As donors, you have your own reasons for giving to the University. Perhaps it’s a way for you to acknowledge and remember a mentor who made a difference. Maybe you want to give other passionate people the opportunity for a tertiary education. It’s also possible that you are just the type of person who “puts your money where your heart is”.

Whatever your reason, we want you to know that your support of Macquarie University is helping to shape the future, growth and development of our society.

Thank You.
Vice- Chancellor’s Foreword

This year was another remarkable year for our University. On behalf of our entire community, I thank you for your continued support of our core missions: the creation of new knowledge through research and enquiry, and the use of that knowledge to educate our students and society.

Last year, 538 students completed higher degrees by research, adding their unique insights to existing academic expertise and developing our understanding of science and engineering, society and the arts, health and medicine, and the economies that help to drive our world.

Our research is meaningless if we do not pass on the discoveries we make to future generations, and empower them to build upon it. Through learning and teaching we equip our students with the skills and abilities they will need to tackle the challenges they will face in life.

None of this would be possible without you. Your enthusiasm for this University and its students is a source of inspiration for me and my colleagues. As we continue to grow, develop and explore the world around us, your support enables us to contribute to the continued prosperity of our country and communities.

With gratitude

Professor S Bruce Dowton
Vice-Chancellor and President
Growing awareness about the impact universities can have in making the world a better place has seen an increase in philanthropy, with donors realising that giving to education is an investment in our society’s future.

At Macquarie University, philanthropy gives us the power to achieve our full potential, and in 2016 an astounding 8,708 donors committed more than $13 million! This report is our opportunity to thank all our donors, alumni, volunteers and the wider community for their support over the past year. Your gifts have created opportunities that simply wouldn’t have happened without you. For example:

- our scholarship programs have helped hundreds of students, from all walks of life, receive financial support to ensure they could complete their studies.
- our Pocket Rocket program has inspired science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning in young girls aged 4-6. Feedback saw 100 per cent of caregivers and parents say that the workshops successfully encouraged their daughter’s interest.
- innovative technology was introduced, including a revolutionary new liposuction treatment to treat sufferers of lymphoedema.
- an education fund was established to support and encourage further learning for nurses at Macquarie University Hospital.
- art donations expanded our gallery, which now houses culturally significant Indigenous Australian artwork.
- our largest-ever donation was received and will give international students in China and Hong Kong the opportunity to study at the university.

This report captures a snapshot of the inspiring priorities we are pursuing, as well as the remarkable people who are leading the world in their fields of expertise. The richness and diversity of Macquarie University continues to amaze me, and it is a pleasure to celebrate these many achievements.

We thank all of you for your important contributions and appreciate every gift. Thank you for choosing to be a part of a pioneering community that seeks to make a difference.

Professor David Wilkinson
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Engagement and Advancement)
Everyday heroes fighting for a cure

MND RESEARCH DONOR UPDATES

For the people in these stories it is a personal connection with MND that gives them the motivation to fight against this disease. Thanks to their fundraising efforts, money they raised will go towards research and support for sufferers and their families.

Juliette Jones is not your typical teenager; she’s already on her way to changing the world. At just 11 years old, and profoundly affected by the loss of her grandfather to motor neurone disease (MND), she founded CSJ LeMoNaiD, a company that aims to find a cure by raising funds for MND research at Macquarie University.

Armed with a mission to “stop motor neurone disease in its tracks through the power of sour” and a recipe she created in her mum’s kitchen, Juliette began selling lemonade every Saturday at the Ramsgate Organic Foodies Market in Sydney. Her passion was infectious, and word soon spread of her inspirational efforts. Remarkably, her special concoction is now bottled by an Australian company and is available nationwide.

CSJ LeMoNaiD gives 100 per cent of its proceeds to Macquarie University and is currently helping to fund a Clinical Trials Coordinator position at the University, which will help research efforts immensely.

Juliette is an inspiration to anyone who thinks that they can’t make a difference. Now aged 14, she is a champion advocate for MND fundraising and research. “I’d like kids to become more aware of motor neurone disease,” Juliette explains. “It’s such a cruel, pointless disease and we’ll be the next generation to deal with it. It’s a scary thought – MND is becoming more and more prevalent and it must be stopped.”

"MND is becoming more and more prevalent and it must be stopped.”

- JU LIETTE JONES, CSJ LEMO NAID FOUNDER

TURNING LEMONS INTO LEMONAID – FIGHTING MND ONE DRINK AT A TIME

Opposite: Juliette Jones, CSJ LeMoNaiD founder
The Firefighters Climb for MND, held in October 2016, saw 446 firefighters participate, with a staggering $510,000 raised – an increase of 64 per cent from the previous, inaugural year. The climb, which challenges registered fires to climb 1314 stairs of the Sydney Tower Eye in their full 20-kilogram uniform, was initiated by firefighter Matt Pridham in honour of his best friend Adam Regal. In 2013 Adam was diagnosed with MND, the same condition that took the life of his father.

“Participation more than doubled in 2016 and the energy and vibe leading up to it was incredible,” he says. “The support and passion firefighters have shown in training, awareness, and fundraising for the climb truly shows that they’re in the fight with us, and that MND families are not alone.”

