INVESTING TODAY TENDING TO THE FUTURE
When I was growing up, my father passed on to me a sense of gratitude for all he had received from the University of Michigan, and he stressed the importance of giving back.

–Roger A. Berg (BS ’57, MD ’61)
Story on page 20

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Questions…comments?
You have received this copy of Leaders & Best because you are a valued member of the Michigan community. Whether you’re a volunteer, friend, or member of the U-M Presidential Societies, your feedback on this publication and ideas for future issues help us effectively communicate the impact of philanthropy at Michigan.

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Dear Friends,

The cover of this issue of Leaders & Best reads, “Investing Today: Tending to the Future.” I am pleased to share with you new University initiatives that will help fulfill that promise.

In early October, we held a Leadership Breakfast to focus on the University’s momentum as it prepares for its 200th anniversary in 2017. The U-M is modeling itself for the immense challenges facing the nation and the world. We will be aggressive in developing new approaches to teaching, research, and ideas to improve people’s lives. We call this “learning without borders,” and it’s what U-M does so well: immersive learning, service to society, sustainable practices, and collaboration, all in a global setting.

One of our new initiatives seeks to accelerate the impact of our intellectual strengths on great teaching and truly transformative learning experiences. To accomplish this, Provost Philip Hanlon and I are launching the Third Century Initiative, a $50 million commitment over the next five years to develop innovative teaching and scholarship opportunities.

The Third Century Initiative will support two essential components of a Michigan education: immersive learning experiences and innovative approaches to the grand challenges of our times. Currently, our students have a number of opportunities for immersive learning. Two examples are the Semester in Detroit in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA) and the Multidisciplinary Action Projects (MAP) program in the Stephen M. Ross School of Business, which connects MBA students with corporations and nonprofits to tackle big problems.

We believe the Third Century Initiative will inspire faculty and students to address big, complex problems that require the resources of a powerful, flexible, interdisciplinary research university.

A second important initiative will invest in University startups. We will reallocate a small percentage of our endowment to invest directly in technologies and ideas developed by our own researchers. Our investment team has determined that investing in U-M startups is a good financial opportunity. It benefits these new ideas, and it benefits the endowment.

Once a startup has secured an initial round of funding from an independent venture capital firm, it will be eligible for up to $500,000 of financing from the University. We call the program “MINTS”—Michigan Investment in New Technology Startups.

There is more good news about our academic excellence. This fall, three of our faculty received prestigious MacArthur Fellowships. Fellows are selected based on three criteria: exceptional creativity, promise for important future advances based on a track record of significant accomplishment, and potential for the fellowship to facilitate subsequent creative work. Only Harvard had as many winners as Michigan this year.

Our three honorees are Tiya Miles, a public historian and the director of the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies in LSA; Melanie Sanford, an organometallic chemist and the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of Chemistry in LSA; and Yukiko Yamashita, a research assistant professor at the Life Sciences Institute and an assistant professor of cell and developmental biology at the Medical School.

As I told faculty, staff, and students at our Leadership Breakfast, an organization is only as good as its people, and extraordinary people teach, learn, and work at Michigan. I feel just as strongly about our donors, who continually make it possible for the University of Michigan to invest today and tend to the future.

Mary Sue Coleman

See the President’s Leadership Breakfast talk at www.umich.edu/pres/leadership
On September 11, 2001, 18 U-M alumni died: one in the Pentagon, three on hijacked airplanes, and 14 in the World Trade Center. On that horrific day, alumni Andrew Kaminsky (BGS ’90) lost not one, but two beloved friends and former U-M roommates: Laurence Polatsch (AB ’90) and Marc Zeplin (AB ’90, MBA ’93). Afterward, as the shock waves gradually diminished, Kaminsky—who had known Laurence since the first grade—and Laurence’s brother, Daniel Polatsch (BS ’93), began to look for a way to turn their grief into something positive.

Together with others, they decided to establish a charitable foundation to preserve and honor the memory of not only Laurence, but also two of Daniel’s closest friends and Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity brothers who died along with Laurence in the 9/11 attacks: Greg Richards (AB ’92) and Scott Weingard (BBA ’93). Although very different people, all three lived life to the fullest, and they shared a common bond, both through the University and as successful professionals at the Wall Street firm of Cantor Fitzgerald, which was located in Tower 1 of the World Trade Center.

While the goal of the Greg Richards, Larry Polatsch, and Scott Weingard Memorial Scholarship Fund in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA) is “a true American hero and an honor to the nation veteran Robert Fernandez, attended Michigan not only connected Greg, Laurence, and Scott, but taught us the value of friendship, the importance of community, and how to lead rich and fulfilling lives.”

For more stories of 9/11 tributes, please visit www.giving.umich.edu/9-11
Leaders & Best—Fall 2011

Ora Pescovitz talks about leadership, health reform, and the extraordinary new C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women’s Hospital, set to open in December.

