first interdisciplinary cohort



## STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR CANCER PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS



*Diane Simard  
(top) and  
Nicole Taylor  
(bottom)*

The University of Denver's Graduate School of Professional Psychology received its largest-ever gift, a \$1.5 million bequest from an anonymous donor to support the Center for Oncology Psychology Excellence (COPE). COPE is the first psychology program of its kind in the nation to provide comprehensive training at the graduate level in the social and emotional aspects of oncology.

"Through a partnership with Dean Smith-Acuña and Dr. Nicole Taylor, COPE has already been recognized for developing a national model for coping with emotional needs of cancer patients," said Diane Simard, founder of COPE. "This generous gift draws further attention to the need for this program and contributes to its long-term sustainability."

COPE was founded in 2016 by Simard, a Highlands Ranch resident who survived a diagnosis of Stage III

breast cancer. Through her experience, she was surprised by the relative lack of attention given to the psychological aspects of dealing with cancer. Determined to change that, Simard partnered with Graduate School of Professional Psychology Dean Shelly Smith-Acuña and Dr. Taylor, a clinical assistant professor at the University of Denver, to design a training approach that incorporated treatment of stress, depression, anxiety, relationship changes, difficulty coping and other long-term needs of cancer patients. This model became the foundation for COPE, and Simard remains involved and instrumental in the evolution of the program.

While cancer eventually affects one in two men and one in three women in America according to the National Institute of Health, many cancer centers lack the resources to provide counseling and treatment around the emotional aspects of the disease. Those needs are often misunderstood by oncologists and not covered by insurance. Through the COPE specialty, the school offers doctoral and masters level students the opportunity to specialize in psychosocial oncology, serving patients and their families.

"We are so grateful for this investment in COPE and in our graduates who will go on to provide this deeply needed service," said Smith-Acuña. "By strengthening support for this underserved, but unfortunately very large, sector of society, we contribute to healthier, more resilient communities for all." □



# FLOURISHING SOCIETY

Since its inception more than a century and a half ago, DU's interconnectedness with Denver has been unmistakable. Today the University engages with its city through public service and policy, the arts, athletics, educational programs and more. Philanthropy supports these initiatives, enhancing our efforts to prepare our students to lead and thrive in intentional communities here and around the globe.



# ONE DAY FOR DU

One Day for DU. Over the next 24 hours, 2,200 alumni, students, faculty and friends raised over \$400,000 in direct support for students, double the 2016 total. Challenge and matching gifts leveraged the impact of every dollar raised and rallied the DU community around the power of philanthropy.

Among the biggest supporters were young alumni.

Nearly half of the challenge and matching gifts were funded by

At midnight on April 18, 2017, DU kicked off its annual crowdfunding initiative known as recent graduates and supported a wide range of funds from the Pioneer Leadership Program to scholarships and internships. Parker Calbert (BA '13, MBA '14), who served as the student body vice president as a senior, made a matching gift to the University of Denver Scholarship Fund. "As a

1 DAY  
2,279 DONORS  
\$450,846 RAISED

recipient of a full-tuition scholarship, I strongly believe in the power of attracting top talent through large scholarships," Calbert said.

In addition, young alumni encouraged fellow recent graduates to donate to a fund that has special meaning to them. Peter Burwell

(BSBA '11), owner of Echo Mountain Ski Resort, helped

create the Recent Alumni Challenge, a \$5,000 gift that was awarded to the program with the most young-alumni donors on One Day for DU.

DU trustee and alumnus Craig Harrison (BSBA '03) was a driving force behind the young alumni challenge and matching gifts. "One Day for DU is a great opportunity for alumni to get involved and support our students in a big way," Harrison said. "Every gift matters and our alumni truly stepped up to the plate to amplify the impact of these gifts."

One Day for DU co-chairs Nick Phelps (BSBA '09) and Kenny Monfort (BSBA '14) share that sentiment. "We are grateful for the overwhelming support on One Day for DU. We invite all alumni to keep this momentum going in 2018." □



Young Alumni Endowed Scholarship committee advancing a culture of philanthropy

## THE NEXT GENERATION OF STUDENT PHILANTHROPISTS

Launched in November 2016, the University of Denver Student Foundation provides funds to enhance the student experience, creates the next generation of student philanthropists and supports students through grants. The DUSF Student Trustees oversee the DUSF mission and finances while supporting various philanthropy projects, engaging donors and educating future students on the impact of giving back to fellow Pioneers.

