

# giving matters

A publication for supporters of  
health-related research and education  
at the University of Minnesota

FALL 2009



PHOTO: TIM RUMMELHOFF

Robert Hart created an endowed scholarship to support medical students committed to serving others. The scholarship gives preference to students who have served in the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps.

**Hart hopes his gift will allow public service-minded young people with an interest in medicine to pursue a medical career.**

## Supporting service

Endowment recognizes altruism in future physicians

Robert Hart appreciates the value of skilled physicians who genuinely care about their patients. He has been that patient a few times in his life, and he says the care provided at clinics associated with the University of Minnesota

is far and away the best he has received. His wife's son had a similar experience with prompt, outstanding treatment at the University when time really counted.

"I'm extremely pleased with the care I have been given," says Hart, an entrepreneur. "I thought I should do something to show my gratitude."

As he thought about ways to do that, the prospect of supporting students who are dedicated to serving others excited him the most. So in December he pledged \$125,000 over five years and another \$25,000 each year for the rest of his life to establish the Robert Leonard Hart Endowment for Public Service in Medicine. The scholarship gives preference to students who have served in the Peace Corps or AmeriCorps before entering medical school. He has put another \$2 million aside in his estate plans to support this fund as well.

The endowed fund also qualified for the President's Scholarship Match, a program

created in 2003 by University President Robert Bruininks, Ph.D., which essentially doubles the impact of scholarship gifts.

Hart hopes the money this endowment provides, which nearly covers one student's full tuition, will allow public service-minded young people with an interest in medicine to pursue a medical career — without having to worry about how they're going to repay their loans.

Last year's University of Minnesota Medical School graduates, for example, carried an average debt of \$180,000.

Hart worries that the high cost of medical school encourages students to be more concerned with income than service. "In today's world, the large debt burden that medical graduates carry makes it difficult — if not impossible — to be of service to the poor, underprivileged, and underserved," he says.

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# giving matters



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*Please join me in celebrating a new benchmark of generosity—almost \$125 million*

*raised by the Minnesota Medical Foundation in fiscal year 2009 to advance medicine and public health discoveries at the University of Minnesota.*

*Given the state of the economy over the past year, this is especially remarkable. It says that our community's optimism and commitment to the future have not been shaken. Indeed, the economic uncertainties we have experienced may have increased our concern about the welfare of the next generation.*

*Last year's record-breaking support was due largely to two extraordinarily generous commitments: a \$50 million pledge from Caroline Amplatz that named University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital in honor of her father, longtime University professor and medical device pioneer Kurt Amplatz, M.D.; and the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation's \$40 million pledge to advance a cure for type 1 diabetes. Richard M. Schulze's daughter Debra Schulze has lived with type 1 diabetes for nearly 30 years.*

*These gifts are truly transformational. And, like many of the thousands of gifts we receive each year, they demonstrate how philanthropy often springs from some strong personal connection—and grows into a commitment to make life better for everyone in the future.*

*You'll find many such stories in this issue of Giving Matters. Particularly touching is the story on this page about a recent gift from the Friswold family to honor a daughter lost to leukemia at age 4. The Friswolds' gift will help make hospital stays more comfortable for other children and their families.*

*Thank you, our valued supporters, for making this an exceptional year. Your generosity will help us enhance many lives today—and well beyond.*

## **Becky Malkerson**

President and CEO  
Minnesota Medical Foundation

# A family affair

## Personal experience with a child's illness inspires gift to Adopt A Room

As a child, Barry Friswold spent a lot of time in the hospital—but not because he was sick. It was his sister Michelle who had leukemia. □ Parents Fred and Marie Friswold spent as much time as they could in the hospital with

Michelle before she died in 1967 at age 4. But the hospital room was too cramped for the whole family to be together.

"I remember spending many hours in the hospital play room or being shuttled around to various neighbors while our parents were at the hospital," Barry Friswold says. "I know it was hard on all of us, and I think having a hospital facility that better accommodated our family throughout Michelle's illness would have been much better."

At a recent family gathering, Fred and Marie discussed with their now-grown children a new concept for making long hospital stays more comfortable for children and their families through the Adopt A Room program at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. The brainchild of two dads who also lost young daughters to disease, Adopt A Rooms are designed to give ill children more control of their environments while providing more space for their parents and siblings.

All rooms in the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital facility, scheduled to open in 2011, will be private and larger-than-standard in size with mini-fridges and microwaves, tables for eating dinner together and doing homework, and sleeper sofas for family members.

Rooms that are "adopted"—with private gifts of \$200,000 per room—also will include technologies to make the rooms customizable, with consoles at children's bedsides that allow them to change the lighting and color of their rooms, a unique layout that keeps medical equipment hidden from view, and many other special features.

Longtime supporters of children's health efforts at the University, Fred and Marie Friswold felt compelled to adopt one of these rooms and help families today weather tough times together. They emphasize that their gift



The Friswold family, from left: Steve, Marie, Fred, Cyndie (Hays), Barry, and Ben. "Mom and Dad have always been generous donors and volunteers, and that spirit of community giving is contagious," Barry says.

to the Adopt A Room program—along with another gift of \$100,000 to the Michelle Marie Friswold Endowment Fund to advance innovative medical research in the Department of Pediatrics—is on behalf of their entire family, as they all were greatly affected by Michelle's illness and time in the hospital.

"The healing comes so much better if the environment surrounds you with happiness and comfort and family," Marie says. "It just makes a difference, whatever age you might be."

And the Friswold kids—Cyndie, Steve, Barry, and Ben—fully supported their decision.

"Adopting a room is the perfect thing for our family to do together," Barry says. "A child's illness or death can have a devastating impact on the health and stability of families, so anything that can be done to support and nourish a family during challenging times like that is so important. Enabling a family to spend more time together is a real gift."

*Hospital leaders hope that all University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital rooms will eventually be adopted so they can be outfitted with the extra elements that make hospital stays better for children and their families. To learn more about how you or your company can sponsor a room, contact Elizabeth Patty at 612-273-8638 or e.patty@mmf.umn.edu.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIE FRISWOLD

# Estate gift supports two tracks of leading Alzheimer's disease research

It's an exciting time in Alzheimer's disease research at the University of Minnesota. The world-renowned Nun Study, initiated here in 1986, returned to the University in March after nearly 20 years away and is

still netting key insights into Alzheimer's disease and other brain disorders. And the leading-edge research conducted in the University's N. Bud Grossman Center for Memory Research and Care continues to gain momentum as it shifts its focus to preventing Alzheimer's altogether.

