



CAMPAIGN *Arkansas*





Student Erin Farmer and faculty member Lanier Nalley address a crowd of benefactors at the 2019 Towers of Old Main event.

THIS PIECE IS DEDICATED TO THE
**MORE THAN
123,400
BENEFACTORS**

WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS DURING
CAMPAIGN ARKANSAS.
WE HOPE YOU FEEL INSPIRED
BY THE IMPACT YOU HAVE MADE.

CAMPAIGN GOAL
\$1,250,000,000

CAMPAIGN TOTAL
\$1,449,703,813



MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



\$1,449,703,813 for student, faculty, program and capital support. That's a big number. But that's how much our generous donors helped raise for Campaign Arkansas. In so doing they brought the university's largest and most successful capital campaign to a spectacular close.

As you'll see here, the number isn't as important as the extraordinary impact it will have on the lives of our students and the work of our faculty and staff. This translates into more than 700 new student scholarships and fellowships and nearly a hundred faculty and staff support funds, including 46 endowed faculty positions, which enable us to recruit and retain some of the best faculty from around the world.

These funds will also advance our ability to conduct world class research, retain and graduate students in increasing numbers, promote entrepreneurial activity while accelerating the movement of intellectual property to the market, expand our outreach across the state, grow the arts and humanities and promote diversity and inclusion. This is not just good for the university, it's good for Arkansas - the ultimate beneficiary of a flourishing flagship university.

For years we've known that state funding alone would not be enough to raise the U of A to the next level. We must take matters into our own hands. I cannot say a big enough thanks to everyone who contributed to this campaign. The impact of your giving will be felt for decades to come through the transformation of countless lives.

Thank you!

Joe Steinmetz, Ph.D., *Chancellor*

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ADVANCEMENT



There is a motivation or inspiration behind each gift that was made during Campaign Arkansas. For some, it was about giving back to the university after receiving so much in the past. For others, it was about honoring a career or a family legacy.

No matter what the reason was for giving, the results have proven to be tremendously impactful. Lives have been changed, and the University of Arkansas has greatly benefited from the philanthropy of its alumni and friends. This piece highlights some of the brightest stories of impact that resulted from the campaign and showcases the difference it has already made. If these are the results after only an eight-year effort, imagine how truly transformational it will be in the decades to come.

Campaign Arkansas reached a successful conclusion because of the people invested in the U of A – the volunteers who gave their time and energy, the faculty and staff who lent their creativity and enthusiasm, and the more than 123,400 benefactors who provided any amount of financial support. We have more than a billion reasons to be thankful for all of you.

Mark Power, *Vice Chancellor for Advancement*



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David Woolly

*Designates an emeritus member

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS



\$194.7M
to create the
*Institute for
Integrative and
Innovative Research (I3R)*

1 DEPARTMENT NAMED
*The William Dillard
Department of Accounting*

THANKS TO A
\$10M GIFT
COMMITMENT

1 ENDOWED DEAN’S CHAIR
The Henry G. Hotz Endowed Dean’s Chair

THANKS TO A
\$1M GIFT
COMMITMENT FROM PALMER
AND MARIE HOTZ

AND **\$2M**
FROM THE WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION


WINDGATE ART AND DESIGN DISTRICT
CREATED WITH **\$40M GIFT**

36 STUDY ABROAD
SCHOLARSHIPS ESTABLISHED
DURING THE CAMPAIGN



NEW SCHOOL OF ART
ESTABLISHED WITH
\$120M GIFT

THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING
IN **STUDY ABROAD** EXPERIENCES
INCREASED FROM



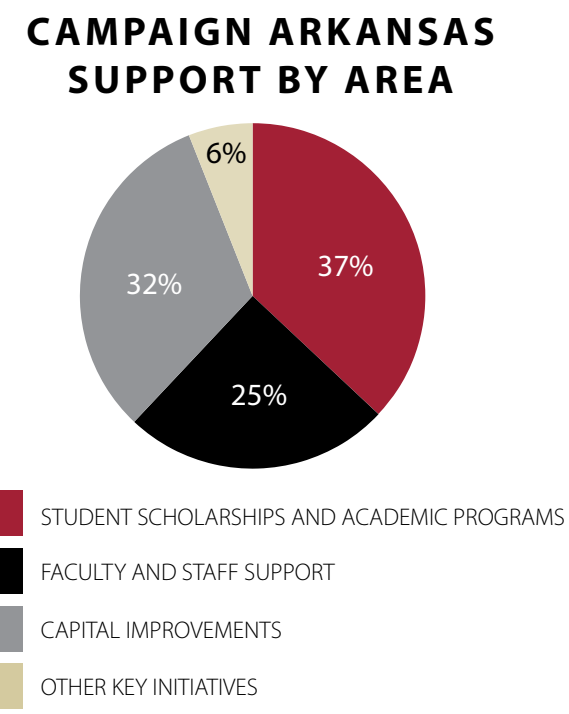
733 *in 2012-2013* TO
1,130 *in 2018-2019*



MORE THAN
\$12.2M
RAISED TOWARD TIMBER
AND WOOD INITIATIVES

\$348.9M
COMMITTED TO
THE UNIVERSITY’S
ENDOWMENT
*bringing it to
over \$1 billion*

706
NEW STUDENT
SUPPORT FUNDS
CREATED DURING
THE CAMPAIGN



TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT FOR
GARVAN WOODLAND GARDENS
\$12.59M

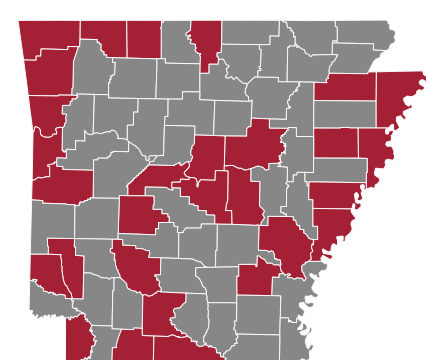
TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT
FOR UNIVERSITY BANDS
\$3.75M

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT
FOR KUAF
\$7.48M

TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT
FOR PRYOR CENTER
\$3M

85
STUDENTS RECEIVED
**ADVANCE ARKANSAS
SCHOLARSHIPS** *since 2017*

**ADVANCE
ARKANSAS
RECIPIENTS**
REPRESENT
29
COUNTIES IN
ARKANSAS



STUDENT
RECIPIENTS



All In for Arkansas, the university's annual giving day, began during Campaign Arkansas as a way to celebrate the U of A's birthday and encourage philanthropy. *Photo from 2017.*



Aaron Mattingly

“Going to school in Fayetteville was a big part of my life. It gives me chills to think about all of the connections these students will make in college. Even as an alumnus, the university continues to give me more – whether through relationships or opportunities.” – Kenny Gibbs, B.S.B.A. '85

ENRICHING THE EXPERIENCE

A full-time job plus work as a full-time student can be a challenging combination. But thanks to the William R. Toller Alumni Legacy Endowed Scholarship from the Arkansas Alumni Association, sophomore Honors College student Aaron Mattingly can focus on the latter and, ultimately, even enrich his entire student experience.

Originally from Bentonville, Mattingly said one of the reasons he chose to attend the University of Arkansas was for its biology and nursing programs. As a freshman, he was awarded the Toller Alumni Legacy Scholarship, and he says it's provided much-needed financial assistance.

“I now don't have to work as much, which allows me to do other things like intramural sports, which I love to do,” Mattingly said. “It has also allowed me to be more involved on campus.”

