

A bi-annual fundraising report for donors and friends

# \$1.5 million gift establishes Kemper Family Endowed Chair of Entrepreneurship

By Lynne Winter

Every year, the cost of a college education increases, so it can feel out of reach for the average person. It is the mission of MSU Denver to provide its students with access to a high-quality and affordable education that prepares them for success beyond the campus borders. Recently, this mission was given a boost by the generous funding of an endowment at MSU Denver.

“It is absurd that college is so expensive,” says Mariner Kemper, chairman and CEO of UMB Financial Corporation. “The ever-escalating cost of college is not fair for the future of our young people.”

Kemper was inspired by colleague Jon Robinson, UMB executive vice



*Matthew Current, MSU Denver business student, thanks Mariner Kemper, chairman and CEO of UMB Financial Corporation, for his support*

president/regional chief credit officer as he wanted to learn more about how the University serves the community. Robinson is an MSU Denver Foundation board member and alumnus, whom Kemper describes as a “living, breathing, example of what MSU Denver is all about.”

Excited by MSU Denver’s mission to keep tuition low, Kemper spoke with then-MSU Denver President Steve Jordan and was thrilled with what he discovered. “I don’t think there is a better example, anywhere in the state, of a

*Continued on page 2*

**“I don’t think there is a better example, anywhere in the state, of a university doing their best to keep tuition as low as possible.”**

*— Mariner Kemper, chairman and CEO of UMB Financial Corporation*

# Dimond family transformational gift provides hospitality fellowships

By Rachel Bruner

With billions generated in Colorado’s red-hot tourism industry, it’s an understatement to say it’s a good time to be in the hotel business. And that’s exactly why MSU Denver is in the business of educating the next generation of industry leaders thanks to the Dimond family.

Endowed through a generous gift, the Rita and Navin Dimond Fellows Program was established in 2014 to

foster excellence in future hospitality leaders. Fellows are provided unique professional development opportunities including a paid internship with the executive teams at Stonebridge Companies hotels for one semester as part of their senior experience.

In addition to gaining a hotel industry mentor from one of Denver’s premier properties or management companies, participants gain access to an invaluable network of leaders



*Fall 2016 Fellows: (l-r) Andrea Marin, Michelle Gallegos, Navin and Rita Dimond, Risa Wolffis and Marcus Bosco*

**“If I can impact one person’s life by giving them this opportunity ... then I’ll consider this program a success.”**

*— Navin Dimond, president and CEO, Stonebridge Companies*

in Denver’s hotel industry and compete for a \$5,000 fellow of the year award.

The Dimonds, who run 47 properties nationwide, knew adversity before finding success in the hotel industry. Navin Dimond is the product of hardworking immigrant parents who arrived in the U.K. with

minimal English language skills. His parents pieced together a living, from working in factories to driving buses. Neither went to college. Almost no one he knew had a college degree.

“I should not be where I am today,” said Dimond, who also served on the University’s

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# Holding the line on the American dream



*At Metropolitan State University of Denver, we believe that every student should have an opportunity to better their life. And we know that higher education is the key factor in upward economic and social mobility. That's why we offer the highest-quality education at the lowest tuition rate in Colorado.*

*Our students come from every background and experience. We have veterans looking to re-establish themselves in the workforce, first-generation college students trying to do a little better than their parents and plenty of people who want to change directions in their careers. They may have taken a zig-zagging path to get to college, but they find their way here, and leave as Roadrunners.*

*We graduate Fulbright scholars, award-winning novelists, noted academics, pioneering scientists and many others who are at the very top of their fields. And that's further proof of why we need to give every student a fair shot, why we don't define ourselves by who we exclude, but by who we include. Because every student has the potential to be something or someone greater, to move up the social and economic ladder; in short, to achieve the American dream.*

*We hope you'll join us as we work to become the model urban university for opportunity, diversity, excellence and transformation.*

*Sincerely,*

**Janine Davidson, Ph.D.**  
President  
Metropolitan State University of Denver

## Kemper family endowed chair

*Continued from page 1*

university doing their best to keep tuition as low as possible," Kemper says. "This is a rock-star university."

After speaking with then-MSU Denver President Steve Jordan, Kemper was thrilled to discover that he and his family could provide funding that would keep tuition costs down and support additional faculty salaries.

What followed was the decision to create the Kemper Family Endowed Chair of Entrepreneurship — the first fully endowed chair in the University's 50+ year history — made possible by a gift from the Carter Community Trust

and the W.T. Kemper Charitable Trust, UMB Bank, Trustee.

The family's gift will be used to create an endowed chair in the College of Business at MSU Denver and will be used to support the teaching, scholarship, research and service activities of the named faculty member. "The University relies on faculty expertise to provide quality, relevant, curriculum," says Dr. Ann Murphy, Dean of the College of Business. "Alternative funding sources, such as the Kemper Family Endowed Chair, allow us to retain and support faculty who promote student success."



**President of MSU Denver Janine Davidson, Ph.D. presents Mariner Kemper with a 3-D printed chair in gratitude**

The Kemper Family Chair will be an important aid in meeting the University's goals to maintain an excellent faculty, grow enrollment in the College of Business and increase student success and retention

rates while effectively mitigating tuition inflation.

"We are thankful to the Kemper family for helping us strengthen the 'Roadrunner Difference,' allowing us to continue to deliver on our promise of being Colorado's best educational value," says President Janine Davidson, Ph.D. "Together, we will ensure that MSU Denver remains a place where the American dream still lives."

*For more information on supporting the College of Business at MSU Denver, contact Ran Railey at [wrailey@msudenver.edu](mailto:wrailey@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-0662.*

## Dimond family gift provides opportunities

*Continued from page 1*

foundation board. "All the odds were stacked against me. If I can impact one person's life by giving them this opportunity to see what is possible and what they can achieve, then I'll consider this program a success."

Not unlike Dimond himself, new fellows have their own distinct stories of triumph and tribulation. Perhaps more important, they have big dreams.

Several times a week, sales

intern Devin Andersen sat down at her desk to begin her day by coordinating hotel events and inputting information for the hotel's records. Though the office was tucked out of sight, and small compared to the grandeur of the hotel, it's here that her big dreams were taking shape.

"Through this internship, I've been hands-on and involved with the day-to-day operations of what I plan to make a career in the future," Andersen said. "Being able to really see and

feel what these managers are going through is the eye-opening experience that prepares me for my career."

Andersen was one of three Metropolitan State University of Denver students fostering their entrepreneurial and managerial dreams as part of the fellows program in the 2017 spring semester. Since the inception of the fellowship, 25 MSU Denver students have participated in this unique, hands-on educational experience.

"I am so very pleased to have the leadership of Navin Dimond on our Foundation and their family's generous investment in the future of our University and our region," stated President Janine Davidson. "Their gift will have a profound impact on both our current as well as our future students. We are truly grateful for this transformational gift."