Propelling these initiatives is a recent gift of more than \$1.4 million from the estate of the late Douglas Mohl that is being split between the Nun Study and the Grossman Center.

Mohl, a 1962 graduate of the University's Institute of Technology and an avid Gopher athletics fan, died suddenly last year at age 68. Mohl's mother was treated at the University for Alzheimer's disease and in 1988 participated in a neurosurgery clinical trial. Douglas Mohl was so grateful for the care she received that he decided to include Alzheimer's disease research at the University in his estate plans.

## Understanding the aging brain

Mohl's donation is already being put to good use.

"This generous gift will provide us with the resources we need as we prepare for a new and innovative study with this unique population," says Kelvin O. Lim, M.D., director

of the Nun Study and professor and vice chair for research in the Department of Psychiatry. He also holds Drs. T. J. and Ella M. Arneson Land-Grant Chair in Human Behavior.

During the past two decades, about 700 nun volunteers from seven U.S. provinces of the School Sisters of Notre Dame have contributed to a better understanding of healthy brain aging via their journals, personal and medical histories, cognitive functioning tests, and dissection of their brains after death.

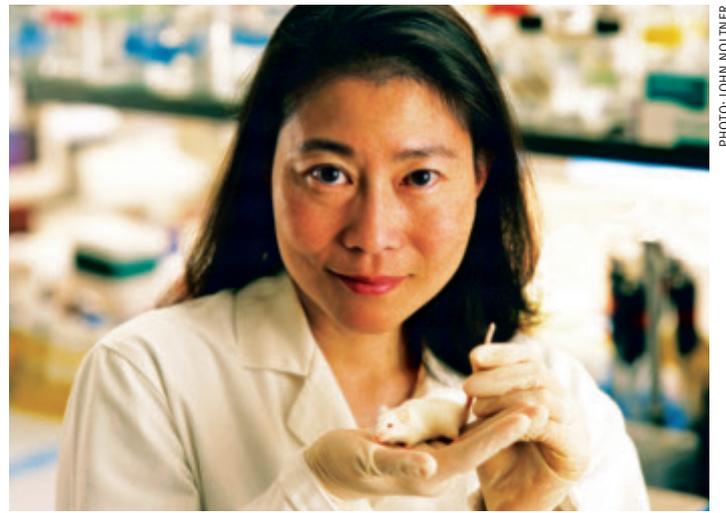
Researchers say the nuns are an ideal group to study because of their homogeneous and active lifestyle — many are involved in education and service well into their 90s. This is attractive to researchers because it minimizes many of the lifestyle factors they must consider in their assessments.

"What we really hope to do is expand the study and use this collection of material to understand how our cognitive capabilities change with age, irrespective of whether we get Alzheimer's, and how our motor functions change with age," says Harry Orr, Ph.D., director of the University's Institute for Translational Neuroscience and holder of the Edmund Wallace Tulloch and Anna Marie Tulloch Chair in Genetics.

## A focus on prevention

At the Grossman Center, director Karen Hsiao Ashe, M.D., Ph.D., and her team have made remarkable progress in understanding the underlying mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease that lead to impaired memory.

From the same laboratory that created two types of mice to study the disease — one that models the later stages of Alzheimer's and one that models the earlier symptoms of pre-dementia — comes a new research focus: prevention.



TOP Kelvin O. Lim, M.D., who directs the Nun Study, is looking for a link between early education and brain health.

БОТТОМ Karen Hsiao Ashe, M.D., Ph.D., leads a team responsible for several breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease research.

Ashe's lab team discovered the A $\beta$ \*56 protein, which they believe triggers the chemical chain reaction leading to memory impairment, and just last year they found a new way to study both its structure and function. This paves the way for developing tools to one day measure the protein in clinical settings and could ultimately lead to early detection and prevention.

"This gift will enable the Grossman Center to pursue research collaborations with scientists at multiple institutions that will accelerate the timeline to prevention," says Ashe, who holds the Edmund Wallace Tulloch and Anna Marie Tulloch Chairs in Neurology and Neuroscience.

To make a gift to Alzheimer's disease research at the University of Minnesota, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/neuro](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/neuro) or contact Cassidy Titcomb at 612-625-9613 or [c.titcomb@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:c.titcomb@mmf.umn.edu).



About 700 nun volunteers have contributed to the brain aging study over the past two decades.

# Major grant funds stem cell research collaboration

Donor support and current technology help draw federal funds

Most major medical discoveries don't happen in a single lab; they result from close collaboration across multiple institutions, often over many years. That's why it was big news when University of Minnesota researchers learned in October that

they had received a seven-year collaboration grant to help develop the high-potential field of stem cell therapy.

Under the grant, awarded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), one of the National Institutes of Health, University researchers will partner with a research team from the University of Wisconsin–Madison to understand how and when stem cells commit to becoming a certain type of blood cell.

“What we want to know is, how do various stem cells decide to become blood or heart or blood vessels? How can you enhance that process so it becomes highly efficient and produces a large number of those cells?” says Daniel J. Garry, M.D., Ph.D., executive director of the Lillehei Heart Institute and leader of the University's research team.

## BY THE NUMBERS

18

Teams of research scientists receiving these National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute awards nationally

9

Number of research partnerships formed through this grant program

\$750,000

Amount awarded per year to both the University of Minnesota and University of Wisconsin–Madison

7

Years of grant term

6

Number of University of Minnesota investigators directly benefiting from this award



PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE

Daniel Garry, M.D., Ph.D., is excited that a new collaboration grant will connect the University to a nationwide network of other leading stem cell scientists.

Scientists are already able to coax stem cells into becoming specific types of cells, Garry says, but they aren't yet able to make enough cells to potentially treat a human patient.

The collaboration award provides each institution with \$750,000 per year and brings together researchers from the heart, lung, blood, and technology research fields. Scientists from partner institutions will meet several times a year to exchange ideas and talk about how they can accelerate one another's work.