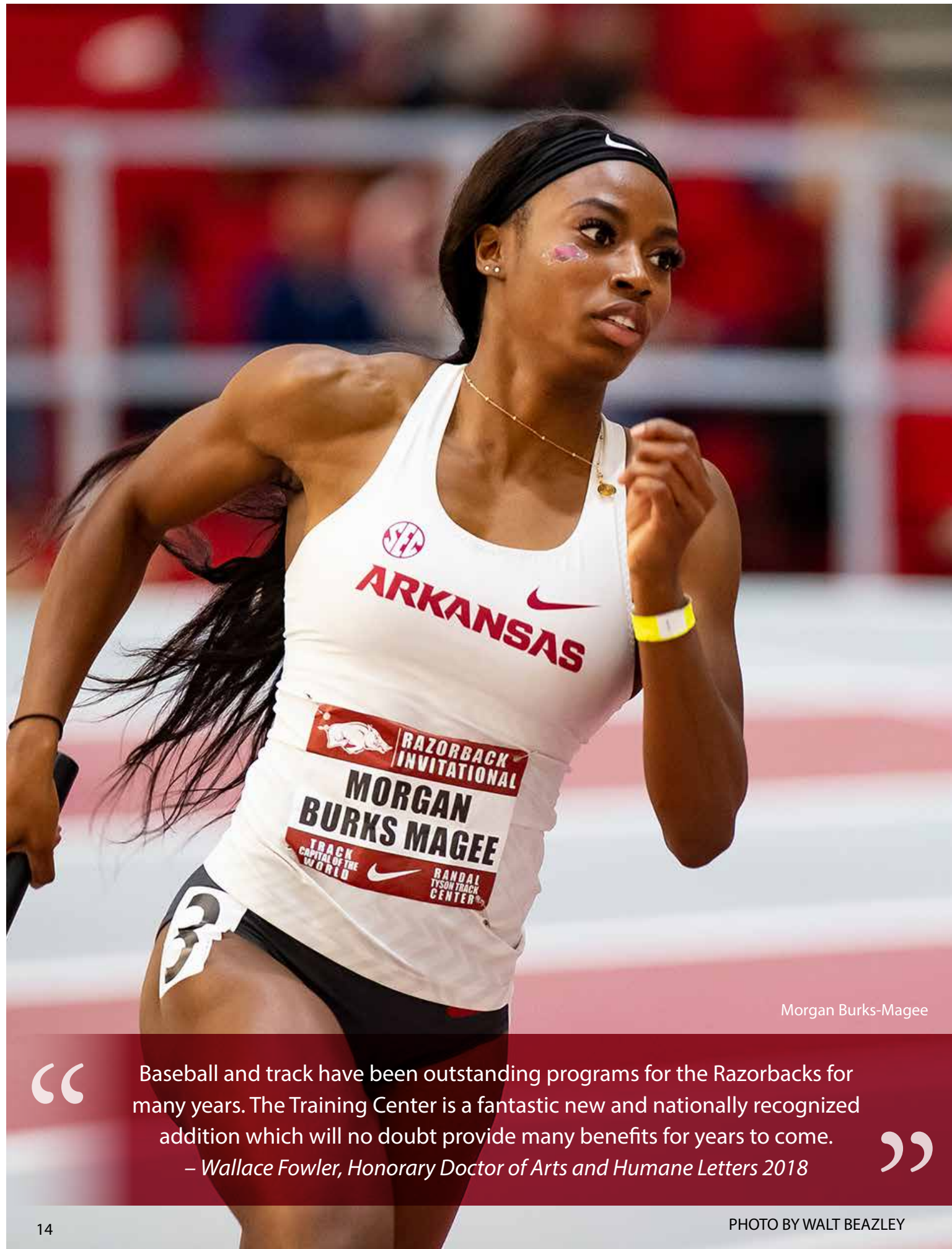
The William R. Toller Alumni Legacy Endowed Scholarship was created in 2013 as part of a \$1 million gift to memorialize alumnus William R. “Bill” Toller. Toller's wife, Jo Ella, and their children provided \$750,000 toward the Jim and Joyce Faulkner Performing Arts Center with the gift, and the remaining \$250,000 established the scholarship for the benefit of the Arkansas Alumni Association.

“The scholarship honors something my father was always passionate about – giving students the opportunity to afford a quality education,” Bob Toller, Bill and Jo Ella's son, said at the time of the gift. “We hope this gift makes a meaningful impact on the university that he loved so dearly.”

For the Arkansas Alumni Association, providing scholarships means not only helping students financially but also giving them life-changing opportunities through academics and engagement beyond the classroom – in campus organizations and activities that build skills and connections for life. And for students like Mattingly, this means they can make the most out of their college years. The Association awards more than \$1 million annually through its pool of scholarships and provides a vital link between students and alumni who feel pride and loyalty for their alma mater.

Since its creation, the Toller Alumni Legacy Scholarship has benefited two students – Tiffany Robinson, a 2018 graduate of the College of Education and Health Professions – and Mattingly, who hopes to pursue either dental school or medical school after graduation.

“Scholarships like this are very important for students, because it shows that if you apply yourself in college and get good grades, you can get the aid that you need,” Mattingly said. “This scholarship has impacted my life, because I don't have to necessarily take out loans now, and I don't have to work a full-time job while maintaining life as a full-time student too.”



Morgan Burks-Magee

“

Baseball and track have been outstanding programs for the Razorbacks for many years. The Training Center is a fantastic new and nationally recognized addition which will no doubt provide many benefits for years to come.

– Wallace Fowler, Honorary Doctor of Arts and Humane Letters 2018

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FOSTERING PHENOMENAL STUDENT-ATHLETES

Morgan Burks-Magee, a junior from Dallas, came to the University of Arkansas because of its championship environment and family feel. For her, it turned out to be “everything I’ve dreamed of in one place.”

“I’ve had a phenomenal experience,” she said. “I’ve been a part of a U of A legacy, and I’ve run on the fastest track in the world.”

That track is adjacent to the Fowler Family Baseball and Track Training Facility, which was supported by a \$2.5 million gift from Wallace and Jama Fowler in 2014. The indoor facility is connected to the north end of the Randal Tyson Track Center and has served thousands of Razorback student-athletes. It boasts approximately 52,000 square feet of climate-controlled practice space, which features a full size practice infield, throwing area, batting areas and ancillary team spaces.

For track and field, it provides an expansive check-in and warm-up area for track meets and allows all indoor meet throwing events to be held on site. Razorback Athletics has hosted 27 home meets since it opened in 2014, including the NCAA Indoor Championships in 2015 and the SEC Indoor Championships in 2016 and 2019. In 2021, the Razorbacks are scheduled to host both the SEC Indoor and NCAA Indoor Championships.

“I like that everything is very close,” Burks-Magee said of the facility. “It makes it more fun during meets. The lanes are wider and the materials are professional quality.”

The Fowler Family Baseball and Track Training Facility has been a true asset to her training and performance as a student-athlete. Burks-Magee was the third fastest freshman for the indoor 400 and typically runs the 400, 4x400 relay and 400 leg of the distance medley relay indoors. In 2019, she earned a pair of first-team All-America honors for indoor track and field.

A kinesiology major, Burks-Magee hopes to run professionally and then pursue a career as a chiropractor.



Jordan Moore

“

This scholarship will ensure that students in need will have an opportunity to accomplish their dreams of protecting the environment. I always knew my child would accomplish great things and would someday change the world in the process, but now it may be through other environmental science students in the years to come.” – Tami Strickland, B.S. '85, M.S. '15

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A LIFE REMEMBERED AND AN EDUCATION GAINED

Former University of Arkansas student Tanner Thompson Shuck loved environmental science and felt a responsibility to preserve the environment for the future. Described by friends as caring and big-hearted, Shuck passed away unexpectedly in April 2018, but his passion lives on in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, where a memorial scholarship was established by his mother, Tami Strickland, and their family.

Jordan Moore is the inaugural recipient of the Tanner Thompson Shuck Memorial Scholarship and she, too, is focused on environmental science. In fact, Moore’s advisor, clinical assistant professor Lisa Wood, was Shuck’s former advisor as well.

“Throughout the years, I’ve learned about Tanner from Dr. Wood,” Moore said. “I know that Tanner loved nature and that he was passionate about his major. I know that he valued education, and he valued relationships with his professors. I can tell by the way Dr. Wood talks about Tanner that they had an unbreakable friendship. She has a photo of him posted on the door to her office. Every time I visit her, this is a constant reminder to me that education, and life, are precious.”

Originally from Arkadelphia, Moore graduated high school in Little Rock and is now a senior at the university. Thanks to the scholarship support she’s received, she has been able to attend classes without having to work part-time.