*For more information about the future School of Hospitality, Events and Tourism (HEaT), contact Dino Hernandez at [dino.hernandez@msudenver.edu](mailto:dino.hernandez@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2042, or Steve Galpern at [sgalpern@msudenver.edu](mailto:sgalpern@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2043.*

**"Being able to really see and feel what these managers are going through ... prepares me for my career."**

— Devin Anderson '17



# Paving the road ahead with scholarship endowment

MSU Denver Athletic Department receives a gift from Rob and Molly Cohen Family Foundation

By Matt Watson

When Brittney Kocman lost her mother before starting high school, she discovered running worked as a means of therapy, helping her to move forward, one step at a time. Now that she's a Roadrunner, running is moving her toward a degree and a future she says wouldn't be possible without a scholarship.

Kocman, a member of the women's cross country and track teams who plans to go to graduate school for biomedical engineering, is one of the first four student-athletes at Metropolitan State University of Denver who will benefit from the newly established Molly and Rob Cohen Athletic Pacesetter Scholarship Program.

The Cohen family announced the gift from the Rob and Molly Cohen Family Foundation on September 22 at the Regency Athletic Complex. The effort eases the financial burden of student-athletes who spend several hours a week training, practicing and competing, in addition to their studies. The family's gift will later provide



(l-r) G. Anthony Grant, Ph.D., MSU Denver athletic director; Stephen Jordan, Ph.D., former MSU Denver president; Rob Cohen; Molly Cohen; Joan McDermott, former athletic director; Ruth Jordan; Janine Davidson, Ph.D., president of MSU Denver

funds for facilities and the general student body.

Robert Cohen, chairman and CEO of The IMA Financial Group, Inc., has supported MSU Denver for nearly three decades, first as a member of the Foundation Board and more recently on the Board of Trustees, including five years as chair. Cohen played a key role in the University's name change, the creation of master's programs and the non-resident tuition rate that led to the ASSET bill in 2013.

"Our family feels strongly about the positive impact of this University on the urban Denver community," Cohen

said. "We feel there's no better way to continue that tradition than to invest in the success of some of the school's most visible, hardest-working students."

The Regency Athletic Complex's 23,000 square-foot athletic center, which serves more than 200 student-athletes and 16,000 community members through community partnerships, was named the Cohen Center for Athletics in honor of the family's continuing contributions to the University and the Denver community.

"This is the kind of gift that not only changes lives — it

changes the university," said former MSU Denver President Steven Jordan.

"Many student-athletes wouldn't have a chance to compete because they couldn't afford it," said Joan McDermott, former athletic director.

The Cohen scholarship fund contributes to an area of opportunity at MSU Denver, which currently offers just 65 percent of the NCAA maximum for athletic scholarships to students.

"It's not just athletes that benefit from the Cohens' gift; it's our entire community. Through these scholarships and facilities, we're providing a path for all students to transform their own lives and the lives of those around them," said MSU Denver President Janine Davidson, Ph.D. "That's why this gift is so important; it allows us to meet the will to succeed with the resources and scope to sustain it."

For more information on how you can support student-athletes at MSU Denver, contact John Pepperdine at [jpepperd@msudenver.edu](mailto:jpepperd@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2048.

# Veteran and Military Student Center receives \$10,000 from Bank of America

By Adam Million

The Veteran and Military Student Center hosted an Open House on Aug. 23 and celebrated a recent \$10,000 grant from Bank of America.

The grant signals a new partnership with Bank of America, which is committed to creating pathways to economic progress by helping to increase access to education and employment opportunities for veterans. Bank of America's investment in the Veteran and Military Student Center will support increased programming and outreach for veteran students, including a new peer-to-peer mentoring program designed to ensure their success in the classroom and beyond.

President Janine Davidson, Ph.D., addressed a crowd of more than 85 students, alumni, faculty, staff and community



(l-r) Lauren Sullivan, manager of MSU Denver's Veteran and Military Student Center; Janine Davidson Ph.D., president of MSU Denver; Jodi Rolland, president of Colorado state and Denver market, Bank of America; and Kasia Iwaniczko MacLeod, senior vice president of community engagement, Bank of America.

partners. She encouraged fellow veterans to share their experience and expertise with the campus community.

"As a veteran, I know that MSU Denver is one of the most

veteran-friendly universities within Colorado. It's diverse, workforce-oriented, and we do everything we can to help veterans succeed," Davidson said. "The commitment of Bank of America to our

veteran student programs supports what we do and tells them how much we appreciate their service to our country."

Bank of America's Colorado President Jodi Rolland spoke about the bank's commitment to hire veterans and support economic mobility by investing in educational opportunities. She said the company employs 6,000 veterans and is committed to hiring 10,000 more over the coming years.

Thanks to Bank of America's support, the more than 1,600 veterans enrolled at the University will have increased access to uniquely tailored programs, helping them persist to graduation.

For more information on supporting MSU Denver military and veteran students, contact Allyssa Joseph at [ajoseph9@msudenver.edu](mailto:ajoseph9@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2045.



# \$3.3 million+ in gifts builds Colorado's

By Dan Vaccaro

The new Aerospace and Engineering Sciences Building is MSU Denver's starship enterprise. Not only will it take student learning to places that few colleges have gone before, but its successful launch is the result of some serious teamwork.

That teamwork was on full display at the June 22 ribbon-cutting ceremony, where the University announced a \$1 million gift from Lockheed Martin.



Among other things, the gift will fund an additive manufacturing laboratory, centered around a state-of-the-art 3-D printing machine called the Stratasys Fortus 900mc. That printer can manufacture parts for everything from satellites to medical devices. And not just small stuff either. The Fortus 900mc is the size of a small shipping container and looks like something straight out of a Star Trek movie.

Robert Park, Ph.D., the director of MSU Denver's Advanced Manufacturing Sciences Institute (the University's Captain Kirk, if you want to extend the metaphor), says the top-of-the-line machine is one that most students never have the opportunity to see, let alone use.



Robert Park, Ph.D.

"This printer and lab uniquely position MSU Denver as an educational institution in the field of tooling (parts for making other parts) development," he said. "Tooling is critically important in a number of industry sectors, from a high-value, low-quantity manufacturing perspective."

Brian O'Connor, vice president of Production Operations at Lockheed Martin Space Systems, noted the new lab's impact on students.



Aerospace and Engineering Sciences Building



Stratasys Fortus 900mc 3-D printer

"[They] will get firsthand experience with emerging manufacturing technologies that eliminate the constraints associated with traditional manufacturing processes, allowing them to unlock their creativity and design solutions that we can only dream about today," he said.

The gift also establishes the Lockheed Martin Endowed Director of the Advanced Manufacturing Sciences Institute position at MSU Denver, which will be held by Park.

But the printer, additive manufacturing lab and endowed directorship are only the latest output from a relationship that goes back to when the AES Building was little more than an idea.

## Into the way back machine

The story goes like this: Five years ago, while MSU Denver

opportunity," Jordan recalled. "I knew we could step in to fill the void."

So, Jordan put together a team. He created an AES Advisory Board, which included representation from Lockheed Martin, Jeppesen and the Colorado Advanced Manufacturing Alliance, and recruited faculty from seven disciplines, all of which touched on aerospace and advanced manufacturing. That team developed an interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates aerospace science; industrial design; civil, mechanical and electrical engineering technology; computer science; and computer information systems.