You came to the U-M in May 2009 after 21 years at Indiana University. What was it like to be new?

It was exhilarating. I would have to say. It was fun to come to a new place and get to discover all of the things that were so exciting about the University of Michigan, which has just these incredible assets at every twist and turn, from the remarkable people that you see in every department to the remarkable facilities that we have.

I take routine tours of various components of our Health System. And we’re enormous, you know: We have 22,000 people, and we are spread out all over southeast Michigan. In two and a half years, I still haven’t visited every one of our facilities. But I try to take about a half a day every month and go and tour some part of our enterprise. I am blown away by what we’re doing in each one of these facilities. Each visit reminds me how exceptional our Health System is on every level.

How would you characterize your leadership style?

I describe it as “servant leadership.” I am here to serve, and I believe that others in leadership roles are here to serve, as well. It’s not about the leader; it’s about the institution.

A number of years ago, my career focused on my own research and taking care of patients. As I moved to more administrative roles, I realized that I had strengths in creating environments in which other people can thrive. It is very much like being a parent: You try to create an environment in which your children will be maximally nurtured so that one day they will eventually excel. In much the same way, as a leader, I am responsible for creating the environment in which those around me will thrive and be nurtured and the institution will be maximally successful.

As an example, the design embeds the women’s hospital within the children’s hospital. Only a handful of hospitals in the country place the high-risk maternal fetal medicine unit right there with the children’s hospital, but it’s highly advantageous. High-risk obstetrics really should be adjacent to the neonatal unit so that, when mothers deliver high-risk infants, they can be adjacent to their babies. Again, it’s attentive to the family at the center of everything that we do. So if you just look at the way everything in the hospital was planned—from the public spaces to the patient rooms—the child and family are the focus.

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What is happening with health care reform?

I’m not at all certain that I know what’s going to happen with health care reform. But I would like to position the U-M Health System in such a way that regardless of what comes down the pike, we will be confident—ready for whatever the future brings. I do feel that it’s my responsibility to ensure that the institution has the right people in the right positions, that we’re financial sound, that we have the right facilities, and that we have the right infrastructure to be prepared for any circumstance. So, for example, we don’t know how institutions will be paid for delivery of patient care in the future. That’s something that is under discussion. So we have to be prepared for any model of delivery of care. And that requires being both agile and flexible, and that’s not something that academic medical centers are historically good at. So that’s something that requires a culture shift.

What role does philanthropy play in the Health System?

Philanthropic gifts have been essential, and the largest gifts have been truly transformational. But the needs continue, and the opportunities in the Health System are unlimited. With donors’ help, we can improve our ability to understand, diagnose, and treat diseases. We can award scholarships to students at all levels of medical training. And we can continue to attract talented faculty and innovative scientists.

Our vision is about creating the future of health care through discovery. Our strategic plan helps us accomplish that. Discovery is the most important thing we do, whether in research, new ways to treat and take care of patients, new ways to educate students and trainees, more efficient ways to get patients access to care—or even in how we approach finance. We approach discovery as critical to every aspect of our enterprise.

In every area, the opportunities for donors to connect with us are truly unsurpassed. And here, it is easy to see how a gift can make a difference.

To read more about the U-M Health System and how you can make a difference, please visit www.med.umich.edu
Dear Friends,

Another school year has begun at the University of Michigan. With it comes renewed energy on campus as new students learn what it is about this amazing place that has made generations of students embrace it as their own. Each generation feels it is their university, even though it is really the university of all alumni, and even though alumni haven’t known the same campus, as students. It changes over the years, in big and small ways.

Alumni often come to campus and are surprised by new buildings. The North Quadrangle Residential and Academic Complex, for example, now stands where the Frieze Building stood for so many years. Freshman entering this year don’t know what the Frieze Building was. For them, the corner of State Street and Huron is the home of North Quad.

The buildings may change, but the pride in being a U-M grad remains. The University of Michigan has always been good at embracing the future while keeping an eye on the past. And this fall exemplifies that again.

December brings the opening of the spectacular new C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women’s Hospital, a modern facility that will continue a tradition of exceptional care.

The Law School will dedicate South Hall, which looked to the past with a design honoring the iconic Law Quadrangle. Along with the Law Quad’s new Adams Commons and Kirkland & Ellis Café, it will provide today’s students and faculty with resources their predecessors did not have.

President Mary Sue Coleman, in her Residential Life Initiative, called for the renewal of some of our great student residence halls. Couzens Hall, built to house nurses in 1923 with a gift from Sen. James Couzens (R-Mich.), reopened this fall after a spectacular renovation. Today’s students can enjoy greatly improved accommodations.

Each fall, I enjoy welcoming alumni back to campus for football games, events, and reunions. During this year’s Presidential Societies Weekend, when we thank donors for all they do, the Symphony Orchestra and other students from the School of Music, Theatre & Dance entertained our guests with Rhapsody in Maize ‘n’ Blue, a celebration of George Gershwin’s legacy that included a special appearance by our outstanding alumna Jessye Norman (MMUS ’68, HSCD ’87).