“Scholarships are important to students because they place value on a student’s education and serve as an incentive to finish school,” Moore said. “Scholarships are the reason some students are able to attend school and forge a better life for themselves. I have always been a believer in investing in education and that education is the key to the future.”

In the summer of 2020, Moore worked with Black Hills Energy. She says she is interested in working for an energy company after graduation, so she can provide clean and safe energy to the community.

“Tanner valued his education and wanted a better world than what we live in,” Moore said. “Having a scholarship in his name continually honors him as a steward of education and ensures his legacy is never forgotten.”



Nick Lange

“

We were moved when we heard firsthand from the EMPOWER students and learned what an impact this program has on their lives, and we knew we wanted to be a part of their future success. – *Patti Brown, B.S.E. '80*

”

“

It is important to the A.L. Chilton Foundation to create more opportunities for students to become a part of the Razorback family. Giving to the EMPOWER program through scholarship and program support accomplishes this by making the university more accessible for students. – *Bonnie Harding, B.S.E. '69*

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EMPOWERED FOR INDEPENDENCE

Nick Lange’s favorite part of university life is getting to live on his own, but he also greatly enjoys the two jobs he holds on campus. Originally from Dallas, Lange is involved in EMPOWER, a program that has enabled him to become a self-sufficient young adult.

EMPOWER, which stands for “Educate, Motivate, Prepare, Opportunity, Workplace readiness, Employment, Responsibility,” is a four-year, non-degree college experience program housed in the College of Education and Health Professions. It was created specifically for students with mild intellectual disabilities and incorporates functional academics, independent living, employment, social and leisure skills, and health and wellness in a public university setting. Peer mentors work with EMPOWER students both in and outside of class to help navigate note-taking skills, campus life and academics, helping participants become truly immersed in college life while also gaining valuable skills for independent living and working.

Lange has embraced the opportunity to experience life as a Razorback and says his favorite student experience so far is going to the sporting events, where you can usually find him in the front. He says EMPOWER has been a great experience and has allowed him to do many of the activities any other college student would do.

“The EMPOWER program has actually changed my life,” Lange said. “It helped me find who I really am, and it gave me the confidence to have a leadership position in student organizations.”

On campus, Lange is involved as the social media coordinator for PRIDE, the secretary for College Republicans and the communication coordinator for Young Americans for Freedom. He also works as a facility assistant and fitness center attendant at University Recreation and as an events intern in the Arkansas Union.

During Campaign Arkansas, the A.L. Chilton Foundation supported EMPOWER extensively through several major gifts, including one that was used to create the A.L. Chilton Foundation EMPOWER Arkansas Endowed Scholarship and the A.L. Chilton Foundation EMPOWER Arkansas Operational Endowment.

“The donations from the A.L. Chilton Foundation have helped and improved our program in ways that we could have never imagined,” said Ashley Bradley, director of the program. “Funding resources have supported our residential mentors who enhance the independent living aspect of our program, and scholarships have been provided to students who need financial assistance, adding to the diversity and inclusion on our campus. It has been exciting to see the how this program has taken shape over the last several years, and it’s rewarding to see students benefit from it.”



Gary Prinz

“

We’ve never had a civil engineering building. This facility will educate thousands over the lifetime of the building. I view that as our legacy – to help all of those students. – *Jim McClelland, B.S.C.E. ‘67*

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CHANGING THE GAME FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING

It’s not every day that someone is appointed inaugural director of a facility that will be the first of its kind in Arkansas. But for Gary Prinz, associate professor and director of the Grady E. Harvell Civil Engineering Research and Education Center, or CEREC, that day happened as a result of Campaign Arkansas.

Located in the Arkansas Research and Technology Park, the 37,400-square-foot facility will serve as a research and teaching space for the Department of Civil Engineering and will be a resource for academic, government and industrial partners across Arkansas.

Prinz says the lab will be a “game changer” for civil engineering research at the University of Arkansas.

“With the new capabilities that the lab will offer, we will be unencumbered to pursue more ambitious research projects involving more complex loading of structural components and systems,” Prinz said. “A better understanding of structural behavior through large-scale experimentation will help us develop resilient solutions for our future infrastructure.”

CEREC will take civil engineering studies beyond the classroom by offering students a hands-on experience. As Prinz notes, “It’s one thing to calculate the fracture limit of a steel connection on the classroom chalkboard, but it is an entirely different experience for a student to feel the connection fracture limit in the lab. I am excited that the new lab will help bridge the gap between proper calculation and observed phenomena, providing an added level of understanding to our future generations of engineering students.”

A gift of \$2.35 million from Grady Harvell led the way in raising more than \$7.2 million for the new structure, alongside major supporters including the Sunderland Foundation, the State of Arkansas, the Arkansas Department of Transportation, Gus Vratsinas, Garver LLC, Nucor-Yamato Steel, Jon Keel, the Trinity Foundation, Jim and Pat McClelland, and McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc.

“The support of our alumni and friends during Campaign Arkansas has forever shaped the College of Engineering,” Dean John English said. “CEREC is a perfect example of a vision brought into reality because our supporters gave their time, energy and financial resources to make it happen. I’m grateful to each of them, and look forward to the bright future made possible by this effort.”



Ayanna Evans

“ The poet and author Maya Angelou wrote, ‘Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.’ I served on the campaign committee for diversity and inclusion because I wanted to make sure that everyone could attend and continue attending our great university. Mary Ann and I are committed to helping our university move forward in terms of diversity and inclusion, whether it be for students, faculty, staff or others who are part of this wonderful university, and we applaud the efforts being undertaken to move us forward. ”

– Reed Greenwood, B.S.E. '61, M.Ed. '62, Ed.D. '74

CARE FOR STUDENTS

Ayanna Evans received the Camden E. and Dortha Sue Greene CARE Endowed Scholarship at the perfect time in her life. The Chicago and Texarkana native had just taken out a loan to help pay for school when she was notified of her award.

“It encouraged me to keep going,” Evans said of the scholarship. “It motivated me, because it meant people saw something in me. This was an opportunity for me to help finance my education.”

Evans, who is a first generation college student, has embraced opportunity at the University of Arkansas. She is an accounting major in the Sam M. Walton College of Business who also studies Information Systems. One day, she hopes to earn her Master of Accountancy and become a CPA.

She also serves in the Arkansas Army National Guard, having completed basic training immediately after high school. She said being a part of the National Guard helped motivate her to go to college and earn a degree from the U of A. Along the way, her family has been incredibly supportive of her hard work and determination.

“My family is happy for me,” she said. “Earning this degree is something different, and they give me endless support.”

Evans says the university has also done its best to help make her transition to college life smooth. And scholarship support, like the one she received, definitely does its part to make things easier.

“I’d like to say a big ‘thank you’ to the donors,” Evans said. “People who donate scholarship money are essentially investing in complete strangers. I’m thankful someone saw something in me.”

CARE, or the College Access Responsibility Endeavor, is a scholarship program for students who excel in academics, involvement and engagement. The Camden E. and Dortha Sue Greene CARE Endowed Scholarship was established through a \$1 million campaign gift from alumnus Richard Greene in 2014 and was funded through the Camden E. and Dortha Sue Greene Foundations. The scholarship benefits the Office for Diversity and Inclusion at the university and supports academically accomplished and promising underrepresented students from Arkansas who demonstrate financial need.



Josi Chavez

“

I’ve always had a love for architecture, and I wanted to make a gift that would directly help a student. In some ways, I hoped that student would be able to do some of the things I didn’t get to do. I wanted to see someone accomplish something, and I have. It’s great to experience how you made a difference in someone’s life.” – Steve Lair, B.S.B.A. ’72

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A FUTURE INSPIRED BY THE PAST

Looking back, alumna Josi Chavez says it makes sense why she decided to major in interior design in the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design. She grew up watching her father renovate homes in Monett, Missouri, where she graduated high school, and that interest, combined with the knowledge, creativity and skills fostered at University of Arkansas, grew into a career that she now loves.

Chavez chose interior design as her major during her sophomore year of college and never looked back. Soon after declaring her major, she was presented with a unique opportunity: studying abroad in Italy at the U of A Rome Center to deepen her skills and understanding of and appreciation for design.