The DUSF cultivates philanthropic opportunities that advance the One DU mission and support undergraduate needs while also supporting fellow students through the Student Emergency

Fund. Awarded in \$500 grant amounts, the Student Emergency Fund provides financial assistance to DU students facing unexpected hardships. By aiding fellow Pioneers facing emergencies, the DUSF hopes to educate the student body about the importance of giving back and helping those in need. The Student Emergency Fund was created by students to address student needs, and it is supported by donors – most of whom are students themselves.

By cultivating this habit of giving back to DU as a current student, the DUSF makes a difference in students' lives immediately while it promotes a culture of giving among the

University's future alumni. The DUSF's newest project is PhilanthroPig, which introduces first-year Pioneers to student philanthropy and encourages them to support their fellow Pios by making small contributions throughout their first year. As students give to the Student Emergency Fund through PhilanthroPig, they support their fellow students while establishing a life-long habit of giving to areas at DU that are most meaningful to them. □



Pinwheels planted for each donation on One Day for DU

# INFORMING EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT



Governor Hickenlooper speaking at Barton Institute event

An innovative government-research partnership housed at the Barton Institute for Philanthropy and Social Enterprise at the University of Denver puts Colorado at the forefront of a movement to implement an evidence-based approach to governing. The Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab works with officials to evaluate public policies, design improvements to existing programs, and pilot new interventions intended to benefit Colorado residents.

“The Barton Institute seeks to address complex problems in our community by gathering knowledgeable experts from all sectors to work together,” said Laura Barton, whose \$10 million gift funds the Institute. “The Colorado Lab uses this model to improve society and steward taxpayer money.”

The Lab, launched in June 2017, takes its lead from the governor and is funded for the next four years by a \$4.5 million grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. The intention is to direct research toward issues the government is currently working on, such as the state’s foster care and criminal justice programs, to drive more effective outcomes.

Public agencies often don’t have the resources to conduct the rigorous evaluations,

real-time data analysis, or long-term studies needed to inform decision-making. By pairing state and local officials with researchers, problems can be studied more deeply and outcomes evaluated to determine the best policies. The Colorado Lab is modeled after other “policy labs” across the country.

“By having the governor drive the agenda,” said David Miller, Executive Director of the Barton Institute, “the hope is that the research will have immediate practical applications.” Miller’s extensive experience working with state and local government, as well as 20 years as CEO of The Denver Foundation, positioned the Institute as a strong partner for the Arnold Foundation.

The director of the Lab, Dr. Kristin Klopfenstein, is working with the offices of the governor and lieutenant governor to define upcoming priorities for the Lab’s work. □



## GARDEN HONORS DAN RITCHIE’S LEGACY

Dan Ritchie at opening of Garden and Ritchie School for Engineering and Computer Science

On a campus where Dan Ritchie has given so much, it was only fitting that the University give something back to Dan Ritchie.

That’s why DU decided to pay tribute to him with Dan’s Garden, a tranquil green space on the south end of campus that sits to the north of the new home of the Daniel Felix Ritchie School for Engineering and Computer Science, named for Dan Ritchie’s father.

In June 2017, Dan’s Garden was dedicated with a commemorative running of the water between the two

connected ponds that make up the garden’s centerpiece. Surrounded by grass and trees, the space — which was designed by DU architect Mark Rodgers — was conceived as an oasis for students, faculty and staff, as well as a living classroom for the natural sciences.

Ritchie and his longtime friend Joy Burns, who served the University as chair of the Board of Trustees for 30 years, were in attendance, as were DU faculty and staff members and many of Ritchie’s friends who made gifts in support of the project.

“We stand here to thank all of you who came together to transform this green space into Dan’s Garden [...] where students can roam, families can relax and our community can enjoy,” Chancellor Rebecca Chopp said during the ceremony. “All the while, the garden stands as a legacy and tribute to all that Dan has done

for the University of Denver.”

Ritchie’s legacy at DU is so impactful that for many he is synonymous with the University. During his 16-year tenure as chancellor from 1989 to 2005, the University moved to Division I athletics and launched DU’s popular Cherrington Global Scholars study-abroad program. A \$274 million fundraising campaign launched under his leadership spurred numerous capital improvements, including new buildings for student living, business, science, law and music; a performing arts center; and an athletics and recreation center named in his honor.

