Dear President’s Council family,

What a year it has been for the President’s Council family as Purdue’s 150th anniversary celebrations continue. Our Annual Weekend in Naples set the stage for another year of fun and fellowship.

Spring has sprung, and that means “Purdue Day of Giving” draws near—**Wednesday, April 24.** Mark your calendars and visit [dayofgiving.purdue.edu](http://dayofgiving.purdue.edu) for more about this year’s 24-hour fundraising event.

As you will see in this issue, President’s Council leadership-level gifts help Purdue provide greater impact through student support, top faculty researchers, cutting-edge facilities, and innovative programs.

There’s more President’s Council activities on the horizon too. Be sure to check out our calendar of upcoming events. We will also continue to keep you updated with regular email messages and through our social media channels.

Thank you for staying “Ever True!”

*Hail Purdue!*
WELCOME TO THE WHITTAKER: A NEW VENUE for the INN CROWD

WHAT BEGAN AS AN INTERNATIONAL ROMANCE at Purdue two decades ago has come home to the heartland as an alumni couple's labor of love—The Whittaker Inn.

For owners Elizabeth and Andrew Whittaker, their first joint hotel venture is a dream-in-progress and will open later this spring.

The couple met as students in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM). After earning his degree in Hotel and Catering Management from the University of Dundee in Scotland, Andrew discovered Purdue's leadership in the field during an exchange program and went on to earn his master's in the school's acclaimed hospitality management education program in 1999.

At the same time, Elizabeth, a native of Crown Point, Indiana, was earning her bachelor's degree with honors in Restaurant, Hotel, Institutional and Tourism Management. After graduation and working in different fields of the hotel/hospitality industry together—both around the country and abroad—they dreamed of bringing their combined expertise and experience back to where their lives together began.

“The Whittaker”—an upscale boutique hotel with a bed and breakfast vibe—sits on 25 secluded...
Wooded acres just minutes from Purdue’s West Lafayette campus.

The inn will have 13 bedrooms, two suites, and a catering kitchen for a 50-plus-person dining room and event space. Each room employs “purposeful design” reflecting different locales and countries. Two rooms pay homage to the couple’s journey during their distinguished hospitality and hotel management careers. One of those rooms has an Indiana theme, paying tribute to where they got their start and the home of the inn. The other theme highlights New York, where they both worked and learned to dream big.

“We’re coming back to our roots, but we’re also bringing something new and unique with us,” Elizabeth says. “Obviously, Purdue played a big part in our adult lives, and the Purdue family is a big part of our target audience, and as President’s Council members, we recognize the importance of giving back to the University.” To that end, the Whittakers plan to provide Purdue Hospitality and Tourism Management students internship opportunities.

The Whittakers intend for the inn to be not only a place for out-of-town visitors, but a value-added venue for people and businesses in the community and—as Andrew says—a relaxing respite and retreat in which to “celebrate, educate, and collaborate.” To learn more about The Whittaker Inn, visit thewhittakerinn.com.

2019 Calendar

To learn about future travel experiences with the President’s Council, visit PURDUE.EDU/PC.

April 6        Spring Football Family Tailgate
April 16       Three Minute Thesis (3MT®)
April 24       Purdue Day of Giving
June 21-24     Getaway at the Greenbrier
July 24-August 4 Greek Isles Cruise
September 7    Tailgate // Vanderbilt
September 14   Tailgate // Texas Christian University
September 28   Tailgate // Minnesota
October 10-13  Astronaut Reunion
October 11     Back to Class // Annual Dinner // “Ever True” Campaign Finale
October 12     Homecoming & Tailgate // Maryland
October 26     Tailgate // Illinois
November 1     Distinguished and Named Professorship Ceremony
November 2     Tailgate // Nebraska
November 30    Tailgate // Indiana

2020 Travel Opportunities: Book Now!

January 10-24  New Zealand & Australia Cruise
April 2020     Peru Immersion Excursion
July 19-26     Southern France River Cruise

Ziplining in Costa Rica, January 2019
A $1.5 MILLION LEADERSHIP GIFT from College of Science alumna Mary Jane (“M.J.”) Elmore is helping Purdue address the historic underrepresentation of women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

The Mary J. Elmore New Frontiers Professorships in Data Science will establish three early-career positions to help recruit and retain extraordinary female candidates.

Elmore earned a B.S. in mathematics from Purdue in 1976, and in 1983 she became general partner at Institutional Venture Partners (IVP), making her one of the first female venture capital partners on the West Coast. Currently, she is an advisor to the IVP funds and a private investor with Broadway Angels, an investment group who all happen to be women. She also supports philanthropies that advance education at all levels.

“As venture capitalists, we look for opportunities to impact our world with the best people and state-of-the-art technology that solves real-world problems. That model fits with this opportunity to support Purdue in the important area of data sciences by attracting the top tier of upcoming women professors to help shape the curriculum, the students, and Purdue’s impact in this important area,” says Elmore, who received the Science Distinguished Alumni Award in 2016.