Sixteen other universities throughout the country, forming eight more partnerships, have received similar awards from the NHLBI.

The award not only provides University investigators with a steady source of funding for this research, Garry says, but it also connects them with other leading stem cell labs across the country.

“The point of these networks is to foster collaborations not only with your partner but across the entire network,” he says.

Jonathan Slack, Ph.D., director of the University's Stem Cell Institute, was a pivotal partner in identifying ways to leverage the University's strengths and providing the foundation for a standout grant application, Garry says.

“This was a golden opportunity for us,” Slack says. “We already had expertise in embryonic stem cell/iPS cell biology,

hematopoietic development, cardiac development, decellularized organs, cell transplantation, and imaging technology—in other words, all the technology required.”

Philanthropy is another reason behind the University's grant success. Last year the Engdahl Family Foundation funded an interdisciplinary study by cardiology professor Jay Zhang, M.D., Ph.D., and stem cell scientist Dan S. Kaufman, M.D., Ph.D., aimed at identifying which factors are important in promoting cardiac regeneration. That study provided enough preliminary data to make the University a strong contender for the NHLBI grant, Garry says.

“Gifts that support novel research ideas often set the table for our scientists to later earn much larger grants from agencies such as the NHLBI,” he says. “A gift to start-up research like this often gets a huge return on the donor's investment.”

And, thanks to the exchange of tools and information through the NHLBI-funded collaboration, the return on investment is only likely to grow.

*To make a gift to heart research at the University of Minnesota, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/heartlung](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/heartlung) or contact Julie Crews Barger at 612-273-8593 or [j.barger@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:j.barger@mmf.umn.edu).*

## JANUARY

**23 SATURDAY**  
**Florida Minne-College**

Inn on Fifth  
Naples, Florida  
Join University of Minnesota alumni and friends for this unique afternoon of learning, spirited discussions, and socializing with leading faculty from the Medical School, School of Public Health, SW FL Chapter of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association, and other collegiate partners.

① Contact Harlan Hansen at 239-596-9474 or hhanse@aol.com

**28 THURSDAY 5:30 P.M.**  
**Diamond Awards**

Minneapolis Hilton  
The fifth annual Diamond Awards, a partnership between the Minnesota Medical Foundation and the Baseball Writers Association of America, will celebrate the Minnesota Twins' outstanding 2009 season while raising funds for brain, nerve, and muscle disorders research at the University of Minnesota (see story below).

① Contact Valerie Petermann at 612-624-4444 or v.petermann@mmf.umn.edu  
Become a fan on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.



## MAY

**7 FRIDAY 10 A.M.**  
**Medical School Commencement**

Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota  
① Contact Linda Reilly at 612-624-9608 or reilloo2@umn.edu.

**7-8 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**  
**WineFest No. 15 — A Toast to Children's Health**

Friday: Wine Symposium and Grand Tasting  
Saturday: VIP Reception and Fine Wine Dinner

The Depot, Minneapolis  
Enjoy a fantastic two-day celebration featuring exquisite wine, gourmet fare, spectacular auction lots, and lively entertainment while supporting the internationally renowned University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. This year's event will highlight Women in Wine, showcasing legends and leaders in the wine industry, including Karen Culler from Ladera, Margaret

Duckhorn from Duckhorn Wine Company, Sara Gott from Joel Gott Wines, Kate MacMurray from MacMurray Ranch, Allison Steltzner from Steltzner Vineyards, and Sandy Walheim from Francis Ford Coppola Presents.

Join fellow wine lovers, community leaders, and business professionals for the premier wine charity event of the year. Invitations will be mailed in March.

① Visit [www.thewinefest.com](http://www.thewinefest.com)

**17 MONDAY 5 P.M.**  
**School of Public Health Commencement**

Northrop Auditorium, University of Minnesota  
① Contact Nichole Axtman at 612-626-9303 or mart1047@umn.edu



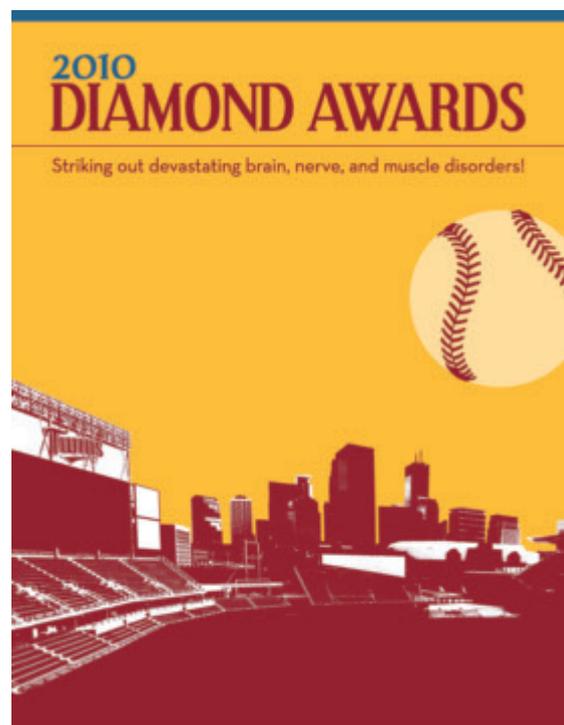
Diane Hoffman's painting "Legacy" is the signature artwork of WineFest No. 15.

go to : [www.mmf.umn.edu](http://www.mmf.umn.edu)

For event descriptions, updates, links, and contact information.

## Fifth Annual Diamond Awards

Thursday, January 28, 2010, Hilton Minneapolis



Don't miss Minnesota's premier baseball charity event! The fifth annual Diamond Awards will be held Thursday, January 28, 2010, at the Hilton Minneapolis. The event, which typically draws more than 400 guests, will celebrate the Minnesota Twins' 2009 baseball season while raising crucial funds for University of Minnesota medical research targeting brain, nerve, and muscle disorders.

Event participants will have the chance to mingle with current and former Minnesota Twins, be a part of televised awards dinner featuring baseball greats, and much more.

Since its inception, Diamond Awards has raised more than \$2 million to support the University's innovative research and patient care in ataxia, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) — all devastating illnesses.

In remarks from the 2009 Diamond Awards program, one guest who has ALS said of the event, "It seems like you're just giving money, but what you're really giving is hope. The gift of hope is priceless."