We also presented the David B. Hermelin Award for Fundraising Volunteer Leadership to our 2011 recipients: Peter A. Schweitzer, Peter Benedek, and John C. Morley (from left), pictured here with their wives, Claire Schweitzer, Barbara Benedek, and Sally Morley (from left).

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They were students, years ago, who went on to embrace the U-M as their alma mater. They have committed themselves to assuring that the students of today and tomorrow benefit, as they did, from an outstanding Michigan education. Students come and go. The campus changes. But loyalty to the Maize and Blue remains unchanged.

Thank you for all you do for the University of Michigan.

Sincerely,

Jerry May
Vice President for Development
"Architecture is a visual art," says North Quad architect Robert A. M. Stern. "Things have to look like other things to make visual connections." Preserved pieces of the U-M Frieze Building (opposite page, far left) adourn the north Quad (below) to reinforce the building's ties to past and existing campus architecture.

For answers to these and other questions, we turned to Robert A. M. Stern Architects, the lead design firm for two of Michigan's landmark structures of the past five years: the North Quadrangle Residential and Academic Complex (designed in collaboration with the architectural team of record, Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, or EYP) and Joan and Sanford Weill Hall at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy (designed in association with Albert Kahn Associates). Together, the two anchor the northern and southern gateways to central campus. Here, we focus on the more recent of the two, North Quad, which opened its doors last fall.

Embracing past and future

The first residence hall to be built on campus in four decades, North Quad has quickly endeared itself to the community. Day to day, the building's interior buzzes with students and faculty collaborating in spaces that emphasize connectivity and communication. At night, the building resonates with students, faculty, visitors, and passersby. And how do architects approach the University's interest in having a new building fit within the campus landscape?

In designing North Quad, the team looked to this heritage. The result: North Quad reinforces architectural traditions that identify Michigan as itself. "I'm interested in buildings that are portraits, if you will, of a place," said Robert A. M. Stern, the dean and J. M. Hoppin Professor of Architecture at the Yale School of Architecture. "That's what I'm interested in: a family of buildings that can extend that resemblance that bind them together across the generations."

Another kind of sustainable

"The utility of the building, as time moves on—I would call it the sustainability of the building—has to do with not only its performance in environmental terms, but also its performance in relation to the culture of the university as a whole," Stern said.

"That culture stems in part from how well campus buildings "enter into a conversation with each other," he added. "These buildings all seem part of a family. In any family, not every child looks like his or her mother or father or brother or sister, but there are family resemblances that bind them together across the generations."

Thanks in large part to the generosity of donors, the University has expanded its portfolio of campus buildings in the past decade, despite a difficult economy. But when a new building goes up, what ensures that, in 50 to 100 years, it will not only survive but also still resonate with students, faculty, visitors, and passersby? And how do architects approach the University's interest in having a new building fit within the campus landscape?

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"That's what I'm interested in: a family of buildings that can extend and reinforce the community—and the legacy—of Michigan."
The program has broad implications for students and the economy. Small businesses are driving job growth in the U.S., creating 56 percent of jobs in the county. There are roughly 29.6 million American small businesses, and more than 600,000 are started every year.

"The University has created an entrepreneurial ecosystem across this campus that is exciting and distinctive," said President Mary Sue Coleman. "Whether in classes, business plan competitions, or incubators, students have an opportunity to bring a good business idea to life. These new Law School offerings add an important new dimension to support student innovation."

ZEAL is the newest in a series of University initiatives geared toward business development, including the Samuel Zell and Robert H. Lurie Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies at the Stephen M. Ross School of Business (ZLI), which was cofounded by Zell and Ann Lurie (HLLD '03) in 1999. The innovative courses offered at ZLI helped the Ross School attain a Top 5 ranking this year in the Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine’s joint listing of the best graduate entrepreneurship programs.

Other initiatives include the Center for Entrepreneurship within the College of Engineering; a unique new professional master’s degree in entrepreneurship created by Engineering and the Ross School; the Michigan Venture Center; student-run programs, such as the Wolverine Venture Fund; and a variety of competitions and grant programs that encourage student startups. Overall, more than 5,000 students across campus participated in an entrepreneurial activity last year. "What we’re trying to do at Michigan is something no other top school has done: truly connecting and coordinating entrepreneurial efforts across the entire campus to maximize opportunities for all students," said Thomas Zurbruchen, a professor of aerospace engineering and the associate dean for entrepreneurial programs in the College of Engineering. "That’s why the Law School’s new program is so exciting. This kind of connectedness across disciplines makes U-M truly unique among peers."

The ZEAL program’s dual approach to entrepreneurial education – the clinic, together with several new courses in entrepreneurial law – is at the heart of the school’s philosophy of joining the practical with the purely academic, said Law School Dean Evan Caminker.

