

Worcester State University

2022

# DONOR IMPACT

STATEMENT



## Lifetime connections

From young alumni like Monica Bhakhri '18 and Daniel Figueiredo '15 to the pioneers who shaped Worcester State, our donors share deep ties of friendship, family, and a commitment to the next generation.



# *Thank you for growing Lancer Nation*



Your generosity and support transforms the lives of Worcester State students and helps Lancer Nation thrive. This year's Donor Impact Statement highlights the lifetime connections that have inspired donors as philanthropists, mentors, innovators, friends, and visionaries.

# My lifetime of Worcester State friendship and family



I take tremendous pride in the relationships I've cultivated throughout my time at Worcester State University as a student, an athlete, an alumnus, and in my current role in Advancement for the last 20+ years. As time goes on, it becomes increasingly more apparent just how intertwined we all are. Not just as the result of our geography, but in our human experiences, our struggles and accomplishments, and in how the people who were there for us help inform our choices and define our lives.

My work with donors, alumni, and community partners is meaningful in the ways our office plays a role in connecting engaged donors to the life-changing impact they help facilitate. Equally profound are the sincere friendships I've developed with these same people and their families along the way. Many of these generous individuals and families support Worcester State's mission because of the strong foundation they were once provided with as students. Others choose to give to Worcester State rather than larger private institutions because they have seen the very real impact they can make here. At Worcester State, for example, a scholarship can typically provide a \$2,500 award. For most students, this equates to 25 percent of their tuition and fees—inarguably a life-altering contribution.

Worcester State University is a uniquely special place. It truly is family (and not just because I also met my wife, Sherrie, a Worcester State alumna, here almost 30 years ago!)

Like most institutions of learning, many physical attributes of our campus have evolved over the years, but what remains embedded in the fabric of this community is the pride of connection and friendship among faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and students. The wonderful stories that follow illuminate this. We connect with our donors on a deep level because we share the same goal, to help give our current students what we were once given. Opportunity. Inspiration. Roots and wings.

We are graduating exceptional students each year who go on to medical school or careers in research. They are literally changing the world. Donors consistently help support this excellence, and students are profoundly thankful—and many feel moved to give back, too, as soon as they can after graduation. Recent graduate and 29 Who Shine awardee Charles Bray said it best: "I love the relationship between the students and the donors; it's beneficial for them because they get to see the impact of their gift, but we get a connection with a real professional who cares for us."

We are deeply grateful to our donors and for their pursuit of excellence and accessibility in public higher education here at Worcester State. It's been my lifelong joy to help facilitate these connections by illustrating to our donors the incredible impact they are making every day.

*With Lancer pride,*

THOMAS MCNAMARA '94  
Vice President,  
University Advancement



**WORCESTER**  
STATE  
**UNIVERSITY**

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# My Worcester State Connection

ALUMNI REFLECT ON HOW THEIR CONNECTIONS TO WORCESTER STATE HAVE INSPIRED THEIR GIVING



**MAJ (Ret) Ellis J. Cropper '96, CLTC**  
Financial Services Professional

## WHAT IS YOUR MOST SIGNIFICANT CONNECTION TO WORCESTER STATE?

Probably my most significant connection to Worcester State University is Sid Buxton (founder of OMA). However, I feel connected to the university as a whole because I was very involved during my time as a student. I was an active member of Third World Alliance (TWA), spent four years in student government and held the position as treasurer for two years and was SGA president in my fourth year. I also played basketball and football.

**WHAT IMPACT HAS THIS CONNECTION HAD IN YOUR LIFE?** In 1996, one of my younger brothers was put on death row for a crime that he did not commit. Not having any political or social influence, I decided to run and bike from Massachusetts to New Orleans, La., to bring awareness to his case. When I told Sid about the feat I was taking on, he donated the bicycle, which I still have today. He is still one of my greatest mentors. After my most recent conversation with him, I decided that I'll start calling him the Wizard, because he knows a lot about everything.

**HOW HAS THIS CONNECTION INSPIRED YOUR GIVING TO WSU?** It was the Sid Buxton Scholarship that inspired me to give to WSU. Eventually, I would like to sponsor a scholarship for minority students that are interested in studying finance. I'm planning to be able to start an endowment within the next two to three years.

*“Eventually,*

*I would like to sponsor a scholarship for minority students that are interested in studying finance.”* —Ellis Cropper



**Meaghan K. Dougherty '19**  
Actuarial Analyst

## WHAT IS YOUR MOST SIGNIFICANT CONNECTION TO WORCESTER STATE?

My time at Worcester State shaped so many aspects of myself and my future that the list is endless. The biggest being that I met my best friends there and my fiancé. This year alone I will be in two weddings as a bridesmaid for couples that met and started dating at WSU. My own wedding will be next summer, of which eight members of our bridal party are WSU alumni. Reflecting on my time at WSU, I genuinely cannot picture my life without the growth and connections I made in such a short period of time. I will forever be grateful to be able to carry these friendships with both alumni and the faculty/professors who made those four years so memorable for the rest of my life.

**WHAT IMPACT HAS THIS CONNECTION HAD IN YOUR LIFE?** The relationships I made at WSU have held so much weight in my success. For example, I wouldn't have my job if it weren't for the friends that forwarded along my résumé to HR. I wouldn't have the skills and preparation for my career of choice if it weren't for the professor who allowed me the opportunity to take independent studies with her guidance. I wouldn't have the confidence and leadership skills I developed from my time participating in student government and in working with the OSILD office. And in that same point I wouldn't be sharing the future with my fiancé if it weren't for meeting him in a student government office one Thursday afternoon.

**HOW HAS THIS CONNECTION INSPIRED YOUR GIVING TO WSU?** I am inspired to give back to WSU because I can afford to and I know that if this helps students even the slightest to have an experience just as impactful as mine, then it is worth it. I wish to aid students' success in any way, monetarily is just one of ways to do it.

ABOVE: Meaghan Dougherty '19 and John McLaughlin '18, who met at Worcester State, will wed next summer.



**Larry Anthony Lopez '05**  
Microsoft, Office of the CEO

**WHAT IS YOUR MOST SIGNIFICANT CONNECTION TO WORCESTER STATE?** WSU has become a place that is not only important to just me, but my entire family. As a soon-to-be first-generation college student in the early 2000s, I checked out several colleges. When deciding on where to go, I wanted to ensure that I was a person, and not a number. Worcester State was the best option that would give me this possibility. Immediately on starting at Worcester State, I decided that I wanted to become involved, and did I ever. I had the opportunity to participate as freshman class vice president, sophomore class president, and SGA president for my junior and senior years. I also was an Orientation leader, Orientation co-director, resident assistant, and represented the Worcester State student body to the Alumni Advisory Board, as well as statewide as vice chair of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Student Advisory Council. All of this became possible due to the experiences I had both in and out of the classroom.