In 2013, Ritchie donated property valued as the largest gift in University history to the School of Engineering and Computer Science. He also served as the chairman of the Board of Trustees from 2007 to 2009. □



Aerial of Ritchie Tribute Garden

# GALVANIZING THE NEXT GENERATION OF TECH ENTREPRENEURS

The Daniels College of Business gives first-year students a crash course in entrepreneurship, requiring them to split into competitive teams to design a mobile app. Students in the Compass Program and Madden Challenge master technology skills by competing amongst each other for a chance to win a cash prize and present their final product to a panel of real

investors.

In Gateway to Business, a core class for first-year students, Professor Stephen Haag teaches students how to write a business plan as well as design, test and market an app. The Madden Challenge evolved

from the class in 2012 when John Madden Jr., a local commercial real estate developer, philanthropically bolstered the competition. John Madden Jr.'s support is used to provide a cash prize to the winners and to help fund marketing and development of the challenge's winning apps.

"I got my first taste of what being an entrepreneur is. It has

become an addictive hobby for me now," said Chance Merlock, who won the competition in 2015 as a freshman for his team's app called PitchMe, a group transaction app that lets roommates transfer money to one another and collectively pay bills. "The experience from the Madden Challenge has led me to explore so many different things, businesswise. It was a great introduction to entrepreneurship."

For the past two years, the program has expanded to include 10 under-resourced high school students from The Bridge Project who are on teams with Daniels students. This expanded program, called the Compass Project, is made possible in part by a renewed philanthropic commitment from the Maddens. The high schoolers receive a MacBook Air, all the software necessary to participate in the Challenge and 20 hours of mentoring by the DU students.

Taylor Kirkpatrick, a DU alum, also supports the project through his Hampshire Foundation. "Being a Daniels graduate, I am thrilled to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit of this program as it fosters great creativity in the students."

"At Daniels, we're not only passionate about our students, but our community as well," Dean Brent Chrite says. "This is not only a great opportunity for our students to build skills in mentoring, but also we hope it paves the way for some high school students to pursue a path they hadn't thought of before." □



Student pitch in the Madden Challenge



Ved Nanda

# CELEBRATING A LIVING LEGACY

One evening in March 2017, about 500 people packed the Cable Center. Some were lawyers, some were students, many were University of Denver Sturm College of Law alumni. The crowd was made up of people from all over the world. For all their diverse backgrounds, they had one thing in common: Professor Ved Nanda.

The University celebrated Nanda's 50 Years of teaching at DU.

Former trustee and DU alumna Maria Guajardo (MA '85, PhD '88) said she didn't want to miss this momentous occasion. "I am here to celebrate Ved's accomplishments. Fifty years is absolutely stellar. I flew in from Tokyo to be here today."

David Schollenberger (JD, MBA '82), a former student of Nanda's, is still in awe of his lifelong teacher. "I flew over from London just for this. He's an amazing man and still going strong."

Nanda came to the University of Denver in 1965. The law school's dean at that time, Bob Yegge, wanted to build some new programs, and the law and

society movement was one of them. Nanda put international law and the study of human rights on the map.

"Ved brought not only international law but international law and policy and the sense of how do we teach the world that international law is important and that it has a major impact on our world," explains Douglas Scrivner, chair of the DU Board of Trustees.

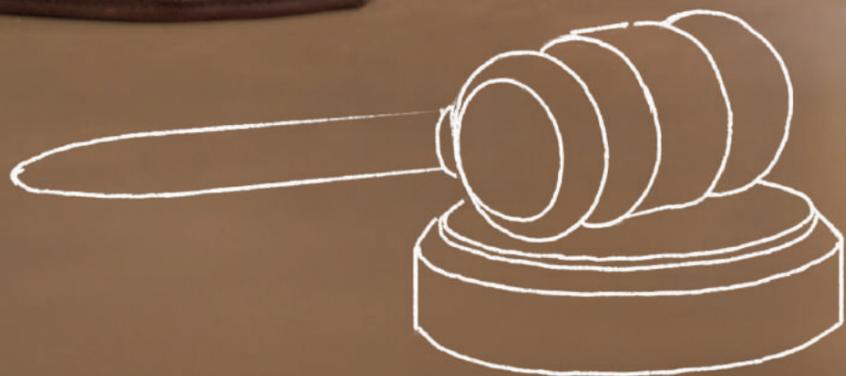
The Ved Nanda Center for International and Comparative Law was founded ten years ago at Nanda's 40th anniversary celebration, thanks to a generous \$1 million gift by Doug and Mary Scrivner.