"We are preparing our law students with a specialized skill set that will enable them to serve the small-business community through entrepreneurial startups," Caminker said. "At the same time, we can encourage up-and-coming entrepreneurs by helping them get started and grow."

The clinical aspect of ZEAL will deploy student-attorneys, supervised by faculty members, to help founders of promising student ventures sort out the business formation, trademark, finance, patent, regulatory, and other issues that can complicate the establishment of any entrepreneurial business.

The program will support such existing initiatives as ZLI, which has granted more than $2.3 million in support of startups. Tim Faley, ZLI’s managing director, said the rest of the University community will be grateful for Law School help.

"We know the Law School is going to be a great partner," Faley said. "All of Michigan’s entrepreneurial programs are looking for legal counsel. And law students are saying much the same thing—that they’d love to learn how these deals go down."

The new master’s degree offered by Engineering and the Ross School is another partnership that will contribute toward interdisciplinary excellence at the U-M. "It’s not an MBA, which trains a student how to be a business person, and it’s not a science degree," said Faley. "It’s the white space in between that creates a bridge between science and business."

It’s a fitting metaphor for an approach to entrepreneurship designed to span every school on campus.

Learn more about supporting Michigan Law at www.law.umich.edu/alumniandfriends/giving
A nanoscale technology that improves infertility treatments. A painless, noninvasive ultrasound to improve the results of prostate surgery. Bioactive medical devices promoting bone and tissue regeneration.

All of these innovations began as ideas and soon became startup ventures—something that might never have happened without support from a research partnership between the University and the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation.

**Ultrasound provides noninvasive treatments**

A team led by BME Professor Charles A. Cain (PhD ‘72) aims to treat soft-tissue conditions quickly, painlessly, noninvasively, and with unprecedented precision through the technique of histotripsy. Here, high-intensity ultrasound pulses generate microbubbles that disrupt cell structures and break down soft tissue, transforming it into a slurry that is readily eliminated from the body and leaves sharp, defined borders between treated and untreated tissue. Potential applications include enlarged prostates and soft-tissue cancers. The hope is one day to perform many procedures on an outpatient basis. With support from Coulter and the National Institutes of Health, Cain and his team have launched Histosonics to commercialize the technology.

**Stem cells reconstruct anterior cruciate ligaments**

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A dynamic collaboration

Since 2006, with $4.5 million in Coulter support for the College of Engineering’s Department of Biomedical Engineering (BME), the U-M has launched 22 pilot projects and four biomedical start-ups. During that five-year period, recipients leveraged Coulter’s initial support to commercialize their projects, resulting in $22.2 million in follow-on funding from venture capital and biomedical companies and more than $7 million in NIH and other grants for research projects.

Now, inspired by the positive results of this collaborative model, the Coulter Foundation, the Medical School, and the College of Engineering are funding a new $20 million endowment. The Coulter Foundation is contributing $10 million.

“As one of only five universities nationwide to be endowed in this way, U-M is more energized than ever to move its research out of the lab and into the hands of clinicians, where it can directly impact patients,” said Douglas C. Noll, the chair of Biomedical Engineering and in Ann and Robert H. Lurie Professor. “Thanks to the endowment, we now have resources permanently dedicated to bridging the gap from concept to patient-ready product—and to making translation a lasting legacy of our Coulter partnership.”

**Accelerating the Pace**

A key goal of the Coulter Foundation is to speed the introduction of new technologies into patient care. It’s a goal shared by BME and the entire U-M Health System. To that end, the U-M Coulter Translational Research Partnership will support research that addresses unmet clinical needs and leads to improvements in health care and commercial products. Specifically, grants will fund collaborative translational research projects headed by co-investigators from both BME and the Medical School.

“High-risk and potentially high-return medical research too often would not be pursued were it not for this kind of philanthropic support,” said Dr. James O. Woodruff (MD ’80, dean of the Medical School and the Kyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine). “The Coulter Foundation endowment helps the U-M Health System create the future of medicine by fostering the development of cutting-edge discoveries that improve patient partnership.”

**The Coulter Process**

The Coulter Process, an industry-like product development model, is a distinguishing feature of the Translational Research Partnership. The model includes a thorough analysis and assessment of intellectual property, FDA requirements, reimbursement, critical milestones, and clinical adoption.

“This program started out as a grand experiment to link the relatively new discipline of biomedical engineering to translational research,” said Sue Van, president of the Coulter Foundation. “We are extremely proud of the advancements achieved by the University of Michigan in moving projects through the Coulter Process so that these advances will benefit patients.”

The process has provided both the U-M and southeast Michigan with their most productive commercialization model to date, according to Jim O’Connell, associate director for new business formation in the U-M’s Office of Technology Transfer. “The Coulter program’s ability to provide extremely targeted and well-aligned funding for only the most promising university technologies has accelerated companies out into the marketplace and created jobs,” O’Connell said. “Ultimately, it will save lives.”