“I knew I wouldn’t be able to afford it,” she said. “But it was recommended that I apply for the William Stephen Lair Design Scholarship as a possible way to help. I knew if I didn’t get the scholarship, I wouldn’t be studying abroad.”

But Chavez did get the scholarship, which was established as a part of Campaign Arkansas, and it made her feel “beyond elated” that she’d get to live abroad during the summer.

“This was a completely different experience for me, because I had the opportunity to live and travel with people who were my age, as opposed to being a tourist with my parents,” she said. “Receiving this scholarship allowed me to have an opportunity that I wouldn’t have otherwise had.”

Her time in Italy helped her feel more connected to her major and provided direction for what would eventually become her career.

“History correlates so clearly to interior design and architecture,” she said. “Studying in Italy strengthened my passion for industry and design. I saw the importance and the impact it can have. It also helped reinforce what design meant to me.”

Chavez received the William Stephen Lair Design Scholarship during her senior year as well, and it once again provided support when she needed it the most – this time for tuition. Upon graduation in 2017, Chavez left the university debt free as the first in her family to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Three years into her career, Chavez now works for River+Lime, an interior design firm in Denver that was founded by fellow U of A alumna Margaret Selzer.

“The interior design program in the Fay Jones School is such a competitive program,” Chavez said. “It really helped prepare me for the real world.”



Beth Dedman

“The Department of Journalism means a great deal to me, and I am thrilled that we can contribute to its continued success with this gift. My hope is that these new facilities will create an engaging environment for students who wish to pursue careers in these fields and allow them to gain valuable experience working in settings that mirror what they will find after graduation. – Sue Walk Burnett, B.A. '68”

A GATEWAY TO GREAT JOURNALISM

In 2019, University of Arkansas Student Media heads Ashlyn Brothers, Beth Dedman, Alex Nicoll and Chase Reavis broke free of the basement. The four journalists and their peers previously shared a common space in the bottom floor of Kimpel Hall, where they managed and participated in the U of A’s student media outlets — UATV, *The Arkansas Traveler* newspaper and *Hill Magazine*.

“There were no windows in the old space,” said Brothers, the 2019-2020 station manager for UATV. “And there was no awareness of us by other students because of the old location.”

Dedman and Reavis, the respective 2019-2020 editors-in-chief for *Hill Magazine* and *The Arkansas Traveler*, also worked in the old space through their involvement with the campus’s magazine and student newspaper. Dedman’s assessment of the office was “not functional,” and Reavis described it as “cramped.”

Nicoll, former editor in chief of the *Traveler*, said they affectionately called the basement space “The Dungeon,” but he describes their new location as “wonderful.”

The new space is the Sue Walk Burnett Journalism and Student Media Center, and it truly is wonderful. Thanks to a \$1 million gift from U of A School of Journalism and Strategic Media alumna Sue Walk Burnett and her husband Rusty Burnett, students now have the opportunity to work in a facility that promotes connection and collaboration, as opposed to cramped creativity.

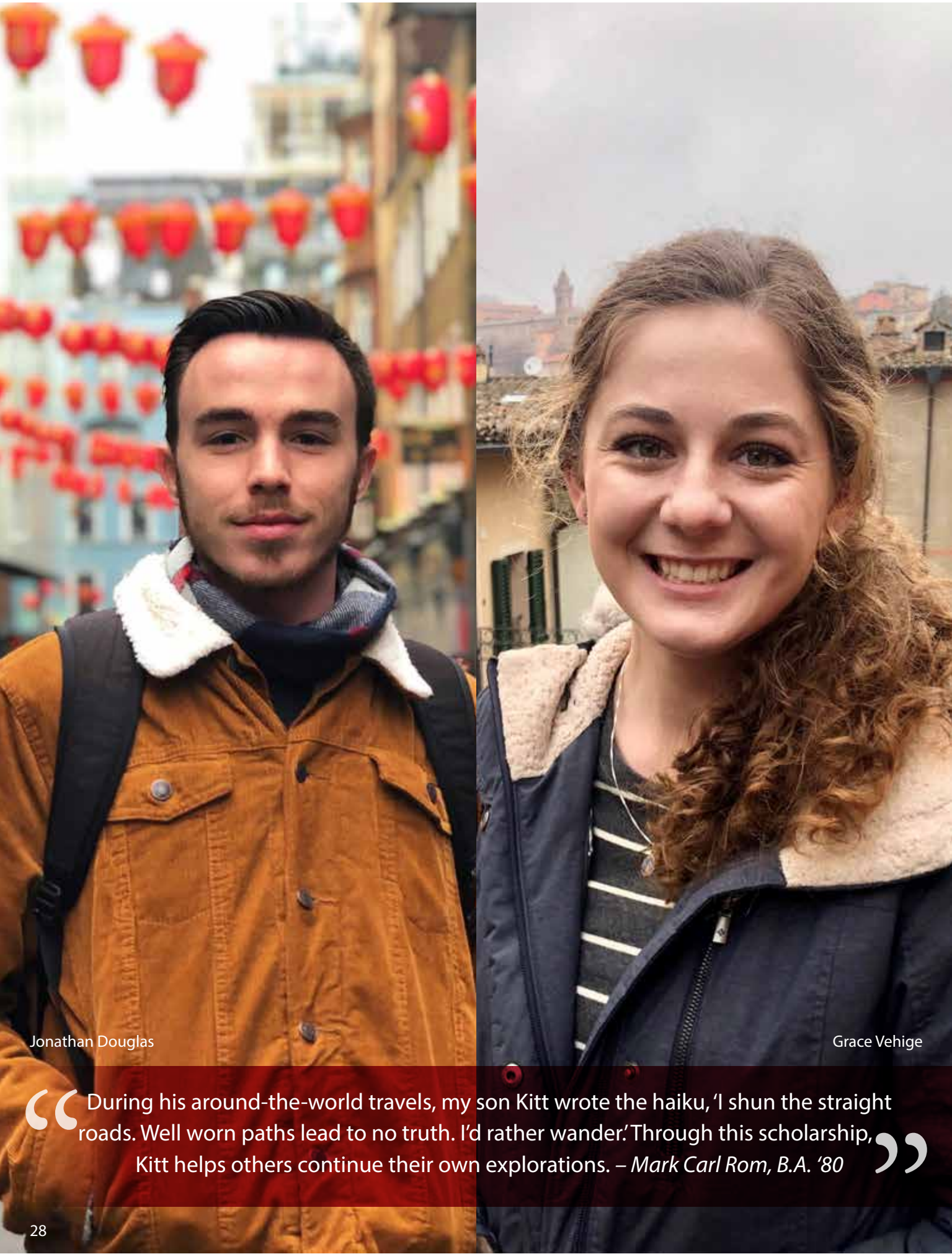
“It feels like a professional news outlet,” Nicoll said.

“We can learn from each other,” Brothers added. “We’re not in silos. We’re allies and can help each other. Plus, people see us! We have windows, which helps us feel connected. People are curious and asking questions. It’s raising awareness.”

Nicoll, who earned an internship at the *Houston Chronicle* after graduation, said the collaboration he experienced in the new space helped him become a multi-faceted journalist and advanced his skillset for the workforce. He now feels confident that he can go into any situation and have a working knowledge of all forms of journalism.

Brothers sums up the new space by describing it as a gateway. She says it opened her eyes to being a Student Media head and pushed her to be even more excited and passionate about being a journalist.

“I adore the new facility,” she said. “It’s every bit as good as a real live station. It creates lasting friendships and...just...magic. It’s a safe and inclusive environment that allows our creative juices to flow.”



Jonathan Douglas

Grace Vehige

“During his around-the-world travels, my son Kitt wrote the haiku, ‘I shun the straight roads. Well worn paths lead to no truth. I’d rather wander.’ Through this scholarship, Kitt helps others continue their own explorations. – Mark Carl Rom, B.A. ‘80”

CHASING DREAMS ABROAD

Grace Vehige says her international experience gave her a once in a lifetime opportunity to live out her dreams, and Jonathan Douglas says his allowed him to experience history and culture like never before. Both were recipients of the Nathan “Kitt” Rom Memorial Study Abroad Scholarship, which was created during Campaign Arkansas by emeritus professor Roy Rom in memory of his grandson, who passed away in a skiing accident in 2016.

