

NEWS FROM

# A STATE OF MINDS

The Campaign for West Virginia University

## Still time to donate as Campaign gifts near \$1.1 billion

Through March 31, alumni and friends have contributed \$1.099 billion to WVU's "State of Minds" private fundraising Campaign which runs through the end of this year.

While the \$1 billion goal was surpassed last August, WVU Foundation officials say now, more than ever, the University needs private donations because of the financial challenges it's facing.

Campaign donations thus far have established 746 student scholarships, 53 faculty chairs and professorships, and 207 funds to assist research efforts.

Foundation officials say 87,984 donors have given

364,827 gifts to the Campaign. This includes donations from 36,209 alumni. The largest percentage of donations to the Campaign, 50 percent, has come from individuals.

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If you have included WVU in your estate plan or are thinking of doing so and will be age 70 or older by December 31, 2017 (the end of the Campaign), your future support will count in the Campaign. Already, more than \$140 million in bequest intentions and planned gifts have been made through the Campaign. Contact Foundation Director of Planned Giving Matthew Clark, 304-284-4033, for more information.

For general information on how to support the Campaign, visit [www.astateofminds.com](http://www.astateofminds.com) or call the WVU Foundation at 800-847-3856.

## Reynolds \$10M gift to name main building at new WVU business school complex

Bob and Laura Reynolds have a history of giving back and making a difference through their philanthropy.

That was never more evident than earlier this year when it was announced that the Boston couple is giving \$10 million to the WVU College of Business and Economics. The gift will provide initial funding for a building at a new business school complex on Morgantown's waterfront, as well as propel other academic components of business education at B&E.

"About five years ago, we began talking with folks at the College of Business and Economics and the Foundation about B&E's vision for the future — and how we might be a part of that," Bob Reynolds said. "Now we've come together on a vibrant plan



Bob and Laura Reynolds

that will revitalize and transform Morgantown's waterfront. This is a plan we're proud to support."

To learn more about this project, including naming opportunities within the building, contact Luke O'Connell, assistant dean for development, College of B&E, 304-293-8888.

## WVU neurosurgeon and football team physician leaves lasting impact on community, honored with major gift

Dr. G. Robert “Bob” Nugent, one of the nation’s most respected neurosurgeons and a former physician for WVU’s football team, spent 43 seasons tending to the medical needs of Mountaineer football players and was one of the first neurosurgeons to treat patients in what was then the new University Hospital, now the WVU Health Sciences Center.

He served the University, most recently spending three mornings per week treating patients, without interruption from July 1961 until his death last November at age 95. Nugent left a positive impact on WVU Medicine colleagues, residents, interns

and students, as well as members of the football team and staff. He also had the same lasting influence on Dr. Harry Lowell, who trained as a neurosurgery medical resident under Nugent.



*Nugent*

In honor of Nugent’s passion for the Morgantown community and dedication to medical education, Dr. Lowell has made a \$1 million gift to the WVU School of Medicine’s Department of Neurosurgery to help create the G. Robert Nugent Chair in Neurosurgery. The gift will help reach the goal of \$1.5 million needed to establish an endowed chair position.

## Journalism alumna and veteran reporter honors mentors with endowed gift

As a young professional and a student at the P.I. Reed School of Journalism, now WVU Reed College of Media, Martha Smith, (BSJ, 1970) had some unforgettable mentors.

Legendary West Virginia sportswriter Mickey Furfari, his wife Betty, a columnist at The Dominion News, now The Dominion Post and beloved journalism professor Paul Atkins left such an impression on Smith that she is creating endowed scholarships in their names.

Smith’s planned gift will establish the Mickey and Betty Furfari Endowed Fund and the Professor Paul A. Atkins Endowed Fund. The money will provide scholarships to undergraduate students studying journalism at the College of Media.

## Homans create scholarship at Potomac State College

Former Keyser resident Charles “Skip” Homan and his wife, Nancy, recently established an endowed scholarship at WVU Potomac State College. Both Skip and Nancy attended the College from 1961-63.



*Nancy and Charles “Skip” Homan*

Having earned an associate degree from Potomac State and his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from WVU, Skip realizes the importance of a college education and desires to help others along the way.

Funds from the endowment will provide scholarships to full-time students enrolled at Potomac State who are majoring in engineering.