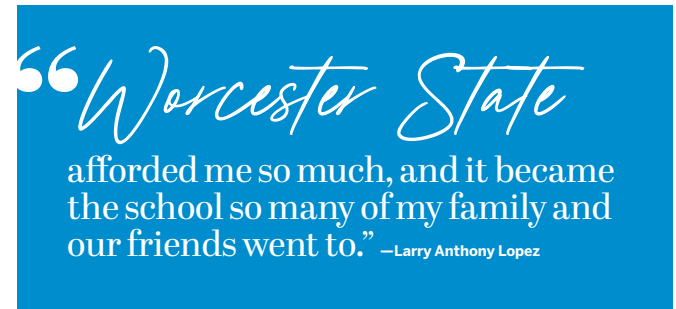
Worcester State afforded me so much, and it became the school so many of my family and our friends went to. My younger sister, Kailey Lopez '13, enjoyed her time there, and my brother and a few cousins, and many family friends attended due to the great experiences that I had.

While nearly two decades have passed since I graduated, I have tried to stay in touch with as many people as possible from WSU. I have tried my best to stay connected with those who had a profound impact on my life while there. I value that so many people from the Student Affairs, the President's Office, and the Alumni and Development Office are still there and I am able to engage with them.

**WHAT IMPACT HAS THIS CONNECTION HAD IN YOUR LIFE?** I have been lucky to remain connected and active with the WSU community since I have graduated. A few years after graduation, I moved to Washington, D.C. and whenever there were WSU students traveling or interning in D.C., I have tried to connect with them, and if able, serve as a mentor. For the last several years, I had the privilege of meeting with Presidential Student Ambassadors and working closely with Patrick Hare, Carl Herrin, and President Maloney. At the time, I worked in the United States Senate, and I wanted to make sure that those Ambassadors were able to experience all that was our U.S. Capitol. The students received a tour,

and I also had the privilege to meet and discuss my path and answer any questions they had. It was the highlight of my spring every year.

I try to remain in touch as best as possible with individuals that had an impact on my life while at WSU. I am so grateful for social media to stay in touch with friends, and relish the day I can come back to campus and possibly stop by an office and a former mentor/advisor is in. While the campus is a bit different now, I love stopping in whenever I can. Additionally, I value and so appreciate the relationship that the Alumni and Development Office has maintained since my days at 486 Chandler Street. I love getting those Worcester State Magazines, and mailings (they remind me of my time being a student worker in the Alumni Office), and I really value the fact that after all these years, Tom McNamara, Louise Taylor, and Tara Hancock in University Advancement have stayed in touch and genuinely care about who I am and my life journey.



**HOW HAS THIS CONNECTION INSPIRED YOUR GIVING TO WSU?** Worcester State truly opened so many doors for me and allowed me to get to where I am today. I am forever grateful to the faculty, staff, and the institution that gave me the ability to get to where I am today. I give a modest monthly contribution to WSU, which is so generously matched by my employer. I have also determined and directed that 50 percent of my estate will be left to WSU. In particular, one area where I would like to see those funds used is to establish a scholarship for individuals who would like to pursue public service and are involved in some form of student activities; however, I want this bequest to also be contributed wherever it's needed most by the students, faculty, or institution at the time.



# Celebrating friendship, family, and learning

ALUMNA ESTABLISHES AWARD TO HONOR HUSBAND AND WIFE TEACHERS AND LIFELONG FRIENDS



When the recess bell would ring at May Street Elementary School, Miss Elaine Curran's first graders would race to be at her side as they walked to the playground.

"I always wanted to run out and be one of the kids to hold one of her hands," remembers Diane Aramony. "I was very lucky to be one of those people."

Miss Curran, fresh out of Worcester State Teachers College, was a first-year teacher and all of her little ones were special; however, Diane stood out. "She was so enthusiastic, very bright, and an avid learner." When Diane fell ill during the school year, Miss Curran brought classwork to the Aramony home so she wouldn't fall behind. Diane baked a little cake each February to celebrate Miss Curran's birthday.

The connection that began in grade one between Miss Curran and Diane has lasted a lifetime—and grown as Miss Curran married her Worcester State college sweetheart and fellow teacher Donald Cousineau and became Mrs. Cousineau, and the couple had three children. Diane went on to college, also at Worcester State, became a teacher herself for eight years in Framingham, then moved to New York City and transitioned to a successful career at Mutual of America. In 2009, Worcester State honored Diane with the Distinguished Alumni Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement.

Through it all, the friendship, support, and love between Diane and the Cousineau family has become even stronger. "The holding hands at recess—that led to a lifetime of mutual support and friendship," Diane said. "Mr. and Mrs. Cousineau always supported me in whatever I was attempting to do. They were always there for me, from the age of six."

This year, to honor the couple, Diane established the Donald Cousineau '57, M.Ed. '60 and Elaine (Curran) Cousineau '57, M.Ed. '60 Elementary Education Award for a graduating Worcester State senior majoring in elementary education. The endowed award will be given in perpetuity to

one senior elementary education major with a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

"The idea for the award is so generous and so thoughtful," said Mr. Cousineau, who retired from the Auburn Public School system. "The thread that is tying all of this together is family. Diane brought her family and its values to school each day. Elaine brought her values and Cousineau values to school as well."

The first \$500 award was presented in May at the Worcester State Academic Achievement Awards to Kaylie Senecal '22, an Honors Program student who will start teaching sixth grade science and social studies this fall at Tatnuck Magnet School in Worcester.

The Cousineaus were taken by surprise when they learned of the award. "We were overwhelmed by what she did for us in our name. We are most grateful. We have been so blessed to have her in our lives," Mrs. Cousineau said.

*"We were overwhelmed by what she did for us in our name. We are most grateful. We have been so blessed to have her in our lives."*

—Elaine (Curran) Cousineau



The Cousineaus met during their freshman year at Worcester State in a biology lab. Theirs was the last class—1957—to matriculate in one building, what is today the Helen G. Shaughnessy Administration Building. “I just loved my time at Worcester State,” Mrs. Cousineau said. “I kept the books that I used to teach reading up until a couple of years ago.”