“After his accident, I thought about how I could honor his spirit and sense of adventure,” he said. “Study abroad would be something he’d be interested in.”

Vehige and Douglas embody that same sense of adventure and used their opportunities to experience life in Italy and England, respectively.

Vehige, a 2020 graduate of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, completed two degrees in agriculture and two study abroad programs in three years, as well as her undergraduate thesis. During her last semester of school, she used funding from the Kitt Rom Scholarship to take classes in Rome through the U of A Rome Center.

“I wanted to be in a new environment, studying new things and meeting new people,” she said. “I wanted to experience a whole different culture. It was, without a doubt, transformational for me in more ways than I could have imagined.”

Douglas, also a 2020 graduate, earned degrees in international global studies and communication from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. As an exchange student at the University of Sussex, his eyes were opened to life as an international student and the challenges that come with balancing old and new cultures. He also had the opportunity to visit the United Nations in Geneva, which he aspires to work for one day.

“Being abroad showed me that there are still amazing people in the world today,” he said. “We may have different cultures or experiences, but ultimately we are still the same.”

Both students realize their overseas adventures would not have been possible – or at least a lot more difficult to achieve – without the scholarship support they received.

“The scholarship is what really allowed me to be able to travel to other places and make the most out of my experience,” Douglas said. “There is only so much that can be taught inside a classroom, and from my experience, it takes someone to truly be there to understand the history and culture.”

Vehige added, “I am so grateful I did not have the stress of financial burdens, and for that matter, I am thankful my parents did not either. I was able to go to Rome with an open mind and a hunger for new experiences. I was able to chase my dreams, and I have no plans for stopping any time soon.”



Rafael Toche Pizano

“

Evelyn and I encourage others to find their ‘spark’ of interest toward experiencing educational study abroad and international travel, and we want to help support the opportunity for students at the U of A to extend their own horizons of the educational experience. We fully enjoy seeing others find the ‘spark’ to live their educational and travel dreams more fully.

– Dennis Shaw, B.S.B.A. ‘69, M.B.A. ‘70

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GETTING TO KNOW THE WORLD

Rafael Toche Pizano, an Honors College student from Springdale, never considered the possibility of studying abroad because the cost of attending college was already overwhelming to him and his family.

“My family, like many immigrant families in the U.S., has always struggled financially,” he said. “Before attending college, college itself seemed like an impossible dream.”

A double major in computer science and German, Toche Pizano was offered several study abroad scholarships through the Honors College so he could travel to Germany in 2018 to strengthen his language skills further and immerse himself in the culture. Thanks to support from donors like Dennis and Evelyn Shaw during Campaign Arkansas, he had the opportunity to “get to know the world” and take his first plane ride out of the States.

“My study abroad experience was amazing,” he said. “My main goal was to really improve my German fluency. Not many of the residents of Holzkirchen, where my summer program took place, could speak English, but this was a good thing, as it forced me to use my German at all times. It was a unique learning opportunity and one that transformed my life by exposing me to things that I would have otherwise never encountered.”

Over the course of his program, Toche Pizano received an inside glimpse into the everyday life of a German family and learned a great deal about the culture. It was an experience that helped put life into perspective, he said, and allowed him to have a better understanding of both sides of opinions and arguments. And he says it has proven to be an invaluable skill in helping him build meaningful relationships with people from all backgrounds.

“The life experiences and the knowledge that is acquired while studying abroad is invaluable,” he said. “Continuing to fund students to study abroad is crucial for the sake of our future. Not only is it becoming a necessity in our increasingly globalized world, but it is also an opportunity to learn acceptance, humility and discipline. It is impossible to express how meaningful these types of scholarships are to students who struggle financially.”

Toche Pizano will graduate from the university in 2021 and plans to pursue his doctoral degree at the U of A as well. He hopes to work in machine learning and artificial intelligence one day.

A CATALYST FOR INNOVATION AND INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

In 2018, the Walton Family Charitable Support Foundation invested \$23.7 million in the university's research and economic development infrastructure. One of the beneficiaries of the gift was the Office of Innovation and Industry Partnerships (IIP), which received \$1.67 million of the grant. At that time, the office was a one-person shop, run by director Cynthia Sides.

The grant enabled Sides' office to expand its impact by increasing its capacity, adding new positions to support research development and industry partnerships. The additional brainpower means IIP can be more active in exploring federal, industry and foundational opportunities, identifying multi-million-dollar grants and working with teams of researchers to ensure they have their best foot forward through more targeted proposals geared to the preferences of funding agencies. IIP can also be more strategic in identifying opportunities that align with the university's signature research areas.

The team has already had some recent successes. In May 2019, IIP hosted a University-Industry Demonstration Partnerships conference, supported in large part by a National Science Foundation grant, which examined how universities in non-metropolitan areas can increase industry engagement.

IIP was also key in helping U of A researchers secure a Chancellor's Commercialization Grant, which was paired with matching funds from SolaRid AR, an Arkansas-based agtech company developing a "smart insect control system." With continuing assistance from IIP, SolaRid AR was then able to leverage a \$225,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Small Business Innovation Research program. Better yet, nearly a third of this grant supported the original interdisciplinary researchers, Dr. Ashley Dowling and Dr. Khoa Luu, for continued research. This is exactly what the Chancellor's Commercialization fund was designed to do – help commercially applicable research reach the next level by providing a boost.

"IIP has always been a conduit and catalyst for innovation and industry collaboration, even when I was an office of one," Sides says of her office's mission. But she sees much more ahead: "Continued expansion of the office allows for increase in services and facilitation of new ideas, partnerships, and research opportunities that impact faculty and students, commercialization, startups to mid-size and large companies, and eventually the economy and citizens of Arkansas. Affecting change at the research and innovation stages ultimately helps fulfil the land-grant mission of the university; this is IIP's vision."

In 2020, the Walton Family Charitable Support Foundation added another \$194.7 million in support of the university's research and economic development efforts with the creation of the Institute for Integrative and Innovative Research.



Leadership Staff of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation

“Universities are powerful engines in driving regional and national economies. There is even more potential for our universities to accelerate economic growth and development. – Jim Walton, B.S.B.A. '71”



Marty Maxwell Lane

“

The School of Art will shape a new generation of artists, historians, designers and teachers with a unique understanding of the hope art can bring to communities. The unparalleled access to meaningful American art will connect the heartland to the world.

– Alice Walton, Honorary Doctor of Arts and Humane Letters 2012

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BUILT BY DESIGN

Marty Maxwell Lane is a graphic design educator in the School of Art, but she first and foremost considers herself a designer and builder. The school, which was established in 2017 thanks to an unprecedented \$120 million gift from the Walton Family Charitable Support Foundation, made history as the largest gift ever given to a U.S. university to support or establish a school of art and created the first and only accredited, collegiate school of art in the state.

Maxwell Lane said the gift was “monumental” for art and created energy – an energy that is still building years later. The results are already evident through the incredible work being produced, but there is also a great deal of internal growth taking place behind the scenes.

In her role as associate professor of graphic design and associate director, Maxwell Lane helped build the first B.F.A. in Graphic Design program and is working with colleagues to create a Masters of Design in Design for Collaborative Futures. She has seen the transformational impact that the gift has had on faculty and program growth, as well as student support and facility improvements.

“Thanks to this gift, we’ve been able to hire amazing faculty with incredible backgrounds,” she said. “With every new faculty member who comes to the school, new opportunities come as well. It is incredible and exciting and also a little overwhelming. We feel the weight of our responsibility to create opportunities and change. We take it seriously. We think deeply about how we want to invest the gift into our students’ experience, faculty research and the community.”

One of the school’s many investments is a paid summer internship with Thrive Design in Helena, Arkansas, where a graphic design student gains first-hand experience and helps small businesses develop materials. The internship gives students the opportunity to live and work in a setting they might not otherwise experience.