You can help strike out brain, nerve, and muscle disorders by joining us at the fifth annual Diamond Awards.

To learn more, contact Valerie Petermann at [v.petermann@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:v.petermann@mmf.umn.edu) or 612-624-4444 or visit [www.minnesotadiamondawards.org](http://www.minnesotadiamondawards.org).

# A special thanks

We'd like to extend an extra thank-you to the following individuals and organizations that have made commitments totaling \$100,000 or more between January 1 and September 30, 2009.

**Caroline A. Amplatz, J.D.**, Golden Valley, Minnesota, made gifts exceeding \$50 million to the University of Minnesota — \$50 million of which will help build the new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital. To learn more, please see our story in the Winter 2009 issue of *Giving Matters* at [www.mmf.umn.edu/givingmatters](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/givingmatters).

An **anonymous** donor has pledged a future estate gift to benefit pediatric research.

**J. Richard Bland**, Plymouth, Minnesota, donated \$150,000 to the Carole J. Bland Fund for Faculty Development at the Medical School.

**Boston Scientific Corporation and Boston Scientific Foundation, Inc.**, Natick, Massachusetts, made gifts totaling \$156,000 — a significant portion of which was directed to the Community-University Health Care Center and to cardiovascular research, education, and care.

**Children's Cancer Research Fund**, Minneapolis, contributed more than \$2 million to the Childhood Cancer Research Program.

**Lee M. and Bonnie L. Espeland**, Bloomington, Minnesota, committed \$205,000 to the Lee and Bonnie Espeland Scholarship, a

scholarship at the Medical School that also receives support from the President's Scholarship Match program.

**5th District Eagles Cancer Telethon of Southern Minnesota**, Rochester, Minnesota, gave \$125,000 to the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota.

**Fred R. and C. Marie Friswold**, Edina, Minnesota, pledged \$300,000 to sponsor an Adopt A Room at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital and to support the Michelle Marie Friswold Endowment Fund. The gifts honor their late daughter, Michelle. (See story on page 2.)

**Drs. Franz Halberg and Othilde Schwartzkopff**, St. Paul, contributed \$295,950 to the Halberg Center for Chronobiology.

**Jeannine A. Johnson**, Moorhead, Minnesota, gave \$100,000 for the establishment of the Dr. Alan and Jeannine Johnson Endowed Scholarship for medical students.

**Arnold S. Leonard, M.D., Ph.D.**, Golden Valley, Minnesota, made a \$100,000 gift, directed through the Arnold S. Leonard Cancer Research Fund, to support pediatric surgical research.

**Dr. Seymour H. and Solveig Levitt**, Edina, Minnesota, committed a future estate gift in support of the Seymour H. Levitt, M.D., Chair in Clinical Radiation Oncology.

**The Lions Multiple District Hearing Foundation, Inc.**, Monticello, Minnesota, made gifts totaling \$140,157 to the Lions Program Development Fund.

**Patricia A. Lyon**, Minneapolis, has committed a future estate gift in support of the Schulze Diabetes Institute.

**Masonic Cancer Center Fund, Inc.**, Bloomington, Minnesota, pledged \$884,763 to the Division of Hematology, Oncology, and Transplantation in the Department of Medicine.

**Medtronic, Inc.**, Minneapolis, made gifts totaling \$120,950 to a variety of funds at the University of Minnesota Medical School.

**The Minnesota American Legion and Auxiliary Heart Research Foundation** made gifts totaling \$112,883 in support of the Minnesota American Legion and Auxiliary Heart Research Foundation Chair, which supports pediatric infectious disease research. This was the first endowed chair established in the Department of Pediatrics.

**The estate of Douglas C. Mohl**, Parrish, Florida, committed \$1,432,557 to benefit Alzheimer's disease research at the University of Minnesota. (See story on page 3.)



## Leave a legacy from your retirement account

Many donors have found that contributing retirement plan assets to charity can be an ideal way to leave a legacy.

When you name the Minnesota Medical Foundation as beneficiary of your IRA or other retirement account using a beneficiary designation form, your estate receives a charitable deduction and no income taxes are due on the donated assets.

For more information on ways to leave a legacy gift from your retirement account, contact our gift planning department at 612-625-1440 or 800-922-1663.

Visit our website at [www.mmf.umn.edu/giftplanning](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/giftplanning).

# Tapping the potential of natural killer cells

Woman hopes her gifts will help University researchers find better treatments for adults with leukemia

Clark Starr, Ph.D., was two months away from retiring in 1997 when he and his wife, Jane, got devastating news. Clark had myelodysplasia, a disease in which the bone marrow doesn't make enough healthy blood cells. It can progress and become acute myelogenous leukemia (AML).

Clark's disease progressed to AML within a year. After two rounds of chemotherapy, it became apparent that traditional treatments weren't working. Not even two years after he was diagnosed with myelodysplasia, Clark Starr died. He was 71.

Jane Starr was frustrated that more couldn't be done for her husband.

"They've accomplished so much with helping children [with cancer] ... but they didn't have any way to treat [Clark's leukemia]," she says. "And I was really angry about that."

So later that year, Jane Starr approached the University of Minnesota's cancer team to find out what she could do to improve the outlook for adults with leukemia. That's when she learned about leading-edge research Jeffrey Miller, M.D., was conducting on natural killer (NK) cells.

Miller, director of experimental therapeutics for the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota, started looking into the cancer-fighting power of NK cells 20 years ago. In 1994 he and his University colleagues launched their first clinical trial of NK cell therapy in patients who had received hematopoietic cell transplants, also known as blood and marrow transplants, using their own stem cells.

"The reality of translational research is that once you take an idea like this and start testing, it takes a long time," explains Miller, who holds the Roger L. and Lynn C. Headrick Family Chair in Cancer Therapeutics. "So, 10 years later, in 2003, we concluded that despite successfully activating NK cells in the body, the therapy wasn't good enough to prevent clinical relapse."

In the meantime, NK cells were found to have receptors on their surface that "turn off" when they recognize cells as "self." Because cancerous cells are actually "self" cells gone awry, NK cells don't always target them as the enemy. This development prompted Miller to try a different protocol using NK cells from a related partially matched donor instead of using the patient's own cells.