“Changes are in order, and perhaps this can begin as young people at Purdue encounter the best professor they have ever had who happens to be a woman.” And she adds: “Having a growing pool of the best women professors in this field, will impact the students and allow Purdue to achieve its goals of leadership in this area.”

With data and data-driven analysis rapidly becoming an integral part of science and society, ultimately all Purdue students—in all majors—will have data science requirements in their curricula in the coming years.

Patrick Wolfe, Frederick L. Hovde Dean of Science, praises Elmore’s gift as a timely catalyst to the college’s ambitious growth plans.

“We are deeply grateful to M.J. Elmore due to the huge opportunity for us to grow our faculty ranks as we position ourselves strategically for national leadership in data science. Her early-career professorship support is vital to our recruitment success for the future.”

HEAVEN-SENT SUPPORT FROM AN ANGEL INVESTOR
HIGH-ACHIEVING BUSINESS STUDENTS are being offered transformational opportunities, thanks to the generosity of Krannert alumnus and Dean’s Advisory Council member Marshall Larsen (master’s degree in industrial administration ’77) and his wife, Susan. The pair were on campus in the fall for the unveiling of the newly named Larsen Leaders Academy, formerly known as the Krannert Leaders Academy, which has a record-high 130 undergraduates participating this year. “We were so impressed meeting the students,” says Susan. “We’re proud to see Krannert graduating young leaders with so much maturity that are ready to make a difference in the world.”

Academy students can take upper-division courses upon admission and have the option to take part in a residential learning community. They can also engage with alumni and other prospective mentors in special networking events, and—because of the Larsens’ support—all academy students are now eligible for a $1,000 scholarship to be used for an educational experience of their choice. “Attending a conference or studying abroad are popular options,” says academy director Sharlee Lyons. “Just in the last year, we’ve had an academy student present a paper at Oxford University and another attend the Quinnipiac financial conference in New York.”

After earning an engineering degree from West Point and serving six years in the Army, Marshall graduated from Purdue and began a 35-year career at Goodrich Corporation, where he eventually served as CEO, president, and chairman. “I don’t know that I would have been CEO without having gone to Purdue,” says Marshall. “Because of my Krannert degree, I got visibility and I wasn’t starting at the bottom.”

The Larsens are committed to supporting Purdue in graduating top leaders. “Putting undergraduates into leadership positions while they’re on campus makes all the difference,” says Marshall. “It sets them apart when they go into the world.”

Krannert is attracting higher-caliber students through the Larsen Leaders Academy, and that is helping to elevate the school. “The academy is the dream of Krannert professor Dr. Charlene Sullivan. She is the visionary,” says Lyons. “Because of the Larsens, the dream is coming true.”

ERNIE GAMBARO QUIPS THAT HE GREW UP playing with cockroaches and rats in Niagara Falls, New York, as a child born to Italian immigrant parents struggling through the Great Depression.

After a lifetime of stellar achievement and success in both engineering and law, he has traveled light years since he learned at Purdue that “intellect, enhanced by knowledge, and combined with hard work are essential to the realization of opportunities during our lives.”

Fast-forward to the President’s Council Annual Weekend in Naples, Florida, 2019: Dr. Ernest U. Gambaro and wife Monica stand center stage as new signage is unveiled for the “Gambaro Graduate Program of Aeronautics and Astronautics,” which now graces the outside of Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering.

The honor recognizes the couple’s unrestricted and irrevocable $10 million endowment to provide support for graduate students. The gift also pays tribute to the rigors and rewards of Dr. Gambaro’s education at Purdue, where he graduated with honors with an aeronautical engineering bachelor’s degree in 1960 and a master’s degree in 1961.

“My entire adult life was so influenced by what happened to me at Purdue,” says Gambaro, who was both proud and humbled as a 2016 Outstanding Aerospace Engineer Award recipient. “As I’ve gotten older I’ve grown to appreciate—now more than ever—that we are standing on the shoulders of someone else,” he says. “Alumni have a particular responsibility to keep things going.” And he adds: “If not me, who?”

Mung Chiang, the John A. Edwardson Dean of the College of Engineering, acknowledged the endowment’s power and importance. “We are truly grateful for the Gambaros’ magnificent, visionary gift and the impact it will have in the years to come,” he says. “Graduate student support is one of our top-three fundraising priorities at Purdue Engineering. We will be more competitive in attracting top talent who are central to both our teaching and research missions. We are proud Dr. Gambaro’s name and legacy will distinguish our college’s second named graduate program—and one of the first nationally in aeronautics and astronautics.”
sense. Dave, a 1959 electrical engineering graduate, and Judy, a 1961 pharmacy graduate, had attended a President’s Council Back to Class session in October 2018, where they learned more about STEM at Purdue. They recall their own lab experiences at the University fondly but note that, given how much technology has advanced, today’s students need more.