The first-of-its-kind curriculum, already available to students, is administered by the Advanced Manufacturing Sciences Institute with the goal of providing a pipeline of employees for two of the biggest industries in the state.

With a curriculum established, there was only one problem left to solve: The program needed someplace to live, and planning for a new AES Building was begun.

President Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D., was meeting with a White House staffer, he heard that aerospace and advanced manufacturing companies in Colorado were having a difficult time finding well-trained local employees. Instead, the companies were spending valuable time and resources recruiting talent nationwide.

"I immediately saw an



AES lab



# aerospace and engineering future

## Taking learning to new heights

Of course, a building is only as good as the work happening inside, and the AES Building is aimed at providing students with opportunities to learn by doing.

Thanks to a partnership with Hartwig Inc. students will get hands-on experience working with state-of-the-art programmable machine tools, some of which will be equipped with advanced robotic accessories.



Hartwig-donated equipment

**“This printer and lab uniquely position MSU Denver as an educational institution in the field of tooling development. Tooling is critically important in a number of industry sectors.”**

— Robert Park, Ph.D., director of MSU Denver Advanced Manufacturing Sciences Institute



Hartwig plans to refresh the equipment regularly at no cost to the University, ensuring that students will always work with the most cutting-edge machines. The initial estimated value of the manufacturing and inspection equipment, software, tools and consumables is around \$2 million. “Tremendous value is added when you consider all the technical expertise that Hartwig and its partner companies will bring to the table,” said Park. “For students, that will translate to a highly relevant and targeted education experience in the advanced manufacturing area.”

Beyond access to state-of-the-art equipment, students will benefit from a unique public-private partnership enterprise floor (the top floor of the building) that will be home to a number of operational companies, providing exposure to real-world design and manufacturing businesses.



One such partner will be York Space Systems, a manufacturer of uniquely-designed small satellites. York contributed \$125,000 toward the construction of



50% scale model of NASA's Orion spacecraft manufactured by MSU Denver students

the building and will establish its satellite production facility, in addition to a mission operations center, on the enterprise floor.

With mentorship from the experts at York, students will be involved in the design, engineering and manufacturing of satellites. They'll also get to operate the spacecraft on orbit and learn how to analyze collected data for the benefit of society.

In addition to the funds contributed by Lockheed Martin, Hartwig, and York, \$100,000 was provided by the Clarence V. Laguardia Foundation, with the Boettcher Foundation contributing a matching gift of \$100,000.

“We are so thankful to Dr. Jordan for the hard work that he did, and the partnerships he developed, that got this amazing project off the

ground,” said President Janine Davidson, Ph.D. “We are offering our students opportunities not available anywhere else. The aerospace and advance manufacturing industry need look no further than MSU Denver for the

## Building the future, for the future

Plans for the AES Building were announced in 2013, and a groundbreaking was held in October 2015. The cost of the nearly \$60 million construction project was split three ways between MSU Denver, the state of Colorado and private companies.

More than half of the 117,000-square-foot building is dedicated to specialized laboratories that support specific skills and technical expertise. Many of the labs on the first floor have glass walls, which give visitors a peek into the world of advanced manufacturing. Designed with collaboration in mind, the building also has plenty of gathering space for students. Three large doors on the south side can be opened to create an indoor/outdoor classroom or event space.

A 50 percent scale model of NASA's Orion spacecraft hangs above the reading room in the glass-walled west facing atrium for all to see as they drive by on the Auraria Parkway. The model was manufactured by MSU Denver students and their faculty advisors, under the guidance and support of Lockheed Martin engineers, using 3-D printing techniques. According to Robert Park, Ph.D., director of Advance Manufacturing Sciences Institute, its no just there to look cool.

“It's meant to remind students of what they can achieve inside this building by working collaboratively,” he said.

most skilled, workforce-ready professionals in the state.”

To learn more about how you can support AES students and programs, please contact John Pepperdine at [jpepperd@msudenver.edu](mailto:jpepperd@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2048.



AES lab

# \$2 million from Hotel and Hospitality Learning Center expands impact

By Traci McBee Rowe

In 2012, through a unique public/private partnership, MSU Denver and Sage Hospitality built an on-campus, full-service learning laboratory—the Hotel and Hospitality Learning Center (HLC). Located at the corner of Speer Boulevard and Auraria Parkway, the complex includes: a fully functioning, professionally managed 150-room hotel, the Marriott SpringHill Suites Denver Downtown at MSU Denver; The J. Willard

Due to the success of this partnership, HLC@Metro, Inc., a separate not-for-profit corporation, which is a discretely presented component unit of MSU Denver that owns and manages the property, recently contributed \$2 million to the MSU Denver Foundation. The Foundation reserved \$1 million to help with the creation of the new School of Hospitality, Events and Tourism while the other \$1 million served as a matching gift to engage new donors. This match enabled donors to bring previously



They were eager to make commitments knowing their philanthropic impact would be doubled.”

Through the matching opportunity, the impact of funds raised was over \$3 million. Gifts were contributed in support of all colleges at MSU Denver as well as supporting university priorities including HSI, ASSET and DACA student support. Generous donors created over 20 new annual and endowed scholarship funds, as well as utilized the match to bring

“The matching gift was instrumental in connecting with new donors who have a passion for supporting our students. They were eager to make commitments knowing their philanthropic impact would be doubled.”

— Gwen Thompson, senior director of development

and Alice S. Marriott Foundation Conference Center; an academic building and learning laboratory including 30,000 square feet of academic space, a light sensory analysis lab for wine, beer and spirits classes, 72-seat restaurant, 4,000-bottle wine cellar management lab, high-tech food demonstration theater, tourism lab and events lab.

established endowment principal balances up to the current minimum required amount of \$25,000 as well as doubled the impact of donors who created new annual and endowed funds. The majority of funding was used to create or grow scholarship funds, thus generating significant resources for our students. Additionally, approximately \$150,000 helped to create

scholarship funds with area high schools, an effort tied to the university achieving federal designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI.)

Gwen Thompson, senior director of development, remarked, “The matching gift was instrumental in connecting with new donors who have a passion for supporting our students.

underfunded endowments to the current threshold.

For more information about supporting the Hospitality Learning Center, contact Steve Galpern at [sgalpern@msudenver.edu](mailto:sgalpern@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2043; to support HSI initiatives or scholarships, contact Gwen Thompson at [gthomp39@msudenver.edu](mailto:gthomp39@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2051.

# Marathon Society members contribute \$95,000+ to scholarship and program funds

By Lynne Winter



Total dollars raised:  
**\$95,288**  
**303 DONORS**  
[msudenver.edu/marathonsociety](http://msudenver.edu/marathonsociety)



University Advancement is proud to announce a new giving society that recognizes alumni, students, faculty, staff and community members who support MSU Denver programs and students — and you might already be a member.