In studio art, two residency programs, RISOres and Clay Break, have been developed, bringing in artists from around the country to practice art and share their experiences. Art history is crafting the Master of Arts program, Arts of the America’s, in collaboration with Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. And two new centers, the Center for Photographers of Color (Studio) and the Center for the Study of Childhood Art (Art Education), are also in the works.

The school’s external facilities are also taking shape. The historic Fine Arts building is being renovated, and the Windgate Studio + Design Center, made possible from a generous \$40 million gift during Campaign Arkansas, will open in 2022 with new space for graphic design and studio art.

The possibilities are endless and the opportunities are limitless for the school, as it continues to transform the university and region into an international hub for the study of art.

“Ideas that might not be possible elsewhere are possible here,” Maxwell Lane said.

EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES THROUGH PUBLIC SERVICE

Marion Humphrey, Jr. is 100% certain he would like to work in public service or social justice after he earns his law degree. And Martha-Kay “Gus” Mettler says she wants to contribute to improving the Arkansas Delta, where she grew up. Both are one step closer to realizing these dreams after participating in the School of Law’s Summer Public Service Fellowship program, which provides paid public service fellowships to promising law students interested in public service careers.

Humphrey and Mettler are both from Arkansas and have come away from their fellowships with renewed inspiration for contributing to their home state.

“I’ve gained experience in how the law affects different communities on local, state and federal levels,” Humphrey said of his experiences. “And with a law degree, I can solve problems connected to systemic issues.”

In 2019, Humphrey was named the Squire Patton Boggs Foundation Public Policy Fellow and worked at the Campaign for Youth Justice in Washington, D.C. In this position, he tracked legislation and case law regarding the transfer and sentencing of youth under 18 in the adult criminal justice system and contributed to a joint policy brief on Latinx youth in the adult criminal justice system.

In his second fellowship this past summer, he gained experience with ArchCity Defenders, a holistic legal advocacy organization based in St. Louis, where he addressed housing and homelessness issues.

In 2020, Mettler was named the first Delta Fellow, deepening her understanding of creative advocacy, relationship-building, issues facing rural communities and policy strategies to enhance the resiliency of communities. She modeled her work on the Harvard Mississippi Delta Project and how it might be applicable to Arkansas.

“My fellowship experience changed my perspective on advocacy and helped me understand the importance of communication, feedback and representation in a community,” Mettler said. “You have to interact with people from an area before just going in and making changes to it.”

The Summer Public Service Fellowship program began during Campaign Arkansas and provides paid public service fellowships to promising law students interested in public service careers. It offers meaningful employment opportunities and provides legal services to nonprofit, non-governmental and government entities that cannot otherwise afford summer interns.

“The fellowship gives students the opportunity to address issues that help shift dynamics that negatively impact our state,” Humphrey said.

Mettler added, “It’s inspiring to see the impact on the organization or cause you’re helping and knowing others will benefit in the long run as well.”

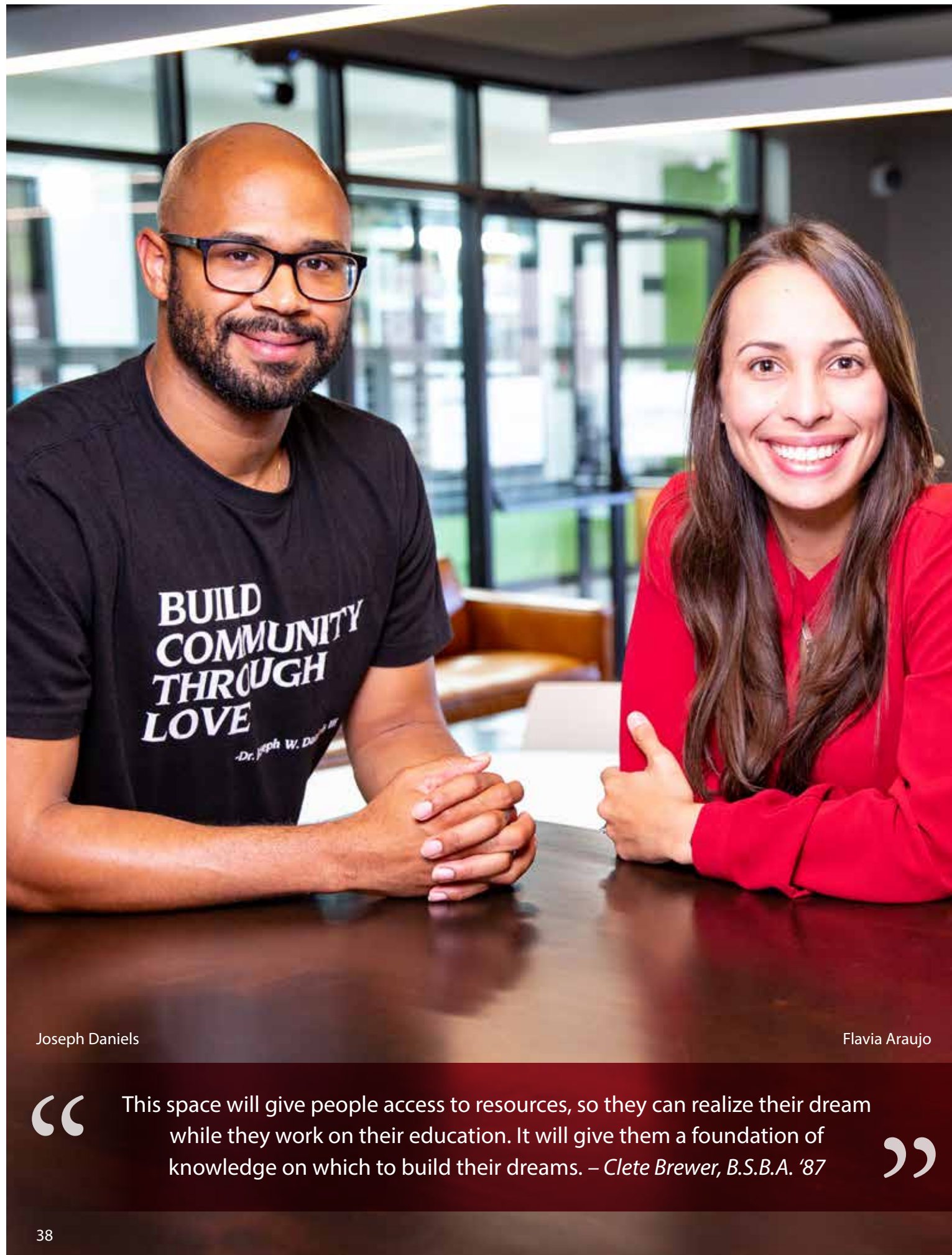
Gus Mettler

Marion Humphrey

“

A mind trained in the law, together with a heart for public service, can do a lot of good for our world. The Law School’s Summer Public Service Fellowship makes sure that students, who have the passion for non-profit or government work during their summer break, have the financial backing to make that good happen. – David Boling, B.A. ’87, J.D. ’91

”



Joseph Daniels

Flavia Araujo

“

This space will give people access to resources, so they can realize their dream while they work on their education. It will give them a foundation of knowledge on which to build their dreams. – Clete Brewer, B.S.B.A. '87

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EXPLORATIONS IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Jerry Brewer wanted to remove boundaries for anyone on the University of Arkansas campus – no matter their background, grade point average or major – so they could achieve success in entrepreneurship. He and his wife, Kay, along with their son, Clete, and his wife, Tammy, contributed a combined \$600,000 to create the Brewer Family Entrepreneurship Hub for aspiring entrepreneurs. Located just off the historic Fayetteville Square, the Hub supports people from all disciplines across campus, serving as a home base for entrepreneurial students, faculty and alumni to help them develop ideas, launch companies and meet likeminded individuals.

Since its creation, the Hub has become a gathering space for camaraderie, creativity and collaboration for people like Flavia Araujo, Douglas Kamarade and Joseph Daniels.

Araujo earned a bachelor's degree and M.B.A. from the Sam M. Walton College of Business and was part of the new venture development class taught by Carol Reeves and Sarah Goforth. In that class, she joined the Lapovations start-up team, which became the winningest team in the university's history.