The partnership between Macquarie University and Fire and Rescue NSW was initiated to raise vital funds for research at the Macquarie University MND Research Centre. The Centre has a specialised, multidisciplinary team that seeks to better understand and ultimately beat MND.

Adam feels encouraged by the engagement they received in the climb’s second year. “What I found most impressive was that the 160 firefighters who did last year’s climb went out and met families fighting MND in their local community and built new friendships with them,” he says. “They told their colleagues about the event and what it was about. It was fantastic to see how passionate they were to make 2016’s event even bigger – before it had even started.”

Adam Marcus is your typical bloke – a friend, brother, son, cousin, husband and father. However, in March 2016 he was dealt a cruel blow when he was diagnosed with motor neurone disease (MND) and told he had a short life expectancy.

In the months after his diagnosis, friends and family rallied around Adam and his wife Alicia, and formed ‘Team Adz’, pledging to do everything possible to raise awareness and funds for research into MND.

Sophie Mitchell, Adam’s sister-in-law, was instrumental in putting the team together. “I created this trek out of pure fear,” she says. “For that Adam was going to be unfairly taken away from us, and there was nothing we could do about it.”

For their first mission, Team Adz was scheduled to complete a gruelling six-day trek along the Larapinta Trail in the Northern Territory in July 2017. The hike extends 223 kilometres along the backbone of the West MacDonnell Ranges in central Australia and is a tough physical challenge. The group know, however, that it is not nearly as challenging as the future Adam faces.

“I want to make MND known to my friends, colleagues, acquaintances and anyone that will listen. It’s a desperate attempt to find answers,” Sophie says. “I can see now that because of fundraising groups, MND is coming closer to being cured. I am extremely proud of the trek team for dedicating their hearts and souls to what this is.”

“This trek is one of the most important things I have ever done in my life. Adam is one of the most important people in my life, so why wouldn’t I fight for him?”
Donations save lives, support students

PAST APPEALS UPDATE

Donating to Macquarie University can have far-reaching impacts. One simple act of kindness can change the direction of a person’s life, or even save it. Academic scholarships give life-changing access to education to students limited by geography, disability or financial hardship, while donations to the University’s not-for-profit hospital fund research into treatments for cancer and other diseases.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Coming from a small, rural town in northern New South Wales, Miranda Wakefield wanted to be a teacher, but felt that her opportunities for a tertiary education were limited. The first person in her family to complete Year 12, Miranda’s only chance for university was to study for a Certificate III while working long hours for five years to support herself. Then in 2015 she received wonderful news: she had been awarded a scholarship to study a Bachelor of Early Education at Macquarie University. Scholarships like these support young Australians who would otherwise have no opportunity to attend university. For Miranda, it has also allowed her to focus all her attention on her studies, buy text books and become “a good role model for my sisters so that they may have a bright future too”.

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“Getting a scholarship boosted my confidence and made me feel like I can achieve anything,” she adds.

DONATIONS

Patricia Samios believes that she is alive today because of the diagnosis and treatment she received at Macquarie University Hospital. In 2012, Patricia noticed a rash on her breast that was initially brushed off by her GP as an allergic reaction to washing powder. A few weeks went by with no change so, following her gut feeling that something was not right, she got a referral to a specialist and had a mammogram. The shattering diagnosis was breast cancer. Patricia visited oncologist Professor John Boyages at Macquarie University Hospital who diagnosed inflammatory breast cancer, a form of the disease that spreads quickly and requires immediate action. After a PET scan, surgery was scheduled and she started 18 weeks of chemotherapy, followed by another five weeks of radiotherapy.

The PET scan Patricia received at Macquarie University Hospital was critically important in confirming the diagnosis, she says, and this medical imaging method is helping find otherwise undetected cancer in many other patients. Donations to the hospital help to support research in this area of medicine and allow it to acquire more technology. More people will survive this devastating disease because of the generosity of donors.

Today Patricia is in remission and has a new perspective on life. “I live every day to the fullest and feel thankful to the people who saved me,” she says. “I’m alive to tell the tale because I followed my instincts, and I received the best possible care at Macquarie University Hospital.”

“I live every day to the fullest and feel thankful to the people who saved me.”

- PATRICIA SAMIOS, CANCER SURVIVOR

“Getting a scholarship boosted my confidence and made me feel like I can achieve anything.”

- MIRANDA WAKEFIELD, SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT
Nurses are the lifeblood of the hospital system. They advocate for health promotion, educate patients and provide care, assistance and support. Their round-the-clock presence, observation skills, and vigilance help doctors to make better diagnoses and propose better treatments. Despite their importance, donations for nursing-related activities at Macquarie University have been relatively modest in recent years – until the last 12 months, when nursing causes have begun receiving the recognition they deserve and attracted major philanthropic gifts and corporate support. One notable beneficiary is the inaugural Breast Cancer Nursing Education Fund, set up by Peter and Sue Dodd through Macquarie University Hospital. Established in 2016, the fund will provide annual grants that give the hospital’s breast cancer nurses opportunities to boost their careers, skills and knowledge through further education. Grants of up to $2000 will be awarded to nurses who are enthusiastic about furthering their professional development and show promise in applying their knowledge to the care of breast cancer patients.