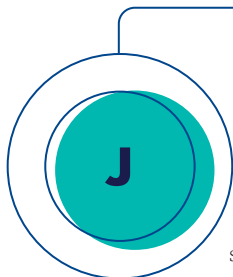
“I look at the award as acknowledging the importance of elementary education,” Diane said. “Miss Curran taught me how to read. Mr. and Mrs. Cousineau share a love of teaching, and the award celebrates the contributions they made and the many lives they touched. It is a small way to say thank you.”

This spring, Worcester State University made the inaugural award of the Donald Cousineau '57, M.Ed. '60 and Elaine (Curran) Cousineau '57, M.Ed. '60 Elementary Education Award, which was established by Diane Aramony to recognize the importance of elementary education. The award went to Honors Program and elementary education major Kaylie Senecal '22 (center), shown here at the Academic Achievement Awards with, from left, her parents Christopher and Barbara-Jeanne Senecal, Don and Elaine Cousineau, and Diane. Kaylie noted that she, too, was inspired by teachers who changed her life, “I had so many great teachers that were role models for me. These teachers changed my life, and I want to be able to change the lives of my students.”



# Giving and Mentoring

YOUNG ALUMNI HELP STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS AS THEY PURSUE THEIR OWN



Just a few years out of college, Monica Bhakhri '18 and Daniel Figueiredo '15 are paying it forward while still moving forward themselves.

Bhakhri is the youngest donor to establish an Adopt-a-Scholar, a four-year commitment to support WSU students in their education journey.

Figueiredo is a member of the Worcester State Foundation Board of Directors and a President's Circle donor to the Tri-Board Adopt-a-Scholar program.

The couple, who recently became engaged after dating throughout their years at Worcester State, were both business majors and are heading to graduate school to earn M.B.A. degrees—Bhakhri to the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College, and Figueiredo to Harvard Business School.

Bhakhri says her involvement in Worcester State's Adopt-a-Scholar program two months after graduation demonstrated how mentoring can be a two-way street.

"I was only a few weeks out of college when I first got paired with Marc-Kendy," Bhakhri said. "I'm still working towards reaching my goals and my dreams, just like my adopted scholar. It made the mentorship more of a friendship, and I definitely learned from him, and hopefully, I was able to give him some words of wisdom as well."

Her scholar, Marc-Kendy Paul '22, recently graduated from Worcester State and says it has been an honor having Bhakhri as his mentor.

"Monica supported me in all aspects of my college career. From my major switch to personal maturity growth, she has been my rock," he said. "One thing Monica has done for me that I will never forget is when she purposely sought out information outside of her professional domain to better advise me. I look forward to being a mentor and providing the same care to a future student like she provided to me."

In addition to serving on the Foundation Board and being a President's Circle donor, Figueiredo makes a personal donation accompanied by a match from his former employer to the Tri-Board Adopt-a-Scholar program.

"I believe that helping meet students' needs by serving on the Foundation Board and helping the Endowment Board invest its funds is as

important as networking with students and giving personal advice," he said. "It's meaningful to have skin in the game by both contributing to the financial success of the institution and connecting with students one on one to help them succeed at WSU and beyond."

Tri-board scholar Charles Bray '22, who was recently named one of Massachusetts' 29 Who Shine, said making connections with donors was important to him while he was at Worcester State.

"I love the relationship between the students and the donors," Bray said. "It's beneficial for them because they get to see the impact of their gift, but we get a connection with a real professional who cares for us."

As an undergraduate, Bhakhri received the Bedard Family Scholarship for Business Entrepreneurs. Her sense of philanthropic duty is rooted in family tradition. "My mom and maternal grandmother both come from the education profession,



*"I'm still*  
working towards reaching my goals and my dreams, just like my adopted scholar. It made the mentorship more of a friendship." —Monica Bhakhri





Charles Bray '22 (left) and Marc-Kendy Paul '22 (right) celebrate their graduation this spring. Bray is the recipient of a Tri-Board scholarship supported by Daniel Figueiredo and Paul is the recipient of the Adopt-A-Scholar award Monica Bhakhri established.



so education has always been a big centerpiece in our family and our lives,” she said. “They taught me that it’s our responsibility to give a hand to help those who come behind us.”

Bhakhri and Figueiredo feel their undergraduate experiences make them relatable to Worcester State students. “Dan and I both worked multiple jobs in order to pay for our undergraduate education while trying to juggle campus commitments as full-time students,” she said. “That’s a background and experience that I think resonates with many Worcester State students.”

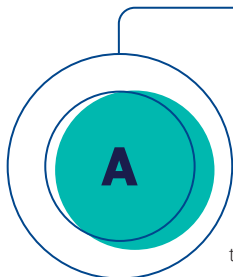
Both say their time at Worcester State played a major role in their

success in the financial sector. As they head off to graduate school, the couple say theirs will be a lifetime connection to their alma mater. “I think each growth stage in our careers and our lives will make it even easier to contribute back to WSU, particularly in our professional experiences and learnings,” Figueiredo said.

After business school, Bhakhri said, “We plan on getting right back into it to help as much as we can, and give back as much as we can, because there are some great students at Worcester State, and everyone deserves to have the opportunity to go after their dreams, regardless of where they come from.”

# A lifetime of giving

THE O'BRIENS SUPPORT GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS



At most universities, there are a handful of pioneering alumni donors whose support, vision, and care over their lifetimes help define the institution. Robert (Bob) K. O'Brien '58 and Barbara (Hickey) O'Brien '57 are a couple of those individuals for Worcester State.

Barbara was born during the Great Depression to parents who had emigrated from Ireland. Bob's family lived in a "cold-water apartment" in Worcester—so named because it offered no hot water. Both sets of parents worked hard to provide necessities for the families and passed on their industriousness to their children. In college, Bob worked two jobs while also taking a full course load. He cooked breakfast at a local diner five mornings a week and drove a taxi every other night, often doing his homework under the dome light of his cab.

Although he graduated with an education degree, he went into insurance. He and Barbara, who met at Worcester State, settled in the area and started a family. "I was lucky," he said. "I worked unbelievable hours and built several businesses." Through it all, the couple was actively involved with their alma mater.

In 1997, they wanted to memorialize their hardworking parents by starting a scholarship at Worcester State in their honor. "We had some money," O'Brien said, "so we chose to do something to allow their memory to live on."