In 2005 Miller and his team showed that NK cell therapy for people with AML for whom all standard therapies had failed could lead to remission of the cancer. Miller's group treated 32 people, and 10 achieved complete remission. Based on those promising results, Miller's group has already developed the next generation of that therapy.

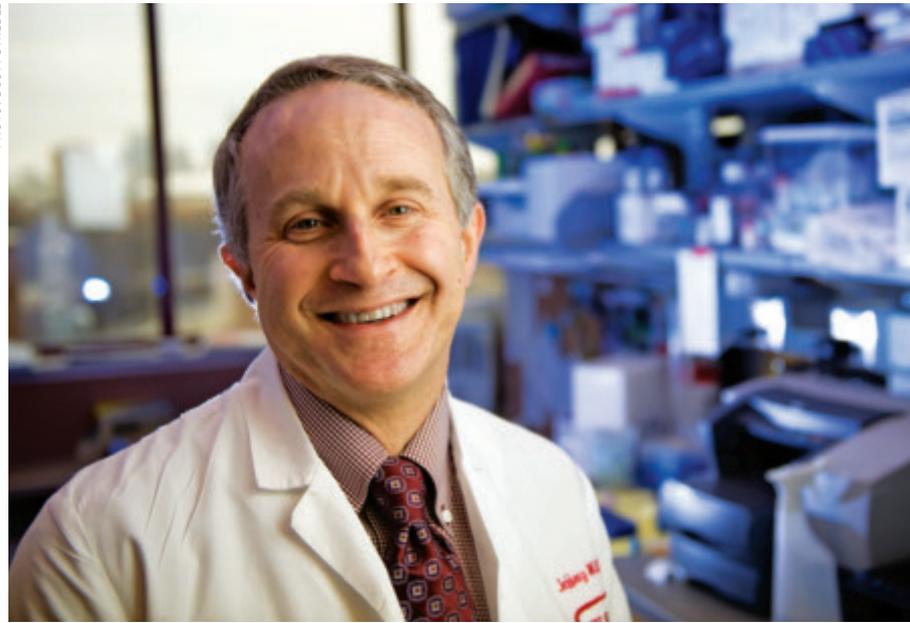
"We feel good that the new therapies we brought from the lab to the clinic are helping people," he says. "They're not always curing people ... but the only way to be one step ahead is to go back to the laboratory and understand the failures as well as the successes."

Jane Starr has been supporting Miller's work with annual gifts of \$10,000 since December 1999, the same year her husband died. And she feels that the need to continue supporting this work — if it will expedite a cure for adults with leukemia — is as great now as it was then.

"I figure it's money well spent," Starr says.

*To support Miller's work or learn about more cancer research initiatives, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/cancer](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/cancer) or contact Catherine McGlinch at 612-626-5456 or [c.mcglinch@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:c.mcglinch@mmf.umn.edu).*

PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE



Jeffrey Miller, M.D., has taken his research on natural killer cells from the laboratory to clinical trials.



Jane Starr hopes her gifts will expedite better treatments for adults who have leukemia.



## MMF launches new website

The Minnesota Medical Foundation has launched a dynamic new website to better connect with and engage donors, alumni, University and business leaders, and members of the public who care about medical and public health advances at the University of Minnesota.

Visitors will find news and information about MMF's fundraising priorities and giving opportunities, planned giving tips, events, links to our Facebook pages, and more.

Go to [www.mmf.umn.edu](http://www.mmf.umn.edu) to discover the power of philanthropy to improve lives.

# Gift to bioethics center will make a real-world difference

As the second wave of the H1N1 flu pandemic hit this fall and health-care providers awaited a vaccine for the fast-spreading virus, questions about rationing loomed large. “Who gets to go to the front of the line, who should be vaccinated first?” asks Debra

DeBruin, Ph.D., director of Graduate Studies at the University of Minnesota’s Center for Bioethics.

“You start with basic, core principles and work down to goals and then to strategies,” explains DeBruin, who has spent three years working with the Minnesota Department of Health to create guidelines for allocating scarce resources during a pandemic.

Such vexing dilemmas keep faculty at the Center for Bioethics exceedingly busy and would likely have intrigued the late Ann Salovich, a Twin Cities volunteer, philanthropist, and ardent University supporter who was passionate about ethics, public policy, and public engagement.

So it’s fitting that an estimated \$500,000 philanthropic bequest she left to the University will benefit the center as it engages the public in this crucial debate and others like it.

“This is a wonderful gift,” says center director Jeffrey Kahn, Ph.D., M.P.H. “We’re all working to make a difference in our teaching, research, and outreach. This gift will help us reach more people in support of our mission and is a testament to the impact an individual can make.”



Jeffrey Kahn, Ph.D., M.P.H., director of the Center for Bioethics

## Building a new graduate program

Together, faculty members agreed that the money will help support the center’s brand-new master’s degree program through graduate student fellowships. This year, eight students from wide-ranging backgrounds — medicine, law, public health, and divinity — are pursuing master’s degrees in bioethics.

That diversity is by design, DeBruin says, and the center will use a significant portion of Ann Salovich’s gift to support fellowships

so that it can continue to attract top graduate students who have varied résumés and come from throughout the United States and beyond.

## Guiding public policy

Much of the work done by center faculty helps to shape public policy — one of Salovich’s lifelong interests.

Faculty serve on numerous University, state, and federal bodies that make important decisions about medical science and health care.

For instance, Kahn currently serves on the National Institute of Health’s Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, which oversees gene transfer research. “The science doesn’t go forward until that body has made its recommendations,” Kahn says.

“There are parts of the University that never leave the ivory tower. And there is a value in the work that goes on in those areas,” he says.

“But much of our work at the center is in the real world. I feel like we make a difference in a very real way.”

## Engaging the public

In fact, engaging the public in ethical discussions with real-life consequences is one of the center’s key missions, and Kahn hopes the Salovich gift will allow the center to use new media and other technology to foster that involvement.

“It’s hard for us to deal with late-breaking issues,” Kahn says. “We’re a relatively small faculty. How can we get this kind of information out to a wider public more effectively? How can we use developing information



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CENTER FOR BIOETHICS

A bequest from the late Ann Salovich will help the Center for Bioethics attract top students to its new graduate program.

technologies to do a better job of making what we do publicly accessible?”