**A Pairing of Leaders**

Inventor and entrepreneur Wallace H. Coulter founded the Coulter Corporation and served as its director for 40 years. The Coulter Counter, his first of 82 patents, not only revolutionized the practice of hematology and laboratory medicine but also opened the way to the relatively new fields of flow cytometry and monoclonal antibodies. Prior to his death in 1998, he founded the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation to continue his mission of improving health care through translational research in biomedical engineering.

Ranked among the top engineering schools in the nation, the College of Engineering is home to 11 academic departments, numerous research centers, and a fast-growing suite of entrepreneurial programs. “The College of Engineering encourages bright minds to apply their talents to solving big problems,” said David C. Munson, Jr., the Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering and a professor of electrical and computer engineering. “This focus matches up perfectly with the Coulter Foundation’s drive to close the divide between research and the effective commercialization of products that will be suitable for clinical use.”

To learn more about biomedical engineering at the U-M, please visit bme.umich.edu

For more information, visit bme.umich.edu/coulter

**Diagnostic tool may improve pancreatic cancer odds**

Each year, some 350,000 Americans undergo anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) reconstruction—often with suboptimal results. But BME Professor Ellen Arruda and Lisa Larkin have teamed up with orthopedic surgeon Edward Wojtys (BS ‘74, MD ’79, MDRES ‘84) to change the whole approach. Arruda’s team is engineering a unique bone-ligament-bone construct made from stem cells. The team’s solution remodels to the appropriate size in vivo. It not only develops a nerve network and blood supply within three months, but it is also fully replaced by host cells within nine months of implantation. Coulter funding has allowed the team to test the construct in large-animal models.

**$20 million partnership will speed the flow of new technologies to market**

There’s a reason a pancreatic-cancer diagnosis sends a shudder through patients: Ninety-five percent of them will die within five years, more than half within six months. But a multidisciplinary U-M team led by BME Professor Mary-Ann Mycek hopes an optical diagnostic technology they’re pioneering could help as many as 30 percent of these patients find their cancer early enough to beat these odds. The goal is to develop a device to be used during minimally invasive endoscopies that could identify cancerous changes in pancreatic tissue. With Coulter support, they have progressed to in vivo clinical studies and are taking initial steps toward commercialization in areas like technology transfer, patent protection, and industry outreach.

**From the lab bench to our lives**

A nanoscale technology that improves infertility treatments. A painless, noninvasive ultrasound to improve the results of prostate surgery. Bioactive medical devices promoting bone and tissue regeneration.

All of these innovations began as ideas and soon became startup ventures—something that might never have happened without support from a research partnership between the University and the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation.
A great chain of giving at Taubman College of Architecture

Peter Stavenger (left), a Taubman College alumnus and the inaugural Stutzman Scholar, has worked for more than five years on Terminal 2 of Raleigh-Durham (N.C.) International Airport (background) as part of the design team at Fentress Architects.

Frances Stutzman Scholarship Fund in 2003 to help Taubman College attract the best students, including those from out of state.

Scholarship recipient Peter Stavenger (M ARCH ’06), of Aurora, Colo., met the Stutzmans soon after receiving the inaugural scholarship. “I felt immediately connected to them,” he said. “The fact that they set aside personal money for this scholarship left a lasting impression on me. It made me want to pay it forward.” This year, Stavenger did, contributing $1,000 to the fund in the hope that his contribution will help a student have a Michigan experience such as his, which included the creation of a network that has extended into his professional life.

The newest scholarship recipient, Christopher Mascari, was attracted by Taubman’s strong “research through making” approach, he said. Mascari matriculated this fall, feeling honored to have been recognized and pleased that the scholarship would offset some of the costs of graduate school. “I strongly believe in the benefits of giving back,” he said, especially when it involves “giving a little to someone in their earlier years, when oftentimes financial concerns are critical.”

The Stutzmans didn’t create the fund to inspire others to give; they simply wanted to help an architecture student attend Michigan. King-Stutzman, however, is delighted by the chain reaction. “That’s what Wolverines do,” he said: “take a good idea and find a way to make it better by adding something of their own.”

Stavenger (center) met King (left) and Frances Stutzman after receiving the scholarship.

60 Minutes for the ages

Completed Mike Wallace collection “a treasure” for researchers

The final items in a major collection of papers and artifacts from the career of legendary journalist Mike Wallace (AB ’39, HLLD ’87) recently arrived at the Bentley Historical Library and Mike and Mary Wallace House. They complete an archive that began to take shape in 2006.

The papers housed at the Bentley span Wallace’s decades-long career at CBS News and 60 Minutes, along with his early television and newspaper work in the years 1956 to 1963. The heart of the collection comprises 60 Minutes program files, including transcripts of broadcasts and interviews, viewer correspondence, background research, newspaper clippings, photographs, and story ideas in various stages of development.

“These papers reconstruct the thinking that lay behind groundbreaking television journalism,” said Francis X. Blouin, Bentley director. “Wallace’s well-created interviews explored the gamut of major issues of our time. His body of work is truly of historic proportions.”