“‘We hope our donation will ultimately help to provide even more training opportunities for nurses.’”
- PETER DODD, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Donations to Macquarie University Hospital enable leading research into deadly diseases, support ongoing clinical training initiatives, and help specialty nurses enhance their skills. Together they help change lives, change communities and, one day, could change the world.
A cancer diagnosis is a frightening and life-altering event, yet with one in three Australians living with the disease, it is one that touches a significant part of the population. For those diagnosed, it is vital they can trust and feel confident they have the best health professionals on their case and will receive the latest and most effective treatment.

As the first private teaching hospital in the country to be co-located on a university campus, Macquarie University Hospital uniquely combines resources and research, enabling it to attract world-class specialists. The hospital also has access to highly sophisticated medical technology and equipment for use in cancer diagnosis and treatment.

“Macquarie’s Cancer Program is striving to be the very best – by getting the best staff, doing the best research and providing the best care for patients,” says Professor Rick Kefford, Head of Department, Clinical Medicine and Head, Cancer Clinical Program. “We want our patients to be treated the way we would expect to be treated if the roles were reversed – with compassion, dignity and respect.”

The hospital’s ground-breaking research is made possible by donations from corporate sponsors and members of the community. “With such a high incidence of cancer in our society, people donate to cancer research because they have been personally touched by it,” says Professor Kefford.

Grants also allow the hospital to run other highly specialised programs such as ALERT – the Australian Lymphoedema Education, Research and Treatment study. The multidisciplinary ALERT program provides up-to-date information and education for lymphoedema patients, their families and health professionals. It undertakes research into the causes of lymphoedema and develops strategies to manage and treat the condition, which causes large amounts of fluid to pool in parts of the body, leading to painful swelling, infection and other difficulties for patients. ALERT also improves patients’ lives. ”Lymphoedema patients are desperate,” says Professor John Boyages, head of ALERT. “They’ve had their disease treated and they are now suffering. At MQ Health, we’ve created a centred culture that is about individual, personalised care. We’re interested in healing, learning and discovering.

“There are stories out there of pain and despair – we need to get to the bottom of this disease. We need to find how we can prevent it and how we can cure it.”

Anna, a sufferer of lymphoma, developed the condition after she had her lymph nodes removed during treatment for cancer. After living with the debilitating swelling that lymphoma sufferers experience, Anna came to the program in the hope she could find some relief. She took part in a revolutionary liposuction treatment that was pioneered in Sweden and brought to Australia by Dr Helen Mackie, a consultant who works for the program at Macquarie University Hospital. Anna had the surgery and hasn’t looked back. “It’s been an honour to be involved with the surgery and to be part of the environment at MQ Health. “They are world-class,” she says. “When I could go and buy a pair of boots again, I felt like I had won the lottery.”

This work has been expanded thanks to the generous donations from sponsors BSN Medical and Haddenham Healthcare. These grants, and other donations to the University, are proven to help patients by providing funds for research, technology, education and support. “I can’t think of a better thing that you could do with your money, or a better thing to invest in than medical research,” says Professor Kefford. “Five years ago, I would have said ‘no, there is no possibility that we can beat cancer’. I now believe that it is absolutely possible. It requires all of us working together, as a community, to ensure that the people we love and who are in our care, don’t die from this disease.”
FUELLING LEARNING IN GIRLS

Studies show that from as early as age one, girls receive less informal science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education than boys. A substantial portion of the nation’s potential in ideas and innovation is therefore being lost with this social message suggesting that these fields are not suitable for them.

According to an economic study by Goldman Sachs, Australia’s gross domestic product would increase by 11 per cent if the gender gap in STEM learning was closed.

To help address this problem, Macquarie University’s Pocket Rockets program has developed STEM workshops for girls between the ages of four and six, and their parents. The aim is to promote interest in the disciplines among girls who are just about to enter formal schooling.

“We want to encourage them in the belief that they can participate in maths, engineering, science and technology, and hopefully fuel a desire to participate in these studies throughout their scholastic life,” says Dr Carol Newall, the program’s chief investigator and a lecturer in the Department of Educational Studies.

While the University acknowledges the need to improve girls’ school readiness and engagement in STEM education, it also seeks to encourage parents to maintain their daughters’ enthusiasm and help develop their skills in both formal and informal educational settings.

At the workshops – which are open to all children but which have an emphasis on girls – participants experiment with robotics, program puzzles, construction and other exciting activities. Younger girls also benefit from a role-model program, where girls from Years 5 and 6 act as mentors during the workshops. The youngsters can then be inspired by older kids of the same gender, while the University can gather useful evidence about whether being a role model in the program leads to greater persistence and involvement in STEM education in later years at school.

The program has recently received generous support from the St George Foundation and Ian Potter Foundation, both of which recognise the importance of inspiring and supporting young girls. Donations like these are critical for Pocket Rockets’ ongoing viability. All profits go to free workshops for disadvantaged children, as well as STEM-related research in early childhood.

As part of their research, facilitators at the workshops administered surveys to those involved, with 100 per cent of caregivers and parents reporting that the workshops helped develop their child’s interest in STEM. A substantial majority of the children (86.6 per cent) reported feeling more excited about STEM after the workshops, and there was an increase in children’s aspirations to become ‘scientists’, rising from 78 per cent before the workshops to 79 per cent at the conclusion.