## Retired WVU professors establish scholarships to enhance student experience

Drs. Lynne and Andy Ostrow understand the value of education. As WVU faculty members, the duo each spent 35 years helping students achieve their dreams at the University. Now, they are taking that passion for education one step further by providing \$50,000 for scholarships at WVU.

The Ostrow International Achievement Award (\$25,000) will provide financial support to enhance study abroad and international travel experiences for undergraduate students in the College of Physical Activity and Sport Sciences (CPASS). Additionally, the funds may be used to support students' participation in faculty-led overseas travel.

"My dad was a world-wide traveler who instilled in me a passion for meeting new people from different cultures. It is my belief that the world is better served when walls are not built between nations, and to achieve this, it is essential that young people experience the values and cultures of those who live in other countries," said Andy Ostrow. "When I get off of a plane in another country, I feel energized and excited to learn about a new culture and its people. It is my hope that, through this scholarship, students will find that same passion and take advantage of the wonderful experiences provided by these cultural exchanges."

For Lynne Ostrow, helping graduate students balance the demands of work, academic study and personal life is critical. "During my 35 years of teaching – at both the undergraduate and graduate levels – I was always impressed with students who were studying to become Nurse Practitioners (NP). Many were doing this while continuing to work and raise families. The stress of all these demands must be overwhelming. That moved me to want to help future students. It is my hope that others will see this and say, 'She's talking about me' and want to also give back to help these future NP graduate students."

Through the Ostrow Graduate Student Scholarship at the School of Nursing (\$25,000), she hopes to reduce some of the stress for students pursuing their advanced nursing degrees by providing financial assistance for tuition, fees and books. If more financial

assistance is available, perhaps graduate students can reduce the number of hours they work to focus more deeply on their study.

Dr. Andy Ostrow, a native of Brooklyn, New York, began his career with CPASS in 1973 where he taught courses in research methods, statistics, foundations of sport and exercise psychology, and doctoral dissertation proposal seminar, among others, before retiring in 2008. He was the founding program coordinator for the sport and exercise psychology program at CPASS.



*Drs. Lynne and Andy Ostrow*

Dr. Lynne Ostrow, a native of Ottawa, Canada, joined the School of Nursing as a faculty member in 1973. Her teaching career focused on critical care nursing, advanced pathophysiology, research methods and guidance of graduate students' master's theses and doctoral dissertations. She served as chair of the Department of Health Restoration at the School before retiring in 2008 after 35 years of service.

## Alum and Visa executive contributes \$45K

College of Business and Economics alumnus William "Bill" Sheedy understands the importance of education and the opportunities WVU provides to students.

The Visa executive and his wife, Patricia, have made an additional gift to the William and Patricia Sheedy Endowment, established by the couple through the WVU Foundation in 2012. Part of their recent \$45,000 pledge will be matched by Sheedy's employer, Visa, Inc.

The endowment provides funding for the College to be used at the discretion of the dean for special initiatives like experiential learning through practice and application, lectures, and special programming for students and faculty.

Sheedy currently serves on the WVU Foundation Board of Directors.

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*A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia's University* | [www.astateofminds.com](http://www.astateofminds.com)  
WVU Foundation, Publisher | Bill Nevin, Editor

## College of Media receives largest planned gift in history

The Reed College of Media has received its largest planned gift ever.

A journalism alumna who wishes to remain anonymous has pledged \$700,000 to the College through a planned estate gift as part of the Campaign.

When the money becomes available, it will be used to support major journalism initiatives that provide students with both foundational skills in writing, reporting and research and new skills in emerging journalistic practice.

"We are very appreciative of the generosity of our donor whose gift will have a transformative impact on the College," said Dean Maryanne Reed. "Private giving is essential to support the good work of our students and faculty and the continued growth and success of our academic programs."

## Family honors late Davis College alumnus by creating endowed scholarship

When WVU alumnus Emery L. Prunty passed away in January 2016, the West Virginia agricultural community lost an invaluable educator and advocate.



*Prunty*

To honor him, his wife Sharon recently endowed the Emery L. "Bud" Prunty Memorial Scholarship to support students in the WVU Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design who are majoring in animal and nutritional sciences. First preference will be given to students who are West Virginia residents.

"He loved to learn. He loved going to school and he loved WVU," said Sharon Prunty, his wife of 57 years. "Education was very important to him and establishing this scholarship is a way of helping someone else and honoring him."