**Introducing: The Marathon Society.**

*What is the Marathon Society?*

The Marathon Society is a new way of thanking the more than 300 dedicated donors — of whom 189 are faculty and staff members — who have committed to making a recurring gift, through payroll deduction or a regularly scheduled credit-card gift, to the MSU Denver Foundation in support of MSU Denver students and programs.

*Why is it called the Marathon Society?*

A group of roadrunners is

known as a marathon, making “Marathon Society” a fitting name for our donors who participate in recurring giving.

*Why is it important to be a member of the Marathon Society?*

Recurring giving is a commitment to MSU Denver for the long run.

During FY17, Marathon Society members contributed more than \$95,000 to about 114 MSU Denver scholarship and program funds. Those funds supported students across the campus community, resulting in increased student retention and a record number of graduates. When you become a member of the Marathon Society, your gift provides a reliable source of funding that transforms lives, communities and higher education, and prepares our students for lifelong success.

If you are already a member of the Marathon Society, thank you for your support! We encourage you to take this opportunity to increase your monthly deduction as a way to expand the reach and impact of your recurring gift.

If you are not a member of the Marathon Society, sign up for payroll deduction or set up a recurring gift today and join the more than 300 Marathon Society members who are already choosing to run with us. It is what we accomplish together that transforms the lives of so many.

Learn more about the Marathon Society at [msudenver.edu/marathonsociety](http://msudenver.edu/marathonsociety). For more information about making an impact with a recurring gift, please contact Traci McBee Rowe, at [tmcbeero@msudenver.edu](mailto:tmcbeero@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2046.



# 2017 Summer Soirée raises over \$300,000

*By Adam Million*

Building off the tremendous success of the 2016 Summer Soirée, which celebrated the University's 50th anniversary, the 2017 installment held on June 10 honored outgoing University President Stephen M. Jordan, Ph.D., and his wife Ruthie. Thanks to sponsorships and donations made during the event, over \$300,000 was raised to establish a new endowed scholarship in honor of the Jordan's commitment

to higher education access. The new scholarship — the Stephen and Ruth Jordan Endowed Student Access Scholarship — is designed to provide financial support so more students have access to attend MSU Denver.

The Soirée was also a farewell party, which unveiled the surprise renaming of the University's flagship facility as the Jordan Student Success Building. In addition to the surprise final toast, the over 450 guests from throughout the community were treated to food courtesy of the

Hospitality, Tourism and Events Department and live music by Music Department students and The Wildflowers band.

**Preeminent Sponsors:** GH Phipps Construction Companies and Sage Hospitality/Springhill Suites by Marriott Denver Downtown.

**Champion Sponsors:** Cardan Capital Partners, FirstBank Holding Company, Holland & Knight LLP, Husch Blackwell LLP, MSU Denver Senior Leadership, RK Foundation, Stonebridge Companies, Tivoli Brewery.

**Supporter Sponsors:** Baker Hostetler, Elaine Gantz Berman and Steve Berman, Comcast Cable Corporation, DA Davidson, L.C. Fulenwider, Inc., Occasions Catering, UMB Bank

**Contributor:** Gary Community Investments

*For more information on how you can support scholarships or future fundraising events at MSU Denver, please contact Gwen Thompson at [gthomp39@msudenver.edu](mailto:gthomp39@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2051.*



*Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock reflected upon his relationship with former MSU Denver President Stephen Jordan and his ambitious leadership.*



*Colorado Lt. Governor Donna Lynne thanks former MSU Denver President Stephen Jordan for his years of transformative leadership and addresses the Soirée attendees.*



*(l-r) Leone Schulz, chief of staff to the vice president for administration at MSU Denver, and Elizabeth Hinde, dean of the MSU Denver School of Education*



*Ferd Belz (far right), MSU Denver Foundation Board member and Summer Soirée sponsor and co-chair, joins Kyle Backlund, associate director of planned giving, Jamie Hurst, director of alumni relations and giving, and Joanne Davidson of the Denver Post.*



*Guests at the GH Phipps Construction Companies table. GH Phipps was one of two Preeminent Sponsors of the 2017 Summer Soirée.*



*MSU Denver Trustee William "Jeff" Shoemaker sponsored a table at the event for students and friends. (l-r) Sara Hertwig '16; Ken Bisio, Board of Trustees faculty representative; Maria Garibay Campos '16, former Board of Trustees student representative, and her guest.*



*(l-r) Michelle Lucero, Esq., chair of the Board of Trustees, Honorable Terrance D. Carroll, Esq., Board of Trustees representative, and Kelly Brough, president and CEO Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce*



*Ruth and Stephen Jordan join friends, family and other guests during the announcement of the newly named Jordan Student Success Building at the end of the Summer Soirée.*



*Robert Cohen, chairman and CEO of The IMA Financial Group, Inc. and former MSU Denver Foundation Board chair, and Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock*



*Luis Torres, Ph.D., former MSU Denver deputy provost, and his wife Anna Torres enjoy the reception. Torres, also a member of the President's Society, retired in 2017 after more than 20 years of service to the University.*



*(l-r) Marybeth Hanzlik, Bill Hanzlik, former MSU Denver Foundation Board member and Gold Crown Foundation CEO; Dr. Anthony Grant, MSU Denver director of athletics; and Lisa Grant*



*Michelle Lucero, Esq., chair of the Board of Trustees, greets the Summer Soirée guests during dinner.*



# MSU Denver alumni answer the call with gifts totaling \$170,000+

By Mark Cox

By doing things differently, the Reach-a-Roadrunner Call Center at MSU Denver has reimagined the concept of a traditional call center and, along with alumni who answer the call, transformed it into a meaningful and impactful operation.

This call center is staffed exclusively by student-callers who put their focus squarely on building relationships with graduates — sharing stories, giving updates, even getting advice — rather than just asking for donations.

“It’s so important for us to build a genuine bond with our former students,” explains Bre Milnes, associate director of Annual Giving. “If people also want to donate that’s great, but it’s definitely not the point of the call.”

Instead of a quick fundraising ask, callers invite graduates to share their memories of university life and tell them about the changes taking place on campus. Students often speak to alumni who earned the same degree that they are working on, allowing them to learn more by saying,



Student callers Aly Richter and Megan Sansburn

“Hey, you’re doing my dream job. How did you get there?” Alumni love to pass on their knowledge, while the students’ anecdotes and updates provide a link back to fondly remembered times.

“We get an overwhelmingly positive response,” Annual Giving Manager and MSU Denver alum Taylor Atkinson (B.A. English ’16) explains. “If someone picks up the phone, they’re happy to talk.”

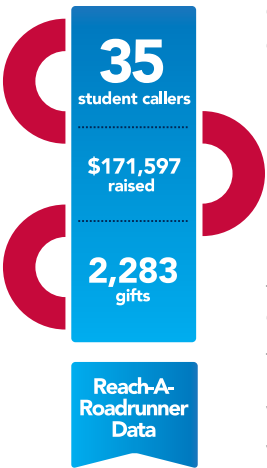
When graduates open up, students get to mine a rich stream of useful knowledge — about leadership, interview techniques, teamwork, even how to negotiate office politics.