Wallace discovered his passion for broadcasting when he worked as a student at the University’s 10-watt radio station. As an alumnus, he has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Knight-Wallace Fellowship, a program that each year supports study at the U-M for mid-career journalists from the United States and abroad. Now an emeritus board member, Wallace provided a $1 million gift to the program in 2002 and also endowed a fellowship in investigative reporting. In 1992, a gift from Wallace and his wife, Mary, enabled the University to purchase and renovate the Tudor house that serves as the hub of the program and will now be home to several of Wallace’s major awards, including two Emmys and his Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award.

“Because Mike was the most important investigative broadcast journalist of his era and a founding member of 60 Minutes, the most successful show in television history,” said Charles Eismeuth (AM ’65), director of the Knight-Wallace program, “his papers and artifacts at the Bentley and at Mike and Mary Wallace House will be a treasure for researchers in the field.”

An era of American history emerges from the materials, ranging from interviews with such celebrities as Johnny Carson and Bette Midler to profiles of U.S. presidents and such controversial world leaders as Yasser Arafat and Ayatollah Khomeini. The papers highlight the career of an American journalistic icon, and through this gift to the U-M, they will be preserved to illuminate generations of journalists and scholars to come.
A man with a plan—and a purpose

What three things do vocal music students, Institute for Social Research (ISR) employees, public radio programs, and student DJs all have in common?

Answer: All contribute to the public good. All have enriched the life of former ISR staffer Duane Thomas (AB ‘66). And all will one day receive support from a charitable remainder trust (CRT) that Thomas recently established.

When it was time for Thomas to do some estate planning, he gravitated toward programs and places that reflected his values and interests. Choosing a CRT as one component of his estate plan allowed Thomas to designate a beneficiary who, upon his passing, would then receive income from the trust for the remainder of that person’s life. It also allowed him to determine an organization that could receive the principal of the trust upon his beneficiary’s passing.

Thomas chose the U-M, which presented yet another choice: to which school, college, unit, or program did he wish to allocate the principal? Thomas chose four U-M programs and a community foundation.

Thomas and his wife, Judith Lobato, share a love of music. To honor that, many years ago, they were married at the pond near the E.V. Moore Building, home to the School of Music, Theatre & Dance (SMTD). More recently, Lobato threw Thomas a birthday party overlooking that same pond. During the years in between, the couple has regularly been “awed” by student performances, and Thomas is delighted to support a program that has brought them so much enjoyment by creating the Duane J. Thomas and Judith A. Lobato Endowed Fund in Voice, which will provide scholarship support to SMTD voice students.

Thomas also appreciates the culture and core values at ISR, where he worked in computing. He encountered one such core value on his very first day on the job, while still a student. On that day, ISR founder Angus Campbell casually introduced himself, asked Thomas a few questions, and later remembered his answers. When Thomas eventually retired from ISR, he did so with a 20-year appreciation for ISR’s culture of respect for all employees.

Along the way, Thomas discovered myriad other merits within the ISR culture, such as the entrepreneurial spirit that comes with being a self-funded entity, as well as an atmosphere of lifelong learning: “That job was like a course in psychology, sociology, religion, morality, and probably a few other things,” he said. In recognition of all that, Thomas’s trust will endow the Rensis Likert and Angus Campbell Leadership Fund, which will support activities that encourage a shared understanding and cultivation of the values at the heart of ISR’s culture.

Further, the trust will benefit two radio outlets. The Duane J. Thomas Endowed Fund will contribute to Michigan Public Media to support Michigan Radio (WUOM/WVGR/WFUM) in presenting panels of experts with diverging viewpoints on important issues. And the Duane J. Thomas and Judith Lobato Endowment Fund in the Division of Student Affairs will support students working as DJs at WCBN.

Thomas, who has lived in Ann Arbor since 1958, believes the city has shaped him. “It has done everything for me,” he said. In recognition, the trust includes the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation as a partial beneficiary, with the U-M as trustee.

To make a thoughtful estate plan takes time and effort, Thomas said. But the result—having made a plan that reflects his values—is “very satisfying.”

Do you have a plan?

Get started with your estate planning at www.giving.umich.edu/estate-planning

Alumnus and retired staffer Duane Thomas shapes a trust that will serve the places and programs that shaped him.
Bonds with the U-M endure through generations

Parent’s gift sparks initiative for off-campus student safety

When I was growing up,” said Dr. Roger A. Berg (BS ’57, MD ’61), “my father passed on to me a sense of gratitude for all he had received from the University of Michigan, and he stressed the importance of giving back.”

Berg’s father, Dr. Albert Berg (AB ’28, MD ’32), “was grateful to the U-M for the chance to earn his medical degree,” said Roger, whose gratitude has manifested itself in many ways. As a third- and fourth-year medical student, Roger collected money on the street corners of Ann Arbor during the annual December Galens Medical Society effort to support local children’s organizations.