They established the James M. Hickey Memorial Scholarship and the Julia Moynihan Hickey Memorial Scholarship, named for Barbara's parents, and the Robert Ivor O'Brien Memorial Scholarship and the Arline Lanois O'Brien/Knight Memorial Scholarship, named after Bob's parents. "That was the start of it," O'Brien said, the start of a lifetime of support.



Over the years, they also established the Barbara (Hickey) O'Brien '57 Scholarship and the Robert K. O'Brien '58 Scholarship and scholarships in honor of both of their sons, Brendan and Kevin. After Barbara passed away in 2015, Bob created a new endowment for the Worcester State Department of Education, honoring her 34 years as a special education teacher in Worcester Public Schools. Bob hopes that the graduates of the Barbara (Hickey) O'Brien '57 Department of Education will have the same dedication and open-mindedness that his beloved wife had.

To keep up with inflation, O'Brien has increased the value of the family scholarships. This year, Bob and Barbara's scholarships went up from \$2,000 to \$5,000. The other six scholarships went up from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The O'Briens also founded the Next Big Idea Contest in 2013 as a way to inspire students to start entrepreneurial ventures and promote inventiveness. The contest is still going strong today, awarding \$5,000 to winners. The O'Briens funded the contest for its first five years; it is currently funded through a gift from the Esler Family Foundation.

"Worcester State turns out very smart people," O'Brien said. "They have as much natural intelligence as any student that goes to Yale, Harvard, or Brown. However, they are drawing from a smaller city that doesn't have the environmental support to learn high finance. The university needs to improve their opportunities to know about business and finance, along with the fundamentals of education like accounting, sales, and marketing. That's part of the reason for supporting Worcester State and for supporting the Next Big Idea. There is a lot of brilliance in the student population—they need to know they have it, and they don't always know. We need to encourage them to understand that they have all the essentials and it's okay to ask for help. The help is there for them at the university."

“There is a lot of brilliance in the student population—they need to know they have it and they don't always know.”

— Robert O'Brien



ABOVE: Robert O'Brien founded the Next Big Idea contest for entrepreneurs at Worcester State. Pictured here is O'Brien (center) with the 2016 winning team of Alana Colombo '17, Julia Dufault '17, and Brett Tetreault '17, plus alumnus Derek Canton '15.

All told, the O'Briens have donated nearly \$1 million dollars to Worcester State, and more than 100 students have received support through their donations.

One of those students is Nick Monfreda '00, who was a non-traditional student when he decided to attend Worcester State in 1997, majoring in economics. At the time, he and his wife had one vehicle and were living paycheck to paycheck so he could go to school. One of his professors, Maureen (Cusson) Stefanini '58, M.Ed. '61, Ed.D.—who was Bob's classmate—suggested he would be a good candidate for one of the O'Brien family scholarships, so he applied and was awarded the Julia Moynihan Hickey Memorial Scholarship.

"The learning experience was very personal and high touch at Worcester State," Monfreda said. "We got really personal attention from the faculty and that was a great experience."

Years later, Monfreda was settled in a successful tech-industry career in Florida when he was cleaning out his desk and came across the scholarship award letter. He'd met O'Brien briefly at a scholarship event at some point, but found himself reading the letter with new appreciation for what the scholarship had helped to enable in his life. He reached out to Worcester State to see if he could be connected with O'Brien—and in the process created a new friendship.

"Within an hour I got a phone call from Bob. He lived 45 minutes north of me in Jupiter," Monfreda said. "It's always good to get together with Bob. He's a dynamic guy and very giving. It's important for guys like me to recognize that. How do I pay that forward and take what I learned from him and make the world a better place?"

Monfreda and his wife decided to pay it forward by establishing the Nick and Anna Monfreda Endowed Scholarship for non-traditional students majoring in economics or business administration.

O'Brien was thrilled when he learned of the Monfredas' scholarship: "Talk about being pleased!" he said. Monfreda hopes that as time goes on, he might be able to be a mentor to recipients of his scholarship, as O'Brien has been to him.

"If you are going to give, you have to give from your heart without any expectation of getting anything in return, but it is refreshing that when you give, you inspire others to give," Monfreda said. "That's the only way we are going to grow the mission of giving, through the next generation picking up the baton."



# Helping students cross the finish line

A GENEROUS FUND ENABLES STUDENTS IN NEED TO GRADUATE ON TIME

**B**y the start of the spring 2022 semester, it looked like Casandra Pierre '22 wasn't going to be able to graduate on time. The biology major had one last course—Pre-Calculus—hanging over her head. She was going to have to find a way to fit the course into her schedule and take out more loans in order to complete her Bachelor of Science degree.

Any student in Casandra's position has enough to deal with, from trying to work one extra course into their schedule to worrying whether their post-graduation plans—including potential jobs, internships, or graduate school—will need to be put on hold. Figuring out how to pay for final credits or other unexpected costs is often an obstacle that derails students from reaching the finish line of graduation.

Worcester State University's Finish Line Fund removes the financial burden for students facing one last hurdle to completing their degree. The fund, established in 2022 and funded through a generous \$15,000 donation from Lionel and Cindy Lamoureux, Friends of the University, helps students pay for transportation, housing, lab or equipment fees, or, as in Casandra's case, tuition for one last class. The gift, which was suggested by Thomas McNamara, Vice President of University Advancement, aligns with the Lamoureuxs' goals to support hard-working students and enables the university to restrict funds for this effort and encourage others to help it grow.

"The Finish Line Fund allowed me not to have to delay successfully completing my college degree," Casandra said. "It gave me a fortunate opportunity to not have to deal with the financial stresses."

Though not alumni of Worcester State, the Lamoureuxs saw the value of public education and wanted to contribute. "There's an appeal in trying to help students who don't have the funds to go to private schools,"

Lionel said. "And public schools are teaching good work skills, so when people get out, they get employed pretty quickly."

"We're in a position where we can help others," he added, "so we do that whenever we can."

Now that Casandra has graduated—right on time—she hopes to find a job in clinical research before pursuing further studies in medicine. Casandra wants Worcester State students to know that the Finish Line Fund is available and worth pursuing. "They will definitely not regret it."