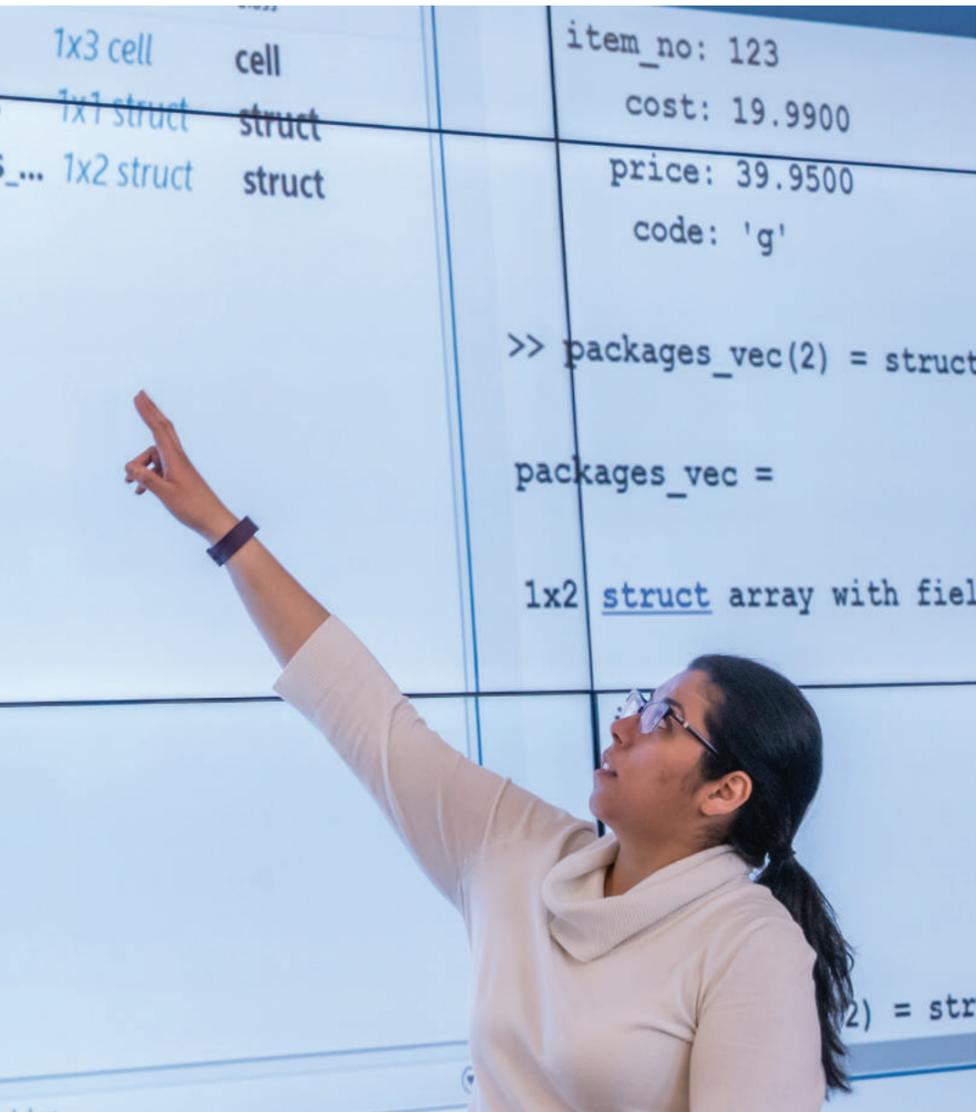
The mission of the Nanda Center is to promote international law scholarship. It does so by hosting signature programs like the Sutton Colloquium on International Law. At the event, guests and participants learned that Nanda's vision will continue through the creation of new initiatives such as the Business and Human Rights and Young Legal Scholars program for developing countries. □



# EDUCATING STUDENTS

At DU, we educate students holistically, collaboratively and imaginatively through engagement with others, experiential learning and immersion in global and inclusive practices. Through life-changing scholarships as well as physical and programmatic resources that enhance the student experience, philanthropy connects our students with that education for a lifetime of impact on our world.