“We hope to encourage their sense of leadership, belonging and identity in the field.”
$2 Million
Donated to
the Hong Kong
Mobility Fund

The Hong Kong Mobility Fund, which provides scholarships for Chinese students studying at Macquarie University, has been given a massive boost with a $2 million donation.

The fund offers promising students in China and Hong Kong the opportunity to study for their chosen degree at Macquarie – an opportunity that might otherwise have been out of reach.

“Studying abroad, for all or part of a degree, has immeasurable benefits, providing students with greater comparative learning, an openness to diversity and a well-rounded learning experience,” says Vice-Chancellor Professor S Bruce Dowton. “It’s incredibly important to us that students from around the world are able to study and learn at Macquarie, and scholarships like these play a key role in making this possible.”

The donation, which is the biggest the University has ever received, was made by Mr Li Sze Lim, a successful businessman and philanthropist from Hong Kong. He is strongly committed to community service and has generously contributed to education, public health, law enforcement, elderly care, poverty reduction, improvement of transportation and international cultural exchanges.

Funds from the $2 million endowment will be put directly into the program. Commenting on the generous grant, Professor Dowton said: “Donations like this are an important enabler of study, and the generosity of Mr Lim is unparalleled in our 50-year history.”
Throughout her life, Doris Wallent, a long-time tutor at Macquarie University, encouraged women to study mathematics. She wanted to continue to support and encourage students to pursue their interests in maths so when she passed away in 1996, Doris left a bequest in her will that provides $1000 every year to a student who shows excellence in mathematics. Audrey Markowskei is the 2016 beneficiary of this bursary and says that winning the prize has greatly increased her confidence and led her to undertake a research degree in mathematics. “I’m very grateful for the recognition and financial assistance it has provided,” she adds. “I believe it’s been fundamental in setting me up on my career path.”

Fulfilling Doris’s wish to inspire a love of maths in others, Audrey also works as a tutor to first-year students at the University. “As a PhD candidate, I can share my love and passion for mathematics with undergraduates who are enrolled in a variety of science-based degrees,” she says.

Originally from Tibet, Lobsang Ngodup fled the country with her parents in 1993. They were facing terrifying persecution under Chinese rule as her mother, a nun, was being intimidated and under constant surveillance due to her religion, and her father, a nomad, found the lack of racial rights for Tibetans (including oppression of language, traditions and religion) devastating to their way of life.

When opportunity arose, Lobsang and her family fled to India, finally arriving in Australia as a refugee when she was eight years old. Despite this difficult start, and despite English being her second language, Lobsang beat the odds and shone at school. However, with ongoing family duties, including looking after her two sisters and needing to work to support ill parents, university studies seemed an unrealistic prospect.

“Scholarships have allowed me to find out who I am.”

Raised in rural New South Wales, Danielle Malone was the first person in her family to finish Year 12. But tertiary education seemed an unreachable goal: she hadn’t received the required marks, and it was too expensive for her to consider studying in Sydney. Encouraged by her Indigenous studies teacher, Danielle learned about the Warawara Alternative Entry Program, which is a scheme run by Macquarie University that provides opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to gain a spot in an undergraduate course. The program offers students the chance to study, while the Macquarie University and Dunmore Lang College (DLC) Indigenous Incentive Scholarship provides a scholarship that makes it all possible.

The scholarship is awarded to Indigenous students looking to study away from home throughout their tertiary education. It offers a fully funded standard room at DLC for up to four years of an undergraduate degree. Danielle met the necessary criteria, including demonstrating her potential to excel, and was invited to study for her chosen degree (initially a Bachelor of Education, but later finding a Bachelor of Business Leadership and Commerce resonated better with her career goals) at Macquarie.

“Scholarships have allowed me to find out who I am,” says Danielle, who believes she now has greater control over her own future. “It hasn’t just affected me, it’s benefited all the people around me. I’ve become passionate about helping other students to have the experience I’ve had. With so many opportunities for regional, rural and Indigenous students, Macquarie offers a lot more support than many other universities.”

“Scholarships have allowed me to find out who I am.”

DANIELLE MALONE

AUDREY INSPIRED TO KEEP STUDYING

OVERCOMES ADVERSITY

LOBSANG NGODUP

ANNUAL REPORT 2016
Aboriginal woman Taylor-Jai McAlister enrolled in a Bachelor of Psychology at Macquarie University hoping to become a clinical psychologist – and to give back to the Indigenous community she grew up in.

In 2016, she received the Australian Rotary Health (ARH) scholarship, which supports the tertiary education of a student who seeks to improve the health of Indigenous people.

The grant meant that an all-important financial barrier was broken for Taylor-Jai and she could fully commit to helping those in need. While her interest is in mental health and wellbeing counselling, she is particularly passionate about working with the Deaf.

“In Australia, only a few psychologists can communicate with the hearing impaired in their first language - Auslan,” she says. “This negates access to the Deaf for mental health services and, as a result, there’s been a worrying increase in suicide among this community. I not only want to help this vulnerable demographic, but also support the wider society.”