One possible answer may emerge from the recently launched Ethicshare.org, an online resource for bioethics scholars. Kahn hopes that this joint project of the Center for Bioethics, the University of Minnesota Libraries, and the Department of Computer Science eventually will be accessible to the public.

“We try to be a clearinghouse for information around the ethical aspects of issues and to help provide the highest quality analysis of those issues. It’s not our job to tell people what to think. We should never do that,” Kahn explains. “In fact, we don’t even try to reach conclusions collectively, because we know that a diverse group of thinkers should challenge each other rather than all agree with each other. We’re here to help people analyze the issues.”

Promoting enlightened discourse to advance the common good is exactly what Ann Salovich was committed to, Kahn says. “That’s what she was about and what she wanted her legacy to be.” — SUSAN MAAS

To make a gift to the Center for Bioethics, contact Holly McDonough at 612-625-8758 or h.mcdonough@mmf.umn.edu.

# Couple's gifts support injury prevention research and education — today and in the future

Leon S. Robertson, Ph.D., has spent his career saving lives — not on the front lines, but behind the scenes as a transportation injury epidemiologist, where he researched how policy changes such as seat belt laws and lower legal driving limits for blood-alcohol content can improve safety on the roads. His work also has addressed how vehicle and road modifications can significantly reduce fatalities.

But Robertson argues that there's still much improvement to be made. "We still have a big problem, but it's not nearly as big as it was 30 years ago," he says.

That's why he and his wife, Nancy Robertson, have supported injury prevention education and research at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health (SPH). In 1997 the Robertsons set aside \$500,000 in their estate plan to eventually create the Leon S. Robertson Professorship in Injury

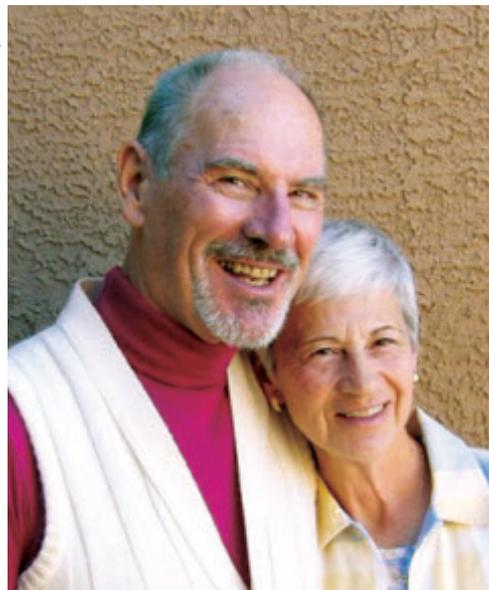


PHOTO COURTESY OF LEON ROBERTSON, PH.D.

Leon and Nancy Robertson's gift honors the work of SPH professor Susan Goodwin Gerberich, Ph.D.

Prevention, which would support the work of SPH professor Susan Goodwin Gerberich, Ph.D., a former colleague of Leon whom the couple deeply respects.

Gerberich has led a major research effort over the last two decades in five Midwestern states, examining the magnitude of and risk factors for injuries among agricultural families, with a focus on children.

(She and Robertson

once collaborated on a study of fatal farm vehicle crashes on public roads.) She also has conducted several studies on work-related violence, most recently population-based studies of violence against nurses and teachers in Minnesota.

This year the Robertsons decided they wanted to start funding Gerberich's work sooner. So in March, they contributed \$100,000 to the fund. They plan to make similar contributions in the next few years.

"I decided that we could afford to get it started now because I wanted the program to continue ... and if Sue Gerberich ever retires, which I don't know if she will," Leon Robertson says with a laugh, "that [the University] would replace her with someone equally qualified."

To further support injury epidemiology at the University, the Robertsons also are funding the Nancy A. Robertson Endowed Fellowship in Injury Prevention to support graduate student training.

The SPH's injury prevention graduate training program, which Gerberich established in the 1980s, is one of the nation's first.

Gerberich also received the SPH's Excellence in Advising Award in 2008.

"Sue's the best," says Robertson, adding that he refers students to her training program whenever he has the chance. "She's an excellent teacher and an excellent scholar."

To support the School of Public Health, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/giveto/sph](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/giveto/sph) or contact Adam Buhr at 612-626-2391 or [a.buhr@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:a.buhr@mmf.umn.edu).

## Girls' snack-stand proceeds honor aunt, benefit brain cancer research

Following Leslie Ann Long's death from brain cancer in May 2008, her nieces Sophia and Danielle DeTuncq — 7 and 8 years old, respectively — struggled to find a way to do something in her memory.

Last May, the sisters set up their usual snack stand for participants of the Animal Humane Society's annual Walk for Animals outside of their grandmother's house in

Golden Valley. In past years, their Aunt Leslie had joined them to watch the pets and owners parade by, so this year, they donated their \$135 in proceeds to brain cancer research at the University of Minnesota in her honor.

Their grandmother, Ann DeTuncq, says she's proud of her granddaughters and their tribute to her daughter. "They worked so hard," she says. "They're great kids."



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROOKS DETUNCQ

Sophia and Danielle DeTuncq donated the money they raised to brain cancer research in memory of their aunt.

to make a difference, go to: [www.mmf.umn.edu/give](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/give)

# A toast to living generously

“Generous people know how to live, which is not to say they live with abandon, but that they live with the knowledge that life is very precious and very short,” actress and guest speaker Kate Mulgrew told attendees at the Minnesota Medical Foundation’s 2009 annual dinner October 26.

Mulgrew, who shared the moving story of her mother’s battle with Alzheimer’s disease, is a passionate supporter of Alzheimer’s prevention, including pioneering research at the University of Minnesota.

*To view a video or read the script of Mulgrew’s powerful story about a brilliant life darkened by Alzheimer’s, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu](http://www.mmf.umn.edu).*



Award-winning actress and Alzheimer’s disease prevention advocate Kate Mulgrew (left) and MMF board member Beverly Grossman at MMF’s annual dinner. Both women support work under way in the University’s N. Bud Grossman Center for Memory Research and Care, directed by Karen Ashe, M.D., Ph.D. A gift from Beverly Grossman established the center in honor of her husband.