Every time Araujo returns to the Brewer Hub, she relives some of her favorite memories, thanks to the trophies and prize money checks displayed in every corner.

“I think about the amazing experiences we had with other entrepreneurs across North America and the people who helped our team every step of the way,” she said. “Our faculty advisors played a huge role in our development as professionals and people, and being able to still come to the Hub and ask for any kind of advice speaks volumes about what it has to offer. I often leave there more inspired, confident and grateful for opportunities than when I first arrived.”

Douglas Kamarade studies industrial engineering at the university and has utilized the Hub for more than a year during his time as a student. He said it helps him learn more about the professional world and the nature of business.

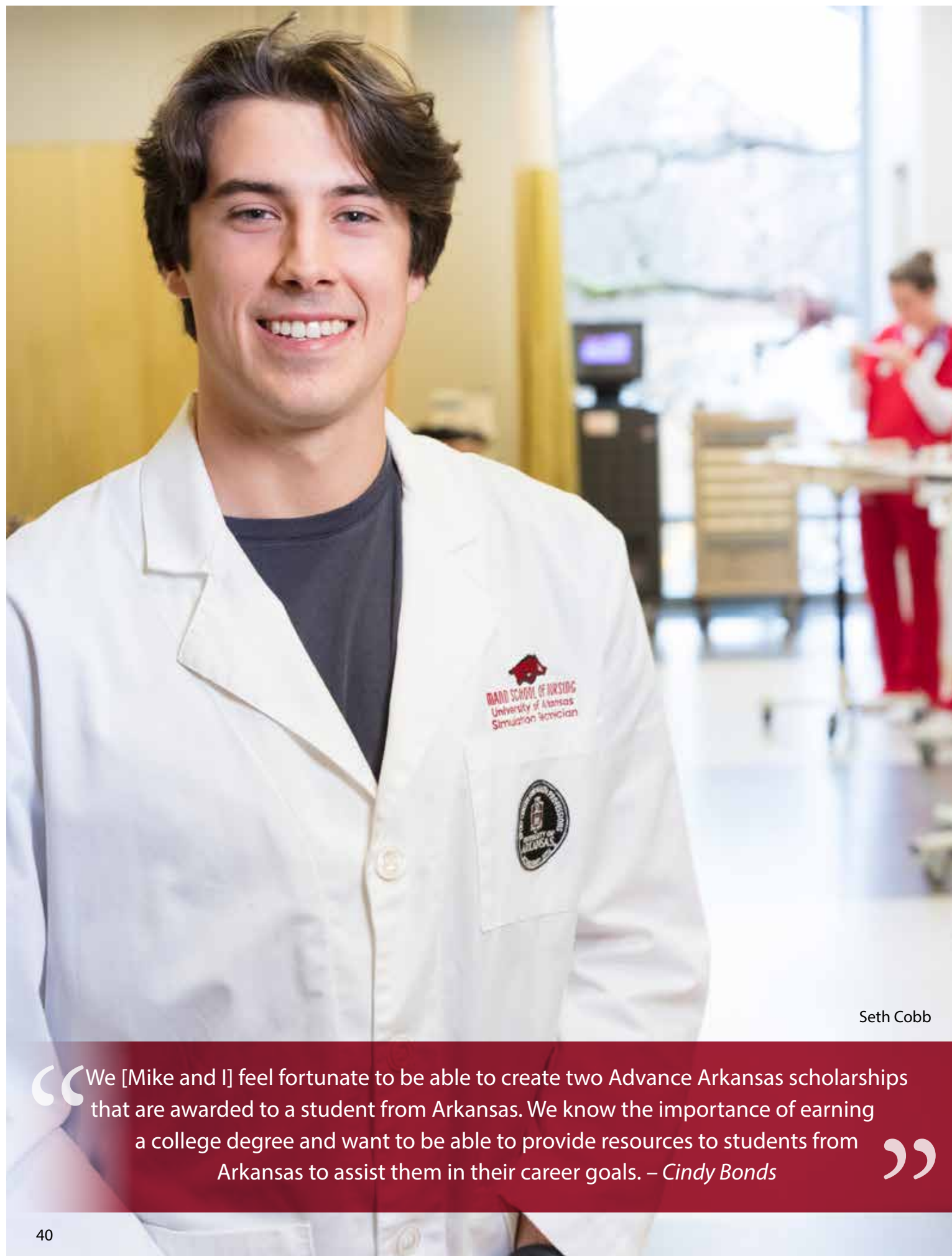
“It also teaches me a lot about how start-ups actually start,” he said.

Joseph Daniels, a doctoral graduate from the College of Engineering, enjoys the working environment the Hub offers and describes the culture as “community centric.”

“I enjoy the hands-on resources that foster collaborative work and visual creative thinking,” he said. “I also enjoy the organic networking opportunities the Hub provides on any given day of the week, as it hosts a diverse group of people, groups and organizations throughout the Fayetteville and Northwest Arkansas community.”

Araujo has also benefited from the networking opportunities the Hub provides.

“The experiences I had in those rooms gave me skills and capabilities that opened doors for new professional aspirations, as well as a network of leaders and top executives from the most diverse industries – some of whom I now get to call friends and mentors,” she said. “The Hub gave me a home to explore entrepreneurship like no other place.”



Seth Cobb

“We [Mike and I] feel fortunate to be able to create two Advance Arkansas scholarships that are awarded to a student from Arkansas. We know the importance of earning a college degree and want to be able to provide resources to students from Arkansas to assist them in their career goals. – Cindy Bonds”

WHEN SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN DOORS

Seth Cobb was facing a tough choice – drop out of the U of A to work full-time or face debilitating debt to finish college and realize his goal of becoming a nurse.

Then, a scholarship came along. Cobb, a former Army medic, received the Mike and Cindy Bonds Advance Arkansas Endowed Scholarship thanks to a gift from the Winnetka, Illinois couple who served as co-chairs of the Division of Student Affairs campaign committee, as well as other university leadership roles. The scholarship was created to specifically help students like Cobb who graduated from Arkansas high schools and helps pay for college expenses. Thanks to the gift, Cobb was able to work part time while finishing his degree and serving as a student leader for fellow veterans.

“When I found out I was receiving the scholarship, I was in shock,” Cobb said. “I had to sit down, embrace the moment and enjoy the relief I felt from knowing that everything was going to be alright.

Originally from White Hall, Cobb says he always knew he wanted to join the military. After sustaining a shoulder injury while he was stationed as a medic in Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, he had some time to reflect on his future. And he decided he wanted to return home and pursue a nursing degree.

“Growing up, I’d always known this was the place you wanted to be,” he said. “Fayetteville is a beautiful town, and the region is unbeatable. I knew I would have a good time here and get a quality education.”

Cobb was doing just that – working through his classes and acclimating to life on campus – when his mother encountered some financial obstacles.

“My mom was struggling to pay her bills, and I was working more and falling behind in my academics,” he said. “I had a lot of stress about how I was going to pay for things. Without donors, I might not be here right now. It’s truly a life-changing gift that donors give to students. This scholarship has opened doors. This scholarship allowed me to focus on school again, and I’ve been able to continue helping my mom as well.”

On campus, Cobb is president of the Razorback Student Veterans, a student organization that lends support to students who have either served or are currently serving in any branch of the U.S. military. The group is a part of the Veterans Resource and Information Center, a unit on campus in the Division of Student Affairs that serves current student veterans.



Angel Williams, 2020-2021 Recipient, Jim Etter Parker Advance Arkansas Scholarship



Justin Miles, 2017-2018 Recipient, Mike and Cindy Bonds Advance Arkansas Endowed Scholarship



Faaiza Bhatti, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Recipient, Advance Arkansas Endowed Scholarship

“The more educated someone is, the better he or she can impact the world around them. Without our education from the U of A, Erik and I wouldn’t be where we are today, and because of that, we believe it is a duty to give back to the next generation – especially to those students who don’t have the means to pay for it themselves. We want to give other students a lifeline to education and freedom. – Brandy Tuft, B.S.B.A. ’06”

Anna Kate Dooly, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Recipient, Women’s Giving Circle Founders Endowed Advance Arkansas Scholarship

ADVANCING ARKANSAS... ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

One of the most important scholarship initiatives to result from Campaign Arkansas was Advance Arkansas, which created nearly \$8 million in endowments to change the lives of high school graduates from Arkansas.