Along with her degree, Taylor-Jai is studying a certificate in Auslan, and has enrolled in TAFE to study the Wiradjuri language.

She says that the scholarship means she can realise her passion for learning and helping others, and help “break the cultural barrier that exists for Indigenous Deaf people who are trying to access mental health services”.

The Gillian Bottomley Award is the newest scholarship to be offered at the University, and is named after a cherished professor who passed away in 2016.

Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and Comparative Sociology, Professor Bottomley had worked in both fields for more than 30 years, and her research and publications were widely published. Over the course of her career Professor Bottomley had held positions as a lecturer, senior lecturer and professor at Macquarie, where she also completed her PhD in Greek migration.

“She pioneered the ethnographic study of immigrant Greek communities in Australia by focusing on the intersections of gender, migration and class, but also brought together, in her study of Greek music and dance, the politics and embodied histories that continue to connect migrants in Australia with their country of origin,” explains Kalpana Ram, Associate Professor in Anthropology.

The award was established by Professor Bottomley’s daughter to honour her late mother’s memory, and will be awarded to an Arts student who demonstrates a keen interest in anthropology or sociology.

Associate Professor Ram believes the scholarship is just recognition for the late, esteemed professor. “It’s deeply meaningful to name an anthropology scholarship after this pioneer of Australian anthropology, and ensures that her legacy will be long remembered by those new to the discipline,” he says.

The grant will first be awarded mid-2017.
For the past seven years, the Skipper-Jacobs Charitable Trust has been providing travel scholarships for PhD students and early career postgraduate researchers to attend international conferences. It also allows PhD students from the Departments of Biomedical Sciences and Clinical Medicine to enhance and gain new perspectives on their research work by visiting renowned research institutes and laboratories.

In October 2016, recipient Dr Emily Don travelled to Singapore for the International Zebrafish Disease Models conference. Emily is investigating the biological triggers that cause motor neurone disease (MND) and testing new therapeutic treatments that could help people with the deadly neurological condition.

“An ongoing problem with MND research is the lack of effective animal models in which to investigate the disease,” Emily says. “My overall aim is to change this by rapidly generating robust zebrafish models of MND to investigate the biological triggers, with a long-term goal being that these models will be used to screen and test new, effective treatments for patients.”

At the conference, Emily gave a “flash talk” of her research, which led to a queue of people wanting to ask her questions.

In addition, other emerging researchers made requests to work with her on collaborative projects. She also visited the Winkler lab at NUS where she met other researchers and discussed interactions between motor neurons and cells.

Emily believes that the scholarship and subsequent trip to Singapore came at an important point in her studies, and has been pivotal in her career development. She has been able to broaden her horizons and make connections around the globe that positively impact her research. All of this would not have been available to her without the support of the Skipper Jacobs Charitable Trust.

“I was able to establish relationships with eminent zebrafish laboratories in the Asia-Pacific. These strong local connections complement the associations I’ve previously fostered in America, and I’m very excited to see where these collaborations lead over the coming months and years.”

As a child, Hong Kong-born Victor Lee harboured dreams of studying medicine overseas. However, in his final years of school, his mother lost her job, which meant there was no money for him to study abroad.

Just missing out on getting enough marks to study medicine, he enrolled in a Bachelor of Engineering at Hong Kong University, where during his first year he learned about the Dennis Sun scholarship offered by Macquarie University.

Instituted by Dr Dennis Sun, a businessman who holds a distinguished record of public and community service in both China and Australia, it is the largest ever full scholarship to be established at Macquarie University. It provides a full international scholarship to one exceptional student from a Hong Kong College who applies for an undergraduate course at Macquarie University. Successful candidates must demonstrate a variety of attributes including academic merit, proficiency in English, outstanding character and active participation in their school or community.

For Victor, being awarded the scholarship to study a Bachelor of Advanced Science majoring in biomolecular and chemical sciences has been life-changing. “Without the scholarship, it wouldn’t have been financially possible for me to study medicine, or enrol in any postgraduate studies in a related field.”

It also means Victor can focus wholly on his studies without worrying about the financial burdens of living away from home. “Without Dr Sun and his generosity, I would never have had the chance to pursue my dreams. I certainly hope to make him, and Macquarie University, proud.”
Original alumni Doug Sutherland gives back, to help others

$150,00

Donated to the Vice-Chancellor’s Fund

Donations to the Vice-Chancellor’s Fund have wide-reaching effects and, by funding a diverse range of activities and initiatives, support the whole Macquarie University community.

The Vice-Chancellor’s Fund helps Macquarie University continue to award scholarships, embark on new projects to improve the student experience and undertake first-class research to tackle the world’s challenges.

For Doug Sutherland, the fund was the perfect recipient of his recent $150,000 donation. “My constant philosophy in relation to gift-giving is that I donate with no strings attached,” he says. “Institutions like Macquarie University are better at knowing their affairs than I am, and will know how to use the money in the best way possible.”