“We always say: It’s not about the dollars,” Atkinson says. “A great conversation is its own reward.”

What about the bottom line? After all, this is a fundraising enterprise.

It turns out that doing things differently pays.

Last year, the call center reached a record 15,637 alumni, resulting in more than 2,200 gifts for a total of more than \$170,000 — the most money raised in call center history. The funds donated by generous MSU Denver alumni support scholarships, athletics, department programs and more.



“There is no such thing as a ‘small’ gift. Every gift, in any amount, makes a profound impact on the future of the University,” says Dino Hernandez, vice president of University Advancement and executive director of the MSU Denver Foundation. “Together we can transform the lives of so many.”

Why has this approach worked? Roadrunner alumni genuinely care about MSU Denver. By putting human connections at the top of the priority pile, the Reach-a-Roadrunner Call Center and MSU Denver alumni are impacting future Roadrunners and transforming lives across the MSU Denver campus.

The next time caller ID indicates you are receiving a call from MSU Denver, settle into a comfortable chair, pick up the phone and get ready to share your MSU Denver experience with a student-caller. You never know whose life you will change by answering the call.

*To make a gift and transform lives at MSU Denver, please call 303-615-0065.*

## After devastating loss, alumna transforms lives with \$5,000 scholarship

By Lynne Winter

The impact of suicide reverberates like ripples on a pond, creating waves that either drown people in grief or inspire action. Alumna Sandra Sandoval (B.A. anthropology ’02) took action and turned her family’s private pain into a gift for a future student.

### Denver Roots

Born and raised in Denver, Sandoval grew up in a modest, working-class household. Her father encouraged her to pursue an education, telling her that life would present more opportunities with a college degree.

Sandoval — a first-generation college student — chose MSU Denver for her education and majored in anthropology and double minored in mechanical engineering and math. In 2002, she graduated with honors and found success and happiness in the field of electrical manufacturing.

In addition to her academic and professional life, Sandoval had a full personal life. She married her high school sweetheart and they became the proud parents of a baby girl.

### Unimaginable Pain

From the outside, everything appeared to be going well — masking turmoil at home.

Sandoval’s husband’s attempts to self-medicate undiagnosed mental health issues and chronic physical pain had developed into an addiction. Aware that her husband needed more help than she could provide, Sandoval encouraged him to seek professional help, but he did not believe that his problems warranted treatment.

Overwhelmed by the pain, Sandoval’s husband committed suicide in 2015. Shocked and shattered after her husband’s death, Sandoval, her daughter and extended family focused on finding peace and moving forward.



Sandra Sandoval '02

### Unlikely Donor

An email that arrived on Dec. 1, 2015, inspired Sandoval to give to MSU Denver for the first time. It was Roadrunner Tuesday — MSU Denver Foundation’s campaign to raise \$5,050 in one day, in honor of the University’s 50th anniversary — and she made a gift for the entire amount.

Working with the alumni association and foundation staff, she established the Life Matters Annual Scholarship to

support a student in need. “I wanted to give an opportunity to a deserving student and help them accomplish their goal of getting a degree,” Sandoval said.

“With the lowest tuition of all Colorado four-year public institutions, funding an annual scholarship at MSU Denver is an amazing educational value,” said Jamie Hurst, J.D., director of alumni relations and giving. “The gift of an annual scholarship makes a tremendous impact in the life of a student, allowing them to focus on what is really important — their education.”

### Unending Optimism

Sandoval is optimistic that students will benefit from her message of hope. At the spring 2017 Annual Scholarship Dinner, she had the opportunity to meet with her grateful scholarship recipient. “This is an amazing experience,” said her recipient.

*Continued on page 9*



# Annual scholarship dinner



(front row, l-r) Julie Morey; James Mancebo, student; Heaven Martin, student; Debbie Magana, associate director, Student Academic Services Center; (back row, l-r) Azarias Devillier, student; Glenn Morey; Cary Aplin-Gomez, coordinator, SASC Scholar Success Program; Hayley Schurr, student



(l-r) Rick Foster; Joan Foster, Ph.D., dean, school of education, scholarship donor; Donn Aggeler '93, MSU Denver Foundation Board of Directors; Brian Aggeler; Steve DeVisser, MSU Denver Foundation CFO; Janzel Avitia, student; Sarena Espinoza, student



(l-r) DeAnna Castaneda, student; Janzel Avitia, student; Sarena Espinoza, Student



Marilee Utter, MSU Denver Foundation board chair



(l-r) Harold Ayala, student; Thad Spaulding, executive director of Financial Aid and Scholarships; Thomas Hernandez, associate director, Financial Aid and Scholarships



(l-r) Lynne Winter '17, engagement coordinator; Renee Martinez; Barbara Keating '87; Allyssa Joseph, associate director of development — School of Education; John Montana '88



(front row, l-r) Millie Webb, Jeff Peierls, scholarship donor; Jodi Korthuis, student; (back row, l-r) Jennifer Barron, student; Emily Wickham, student



(l-r) Donna Viles, scholarship donor; Cynthia Cerna Gaytan, student; Tootsie Wegener, scholarship donor

## Upcoming Events

### February

- President's & Legacy Society Member Reception at the CVA with Carlos Fesquez
- Homecoming
- Alumni Awards

### April

- Annual Scholarship Dinner
- Giving Society Spring Concert

### May

- Presidential Inauguration
- Inauguration Gala

### June

- Roadrunner Athletics Auction



(l-r) Robert Brazell, student; Jessica Bollig, student; Denisee Sierra Silva, student; Jessica Kirkpatrick, student; Genesis Delon, student; Megan Bussey, Kingdom Enlightenment Scholarship Foundation; Michael Bussey, Kingdom Enlightenment Scholarship Foundation



(l-r) Charlie Howell; Ellen McCarthy; Brenda Rodrigues-Vera, student; Hollis House, student; Barbara Grogan, MSU Denver Trustee; Brayan Molina, student; Gerardo Torres Serrano, student; Alfonso Barrera, student

# Alumna transforms lives

Continued from page 8

"Every time I try to talk I start to cry. It is overwhelming. I am so grateful to Sandra." Sandoval wants to encourage those who are struggling with addiction and depression to get help.

"You only get one chance at living," she said. "There are many people who are willing to help. If my husband knew how many people needed him. If he had reached out — we could have found help. You have to take that first step

and reach out. Nothing stays the same. A year from now. A month from now. Everything changes. It can, and will, get better." "Life is a gift," she said. "And no matter the struggle, it's

always worth living." You can share in Sandra Sandoval's vision by giving to the Life Matters Annual Scholarship. Contact Allyssa Joseph at [ajoseph9@msudenver.edu](mailto:ajoseph9@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2045.