Justin Miles was one of the program’s first beneficiaries. A native of Gilmore, Arkansas, Miles knew he wanted to come to the University of Arkansas for its pre-med program, but he couldn’t afford college. After high school, he joined the military and used that experience to earn an associate’s degree.

Miles came to the university in 2014 and took out loans for his first two years of school. Then, scholarship support kicked in during his third and fourth years, allowing him to pay off his loans.

He graduated debt-free from the university in 2018, thanks to his scholarship support.

“The people at the university were the best part of my experience,” he said. “The diversity of the student body was incredible, as were the opportunities to get involved.”

Faaiza Bhatti also felt welcomed when she transferred from another school after her freshman year, although the Little Rock native was initially skeptical about applying because of finances.

When she received the scholarship, though, it took a weight off her shoulders. And at the U of A, Bhatti had a completely different community experience.

“I really like how the students are open-minded,” Bhatti said. “I’m looking forward to what will change with my life. I probably wouldn’t have come here without that scholarship. I’m really glad I transferred here, and I couldn’t imagine being anywhere else.”

Fort Smith native Anna Kate Dooly has benefited from her scholarship’s support since her freshman year, allowing her to focus on her studies and become involved in extracurricular activities without worrying about her finances and expenses.

“I was super excited when I found out I was receiving this scholarship,” Dooly said. “I just really love school in general, and I’m very thankful for what this scholarship has done for me and my education.”

Angel Williams, a 2020 recipient, is the latest student to experience the difference made by an Advance Arkansas scholarship. The Bentonville native is a freshman majoring in interior design and says she is paying for her education on her own.

“Coming from a family unit with no college experience has been challenging, but I hope to finish out school and have control of my life in the workforce that my parents weren’t as fortunate to have,” Williams said. “I truly feel like this campus is the perfect fit for me, and I can’t wait to explore the beautiful architecture of our campus and learn everything I can about this industry.”



Faith Harlin

“It’s incredibly important to support our libraries. Curtis and I are excited to be a part of this project. Students need more space, better access to technology and a pleasing environment if we want them to thrive. – Jane Shipley, B.S.B.A. ’64, M.Ed. ’72”

A SPACE TRANSFORMED

The University Libraries – with its study spaces, robust collections and expert subject librarians – have continued relevance in an increasingly digital world. This is attributed to a philosophy of monitoring users’ changing behaviors and adjusting to meet those evolving needs.

Dennis Clark, dean of University Libraries, says the faculty not only assist students with their research and studies, but also actively listen to better understand their current learning and research challenges. In this way, the Libraries can reimagine services and solutions to address those challenges and increase student success. Case in point: Mullins Library, the central research library in the heart of campus, is currently being renovated to better meet campus needs.

Thanks to Campaign Arkansas and the gifts from many generous donors, the Libraries will be able to offer great improvements to facilities and services for the campus community.

“Their funding is deeply valued,” said Joel Thornton, who served as interim associate dean for research and learning during the campaign. “It’s critical to the library’s success and the success of the university as a whole.”

Initially focusing on the third and fourth floors, the renovation will offer a quiet floor with a variety of spaces, as well as a more active, vibrant floor with a contemporary feel. An additional 1,900 seats will be added, increasing the Libraries’ capacity for serving students, faculty and staff who need a welcoming place to research and study.

Clark says the renovation will enhance Mullins by allowing for dedicated faculty and graduate student collaboration space, which is a new feature for these groups. The spaces will feature flexible seating options, booths and reading rooms to improve student attention and focus.

Faith Harlin, a junior from Gainesville, Missouri, says she’s glad there will be more seating and resources for students.

“I’ve used Mullins Library a lot – especially during my freshman year,” she said. “It’s one of the most useful places on campus and is an easy place to meet people and study.”

Donor support is also responsible for the materials and spaces that students, researchers and faculty need to collaborate, create, and discover on campus, which ultimately impacts the university’s ability to distinguish itself as a premier research institution.

“Simply put, private gift support for this project directly impacts our ability to enhance learning, teaching, and research for the university,” said Clark.

SPECIAL THANKS

The following board members, administrators, deans and staff were with the University of Arkansas when Campaign Arkansas concluded.

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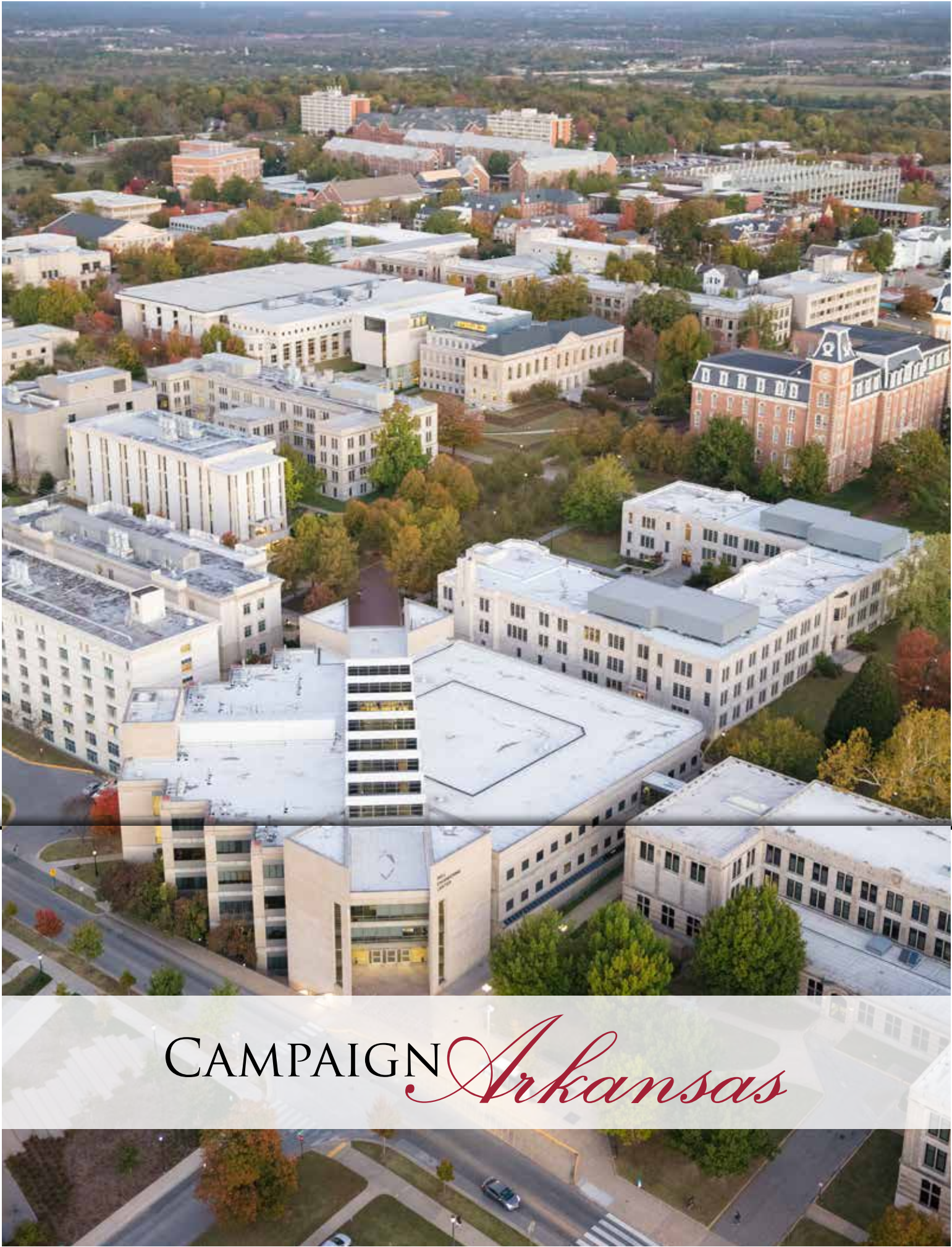
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