PHOTOS: STEPHANIE DUNN

# Backing a world leader

## Couple adds bequest to their support of diabetes research

Kathy Goswitz, now 62, was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 19. Her sunny disposition masks decades of struggles with numerous complications of the disease, including hypoglycemia unawareness, a kidney transplant, toe amputation, and other ailments.

Fortunately, diabetes management has improved dramatically since she was diagnosed, Kathy says. “You can live a fulfilling and happy life [with diabetes].”

But despite advances in care, she and her husband, Tom Goswitz, firmly believe that more needs to be done to improve diabetes treatment and find a cure. To help make that happen, they have included a bequest in their will to support diabetes research at the University of Minnesota, and they make regular current-use gifts as well.

The couple says they chose to support University research because they had a positive experience when Kathy underwent a kidney transplant here. “The people were good,” says Tom, who tended to his wife as she recovered.

The Goswitzes say they also chose the University because of its position as a world leader in diabetes research and their belief in supporting their local community.

Both Tom and Kathy are active volunteers — Tom coaches baseball at Cretin-Derham Hall, both volunteer for a senior

meal service, and they also participate in fundraisers that help provide holiday meals for those in need through the West 7th Boys Club in St. Paul.

While they are passionate about many causes, Kathy and Tom say they want to help advance type 1 diabetes research at the University because its researchers in the Schulze Diabetes Institute, in particular, are so close to finding a cure. “We really need to do something about diabetes,” says Kathy. “The time to do it is now.”

*To support diabetes research, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/diabetes](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/diabetes) or contact Jean Gorell at 612-625-0497 or [j.gorell@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:j.gorell@mmf.umn.edu).*



Longtime supporters of diabetes research at the University, Kathy and Tom Goswitz recently named the Schulze Diabetes Institute in their will.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM AND KATHY GOSWITZ

## THE SCHULZE DIABETES INSTITUTE

Type 1 diabetes occurs when the insulin-producing islet cells in the pancreas are mistakenly destroyed by the body’s immune system. At the University of Minnesota’s world-renowned Schulze Diabetes Institute (SDI), researchers are advancing three promising ways to cure type 1 diabetes: through human islet-cell

transplantation, pig islet transplantation, and stem cell-derived islet cells. SDI investigators are also pursuing ways to thwart the body’s natural impulse to reject transplanted tissue and to understand what triggers type 1 diabetes in the first place.

## Welcome, new members!

Because of their generous support, the following donors became members, or rose to a higher giving society, of the University of Minnesota Presidents Club between January 1 and September 30, 2009. Their gifts have been designated (all or in part) to the Medical School, School of Public Health, Masonic Cancer Center, or other areas served by the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

**JOHN SARGENT PILLSBURY SOCIETY**  
(\$10 million or more)

Caroline A. Amplatz, J.D.

**BUILDERS SOCIETY**  
(\$1 million to \$10 million)

Research to Prevent Blindness  
+Hedwige Maria Lea Van Windekens Rosen  
Whitney ARCEE Foundation

**REGENTS SOCIETY**  
(\$250,000 to \$1 million)

+Dr. Kenneth Eben, '34, and + Florence Little Bray  
Fredric W. and Glenda K. Corrigan  
Timothy and Judith A. Dove  
The Fritz and Mary Corrigan Fund  
The Karen Wyckoff Rein in Sarcoma Fund  
Dr. John H., '64, and Anne Nelson Kersey  
Dr. Arnold S. and Mary E. Leonard  
Francis Meyer and Family  
Robert A. and Lorie Michaels  
Thomas G. and Meredith D. Olson  
Randy Shaver Cancer Research and Community Fund  
Dr. Leon S. and Nancy A. Robertson  
John G. and Leslie C. Turner  
Nancy C. and Kenneth B. Woodrow

**TRUSTEES SOCIETY**  
(\$100,000 to \$250,000)

1923 Fund  
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O. J. and Karen Fawcett  
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+Jean L. St. Jean Hannigan  
James A. and Mary G. Lawrence  
Win J. and Rev. Christie C. Neuger  
+Yvonne Pollard Oaks  
Marian N. and +Earl D. Olson  
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St. Paul Park Newport Lions Club  
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+Mary Louise and +Dr. Bernard Street, '37  
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John R. and Rosalinda C. Thompson  
Dr. Jack V., '46, and Constance Wallinga  
+Elma F. Walter

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(Future gifts)

Audra M. Keller and +Edward E. Siegel  
G. Anne and +Dr. John W. LaBree, '40  
Dr. Kraig S. Lerud, '86  
John D. and Virginia A. Overbye  
Paul R. and Joyce C. Ramseth  
Dr. Rud C., '69, and Marlene T. Wasson  
Andrew W. and Susan G. Wolf

+Deceased

**Thomas G. and Meredith D. Olson**, Wayzata, Minnesota, pledged \$210,000 to the Carol Olson Memorial Diabetes Research Fund at the Schulze Diabetes Institute.

**The estate of Ernestine Pittelkow**, Edina, Minnesota, distributed \$100,000 to the Hematology, Oncology, and Transplant Division Memorial Fund in the Department of Medicine.

**Premier, Inc.**, San Diego, California, pledged \$150,000 to support the Premier Richard Norling Scholarship Fund in honor of recently retired CEO Richard Norling.

**Dr. Leon S. and Nancy A. Robertson**, Green Valley, Arizona, have pledged \$200,000 to support the Leon S. Robertson Professorship in Injury Prevention.

**The estate of Hedwige V. Rosen**, Atlanta, Georgia, has distributed \$1,760,457 to support the Samuel Rosen, Ella Pflaum Rosen, Gerald Pflaum Rosen, Henry Pflaum Rosen, Max Pflaum, and Hedwige V. W. Rosen Memorial Fund at the Medical School.

**Jerry M. Speckman, M.D.**, Gainesville, Florida, has pledged \$125,000 to establish the Dr. Jerry Speckman Scholarship Fund, a Medical School scholarship that also receives support from the President's Scholarship Match.

**SuperValu, Inc.**, Minneapolis, and its subsidiary Cub Foods, Stillwater, directed \$112,500 to support Diamond Awards, an event that benefits research on ataxia, ALS, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, and muscular dystrophy at the University of Minnesota.