In 1983, Berg established the Roger A. Berg Prize in Radiology, which is awarded each year to a fourth-year medical student. Following the deaths of their parents in 1986, Berg and his two brothers, Paul (BA ’55, MD ’59) and Bruce (BA ’65, MD ’67), created the Eve and Albert Berg Memorial Loan Fund, which is now a scholarship. In 1991, Roger, as class chair of his 30th med school reunion, rallied his classmates to endow a scholarship in honor of their family’s legacy at the U-M and is helping to continue it. She currently serves on the Event on Main Host Committee raising funds for the new C. S. Mott Children’s and Von Voigtlander Women’s Hospital, and she is a Care Ambassador at the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“Dr. Berg has been instrumental in establishing medical school scholarship funding, and I think it’s wonderful,” said Dr. N. Reed Dunnick, Fred Jenner Hodges Professor of Radiology and the department chair. “When students graduate from medical school with debts of $200,000 or more, it really is a burden on them, and it restricts their choices.”

In addition to easing that burden, Berg has enriched the education of medical students, hospital staff, and radiology residents through an endowed annual lectureship in radiology, for which the Short Hill is . A resident regularly returns to campus.

“I really appreciate that he’s still involved with the University so that students have a chance to see and meet him,” said Friday Shalh (BS ’97, MD ’11), the recipient of the 2011 Berg Prize. “His generosity and humility are inspirational as I set out my own career goals.”

Eileen Berg Rollin (AB ’89), the younger of Roger’s two daughters, takes pride in her family’s legacy at the U-M and is helping to continue it. She currently serves on the Event on Main Host Committee raising funds for the new C. S. Mott Children’s and Von Voigtlander Women’s Hospital, and she is a Care Ambassador at the U-M Comprehensive Cancer Center.

“It’s amazing that I can find not only my dad there, but my grandfather and my two uncles, as well. It’s almost like all these past medical school graduates are watching over the patients, staff, and students to ensure that the integrity and excellence of the University continue to thrive.”

When sophomore Melissa Malovonney pledged a sorority in her first year and moved off campus, her parents, Michele Malovonney Jackway and James Jackway, of Los Angeles, started thinking more about safety. They stressed the importance of establishments for off-campus students, and they had some ideas on how to strengthen those efforts. To make those ideas a reality, the family made a gift to help DSA establish the Off-Campus Student Safety Project.

This collaboration is a powerful example of how creative Parent & Family Giving can improve student life.

With the gift, DSA hired Josh Basyu and Stephanie Hamel, both juniors from Northville, Mich., as Student Safety Assistants. The two had served as chair and vice chair of the Michigan Student Assembly’s Student Safety Commission. “To have students who had already worked on student safety issues,” said Dean of Students and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Laura Blake Jones, “meant that they could jump right in with very little learning curve and make things happen.”

“We spent time talking to students to get their input on what could be done,” Blake Jones added.

The Project also leverages social media tools, such as Facebook and Twititer, “to communicate with students in the way they want to be communicated with,” Blake Jones said. And it consolidated late-night ride services under one phone number, easing access to the service from phone cells.

Students off-campus feel the impact. “There definitely is more of a community feel,” said Natalie Fratto, a senior from Grand Rapids, Mich., who lives in East Packard. “People are taking safety very seriously. We’re really going to know our neighbors.”

The goal is to create “channels to promote safety resources and safety alerts so that students are talking and making plans around safety,” Hamel said. Numerous campus and community entities have partnered to hit the Project’s targets, Blake Jones emphasized. And the family gift made it possible to launch.

“Having the generosity of donors to fund program innovations is really important right now,” said Blake Jones, who aims to expand the outreach to all 11 neighborhoods by fall next year. “The students in off-campus neighborhoods are now working together more to do simple things that mean a lot, such as turning on porch lights at night, trimming their bushes, and looking out for their neighbors.

“We’re all in this together, and this program has made it so much easier to connect.”

Learn more about Parent & Family Giving at www.giving.umich.edu/parent-family.
Showtime for scholarships
Endowment will help keep U-M’s Musical Theatre Department among nation’s best

“U-M is turning out the best young musical theater performers in the business these days,” Broadway director and writer James Lapine (Into the Woods, Sunday in the Park with George) has said. “They’re really well-rounded and well-educated actors, not just people who can sing and dance.”

Jeanne and Sandy Robertson (BBA ’53, MBA ’54) agree. They recently invited four musical theater students to perform for several hundred business leaders and friends in the San Francisco Bay area. The Robertsons were so captivated by the students and impressed with their performance that they have contributed $1 million to create the Jeanne and Sanford Robertson Scholarship Fund, specifically for students in the Musical Theatre Department at the School of Music, Theatre & Dance (SMTD).