Mr Sutherland is an alumnus, former Lord Mayor of Sydney and a well-known philanthropist. He enrolled at the University in 1967, its first year of operation and he was the grateful beneficiary of a Commonwealth scholarship that paid for his fees and textbooks. Since his days at Macquarie, he has built an impressive career that’s seen him contribute hugely to the city of Sydney. A certified accountant, he has sat on a number of arts and government committees, held positions at many local government commissions and been a board member for Sydney Electricity (now Energy Australia) and the NRMA. In 1980, he was elected Lord Mayor of Sydney, an office he held for seven years.

Looking back, Mr Sutherland reflects that it was his scholarship all those years ago that helped him become one of the most influential people in the city, which in turn enabled him to serve his community. “After years of working in governments and organisations, I know they never have enough money to meet the demands on them,” he says. “Donations for education help to encourage students and support the University’s priorities.”

The Vice-Chancellor’s Fund has supported a variety of groundbreaking initiatives. These include the “Buy a Seat” program, which encourages people to make a donation to the University by way of sponsoring a seat in a lecture theatre. Workshops on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) have been held in rural towns, empowering and providing access to these disciplines for students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to discover where science can take them.

The fund also helps remove barriers to tertiary education for people who are disadvantaged, including Lobsang Ngodup, a recent recipient of a Vice-Chancellor scholarship. Lobsang is a refugee from Tibet and is now studying business at the University.

When Macquarie’s pioneering ethos is supported by generous alumni and friends, the possibilities for growth are limitless.

“My constant philosophy in relation to gift-giving is that I donate with no strings attached... Macquarie University are better at knowing their affairs than I am, and will know how to use the money in the best way possible.”

- DOUG SUTHERLAND, MACQUARIE ALUMNUS AND DONOR TO THE VC FUND
Building dreams
SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF STEM LEADERS

THE CHI WAH ROBOTIC INNOVATION CENTRE
Establishing a relationship between the science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM) innovators of tomorrow is just one benefit of the new Macquarie University Robotic Centre.

Supported by the Chi Wah Foundation, the multi-million-dollar robotics centre is being built in China’s Fuzhou Province thanks to a generous donation from Chinese businessman Dr Colin Lam. It will be a place for children from Chinese provinces who generally don’t have access to state-of-the-art technology to learn about robotic design and construction, and ultimately manufacture and test their own robots.

Endowments such as Dr Lam’s work towards inspiring the next generation of visionaries, with the new centre opening its facilities to a different school every week. Children will build competition-standard robots, with participating schools duelling in a robotics competition that will see the winners competing at national and international contests.

Curriculum, administrative and technical support will be provided by Macquarie University. Vice-Chancellor Professor S Bruce Dowton says it’s an opportunity for the University to gain experience in STEM education in a different culture. “It’s also about building brand and reputation in that region of China.”

Exceptional students from China will be invited to travel to Australia, and Australian students to China, to share, learn, create and inspire their peers. Students who demonstrate excellence in engineering will gain preferential access to apply for Macquarie University undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Science and Engineering – providing an opportunity that could change a life.

Donations such as Dr Lam’s open doors for children to thrive, and potentially become leaders in the STEM field.”
Cyber security is a major challenge for business, government and societies around the world. One-third of Australian businesses have experienced cybercrime, resulting in business disruption, loss of information and revenue, as well as damage to reputation and even equipment. To address these issues, Macquarie University has partnered with Optus to create the Optus Macquarie University Cyber Security Hub.

Launched in August 2016, this multi-disciplinary network provides expertise and leadership in cyber security. The $10 million joint investment offers a platform for exchange between academics and practitioners from business and government. It aims to meet the growing market and demand for cyber security expertise among new graduates as well as existing employees in learning new skills.

The Cyber Security Hub promotes five interdisciplinary research areas: secure systems and software, big-data technologies and approaches, risk management and modelling, law and cybercrime, and finally organisational and human factors. Drawing on the expertise of more than 30 leading researchers in computing, engineering, business and finance, risk modeling, security and criminology and law and human behaviour, the Hub catalyses multi-disciplinary projects that will address the major, real-world challenges and commercial opportunities set out by our partners from government and business.

The agreement came in the wake of the government’s 2016 $131.1 million Cyber Security Strategy, which aims to defend Australia from foreign cyber-attacks, by sharing threat information between business and government.

“Organisations . . . need to have a fully integrated approach to cyber-security, involving all staff training, management buy-in, effective technology solutions and knowledge of today’s cyber-threats,” explains John Paitaridis, Optus Business Managing Director.

“Cyber attacks become one of the defining issues of this decade.”
- DAVID WILKINSON, DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR

“The hub addresses all these [concerns], providing businesses and government agencies with a unique and unparalleled cyber-offering to help them navigate a complex landscape.”

“And these initiatives will support the wider expansion of cyber security training in organisations to better secure and protect their networks and infrastructure.”

“Cyber security has become one of the defining issues of this decade, which is why Macquarie University was one of the first in the country to establish a dedicated policing, intelligence, and counter-terrorism degree,” Professor Wilkinson says.

“Cyber attacks become one of the defining issues of this decade.”
- DAVID WILKINSON, DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (Corporate Engagement and Advancement) at Macquarie University, believes it’s a “perfect collaboration” because education will be key to the success of the government’s cyber strategy and is the cornerstone of any cyber security program.