*“The Finish Line Fund allowed me not to have to delay successfully completing my college degree. It gave me a fortunate opportunity to not have to deal with the financial stresses.”*

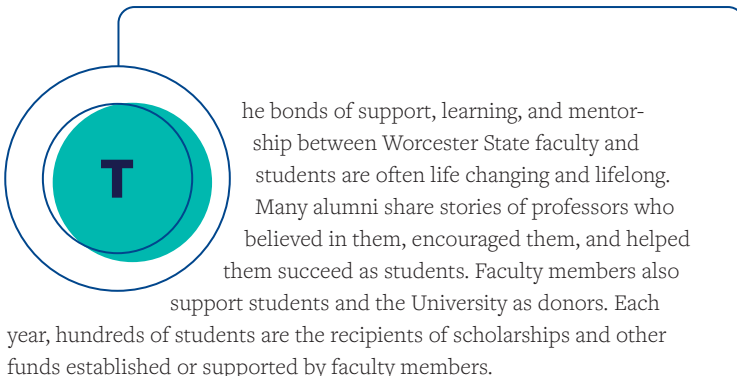
—Casandra Pierre '22





Cassandra Pierre graduated in May with her degree in biology, right on time.

# Faculty go above and beyond to support students



The bonds of support, learning, and mentorship between Worcester State faculty and students are often life changing and lifelong. Many alumni share stories of professors who believed in them, encouraged them, and helped them succeed as students. Faculty members also support students and the University as donors. Each year, hundreds of students are the recipients of scholarships and other funds established or supported by faculty members.

For Economics Professor Bonnie Orcutt '84, Ph.D., who earned her undergraduate degree at Worcester State, giving back is a way to honor her own experiences at Worcester State. As a single mother and first-generation college student, Orcutt was mentored by Professor Stephen F. Trimby, with whom she still stays in touch. To recognize Trimby's many contributions, Orcutt and fellow Business Administration faculty members established the F. Stephen Trimby Economics Award given annually to a senior at the Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony.

"Worcester State is what gave me my start," she said. "I feel as though I was given this opportunity and these supports, and it changed my life so drastically that I really feel it's important to try to give back to students, especially those who are at Worcester State."

She also established a scholarship in memory of her college friend Craig Dempsey, a member of the class of 1985 who passed away in 1998 at age 36. This year, Orcutt created a scholarship in honor of Joshua Fickett, who passed away unexpectedly in 2021 at age 36. Joshua was a student in a number of her classes where his participation and contributions were enriching. While she enjoyed a student-faculty relationship with Joshua, she notes the most meaningful and lasting relationship was that of mentor and mentee.

As an undergraduate economics major, Fickett worked with Dr. Orcutt on a research project about unbanked populations, people who don't use the mainstream banking system. He was instrumental in creating the survey

used to interview individuals sheltered at Veterans Inc. as well as other nonprofit entities. They later went back during dinner time to serve meals to the veterans. When it came time to record and analyze the data, Dr. Orcutt said, Fickett helped her crunch the data and set up the analysis documents. Together they went on to present a paper based upon their research findings at the Northeast Business and Economics Association.

"Josh was just one of these wonderful students," Dr. Orcutt said. "I have been able to develop these strong relationships from the start—as a student and as a faculty member. If I were able, I would have a long list of well-deserving WSU students and graduates for whom I'd create scholarships—they all have such interesting stories and barriers they had to work through. They travel difficult paths to success.

“*I feel*

as though I was given this opportunity and these supports, and it changed my life so drastically that I really feel it's important to try to give back to students, especially those who are at Worcester State.” — Professor Bonnie Orcutt



Professor Bonnie Orcutt (right) presents the F. Stephen Trimby Economics Award to Aidan Lorusso '22 (left) this spring. Orcutt helped establish the award for Trimby, one of her mentors when she was a student. Lorusso, this year's recipient, took two classes with Orcutt, and they worked on two Biden Administration policy analyses concerning climate action and the racial wealth gap. Orcutt noted, "Aidan's chosen policies reflect his concern for social and economic justice."

"I am hoping that I magically come into a large amount of money enabling me to support and celebrate these students and their successes."

Along with scholarships, faculty and staff members give to a variety of special funds to support students in and outside the classroom, including the Worcester State Fund, Student Emergency Fund, Thea's Pantry, the Experiential Learning Fund, and the Resilience & Retention Fund. Education faculty have established a fund to support student teachers purchasing classroom supplies. Professor of Education Sue Foo, Ed.D., says teachers often spend between \$500 to \$1,500 a year out of their own pockets for classroom supplies. The shopping list is long. It can include everything from pencils, paper, rulers, and crayons to picture books and art supplies, even floor cushions for story time.

Student teachers making their first forays into the classroom face those same material needs, which can strain an already struggling student's budget. To help ease the burden, the SAFE Fund has been established, with

the first disbursements set to go out this fall. The fund will make about \$500 available this year, and Dr. Foo hopes that sum can be increased in the future. "We are hoping to reach out to as many students as possible."

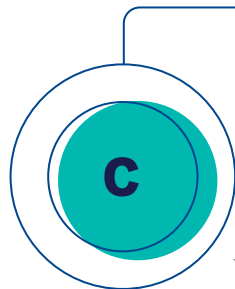
"Many schools are not able to provide all the supplies students need," Dr. Foo said. "So, teachers, depending on the lesson they have planned and the type of learning experience they want their students to have, will then go out and buy those materials."

The fund was initiated about six years ago when Dr. Audrey Wright '62, M.Ed. '72, former professor of education, retired. "We wanted to give her a gift, so we started collecting money," Dr. Foo said. But then Dr. Wright said she did not want a gift for herself and asked that the money be used to aid students.



# Supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs and WSU's future

THE BEDARDS LEAD BY EXAMPLE AS PHILANTHROPISTS AND LEADERS AT WORCESTER STATE



College wasn't a given for David Bedard '74, as no one in his family had ever pursued higher education; however, he had always been one to forge his own path. One of five children raised by a single mother in Worcester's Great Brook Valley Housing Project, Bedard wanted to study business but couldn't afford tuition at a college with

that major. Guided by a work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit instilled by his mother, he took a leap and enrolled at Worcester State as an elementary education major. As luck would have it, Worcester State began offering a bachelor's degree in business administration, and he was able to change majors his junior year, completing the requirements for the business degree in just three semesters.

In the years that followed, Bedard built a successful career as an international business owner, and, throughout that time, he has given back to the University that helped him get his start. "My time at Worcester State was such a positive experience," he said. It was "the cornerstone of my foundation for success. It gave me the knowledge and confidence to go out and pursue my goals and dreams."

Over more than 20 years, he's utilized a variety of philanthropic approaches to give to numerous Worcester State programs and funds.

