High-yield solutions

Fortified by philanthropy, the University of Minnesota aims to solve some of society’s greatest challenges. A $3.5 million gift from the CHS Foundation, for example, will help us find sustainable ways to feed our planet by expanding educational opportunities for tomorrow’s leaders in agriculture.

As you’ll discover in this report, innovative ideas are flourishing across the U, thanks to the 72,448 supporters who collectively donated $312 million last year to advance our work. Thank you for investing in a more prosperous future for everyone.

Eric Kaler, ’82 Ph.D., President

A commanding presence

It’s a long road from tending tobacco fields in North Carolina to being named the U of M’s 2016 homecoming marshal, but General Clara L. Adams-Ender, ’69 M.S., has always defied convention. The daughter of sharecroppers, Adams-Ender had a remarkable 34-year military career that included overseeing 22,000 nurses as chief of the Army Nurse Corps and being the first Army nurse to command a major Army base.

“The U was instrumental in my earning a master’s and moving on to executive positions,” says Adams-Ender, who recently committed a bequest of $2 million to support the dean at the School of Nursing.

Promoting success

John, ’67 B.A., and Nancy Peyton understand adversity. Twenty years ago, their son, Ben, suffered a life-altering spinal cord injury during a hockey game at age 17. Beating the odds, Ben was able to walk across the stage to receive his high school diploma just one year later. College and a successful career in finance followed. The experience reshaped the family’s outlook on life, inspiring his parents to establish scholarships in the College of Education and Human Development for students who’ve overcome obstacles of their own.

As they saw their scholarship recipients flourish, John and Nancy made a new $2.25 million commitment last January to create a chair, to be held by associate professor Clayton Cook, that will support research aimed at improving the lives of disadvantaged children.

On the cover: “Shelly” is the 47th and newest wheat variety developed by the U of M. Released in January 2016, the high-yielding spring wheat was named after the town of Shelly, Minnesota, located in prime wheat-growing country. The U has been developing wheat varieties since 1889.

Photo: University of Minnesota, David L. Hansen
Global leadership

Eric Jing’s $5 million gift to the Carlson School of Management made history this year: it was the University of Minnesota’s largest gift ever from China.

Jing, who is the president of Ant Financial Services and an alumnus of the Carlson School’s China Executive M.B.A. program, says he’s grateful for the experiences he had at the U and that his Carlson School education has made a lasting impact. “It helped me to expand on my horizon. It helped me develop my global mindset,” he says.

The gift will advance teaching and research, increase access to graduate programs, and establish a faculty exchange program. “The doors of the Carlson School will be open to more students from China,” says Sri Zaheer, the school’s dean, “and more academic exchange between our faculty and Ph.D. students and their researchers will strengthen business relations.”

A life’s work embraced at Morris

“The Extraordinary Book of Native American Lists” is how University of Minnesota Morris Rodney A. Briggs Library director LeAnn Dean describes a recent gift of books, articles, and scholarly materials that represent the life’s work of noted author, educator, and museum consultant Paulette Fairbanks Molin, ’66 B.A., ’75 M.A., ’87 Ph.D., UMM’s first Native American graduate. “The collection will greatly enhance our Native American holdings,” says Dean. “It represents a variety of topics—from children’s literature to history, culture, sociology, and education—that reflect Dr. Molin’s expertise and respected scholarship.” Molin, a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe from the White Earth Reservation, says her gift was motivated by a desire to help others know North America’s complex Indian history.

Care for kids who need it most

To advance care for abused and neglected children, the Otto Bremer Trust donated $2.5 million to the Center for Safe and Healthy Children at University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital.

It’s one of the largest donations ever made in the United States to address a public health crisis that now causes more childhood deaths annually than cancer.

The gift will provide needed care to kids in Minnesota and the region, help to train more doctors in child abuse pediatrics, and enhance the center’s telehealth capabilities. In recognition of the gift, the center is now called the Otto Bremer Trust Center for Safe and Healthy Children.

Thanks to gifts like this one, the University of Minnesota Foundation’s Vision 2017 campaign surpassed its goal last spring, raising more than $1 billion over nine years to advance medicine and promote health.

$94 million given for student support
Cultivating health

Generations of extreme poverty and the loss of traditional foods have resulted in poor diets for many Native Americans, leading to increasing and disproportionate rates of obesity, diabetes, and related health problems.

Last November, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) announced a $1 million gift to the U to fund three major projects to help improve nutrition in Native American communities. The gift is being made as part of the tribe’s Seeds of Native Health campaign.