Their gift nearly doubles the endowed scholarship funds for musical theater students. “We’ve got a top-flight program,” Sandy Robertson’s U-M Ross School of Business class president, has said. “Jeanne and Sandy’s generosity will allow us to make a commitment to students at a much higher level,” says Thurnau Professor and chair of the Musical Theatre Department. Widely recognized by casting directors as one of the country’s top programs, SMTD’s Musical Theatre Department received 700 applications this year for just 20 openings—and for some of those 20 who make the final cut, tuition is out of reach. Other top programs are well funded and offer these same top students significant scholarship packages. “Jeanne and Sandy’s generosity will allow us to make a commitment to students at a much higher level,” Wagner said, “so that we can remain competitive and continue to draw top talent.”

Sandy Robertson’s U-M giving roots run deep. In 2010, he received the David B. Hermelin Award for Fundraising Volunteer Leadership. He was co-chair of the Michigan Difference campaign and, before that, a member of the Campaign for Michigan’s National Committee. He continues to serve on the President’s Advisory Group, the U-M Investment Advisory Committee, and the Bay Area Advisory Council.

Robertson, who is a former Stephen M. Ross School of Business class president, has also been a member of both the School’s Visiting Committee and the Technology Advisory Board, and has served as national chair of the School’s Annual Fund and co-chair of its Campaign Committee. A one-time managing director at Smith Barney, Robertson went on to found Robertson Stephens, a leading high-tech investment banking firm that was involved in financing more than 500 technology companies. The San Francisco resident is now a founding partner of high-tech private equity firm Francisco Partners.

“Working with the Robertsons was an absolute joy,” says Wagner, who was struck by the couple’s deep dedication to the University. “All of us in the Department are enormously grateful for their support.”

Learn more about giving to SMTD at www.giving.umich.edu/give/music

Making a Difference

Established in 1999, Detroit Connections, the outreach initiative of the School of Art & Design (A&D), recently received an anonymous $100,000 grant to support expanding the initiative’s In the Classroom program. The grant was made possible through the diligence and enthusiasm of longtime A&D Dean’s Advisory Council members Susan (BFA ’95) and Eric Wahl.

For more than 10 years, Detroit Connections, created by A&D Associate Professor Janie Paul, has been teaching A&D students to lead arts programming in Detroit schools where students have little or no other access to arts education. During that time, a total of 360 college students have led weekly art workshops for approximately 600 elementary-age children at Harms Elementary, Greenfield Union Elementary-Middle School, and Marcus Garvey Academy.

Each semester, a faculty member and 15 to 20 undergraduates work with a class of approximately 35 to 40 children. Professor Paul believes that collaborative art-making allows participants to develop a recognition of, and appreciation for, each other’s strengths and needs.

“Detroit Connections is a powerful learning experience for the college students,” Paul said. “They learn first-hand about unequal education and poverty and begin to change their worldviews and their actions in relation to this knowledge. And as they share their resources, they discover that the children have resources to share with them.”

The program and its faculty have received numerous accolades. In addition to Detroit Connections’ inclusion on President Mary Sue Coleman’s Honor Roll for Community Service in 2007, contributors have been honored with the Harold R. Johnson Diversity Service Award, the Ginsberg Center Outstanding Faculty Member Award, the Michigan Campus Compact Faculty Award for outstanding contributions in community service, and a Humanity in the Arts Award from the College of Urban Affairs at Wayne State University.

The grant made possible by the Wahls reflects a commitment to endeavors that challenge students to think creatively. Through Detroit Connections, that challenge will extend from campus to the community.

Detroit Connections’ volunteers work with fifth graders at Marcus Garvey Academy to create an elephant out of recycled materials, including plastic bags and fabric scraps.

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OFF THE WALL
Paddleball was invented at the Intramural Sports Building in 1930. With the idea of using the U-M’s squash and handball courts as a
way for tennis players to practice during bad weather, physical-education instructor and later Director of Intramural Sports Earl N. Riskey
(MS EDUC ’42) devised the game of four-wall paddleball. He
developed the model for the paddle—including the wrist safety strap
later adopted for racquetball—and made and sold paddles before
they were available commercially. He also discovered a playable ball
by soaking a tennis ball in gasoline in order to remove the felt cover.
Needless to say, the game caught fire. Today, the National Paddleball
Association annually awards the Earl Riskey Memorial Trophy to an
individual for contributions to the sport.

VISIBLE IMPACT
This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Spectrum Center, the U-M’s renowned organization for LGBT students and the first of its kind in the country. Said President Mary Sue Coleman, “We the people made the pledge 40 years ago that gay students, faculty, and staff at Michigan would be welcomed and support-
ed.” View a list of planned events at www.spectrumcenter.
umich.edu
The patient-and family-centered facility will total 1.1 million gross square feet and contain 4.4 million feet of wire for electrical, communications and safety-security equipment. Funded through hospital reserves and philanthropy, the project will cost approximately $754 million and is the largest construction project in Michigan. For more information on opening events, please visit www.med.umich.edu/mott/touch/new_hospital.html.