“The opportunity to partner with Optus, an organisation that deals with cyber threats and challenges on a daily basis, was something we welcomed,” he says. “It enables us to improve cyber security education at all levels – from the C-level executive through to every employee.”

In addition, Professor Wilkinson adds by collaborating with industry to tailor its study programs, the University can give students a head-start in their careers, placing them at the top of Australia’s cyber security talent pool.

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Enriching the cultural lives of our community

ART DONOR UPDATE

University galleries enrich the cultural environment and ensure graduates develop as fully rounded individuals, with a balanced education that includes knowledge of the arts.

Thanks to generous art donations, Macquarie University has a gallery that also makes an important contribution to the Australian cultural dialogue.

Pat Corrigan has spent the past 40 years developing and managing successful businesses in the freight industry while being a leading philanthropist – and donating considerable funds and works of art to institutions around the country.

Macquarie University Art Gallery is one benefactor of this generosity. The artist Alan Jones who Pat has lent support kindly gifted his portrait of Pat titled Corro, which was a finalist in the 2013 Archibald Prize.

Pat says he donates to galleries like MUAG because he finds it enjoyable and he likes helping people.

“There is a sense of achievement in collecting and donating art. It’s also a means of helping the artists themselves, and that is very important to me.”

Corro was unveiled in December 2016 at the Donor Artwork Exhibition Launch at the University. The exhibition acknowledged the ongoing generosity of the benefactors, and artists like Patrick, who continue to enrich the Macquarie University Art Collection.

Universities have acknowledged their responsibility as agents in building civic responsibility and social capital, and helping communities to better understand and celebrate their cultural heritage.

Philanthropic support is vital for the continued development of the gallery, which offers regular, changing exhibition programs, as well as the Macquarie University Sculpture Park. The works are used in both learning and research, as well as to engage students, staff, visitors and the wider community.

“‘There is a sense of achievement in collecting and donating art.’”

- PAT CORRIGAN, ART DONOR
“We are lighting a path to a better world. By sharing today’s discoveries with the next generation, and empowering them to build on that knowledge, we can build a brighter tomorrow together.”

- PROFESSOR S. BRUCE DOWTON, VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT
As a philanthropist and avid supporter of Indigenous culture, Maria Vyalkova’s donations to leading charities and galleries are testament to her passion for the Indigenous arts in Australia. Currently completing a Master of Applied Finance at Macquarie University and working with institutional clients at UBS Asset Management, Russian-born Maria also has a mission to broaden the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal art in the community.

She actively supports Macquarie University Art Gallery’s education program, and has donated important collections of Indigenous art for students and visitors to the University to view, study and explore. She collects pieces from Aboriginal communities of the Western and Central Desert areas, as well as carefully selecting and commissioning rare artworks by leading artists from these regions.

“What attracted me to Indigenous art was that it’s unique, bright and erratic,” Maria says. “Being brought up in Russia, my family often visited art galleries and I used to get bored looking at traditional art. A lot of it was predictable. I craved to see something that wasn’t easily explained.”

On her first trip to Canberra after moving to Australia in 2003, she saw a dot-painting by Emily Kame Kngwarreye on a wall in Parliament House. “I thought, ‘Wow! That’s amazing.’ It was both hypnotic and full of energy.”

She has since channeled the inspiration she gained that day into collecting an impressive variety of work that she donates to small galleries where they can be truly appreciated. “Smaller art galleries like Macquarie University’s are thrilled to get something that might be classified as minor by the National Gallery of Australia, London’s British Museum or the Musée du quai Branly in Paris,” says Maria. “These larger museums will mostly put their donations in the basement, never to see the light of day.”

For Maria, the benefits of such donations are clear. “Collections of significant works by major artists have brought rewards which, over time, have lured the attention of the broader community.”

“Check out the paintings by Lily Kelly Napangardi at Macquarie University Art Gallery.”

- MARIA VYALKOVA
Prashan Karunaratne is an alumni member, student, lecturer and donor. He reveals what Macquarie University means to him and why he wants to give back.

“I want to reach and influence the world by... empowering them to think for themselves.”

- PRASHAN KARUNARATNE

“After 14 years, I still can’t believe I call my job work. For me it’s not work when it’s something I’m so passionate about,” Prashan Karunaratne says.

Macquarie University has had a seminal influence on the former undergraduate student, lecturer in Macquarie’s Faculty of Business and Economics, and current PhD student. Prashan is researching how economics is both taught and learned, with particular focus on first-year economics units and methods of transforming the economics curriculum.

Prashan began teaching while completing his honours degree, and immediately received positive feedback from his students and peers. Realising the transformative potential of being an educator, he decided then that he would pursue it as a career.

“To me teaching is not about imparting knowledge from oneself to a student,” he says. “It’s about equipping the student with the tools for alternative ways of thinking. I want to reach and influence the world by changing students’ mindsets and empowering them to think for themselves.”

Having been a global citizen from an early age – as a child he lived in Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Fiji and Australia – he believes he has been able to connect with people from all academic and cultural backgrounds.

His teaching style, he says, has been influenced by peers in the Department of Economics. “I’ve taken elements of best-practice from each of my colleagues and I bring their experiences and expertise to my teaching platform,” Prashan says.