He is a member of the 1874 Pillar Society, made up of individuals who leave a legacy gift to the Worcester State Foundation as part of their estate planning. He was also the first person to donate through a Donor Advised Fund, which has now become a popular mechanism for other philanthropists to give to Worcester State. Through his DAF in 2001, Bedard, his wife Linda, and their children Noelle and Josh established the Bedard Family Scholarship for Business Entrepreneurs, which makes two awards per year to students in business and other majors in the Entrepreneurship Center. This past year, the family endowed the scholarship fund, using an estate gift they pledged to the University in 2008. The endowment enables the two scholarships to be awarded in perpetuity.

Through the years, Bedard has helped the University strengthen its focus on entrepreneurship, said Vice President for University Advancement Tom McNamara '94. "Dave understood very early on that there was tremendous entrepreneurial potential with students at Worcester State University, something he knew a lot about from his own hard work and success as a businessman," McNamara said. "He was one of the key leaders to initiate the entrepreneurial zeal that the University is known for today."

As past president of the Worcester State Foundation Board, Bedard was also instrumental in establishing the Student Emergency Fund with alumna Maryanne Hammond '69, M.Ed. '72, M.Ed. '77. He is now working closely with University Advancement to establish a new Worcester State Helping Hand Fund through his estate gift.

"Dave and Linda have led by example in so many ways," said McNamara. "He has often rolled up his sleeves to help us figure things out. Countless students and the entire University have benefitted from his lifetime commitment to the University."

Bedard hopes that the recipients of the Bedard Family Endowed Scholarship gain the same knowledge, confidence, and friendships that

## Giving through a Donor Advised Fund

An increasingly popular way for individuals to fulfill their philanthropic goals is through a donor-advised fund, an investment account for charitable giving that enables donors to support their favorite non-profits and charities. DAFs offer tax benefits and are established with sponsor organizations that handle record keeping and disbursement of grants from your account. If you'd like to use your DAF to give to Worcester State University, contact Vice President for University Advancement Thomas McNamara at [tmcnamara@worcester.edu](mailto:tmcnamara@worcester.edu) or 508-929-8033.



“My time

at Worcester State was such a positive experience. It gave me the knowledge and confidence to go out and pursue my goals and dreams.”

—David Bedard

Photo by Matt Wright '10



Linda and David Bedard

he did in college. Of course, he hopes the financial boost will help them reach their goals, but, more important, he said, “I hope it gives them a certain strength, knowing someone believes in them.”

The scholarship is awarded to business majors and is meant to reward students who have demonstrated a high degree of ambition, industriousness, and innovation. “I don’t care about grade point average,” Bedard said. Recipients must show the same qualities that helped Bedard succeed. They must work full or part time while attending Worcester State,

and they should have a desire to explore the possibilities of business ownership or entrepreneurial endeavors.

Bedard has already seen some of the effects of his donations. As students who receive support graduate and establish their careers, they, in turn, give back to Worcester State to provide support for younger students. “I’ve seen support grow exponentially,” he said.



# The Worcester State Foundation

ADVANCING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Highlights  
from Fiscal  
Year 2022

The Worcester State Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization that promotes the growth and progress of Worcester State University through philanthropy. With the support of generous donors and grant funders, the Foundation ensures that the University has the resources it needs to thrive and maintain academic excellence.

For July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022, the Worcester State Foundation provided the University with nearly \$2.1 million, including \$1.07 million in direct student support.

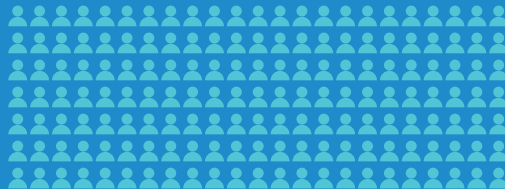
**\$5.27**  
million

total donations



from  
**3,217**

donors



who gave

**\$1.98 million**

for scholarships and awards



**\$226,099**

for unrestricted support



**\$1.2 million**

for other University support

The Worcester State Foundation provided the University with nearly

**\$2.1 million**

which includes

**\$1.07 million**

in direct student support



**23**

new funds created by donors last year



# New grants will advance STEM education, community programs, faculty research

NEW GRANTS TO WORCESTER STATE UNIVERSITY WILL SUPPORT A WIDE RANGE OF ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, STEM EDUCATION EFFORTS, AND FACULTY RESEARCH. HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS:



## Latino Education Institute One Circle Program

**Support: Fred Harris Daniels Foundation, \$225,000, and Reliant Foundation, \$15,000**

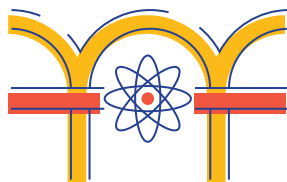
These grants will support the expansion of LEI's One Circle Program: Engaging Middle School Girls in Identity, Culture, and Wellness.

This community-based initiative in partnership with the HeartWell Institute and The Southeast Asian Coalition will address the growing demand for culturally sensitive mental health and wellness services for girls of color, age 10–14, that increase family engagement and reduce stigma.

## First-Year Summer STEM Bridge Program (2022–2024)

**Support: Cornerstone Bank, \$34,500 by 2024**

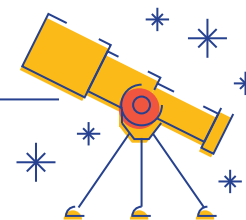
Cornerstone Bank renewed its support for the University's incoming science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) majors in the Bridge to Excellence: Summer STEM Retention Program. The program strengthens the school's retention in these important fields and helps more students complete their degree. This is the second three-year sponsorship pledge Cornerstone Bank has made in support of this program.



## New equipment for science labs

**Support: Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, \$658,071**

With this grant, the University will acquire several updated pieces of equipment needed for undergraduate laboratory courses within the biology, chemistry, and biotechnology majors at Worcester State, for courses in the M.S. in Biotechnology program, and by undergraduate and master's students conducting faculty-mentored independent research.



## Faculty scientific research

**Support: Universities Space Research Association, \$379,340**

Astronomy professor Dr. Ian Stephens was awarded two grants (\$238,340 and \$141,000) to continue his work on his Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) project. In 2022, his findings on the Milky Way's magnetic field were published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters* and made headlines across the scientific world.