SMSC is also a generous supporter of student scholarships and the new Bee and Pollinator Research Lab, a 10,500-square-foot facility being built on the U’s St. Paul campus.

Real-world learning

Mariam Salama (in blue scrubs above) doesn’t mind getting out of her comfort zone. So for four weeks last summer, she shadowed health care workers at a prenatal clinic in rural Uganda.

It was a perfect match for Salama, a junior at the Twin Cities campus majoring in physiology and global studies. Her internship was one of 18 experiential learning opportunities funded by the new Mulhollem Cravens Leadership Scholarship in the College of Liberal Arts. Thanks to the generosity of alumnus Paul Mulhollem and his wife, Valerie Cravens, the students each received $5,000 to pursue hands-on learning outside the classroom.

“There was something very beautiful and very intimate about being there at the moment of a child’s birth and participating in that,” says Salama, who aspires to be an obstetrician/gynecologist or neonatologist.

More than spin

Big discoveries can come from research in small places. One example: the field of spintronics, which explores the role of electron spin in solid-state physics. Distinguished McKnight Professor Jian-Ping Wang, holder of the new Robert F. Hartmann Chair in the College of Science and Engineering, leads an innovative program at the Center for Spintronic Materials. His group conducts pioneering research on nanomagnetic and spintronic materials, devices, and systems for energy-efficient information computing and storage and is at the forefront of developing materials for next-generation magnets. Wang’s research on spintronic devices also holds potential for breakthroughs in biomedical technologies such as personalized medical devices.

$39 million

given for research
and outreach that
make the world
a better place
2016 giving results

The following figures provide a summary of giving to the University of Minnesota in fiscal year 2016, which ran from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016. The $312 million raised in gifts and commitments was the second-highest total in University history, and the $214 million distributed to the U was the highest ever.

### University-wide fundraising results

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gifts, pledges, and other future commitments</td>
<td>$312 million</td>
<td>$351 million</td>
<td>$181 million</td>
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<td>Cost to raise a dollar (3-year average)</td>
<td>13 cents</td>
<td>13 cents</td>
<td>14 cents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distributions for University purposes</td>
<td>$214 million</td>
<td>$196 million</td>
<td>$108 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Minnesota Foundation endowment*</td>
<td>$2.0 billion</td>
<td>$2.0 billion</td>
<td>$1.4 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combined University endowments**</td>
<td>$3.3 billion</td>
<td>$3.3 billion</td>
<td>$2.3 billion</td>
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*Includes endowments of the University of Minnesota Foundation, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Foundation, and Minnesota 4-H Foundation

**Includes the University of Minnesota Foundation endowment and the University of Minnesota Consolidated Endowment Fund

### How the University’s second-highest giving total stacks up

Donors of 2016 gifts

Total: 72,448

This includes all donors to the U, with gifts ranging from $1 to $6.8 million.

- Alumni: 40,330 (56%)
- Other individuals: 28,261 (39%)
- Organizations: 3,857 (5%)

Purpose of 2016 gifts

Total: $312 million

The $312 million in gifts raised includes outright gifts, pledges, and future commitments.

- Academic program support*: $115 million (37%)
- Student support: $94 million (30%)
- Research and outreach: $39 million (12%)
- Capital improvements: $34 million (11%)
- Faculty support: $30 million (10%)

*Includes cross-disciplinary support, undesignated planned gifts, and support for campus programs

Types of 2016 gifts

Total: $312 million

- Cash and pledges: $191 million (61%)
- Future (estate and deferred gifts): $117 million (38%)
- Property and in-kind gifts: $4 million (1%)
The 2016 Report on Giving to the University of Minnesota was produced by the University of Minnesota Foundation, which tracks and reports gifts to all University campuses, colleges, and departments, including gifts made through affiliated foundations.

For a listing of 2016 college, campus, and unit fundraising results and links to highlights, visit give.umn.edu.

Boosting success at UMD: NCAA Division II All-American Emi Trost, No. 9, a junior at University of Minnesota Duluth and the 2016 Central Region Indoor Track Athlete of the Year, is just one of the talented student-athletes who have benefited from scholarship support provided by Dave Goldberg, ’57 B.A., the Bulldogs’ biggest individual booster. Committed to giving young athletes the chance to succeed academically and athletically, he has endowed multiple scholarships, including the new Goldberg Championship Scholarship Challenge, which aims to inspire others to support deserving students, too.