YOUR IMPACT

The OSU Foundation Endowment
July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021

Oregon State University Foundation
I’m pleased to share an update with you about the amazing ways your gifts to endowed funds are furthering Oregon State University’s teaching, research and outreach mission and advancing the work of our students, faculty and programs.

We are grateful to you for making the decision to give to an endowed fund, which allows your investment to make a difference for years to come. Donors to endowed funds will provide quality education to thousands of students, generation after generation. You will help OSU faculty respond to the challenges society is facing now and those that have yet to surface. And you also advance programs that will continue to strengthen communities throughout Oregon and beyond. We are deeply grateful.

During fiscal year 2021, the stock market experienced significant gains. Thanks to the smart decisions of our outsourced chief investment officer (OCIO), Agility, and the guidance of the sound investment policies set by the Foundation Board of Trustees’ Investment Committee, we were able to take advantage of the market and grow our endowment from $614.9 million on June 30, 2020, to $819.55 million on June 30, 2021. This represents a fiscal year investment return of 35.95% compared to our 31.24% benchmark. (Our benchmark is based on a portfolio with 80% global equities as measured by the MSCI All Country World Index [ACWI] and 20% Global Fixed Income as measured by the Barclays Global Agg.) Overall, since we began working with Agility five years ago, our annualized return is 12.85%. (Hear more from Agility at ForOregonState.org/Agility).

Most importantly, we were able to increase support to the university from our endowed funds, for a total of $22.3 million. This means that we were able to provide $1.4 million more than last year to support scholarships, faculty positions, programs and projects.

On behalf of everyone at the OSU Foundation and the many beneficiaries of philanthropy at OSU, I thank you for your continuing commitment to the university and the communities it serves. If you have any questions about this information, Pam Powell, Associate Director of Stewardship, will be happy to discuss your report with you. She can be reached at 541-214-4735 or Pam.Powell@osufoundation.org.

STEVE SCHAUBLE
Vice President and CFO
OSU Foundation
Endowment Impact and Growth
July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021

Endowment Payout
Funds disbursed from the endowment to expendable accounts, 2020-21

$22.3 million
Represents 4.00% of the OSUF endowment’s 12-quarter average market value

Creating Changemakers
Scholarships open doors of opportunity

Daisy Truong has always had a camera by her side. Still, when she switched majors from computer science to digital communication arts, she didn’t expect to become a filmmaker — much less that she’d be featured at a film festival while still an undergraduate.

The COVID-19 pandemic and experiences Truong had with OSU’s Asian & Pacific Cultural Center inspired her to create a docuseries called “I Am, But I Am Not.” The pilot episode was screened in March at the DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon. “I hope to showcase and amplify the diverse voices of my community,” she says, noting the rise in violence against Asians and Asian Americans that has come with the pandemic.

Donor support including the Edith McDougall Scholarship allowed Truong to explore her interests and develop her skills. Following graduation in June, she began an internship with Thesis, a digital agency in Portland. She plans to pursue a career in design.

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The Edith McDougall Scholarship was created through an estate gift of a 1930 Oregon State business alumna who served as secretary to the electrical engineering department for 35 years.

Scholarship Match
With help from a growing community of scholarship donors, Oregon State University graduated 45% more students in 2020 than in 2013, with low-income graduates increasing 17% during those years. That’s part of a bigger success story. OSU is part of a national consortium working to increase the number of low-income college graduates. Last June this group of 10 universities, called the University Innovation Alliance, announced that it has outpaced goals it set eight years ago.

OSU donors have created nearly three dozen new endowed scholarship funds through the Scholarship Match: a program launched in 2020 that provides $10,000 in scholarship resources to students for each new qualifying endowed gift of $50,000. Learn more: ForOregonState.org/ScholarshipMatch
Adapting with the Times
Programmatic funds pave the way for success

Mel George served as the inaugural Donald and Delpha Campbell University Librarian in the 1990s, when preparations were underway for the extensive expansion of the OSU library. Personal computers were still relatively new. In consultations about technology, Hewlett-Packard “already was talking about wireless — and that seemed impossible,” George recalls. “We couldn’t imagine that it would be possible to connect everything at the same time.”

After George retired, his family honored him by creating an endowed fund to support library priorities. Flash forward 24 years, and the pandemic hit.

By this time, the library had a laptop lending program, but as OSU shifted to remote learning and students left campus, access to laptops became even more important. Funds from the Melvin R. George and Family Endowed Fund purchased 27 new laptops: replacing aging models, allowing more students to be served and increasing the length of time laptops could be borrowed.

Whatever the future brings, endowed programmatic funds will continue to advance OSU’s highest priorities.

During his tenure as OSU University Librarian (1984-1996), Mel George advocated for and helped raise money for what became the Valley Library. The Marilyn Potts Guin Library was built at OSU’s Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport during his tenure as well.

Seeking Answers
Faculty support funds advance discovery

You won’t find a philosopher on the faculty of most forestry colleges. But the Ruth H. Spaniol Chair of Renewable Resources helped recruit Michael Paul Nelson to the OSU College of Forestry faculty in 2012. It was, he says, too great an opportunity to miss.

A philosopher by training, Nelson works at the intersection of ethics, ecology and social science, serving as the lead principal investigator for the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest Long-Term Ecological Research program in the Cascade Mountains. At this site, researchers work to understand the likely effects of climate change on the old-growth ecosystem biodiversity, while also exploring how values filter the use of science in land use decisions.

To Nelson, the Spaniol Chair has been a perfect fit. Why should a philosopher hold an endowed chair in renewable resources? Philosophers broker in ideas, Nelson observes: “our most important and our most renewable resource of all.”

The Ruth H. Spaniol Chair of Renewable Resources was created in 2003 by Spaniol, a 1933 OSU graduate who donated 800 acres of forestland to help the College of Forestry recruit and retain outstanding faculty.

“Students expressed heartfelt appreciation for the laptops provided through our loan program. For many, graduation would have been impossible without them. It is wonderful that we can rely on our endowed funds — including the Melvin R. George and Family Endowment — to meet urgent needs, thanks to our generous library supporters.”

—Margaret Mellinger, Head of Valley Library’s emerging technologies and services department

Provost’s Faculty Match
Oregon State University faculty are shaping the future:

• teaching and mentoring tomorrow’s leaders
• driving discovery and innovation
• promoting health, developing sustainable energy, caring for the natural world, increasing prosperity, advancing social equity and more

Now through the Provost’s Faculty Match program, donors who create endowed faculty funds with gifts of $250,000 or more will leverage matching funds for the college or unit where the position is based. Funded by the Office of the Provost at $2.5 million ($500,000 per year for five years), the program is one of several multi-year investments in Oregon State faculty. Learn more: ForOregonState.org/ProvostsFacultyMatch

“To donors of endowed faculty funds, I would say thank you. You have no idea what such a gift can do for an individual faculty member and the unit or units that they belong to — the rippling impact of such gifts is stunning. You should be very proud of such a gift.” —Michael Paul Nelson, Ruth H. Spaniol Chair of Renewable Resources

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