“They’ll be in a high-tech, flexible environment with opportunities to work together,” says Dave. “And to have not only labs but lecture facilities in one building, across so many majors, is very important,” says Judy.

The icing on the cake for this couple: The labs named in their honor will look out onto Elliott Hall, where the two met onstage as students while working on a Playshop production of the play *Teahouse of the August Moon.*
WHY GIVE? HERE’S WHY!

WHY GIVE? IT MAY SEEM LIKE A simple question, but the answer has a substantial impact on thousands of Boilermakers each year. Boilermakers including Laura Boodt, a senior studying corporate communications. She says if it wasn’t for scholarships within the College of Liberal Arts, her experience at Purdue may have been drastically different.

“Scholarships helped me in different areas, both on and off campus,” says Boodt. “I was able to study abroad in London and participate in an incredible internship at the Smithsonian.”

That financial support is a large reason why she wanted to become a member of the Purdue Foundation Student Board (PFSB). PFSB members work throughout the academic year to educate other students about the importance of philanthropy at Purdue. One of the board’s most successful events is the “Why Give? Initiative.” This year’s initiative took place during the last week of February.

During the week, students sponsored engaging activities, table talks, and fun games to help other students understand the importance of lifelong giving. They handed out cookies with a portion missing to illustrate private giving’s significant slice of the overall budget to fund Purdue’s ongoing excellence.

Another activity was writing thank you notes—something that stands out for PFSB President Derek Berkshire. He has learned that a hand-written note can be a really meaningful gesture. “Every year, PFSB members write thank you notes to donors who help make scholarships at Purdue possible,” says Berkshire. “We understand that taking a small amount of time to write the notes can help express our genuine appreciation and gratitude in a big way.”

So, why is it important for the PFSB students to brave the February cold year after year? The answer is simple—to promote the power of private giving at Purdue. //

WHY GIVE? INITIATIVE

STUDENTS EDUCATING STUDENTS ABOUT PRIVATE GIVING

PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL BY THE NUMBERS

2018 PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL GIVING:

STUDENT SUPPORT $70.5M
FACULTY SUPPORT $29.9M
FACILITIES SUPPORT $27.5M
ATHLETICS SUPPORT $18.8M

Dollars given to “Ever True” campaign by President’s Council members, so far:

$780,636,344

34.5% PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS GIVEN TO “EVER TRUE” CAMPAIGN BY PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL MEMBERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL MEMBERS AT THE END OF 2018

18,161 NEW RECORD!

FIRST-TIME MEMBERS IN 2018

871
How many buildings on Purdue’s campus have been made possible, at least in part, by private giving?

**Hint:** we’re surrounded by support!

1. 11 [A] 26 [B] 33 [C] 44 [D]

How much of Purdue’s operating costs are covered by tuition?

39% [A] 51% [B] 67% [C] 91% [D]

3. 86 [A] 137 [C] 194 [D]

During the last school year, how many students—including undergraduate, graduate, and professional students—received scholarship support because of private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

$25.4M [A] $47.8M [B] $56.1M [C] $88.2M [D]

During the last school year, how many students—undergraduate, graduate, and professional students—received scholarship support because of private giving?

**Hint:** we’re surrounded by support!

1. 11 [A] 26 [B] 33 [C] 44 [D]

How much of Purdue’s operating costs are covered by tuition?

39% [A] 51% [B] 67% [C] 91% [D]

3. 86 [A] 137 [C] 194 [D]

During the last school year, how many students—including undergraduate, graduate, and professional students—received scholarship support because of private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

$25.4M [A] $47.8M [B] $56.1M [C] $88.2M [D]

How many named professorships have been made possible by private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

**Spoiler alert:** Boilermakers are a generous bunch!

1. 11 [A] 26 [B] 33 [C] 44 [D]

How much of Purdue’s operating costs are covered by tuition?

39% [A] 51% [B] 67% [C] 91% [D]

3. 86 [A] 137 [C] 194 [D]

During the last school year, how many students—including undergraduate, graduate, and professional students—received scholarship support because of private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

$25.4M [A] $47.8M [B] $56.1M [C] $88.2M [D]

How many named professorships have been made possible by private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

**Spoiler alert:** Boilermakers are a generous bunch!

1. 11 [A] 26 [B] 33 [C] 44 [D]

How much of Purdue’s operating costs are covered by tuition?

39% [A] 51% [B] 67% [C] 91% [D]

3. 86 [A] 137 [C] 194 [D]

During the last school year, how many students—including undergraduate, graduate, and professional students—received scholarship support because of private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

$25.4M [A] $47.8M [B] $56.1M [C] $88.2M [D]

How many named professorships have been made possible by private giving?


During the last school year, how much money did our alumni and friends give to support Purdue students?

**Spoiler alert:** Boilermakers are a generous bunch!