“My primary mentor would be Associate Professor Sean Turnell, who’s known by generations of students to be explicitly and unashamedly enthusiastic!”

Sean has shown Prashan that if you exhibit passion for your field, then naturally your students will be excited and motivated to learn, he adds.

In 2016, his first PhD chapter was published in the Education and Training journal. He’s recently completed the second chapter and hopes to have the third and final one done by the end of this year. He is also developing a pedagogy philosophy course with the Learning and Teaching team which they hope to launch to a global audience.

As a student who became a lecturer, Prashan is deeply committed to the University and actively seeks ways to give back to its community. An opportunity to honour his students resonated with him, so he made the decision to donate to the Vice-Chancellor’s Fund. The fund supports the University’s priorities, including establishing new scholarships, strengthening vital research and creating new learning programs.

“To give a student the opportunity to sit in these lectures and access education they may otherwise not get is very important to me,” Prashan says.

“Whatever connection you have, or have had, with Macquarie University – student, alumni, academic staff or professional staff – it leaves you with the feeling that you’re part of an institution that is actively seeking to impact and influence the world for the better.”
Illuminating the past
ANCIENT ISRAEL PROGRAM GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Through generous funding, the Ancient Israel program is helping students transform our understanding of the world, and make their mark on history.

Rather than simply reading about events or studying static objects, students who want to understand ancient cultures should be immersed in the past, says Dr Gil Davis, Director of the Program for Ancient Mediterranean Studies at Macquarie University.

Dr Davis refers specifically to the Ancient Israel program that has attracted widespread interest since its inception four years ago. The recent appointment of specialist lecturers in archaeology, language and literature has seen the program grow substantially in 2016, with 216 students taking units and 21 travelling to Israel on archaeological digs.

Thanks to financial support from sponsors and donors, institutional support from Macquarie University and collaboration with Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Ancient Israel program now offers an array of immersive educational opportunities for students, school teachers and the wider community.

Linda Dwyer, a regional teacher from New South Wales, is one beneficiary. As part of the Ancient Israel scholarships program, she travelled to Israel after being awarded a Teacher Education Scholarship. Although she had taught her students about Ancient Israel for more than 10 years, she thought she would never have the chance to travel to the region.

“We teachers don’t often have the opportunity to reflect on our practice and enhance our understanding with a personal perspective,” Linda says.
As a volunteer at the Tel Azekah archaeological dig, she helped excavate everything from monumental architecture – including the city’s wall – to domestic artefacts. While the work was difficult and at times physically challenging, it reaffirmed Linda’s passion for the subject matter.

“What I found most heartening was that I understood what was going on at the dig. I understood the processes, what we were looking for, and why we were working in a particular manner. It reinforced for me that I’ve been teaching archaeology the right way. I could transfer the experience directly into the classroom and engage my students with first-hand knowledge.”

Student and PhD candidate Lyndelle Webster is another beneficiary. Her masters research project into dating artefacts at the Tel Azekah site in Israel was supported by funding from donors Dr Tom and Christine Wenkart and Dr Frank and Karen Wolf. Dig directors entrusted her with dating work on the entire site, which has the potential to help reinterpret the chronology of the whole Southern Levant region.

“I could transfer the experience directly into the classroom and engage my students with first-hand knowledge.”

- LINDA DWYER, RECIPIENT OF THE TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Roth family are among the many benefactors of the Ancient Israel program, and their generosity funded the Roth Schools Outreach Fellowship. Its recipient Dr Eve Guerry is developing comprehensive, free, online information for teachers and students. The development of these resources has helped persuade the Board of Studies to include Ancient Israel in its new Ancient History curriculum.

The Ancient Israel Program continues to be a source of pride for Macquarie University. “The generous support of the Education Heritage Foundation and the wider donor community has been crucial in the development of this program,” says Vice-Chancellor Professor S Bruce Dowton. “Since it started only four years ago, 700 students have studied program units, with more than 100 travelling to Israel to participate in digs and student exchanges.”
Thank you

In the inaugural Giving Impact Report last year, I shared my strong belief that universities are instrumental in transforming the world for the better.

The subsequent months seem to have been full of surprises and developments across the globe, spanning conflicts, the environment and the political landscape. Given the negative tone of so much of what we read in our newspapers, I consider myself fortunate that each day I can switch my attention from the morning news, to walk down the creek – past the water dragons and rainbow lorikeets – onto Macquarie University’s beautiful campus. When I arrive, I’m surrounded by such energy and enthusiasm that my optimism is fully restored.

It has been an incredibly busy few months, and preparing this second edition has been a very welcome opportunity to step back and reflect on how far we have come. Deciding what to highlight has been a real challenge, as there have been so many wonderful developments. The stories are incredibly diverse but all share a common theme which is that the generosity of our supporters has been instrumental to our growth.

Many more staff and alumni have chosen to become donors this year, for which we are immensely grateful. I also take encouragement from just how many people, with no prior connection to the University, have chosen to give and fundraise on our behalf.

Once again new records have been set this year, for the biggest gift ever received, the total value of gifts and the number of donors. We hope that you share our enthusiasm at the impact these gifts are having, and that you share our ambition for how much more we can achieve with your continuing support.

Paul Dennett
Executive Director
Office of Advancement