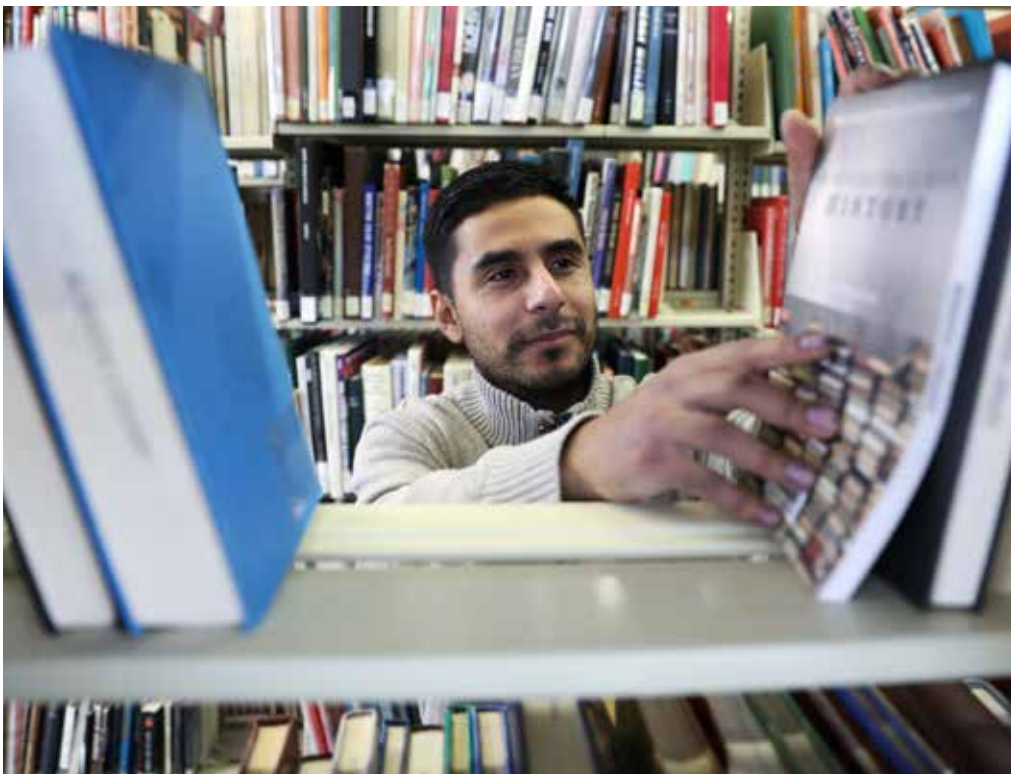
# Donors rally around DACA students with more than \$9,000 in support

By Matt Watson

Donors stepped up this fall to provide support for students in need of renewing their DACA status ahead of an October deadline. One student, Francisco Hernandez, a sophomore majoring in modern languages with a focus in Spanish, turned to Immigrant Services at MSU Denver after struggling to submit his application through the Mexican Consulate and then trying to fill it out himself.

“It’s really been a roller coaster of emotions. We knew DACA was temporary, but now everything is so uncertain as to whether Congress will act,” Hernandez said. “The support from the school makes me feel valued as a student.”

MSU Denver’s Immigrant Services program was created 30 years ago largely as an English as a Second Language program, but it has grown



*Francisco Hernandez, a sophomore majoring in modern languages with a focus in Spanish, is one of nine Roadrunners who took advantage of an MSU Denver Foundation fundraiser to pay for his DACA renewal application fee.*

quickly since the Colorado ASSET law was signed in 2013. The program now also helps students with scholarship applications, health insurance selection and academic advising.

Gregor Mieder, coordinator of the Immigrant Services program, has seen more of a need for emotional support this year in the face of DACA’s uncertain future.

“There’s a lot of anxiety, and there certainly is a large emotional component — students come in, and we notice that they’re very anxious,” Mieder said. “They ask questions; sometimes we can answer them, and sometimes we can’t.”

Both Mieder and President Janine Davidson hope the amount of support coming from across campus and from outside the University reassures students of their place on campus.

“DACA students and employees are valuable contributors to our learning community and among the hardest workers we have on campus,” said President Davidson. “They have come to MSU Denver to better their lives, families and communities; in short, to achieve the American dream. I intend to do everything in my power to ensure that they can continue to do so.”

*To support DACA students at MSU Denver, please contact Gwen Thompson at [gthomp39@msudenver.edu](mailto:gthomp39@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2051.*

**“It’s really been a roller coaster of emotions. We knew DACA was temporary, but now everything is so uncertain.”**

— Francisco Hernandez

## Faculty member and spouse establish \$25,000 endowed scholarship to support ASSET/DACA Students

By Adam Million

Tara Tull and her life partner Samuel Walker are no strangers to education and student financial need. They both work in higher education and have established three scholarships at MSU Denver, including the Open Door Endowed Scholarship in 2017, which provides financial support for ASSET/DACA students who don’t have access to federal aid.

“I’ve had DACA students in my

classes,” said Tull, “and they have been some of the most top notch, excellent students I’ve had. With shifts in the political environment, I’m even more interested in supporting this group of students because there is fear and uncertainty in their communities, and they simply don’t qualify for federal financial aid and can’t access that pool of money.”

For 28 years, Tull has held multiple positions at MSU Denver in the Women’s Studies and Human Services

Departments. After her first six months on the job, she could tell the number one student need was money. Tull was motivated to begin giving back shortly after starting when she learned about her former boss making gifts through payroll deduction.

“Giving through payroll deduction was a way for me to give back without feeling any pain. It was a great way for me to feel like I was supporting the students.”

After years of payroll deduction, those \$15 or \$20 per month gifts start to add up, but it was thanks to some fortunate financial planning and an inheritance that allowed Tull and Walker to establish their first scholarship. For the Open Door Endowed Scholarship, the couple was able to take advantage of the

matching funds made available through the HLC@Metro partnership (see pg. 6) — which was a huge incentive for them to endow the scholarship.

“I have a belief in education as the way to support people to become self-sustaining who haven’t been, the way for people to find a career that meets their passion; it’s the way for us to build a society of engaged citizens. I just believe in education but it’s become really expensive. If there is anyway I can support students to have what I had, to support them on their way to graduation, that just feels good to me.”

*To learn how you can support DACA students or scholarships, please contact Gwen Thompson at [gthomp39@msudenver.edu](mailto:gthomp39@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2051.*

**“If there is anyway I can support students to have what I had, to support them on their way to graduation, that just feels good to me.”**

— Tara Tull, associate professor, Department of Human Services



# Alumni weekend

By Traci McBee Rowe

Over 300 alumni and guests participated in five events throughout MSU Denver’s Fall Alumni Weekend October 5th-7th. This inaugural event featured a Casino Night, 5k Race, alumni socials and the Roadrunners Athletics annual Hall of Fame induction. Kicking off the weekend, over \$1,500 was raised at Casino Night in support of the Alumni Association Scholarship. Current MSU Denver student, Mitch Kusick won the inaugural Roadrunners 5k with a time of 19:28 and alumna, Abby Rolph ’14, was the first female

finisher with a time of 21:06. The weekend concluded by inducting three individuals and one team into the 2017 class of



Alumni and guests enjoying the games at Casino Night

the Roadrunners Hall of Fame. The inductees include, Becca Mays ’10 (women’s soccer), Martin Richardson ’87 (men’s



(l-r) Mary Towner ’16, Cassidy Smith ’17, Danielle Sandel ’15, Colissa Bakovich ’17

soccer), Tracy Thompson ’09 (volleyball) and the 2010 softball team.