## EMPOWERING WOMEN IN ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

After Maria Alford-Suehnholz graduated from DU in 1984 with a Bachelor's degree in Mass Communication, she took what seemed like the most logical next step: pursuing a career related to her major.

Against her own expectations, she fell into a completely different field several years later: Information Technology.

Maria decided to join the DU Parent Leadership Council, a committee of philanthropic DU parents, after her son enrolled

here in 2015. "When I realized that my son was going to attend DU, it meant a lot more than just me attending. At that point, I really felt like it was important for me to give back."

Maria knew that the construction of the new home for the Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science with its state-of-the-art facilities was sure to attract highly talented students. She wanted to add to the school's momentum.

"Because I work in IT, I'm very passionate about women in engineering. After seeing a lot fewer women in the field, I really felt like that was an area I wanted to help out in." She founded the Maria Alford-Suehnholz Scholarship Fund for Women to lift the financial barriers for women interested in engineering and computer science at DU.

The gift fits within the Ritchie School's five-year strategic plan. According to the school's dean, JB Holston, part of the school's mission is to work towards a more diverse student population and increase the number of women in these fields.

Maria hopes the scholarship will encourage more women to see themselves as future leaders in engineering and computer science and to not be deterred by what has traditionally been a male-dominated industry. She speaks from experience. It's been 30 years since Maria started her career in IT and she has not looked back: "It's a great field, and it's a great field for women." □

## A HOCKEY COMPLEX FOR TODAY'S STUDENT-ATHLETES

In spring 2018, DU will break the ice—on the new Miller Hockey Complex created to meet the athletic and academic needs of today's student-athletes. Designed by sports facility giant JLG Architecture, the new complex is a long-awaited feat made possible by the generosity of more than 140 donors, including 70 former DU hockey players and DU alumnus and board of trustee member John Miller. Miller and his wife, Sandra, are long-time supporters of DU athletics and see this as a pivotal move in sustaining the reputation and momentum of the Pioneer Hockey legacy.

From season ticket camp-outs and huge game day crowds to eight national championships, hockey has always played an important role in the life of DU students and alums. The \$2.4 million project is a huge

undertaking for DU athletics, which ranks as the #35 Division 1 athletic program in the nation, despite the fact that its competitors' budgets are on average four times greater.

Brandon MacNeill, Director of Athletics External Relations, stated that, "within this competitive landscape, DU has created a niche brand that produces exceptional academic performance from its student-athletes." The Miller Hockey Complex will facilitate academic, nutritional, community and social support that today's teams need to excel as student-athletes. This past spring, DU had the highest Academic Progress Rank among the Frozen Four teams, surpassing both Harvard and Notre Dame in academic team excellence.

"The combination of academic and athletic success at the

University of Denver is unparalleled nationwide," Miller said in a statement. "We, as alumni, must continue to support our student-athletes in both academic programs and athletic facilities. My family and I are pleased to support the hockey complex project as it further demonstrates the University of Denver's commitment to excellence."

The Miller Hockey Complex will nearly double the existing locker rooms, bringing the total footprint to 7,000 sq. ft. The Complex will include an improved locker area, an expanded lounge and nutrition area stocked with healthy food options, communal space and enhanced study areas. These changes will improve current players' overall health and well-being, and they also will aid DU in recruiting the best and brightest student-athlete hockey players in the country to join Pioneer Nation.

The Miller Hockey Complex will also have public features that showcase the rich tradition of Denver Hockey. The DU Hockey Wall of Fame will highlight great moments,

individual athletes and historical elements from throughout the program's storied history. In the fall of 2018, DU Hockey will be celebrating at least one new historic moment—the opening of the Miller Hockey Complex. □



Rendering of new Hockey Complex by JLG Architects

# WELLS FARGO SCHOLARSHIPS AIM TO CREATE DIVERSITY IN ATHLETICS

About seven years ago, DU Vice Chancellor for Athletics and Recreation Peg Bradley Doppes had a vision: to make available more funds to attract student-athletes of color and first-generation student-athletes to the University of Denver.