**3M Company**, St. Paul, has contributed \$274,752 to a variety of funds in the University of Minnesota School of Public Health and Medical School.

**The Wasie Foundation**, Edina, Minnesota, gave \$125,000 toward its \$500,000 matching-gifts pledge to help establish a pediatric rheumatology fellowship program.

**The Muriel Whiteside Trust** made distributions totaling \$277,405 to the Muriel Whiteside Fund, which benefits research at the Medical School—Duluth Campus.

**The Karen Wyckoff Rein in Sarcoma Fund**, Shoreview, Minnesota, contributed \$121,000 to the Karen Wyckoff Sarcoma Research Fund.

## MINNESOTA MEDICAL FOUNDATION

The Minnesota Medical Foundation is a nonprofit organization that raises funds for health-related research, education, and service at the University of Minnesota.

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The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

## Finding the right career

Medical student Tricia Hadley, the first recipient of the scholarship provided through the Hart endowment, agrees that medical students may be enticed by higher-paying specialties over lower-paying primary-care careers in family medicine or pediatrics. But she has a different view.

People are excited by different things, she says. “I’m excited by spending my time with people in need.”

Hadley, a native of Iowa City, started out at Grinnell College as a pre-med major but switched to anthropology after taking a class in medical anthropology and the social aspects of medicine. After graduation, Hadley worked with traditional midwives in Mexico for a year while looking at the impact of government policies. But she says she felt compelled to be a more active participant in health.

So Hadley joined AmeriCorps, working for a year as a doula and medical interpreter at a Brooklyn, New York, hospital where she primarily served an underprivileged Hispanic community. There she saw many women through their entire pregnancies — from prenatal education to labor and delivery and breastfeeding.

“That was the first time I thought, ‘OK, this is a lifestyle I want,’” she says. “Service isn’t something you do to put on your résumé. It’s a lifestyle.”

The next year Hadley took a job at a St. Louis hospital as a doula for women at high risk for pregnancy-related complications.

While considering whether to pursue medicine or nursing, she received a Fulbright scholarship to work in Bogotá, Colombia, where she taught homeless children about sexual and reproductive health and conducted research on candidate vaccines for tuberculosis and malaria.

And somewhere along the way — she’s not exactly sure where — Hadley decided to attend medical school. “It wasn’t a moment,” she says. “I came to the realization that there



PHOTO: SCOTT STREBLE

First-year medical student Tricia Hadley, who spent a year in AmeriCorps working as a doula and medical interpreter, is the first to receive a scholarship through the Robert Leonard Hart Endowment for Public Service in Medicine.

was a lot I wanted to do. This kind of fulfilled everything — my career goals and my personal goals.”

### A choice affirmed

As an Iowa resident, Hadley says her medical training would have been cheaper at a school in her home state. But the University of Minnesota had something other schools didn’t.

“I was drawn to this school because of its commitment to eliminating health disparities and supporting immigrant populations,” says Hadley, who intends to work with these groups in her medical career.

She chose the University’s Medical School before she knew her tuition would be almost fully supported by the Hart scholarship.

“Getting this scholarship was the hugest affirmation that I chose the right place,” Hadley says. “I’ll never forget why I went into medicine.”

Hart and Hadley met for lunch in September, and Hart says Hadley is exactly the kind of student he had hoped to support through his scholarship endowment.

“She is an extraordinary example of service and dedication to a cause,” says Hart. “Such altruism and dedication demand the financial support of those who value the future of a giving and a more egalitarian society.”

To learn more about supporting medical student scholarships, visit [www.mmf.umn.edu/scholarships](http://www.mmf.umn.edu/scholarships) or contact Teri McIntyre at 612-625-5976 or [t.mcintyre@mmf.umn.edu](mailto:t.mcintyre@mmf.umn.edu).

## giving matters FALL 2009

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*“I was drawn to this school because of its commitment to eliminating health disparities and supporting immigrant populations. Getting this scholarship was the hugest affirmation that I chose the right place. I’ll never forget why I went into medicine.”*

TRICIA HADLEY recipient of the Robert Leonard Hart Endowment for Public Service in Medicine

## Double the impact of your gift

Because scholarships are such an important part of providing the opportunity to succeed, the University of Minnesota is offering the President’s Scholarship Match – a rare chance to **double** the impact of your gift to support scholarships.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>**

# Here's how it works

- Gifts of \$25,000 or more that meet program qualifications are eligible.
- The gifts are then used to create an endowment fund at the Minnesota Medical Foundation.
- About 5 percent of the fund's market value is paid out each year to fund the scholarship. Each year, the University matches this payout to double the impact of the gift.
- Employers' matching gifts may be used to meet the minimum.
- Gifts may be paid over five years.
- Several individuals may work together to make a gift of \$25,000 and be eligible for the match.

## EXAMPLE

### **Payout & match from a \$100,000 gift**

**\$4,750**    *Annual payout on a \$100,000 gift*

**\$4,750**    *President's Scholarship Match*

---

**\$9,500**    *Available every year to students*

## OTHER EXAMPLES

**A \$25,000 gift = \$2,375 for students**

**A \$1,000,000 gift = \$95,000 for students**

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## **Driven to Discover**<sup>SM</sup>

University of Minnesota medical student Rebecca Johnson, a recipient of the Martin A. Segal Family Endowed Scholarship, plans on a career in pathology. “I am very grateful to the Segal family for continuing to support me and others in pathology,” she says. “It makes me feel like I’m supported by my community. It feels good to know that there is someone out there thinking about me and my education.”



## Making It Possible

Martin Segal, M.D., a retired pathologist, feels a lasting connection to the University. "I owe everything I have and everything I made as a hospital pathologist to my training at the University of Minnesota," he says. Segal, a 1944 graduate of the Medical School, says he has fond memories of his time on campus and is proud that all of his children attended the University as well. Segal and his late wife, Gloria Segal, established the Martin A. Segal Family Endowed Scholarship to support students with an interest in pathology, like Rebecca Johnson.

## Give a scholarship. Change a life.

To learn more about scholarships for Medical School and School of Public Health students at the University of Minnesota, and how to double the impact of your gift through the President's Scholarship Match, please contact:

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