## Advancement of early-career faculty of color in STEM

**Support: National Science Foundation, \$672,912**

Worcester State was one of three Massachusetts universities to be awarded nearly \$3 million in grants to support the development of a model for advancing early-career faculty of color to full-time positions in STEM. Framingham State University, Bridgewater State University, and Worcester State will partner on creating a national model for a state university system to recruit, retain, and promote cohorts of STEM faculty of color.



# Invested and Endowed Funds of Worcester State Foundation



## Funds created in the last fiscal year are green and marked with an \*

The 125th Anniversary Scholarship

The Jacob and Laeh '42 and Gail '68 Aframe Scholarship

The Shirley Albert Endowed Scholarship

The George H. Albro '65 and Lillian (Brooks) Albro '65 Education Academic Achievement Award

**The George H. Albro '65 Memorial Scholarship\***

The Alden Faculty Development Fund

**The Dr. Mary K. Alexander Endowed Scholarship\***

The Alumni Association of the Worcester City Hospital School of Nursing Annie Vigeant Scholarship

The Elizabeth Lenk Andronikos Scholarship

The Fred R. and Lillian Anber Aramony Endowed Scholarship

The Art Gallery Fund

The Dr. Janelle and Ray Ashley Endowed Scholarship

The Dr. Janelle C. Ashley Presidential Initiative

The Elizabeth (Beth) Axelson Award in Psychology

The Vera Dowden Baldwin Scholarship

The Mary and John Ballantine Endowed Scholarship

The Elizabeth DeWitt Bardsley Memorial Scholarship

The Robert W. Barros '52 Endowed Scholarship

The Bedard Family Endowed Scholarship for Business Entrepreneurs

The Arlyn Stahl Berlin Endowed Scholarship

The Promila Bhan Scholarship

The Estelle H. Blake '60 Endowed Scholarship

The Jill Ann Bilodeau Memorial Nursing Scholarship

The Honorable John J. Binienda Center for Civic Engagement

The Cynthia J. (Swenson) Blair Memorial Scholarship

The Ruth Blumsack Early Education Award

The Dr. and Mrs. Edwin A. Boger Endowed Scholarship

The Edward and Eileen Bolesky Academic Achievement Award

The Olive I. (Lutz) Borgatti Endowed Scholarship

The Brennan Occupational Therapy Fund

The Brissette Family Endowed Fund for Athletics

The Business Administration and Economics Endowed Fund

The Ric Buxton '75 Memorial Scholarship

The Sidney Buxton Jr. Scholarship

The Blanche Marcus Carnam Memorial Scholarship

The Paul J. Carnazza Scholarship

The Elizabeth W. Carver Memorial Scholarship

The Center for Teaching and Learning Technology Fund

The Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association Spirit of Service Award for Criminal Justice

The Dr. Stephanie Chalupka Fund for Public Health Nursing Research and Innovation

The Lucy Chand Nursing Scholarship

The John and Priscilla Charron Memorial Scholarship

The Father Roland Chenier Memorial Scholarship

The Class of '52 Emerging Leaders Lecture Series

The Class of 1952 Endowed Academic Achievement Award

The Class of 1953 Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1954 Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1958 Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1960 Memorial Scholarship

The Class of 1961 Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1962 Memorial Scholarship

The Class of 1963 Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1964 Scholarship

The Class of 1965 Memorial Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1966 Scholarship

The Class of 1967 Endowed Scholarship

The Class of 1968 Scholarship

The Class of 1969 Endowed Scholarship

The Lois Cofsky Memorial Endowed Scholarship

The Drs. Anna B. Cohen and Susan V. Rezen Scholarship

The Cohen-Larrivee Family Scholarship

The Geraldine Condon Memorial Scholarship

The Mary Cosgrove Dolphin Art Gallery

The Samantha Jill Cote Memorial Nursing Scholarship

The Francis Crimmins Endowed Scholarship

The Neil and Jo-Anne Cronin Endowed Scholarship

The Margaret M. Curran Endowed Business Scholarship

The Margaret M. Curran Endowed Education Scholarship

The Donald F. Cushing '66, '71 and Kathleen M. (Kane) Cushing '65, '71 Endowed Scholarship

The Vincent R. DeBenedictis, Professor Emeritus Memorial Scholarship

The Colonel Joseph C. Deely, USAF, Ret., '56 and the Elizabeth "Betty" Deely Memorial Scholarship

The Gene J. DeFeudis Family Endowed Scholarship

The Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship

The Eleanor T. Depenbrock '37 Education Scholarship

The Eleanor T. Depenbrock '37 Nursing Scholarship

The Dimmick Family Scholarship

The Anne "Annie" Dolan Nursing Award for Compassion

The Mary C. Dolphin Art Award

The Carol and James Donnelly Early Education and Care Graduate Scholarship

**The Doyle Fund for Women's Track\***

The Dr. Paula L. Dufresne-Sullivan Humanitarian Award in Nursing

The Vanessa Anne Dunn Memorial Scholarship

The Ruth (Hamley) and Francis Dyson Endowed Scholarship

The John Eager Memorial Fund

The Education Department Professional Development Fund

The Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital Scholarship

The Walter C. Fallon Memorial Fund

The Dr. Leonard F. '54 and Margaret C. (McMaster) '54 Farrey Endowed Memorial Scholarship

**The Finish Line Fund\***

The Katie L. Fleet Memorial Scholarship

The Esther Forbes Scholarship

The Dr. Elizabeth V. Foster Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Marilyn M. and Russell S. Fox Endowed Scholarship

The Dan Gavini Memorial Scholarship

The General Scholarship Fund

The Drs. Kalyan K. and Abha P. Ghosh Endowed Scholarship

The Kahlil Gibran Scholarship

The Charles and Esther Golub Endowed Scholarship

The Drs. Lillian R. Goodman and Mary K. Alexander Endowed Nursing Scholarship

The Drs. Lillian R. Goodman and Mary K. Alexander Faculty Fellowship for Ph.D. Education for Nursing Faculty

The Lillian R. Goodman Department of Nursing Fund

The Robert and M. Madeleine Goodney Scholarship in memory of Shawn Robert McDavitt and Luke William McDavitt

The Malcolm Gordon Memorial Academic Major Award

The Graduate School Scholarship

The Dr. Richard E. and Dolores J. Greene International Human Rights Scholarship

The Grenon Family Chemistry Program Scholarship Fund

The Dr. Ruth Griffiths Endowed Scholarship

The James E. and Stasia A. Hammond Scholarship

The Dorothy J. Hargrove '63, M.Ed. '68 Academic Award

The Gordon P. Hargrove '61 Scholarship\*

The Dr. Rose D. Haroian Endowed Scholarship

The Matty Hehir and John Coghlin Endowed Fund for Men's Ice Hockey

The Barbara Rose Herman Scholarship

The Jerome Hewlett Scholarship for Entrepreneurial Excellence\*

The James M. Hickey Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Florence Vivian "Tippie" Holmes Scholarship