With that vision in mind, and in light of the University's ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusive excellence, DU's Assistant Vice Chancellor for External Operations Bob Willis reached out to his former employer, Wells Fargo. Willis says of the company, "I knew firsthand their commitment to diversity." Willis worked with Wells Fargo

to create scholarships that have benefited a number of DU student-athletes over the past several years.

"It's very important as an athletic department that we recruit people from a variety of backgrounds," Willis says. "We want to seek out the very best representing our university and teams and not have everybody out of the same mold. Wells Fargo endowments have helped us work toward that goal, and it's a win for the students and a win for the athletic department." Wells Fargo is one of several foundations that has established endowments at DU in support of students of color and first-generation students.

One important focus of the scholarships? To make sure the students graduate from DU.

"Several studies indicate that private colleges and universities generally do a better job graduating students of color partly because they offer smaller class size and more personal attention, and that was the selling point to the people at Wells Fargo," Willis explains. This past year, 93 percent of DU student athletes graduated. But the university is hoping for that number to hit 100 percent in the near future.

"Supporting these athletes helps eliminate obstacles that may be in the way of graduation, and for many of these students, the challenge is financial," says Pat Cortez, Wells Fargo community affairs manager. "We are proud to be a small part of the success of the minority athletes who are graduating from the University of Denver."



Lance Clem, a Media, Film, and Journalism Studies alum and longtime public policy advocate, established an internship program for future MFJS students through his estate upon his passing last year. The Clem Internship Program increases the available funds for paid internship credit – internships that are required for MFJS students. As Clem's surviving partner, Douglas Tippin, carried out his wishes, Julia Dacy received the first internship award. The senior strategic communication major utilized her award for an unpaid internship last summer in her hometown of Chicago. Since internships are required for strategic communication majors within MFJS, many students find themselves unsure how to afford an unpaid, credited internship. However, the MFJS Department and Clem Internship Program met that need for Dacy by funding the credit and tuition costs of her internship. The legacy of Lance Clem continues to impact DU students by offering them real-world opportunities to expand their education. "I would not have been able to accept this

internship opportunity without the Clem fund," said Dacy, "and I never would have gained the first-hand experience that I did without it."

As the first Clem Intern, Dacy was able to further her studies and accept an unpaid internship in Chicago with her high school alma mater's District Community Engagement Office. With a small office of only one employee, the office utilized Dacy's assistance in their media relations department to write blog posts, run the district's Instagram and Twitter accounts, update the content calendar for the summer and school year, pitch stories to media outlets, serve as the point of contact for the district publications and interact with various local media outlets. The hands-on experience allowed Dacy to take on bigger projects as an intern doing vital work for her local community. "My education really came full circle as I was able to return to the high school where it all began and reflect on my education as a senior in college," said Dacy. □

## THE FAMILY THAT GIVES TOGETHER

The first class of Hummel Scholars convened this fall at the University of Denver. The 47 recipients of this newly established scholarship fund each received substantial awards of \$5,000 or more this year and, if they remain in good standing, will continue to receive the awards each year until they graduate.

"It's always been a dream of my father's to give back," said Jennifer Hummel Ostenson. "Higher education was very important to him and he wanted to provide kids who wouldn't normally be able to go to college an opportunity to do so."

Ostenson, a successful banking executive who received her MBA at DU, along with her

brother, Robert C. Hummel II, who attended DU as an undergraduate, established the scholarship program in partnership with their parents, Dr. Robert "Bob" C. Hummel and his wife, Carole.

Dr. Hummel was co-founder of Animal Health International, one of the largest animal health distributors in the nation. When he sold his business two years ago, the family created a foundation to establish five similar scholarship funds at higher education institutions that had made a positive impact in their lives.

Ostenson hopes that DU students receiving the Hummel Family Scholarship enjoy the unique experience she had as a graduate student. "I really

appreciated the smaller class sizes. You had to be very engaged as a student. That's helpful for your career as well."

An early experience of her father's inspired the idea for the scholarships, said Ostenson. When he was a student at Ohio State University, a friend gave him \$200 to help with his education. In return, the friend encouraged her father to someday give back. Today, more than a hundred students across America are being supported, thanks to the family's generosity.

"This has been a really fun thing for our family to participate in," said Ostenson. "We look forward to many more years of being engaged in these students' lives." □



Scholarship recipient Haley Simental





UNIVERSITY *of*  
DENVER

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ADVANCEMENT