Brandi Rideout, associate director of alumni relations; Jamie Hurst, director of alumni relations and giving



(l-r) Lynne Winter ’17; Hayley Bevan ’17; Ariel Keener, current student; Ean Tafoya ’12



Home Groove Band: Francis Jones; Greg Ernstrom; Chuck Martin ’09; Bill Schuler



(l-r) Gary George, Judith George ’01, Alumni Association Board Chair; Ean Tafoya ’12



Amanda Taney ’15 slides into home during the alumni softball game



(front row, l-r) Lauren Hainlen ’11; Kellie Nishikida; Molly Clark ’11; Jannessa (Horan) Tesone ’11; Tara (Mickelson) Wheeler; (back row, l-r) Sarah Rusch ’11; Brittany (Moss) Alvarado-Orozco; Aubree Maul ’14; Christie (Robinson) Adragna ’10

# Caffeine consumption helps DACA students

By Hannah McPherson

Dazbog Coffee is donating \$1 to DACA students for every \$4.99 travel mug purchased at their Auraria Campus location.



Anatoly and Leonid Yuffa, the founders of Dazbog Coffee Company, actively seek to better the lives of students on Auraria.

“We’ve had a great partnership with MSU Denver for long time,” said Kevin Wehrly, senior vice president of Dazbog Coffee. “Given Leo and Tony’s

history and their hardships, they understand the difficulties these students are going through. They want to assist.”

In 2012, Dazbog endowed a scholarship to MSU Denver. Now, the Yuffa brothers have initiated this campaign to support DACA students with no monetary limit to how much the sale of the travel mugs can raise. In 1979, when Tony and Leo were young children, aged 9 and 7 years respectively, the Yuffa family immigrated from the former Soviet Union directly to Colorado.

“Seeing similarities in their own past to these students, Tony and Leo agreed to initiate a month-long travel mug

promotion,” said Jamie Hurst, director of Alumni Relations and Giving. “As if this wasn’t enough, they personally agreed to match, dollar-for-dollar, the total amount raised by mug sales.”

“This is a community that doesn’t get a lot of financial support, particularly because they’re not able to fill out FAFSA,” said Student Government Assembly President Joshua Gardner. “The fact that Dazbog is fundraising on our campus where we have a large population of DACA students is very appropriate and I certainly respect them for that.”

According to Timothy

Carroll, associate director of media relations and faculty liaison, MSU Denver does not keep a record of how many DACA students are currently enrolled. However, the school has around 400 Advancing Students for a Stronger Economy Tomorrow students. ASSET is the name of a Colorado-state law passed in 2013 that granted in-state tuition to undocumented students seeking to attend higher education.

“We have had great feedback,” Wehrly said. “There have been multiple students and faculty members who have purchased travel mugs. Some faculty members purchased enough for their entire class.”



# \$120,000 gift creates new position to support students from foster care backgrounds

By Matt Watson

Chandell Bell knows what it's like to be alone. When she was 7 years old, she regularly walked 11 miles from her foster home to school, missing the bus on purpose just so she could be alone.

Bell was first removed from her home at 6 months old and was permanently removed at 5 years old. She lived in 13 placements before emancipating at age 17. She attended a dozen schools while in foster care and five colleges and universities before earning her bachelor's degree from MSU Denver in 2010.

Today, Bell is the new Fostering Success program coordinator at MSU Denver thanks to a \$120,000 gift from the Festus and Helen Stacy Foundation. Her mission now is to make sure no one else coming out of the foster-care system has to go it alone.

"Giving to the Fostering Success Program is something my family is passionate about, since we are very involved in foster care," said Doug Stepelton '69, president of the Festus and Helen Stacy Foundation. "Hiring Chandell makes it even more exciting because of her foster care background and her will to help others that are in similar situations that she so beautifully overcame."

"It was important for me to



(l-r) Brandi Scott; Virlee Stepelton; Doug Stepelton '69; Chandell Bell '10; Matt Kring

embrace my background and tell my own story, and not have these statistics speak for me," Bell said. "I think it's empowering to me to be in this position, I want our students to know that we are here and that I am here to help."

*If you want to join alumnus and donor Doug Stepelton and support programs like Fostering Success, contact John Pepperdine at [jpepperd@msudenver.edu](mailto:jpepperd@msudenver.edu) or 303-615-2048.*

**"I encourage all alumni this holiday season to consider giving back to MSU Denver. In the end, we all need a boost in life, so just maybe you can be the one to make a difference in someone's life at Metro."**

**— Doug Stepelton '69**

**"I am incredibly thankful for the Stacy Foundation's vision to invest in Fostering Success. Their gift is leading the way for this program and helping students realize their dream of a better life through education."**

**— Dino Hernandez, vice president of University Advancement and executive director of the MSU Denver Foundation**

## Responding to Roadrunners in need

By Lynne Winter

The most carefully laid plans are no match for Mother Nature. In the aftermath of hurricanes, flooding and other disasters, the urgent need for medication, food and alternative living arrangements can outpace the arrival of an insurance check, leaving bank accounts drained.

The MSU Denver Alumni Association established the Roadrunner Response Fund

as a way to help members of our Roadrunner family during these challenging times.

"The Roadrunner Relief Fund allows us to offer short-term financial support to MSU Denver alumni after a natural disaster," says Brandi Rideout, associate director of Alumni Relations. "Supporting your fellow Roadrunner is what MSU Denver is all about."

This fall, gifts from donors like you provided seven alumni and

their families with the funds they needed to replace food, clothing and other necessities lost during hurricane season.

"I lost everything in Hurricane Harvey," says one affected alum. "The Roadrunner Relief Fund allowed us to stay in our hotel and purchase new clothing while we got to work rebuilding our home."

We are asking you to join us today in supporting the Roadrunner Response

Fund by making a gift at [advance.msudenver.edu/roadrunnerresponse/donate](https://advance.msudenver.edu/roadrunnerresponse/donate).

The next time nature strikes, MSU Denver will be ready to help. Together, we are transforming lives.

*For more information on how to support the Roadrunner Relief Fund, contact Brandi Rideout, associate director of alumni relations, at [brideout@msudenver.edu](mailto:brideout@msudenver.edu) or 303-556-6934.*



# Veterans appreciation reception



*Christopher Tillman '09, Navy; Lt. Col. Joe Rice '89, Army Reserve; Janine Davidson, Ph.D., MSU Denver president, Navy*



*Glenn Morris, strength and conditioning faculty, Marine; Janine Davidson, Ph.D., MSU Denver president*



*MSU Denver veteran and military students*



*Christopher Thibodeau, MSU Denver student, Navy; Tim Carroll, assistant director of media relations*



*Christopher Thibodeau, MSU Denver student, Navy; Lauren Sullivan, manager Veteran/Military Student Center*



*Lt. Col. Joe Rice '89, Army Reserve; Cathy Lucas, MSU Denver vice president of strategy/ chief of staff*



*Judy George '01, Alumni Association Board Chair; Erika Wyckoff, MSU Denver student, Army National Guard; Gary George*

# Alum puts a smile on the faces of biology students with \$50,000 scholarship

**By Doug McPherson**

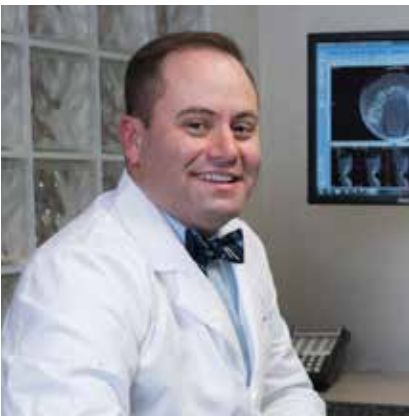
When Dr. Tom Hoover thinks back on his days as a student at MSU Denver, two words come to mind: hard work.

With full class loads and a job at a King Soopers grocery store in Arvada, Colorado, “hard” is an understatement.

“It made for long days, but after five years I had two bachelor’s degrees and zero school debt,” Hoover says.

Hoover graduated in 1998 with bachelor’s degrees in chemistry and biology. He continued with eight more years of schooling to become a dentist and eventually a periodontist. Today, he has a practice near Minneapolis.

Regardless of time and distance, he has never forgotten his first experiences at MSU Denver. He thinks



*Dr. Tom Hoover '98*

of that time with deep appreciation – the flexibility, the affordability and professors who inspired him to reach the highest pinnacle in medicine.

Hoover praises Patricia Stranahan, M.D., Ph.D., the former chair of MSU Denver’s Biology Department.

“She was an amazing mentor. She helped me refine my study habits to excel in graduate

school – something that guides me to this day. I can never thank her enough,” he says.

With a personal commitment of \$25,000 and matching funds made available by the University, Hoover has found a way to say ‘thanks’ and give back to his alma mater by establishing a \$50,000 scholarship fund to benefit biology students working their way through school.

“I wanted to impact students with aspirations to work in health sciences – who are in the same boat that I was in.”

Hoover says MSU Denver was “the perfect school” for a nontraditional student like him to achieve his educational goals.

“I had wonderful teachers and mentors at MSU Denver,” he says. “I had the benefit of small

classes and individualized attention when I needed it. I don’t think I could have done all of that at another school. It’s the best educational decision I made during my relatively long educational journey.”

“The scholarships founded by alumni at MSU Denver make it possible for our students to achieve their dream of earning a college degree when it might otherwise be financially impossible,” says Dino Hernandez, vice president of University Advancement and executive director of the MSU Denver Foundation. “We are deeply grateful for their generosity and support.”

*For more information on how you can support scholarships at MSU Denver, please contact Gwen Thompson, senior director of development, at gthomp39@msudenver.edu or 303-615-2051.*



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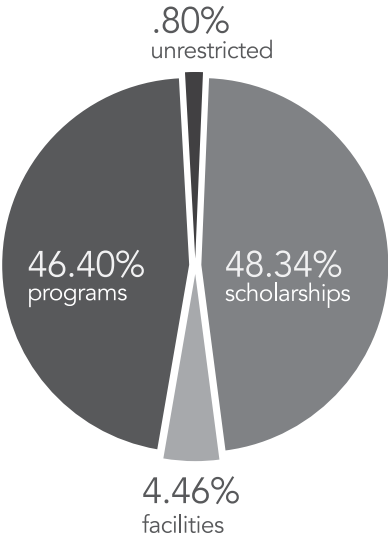


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Percentage of funds raised  
in 2016-17 supporting the  
following areas



**\$7.27  
MILLION**

**Total funds  
raised in  
FY17**

**7,484**

**Total number of  
gifts made to the  
the University/  
Foundation in  
FY17**

**2100**

**Number of first-time  
donors in FY17**



# Philanthropy drives the American dream

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the inaugural issue of the Roadrunner Development Report. I am Dino Hernandez, the new Vice President of Advancement and Executive Director of the MSU Denver Foundation at Metropolitan State University of Denver. I am thrilled to have joined my new Roadrunner family in the beautiful state of Colorado and am excited at the prospect of transforming lives at MSU Denver.

In this first issue, you will read stories that illustrate the passion that our alumni, friends and those within our community have for MSU Denver. They have given generously in meaningful ways, for different reasons, and at levels that work for their budget. They know that every gift, regardless of size, makes an impact on the future of the University.

Volume 1 of the Roadrunner Development Report features:

- The Kemper Family Endowed Chair — the first endowed chair in our University’s history
- The Rita and Navin Dimond Fellows Program
- An alumna who created a named scholarship as a way to overcome personal tragedy
- MSU Denver students getting involved in philanthropy

And so much more.

Philanthropy, in its many forms, is crucial to the life of our University. We are deeply thankful to all who give unselfishly of their time, talent and treasure. Those include the hardworking volunteers who make up the Board of Trustees and the MSU Denver Foundation Board. As part of the philanthropic arm of the University, their commitment to MSU Denver makes a high-quality education accessible to anyone who dreams of earning a college degree.

Charitable giving is vital to the future of the students and programs at MSU Denver. We depend on your gifts to transform lives in ways that carry well-beyond our campus borders. There is still time for you to make an end-of-the-year tax-deductible gift. Learn about the variety of ways you can make a gift on page 16.



Total MSU Denver  
Foundation value  
**\$8,881,985**

The entire MSU Denver University Advancement team is deeply grateful to you and we are here to serve you. Be sure to check out the whole team on page 14. Do not hesitate to contact any one of us if there is anything that we can do for you.

Thank you for choosing to support the students and programs of MSU Denver.  
It is what we do together that transforms the lives of so many.

Sincerely,

Dino Hernandez  
Vice President of Advancement/  
Executive Director of the MSU Denver Foundation



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# Ways to give

There are many ways to make a gift to MSU Denver. Listed here are a variety of ways to support the University and help meet the increasing educational needs for students as well as provide resources to bolster the University's mission. Gifts of all sizes matter!

## Online

The most convenient way to support MSU Denver is by donating online at [msudenver.edu/giving](https://msudenver.edu/giving)

## By Mail

Print the donation form that can be found online and mail to:

**MSU Denver University Advancement**  
Campus Box 14  
PO Box 173362  
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**Dino Hernandez**  
**Vice President for University Advancement/Executive Director MSU Denver Foundation**  
**Phone: 303-615-2042**  
**[dino.hernandez@msudenver.edu](mailto:dino.hernandez@msudenver.edu)**

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*For more information, contact*  
*Dino Hernandez at*  
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# ROADRUNNER DEVELOPMENT REPORT

*Roadrunner Development Report* Inaugural Issue!

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(l-r) Matthew Current, student at MSU Denver; Mariner Kemper, his wife Megan Kemper; Mariner's sister Sheila Dietrich, her husband Walter Dietrich