The Don and Mary Jane Howard Endowed Scholarship

The Judith O'Connell Hoyer Poetry Reading Series

The Raj-Mahendra Jain Academic Achievement Award

The John and Loretta (White) Jensen Endowed Scholarship

The Matthew C. Johnsen, Ph.D. and Frances E. Williams Sociology Scholarship\*

The Dr. Francis L. Jones Memorial Scholarship

The John and Kelley (Gallagher) Joseph '87 Endowed Scholarship for Elementary Education

The Dr. Joan Keller Juralewicz and Dr. Richard S. Juralewicz Endowed Scholarship

The Joseph V. Kane Memorial Scholarship

The Aileen D. Kelly Memorial Scholarship

The Professor Grace Kendrick Musical Celebrations Fund

The Barbara A. Kirklauskas '64 Worcester State Athletics Department Fund in honor of her father, Joseph Kirklauskas

The Barbara A. Kirklauskas '64 Worcester State Department of Visual & Performing Arts Fund in honor of her mother, Ann Kirklauskas

The Barbara A. Kirklauskas '64 Worcester State Library Department Fund in honor of her parents, Joseph and Ann Kirklauskas

The Barbara A. Kirklauskas '64 Study Away Scholarship Fund\*

The Charlotte and Ben Klein Endowed Scholarship for the Performing Arts

The Edith C. and Philip A. Klinglof Scholarship

The Julia Bransby Knowlton Scholarship

The Dr. Marlin B. Kreider Biology Award

The Arline Lanois O'Brien/ Knight Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Professor Robyn Leo Nursing Memorial Scholarship\*

The Leominster Credit Union Endowed Scholarship

The Allen and Barbara (Lyons) '59 Levesque Endowed Book Fund

The Mary G. (Kerwin) Locke '18, '58 Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Kevin David Lyons Memorial Scholarship

The Magee Family Scholarship for First Generation Students\*

The Manning Family Criminal Justice Scholarship

The Dan Manning, Jr. Occupational Therapy Scholarship

The Margaret Manogian "Open Door" Scholarship

The Felix E. Masterson Memorial Scholarship

The Aaron E. Mastrorio '08 Memorial ROTC Scholarship

The Benjamin Matan Memorial Scholarship

The Esther Elizabeth Matthews Global Studies Endowed Scholarship



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486 Chandler Street  
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Phone

Call University Advancement at:  
508-929-8141



# Invested and Endowed Funds of Worcester State Foundation *(cont'd)*

The Julia Cronin Matthews  
Endowed Scholarship

The Vincent '66 and Rosanne  
(Sullivan) '65 Matulaitis  
Scholarship

The McAuliffe Family  
Educational Scholarship

The McCarthy Coyle Wagner  
Scholarship for Community  
Activism

The Andrew and Sharon  
McDonald Family Endowed  
Scholarship

The McGinn Family Endowed  
Scholarship

The Dorothy F. McLoughlin  
Endowed Scholarship

The Dorothy F. and C. Mary  
McLoughlin Endowed  
Scholarship

The McNamara/Lyonnais  
Scholarship

The James P. McSherry '53  
Endowed Scholarship

The Nathaniel Mencow U.S.  
History Scholarship

The Dr. Melvin and Shirley  
(Stahl) Merken Two Cultures  
Endowed Scholarship

The Dr. Joan M. Merrill Endowed  
Scholarship

The David '76 and Ellen  
M.Ed. '88 Meyers Endowed  
Scholarship

The Ellen Meyers M.Ed. '88  
Memorial Award Fund

The William and Helen Miller  
Endowed Scholarship

The Nick and Anna Monfreda  
Endowed Scholarship

The Donald and Mary Moran  
Scholarship

The Frances M. Moschella  
Elementary Education Memorial  
Scholarship

The Julia Moynihan Hickey  
Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Tarun and Amita Mukherjee  
Memorial Scholarship

The Eileen and William Mullin  
Memorial Scholarship

The Francis J. Mullin Memorial  
Scholarship

The Robert Emmett Mullin  
Endowed Graduate Scholarship  
in Educational Issues, Practices,  
and Policies

The William Murphy Scholarship

The James V. Murray '65  
Memorial Scholarship

The Mr. Thomas V. Murray '68  
Scholarship

The National Grid Endowed  
Scholarship

The NMR Maintenance Fund

The Bernice M. Noah Endowed  
Nursing Scholarship

The Barbara (Hickey) O'Brien '57  
Department of Education Fund

The Barbara (Hickey) O'Brien '57  
Endowed Scholarship

The Brendan O'Brien Endowed  
Scholarship

The Kathleen A. O'Brien  
Scholarship

The Kevin R. O'Brien Endowed  
Memorial Scholarship

The Robert Ivor O'Brien  
Endowed Memorial Scholarship

The Robert K. O'Brien '58  
Endowed Scholarship

William F. O'Brien, Jr. '84, Ph.D.  
Academic Major Award in  
Economics

The Richard "Okie" O'Connor  
Scholarship

[The Office of Multicultural  
Affairs Scholarship\\*](#)

The Kathleen O'Hare Havens  
Memorial Fund

The Deirdre Olson O'Connor  
Scholarship

The Anne T. O'Malley '43  
Endowed Scholarship

The Casey A. O'Malley  
Scholarship

The Mary Faith O'Neil Memorial  
Scholarship

The Palumbo Family  
Scholarship

The Dianne (Helow) '59 and  
Robert D. Payne Scholarship

The People's United Bank  
Scholarship

The Ada Cheever Perry  
Memorial Scholarship

Dr. John Person Biology  
Poster Award

The Dr. A. Barbara and Albert J.  
Pilon, Jr. Endowed Scholarship

The Icik and Rose Plevinsky  
Memorial Scholarship

The Dr. Maryann Power  
Scholarship

The Maureen Power Service  
Award

The Vincent E. "Jake" Powers  
Award

The Marilyn Miller Pula  
Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Mary M. Reardon Endowed  
Scholarship for Early Childhood  
Education

The Victor and Angelia Rezen  
Memorial Scholarship

The James and Sharon Ricciardi  
Family Endowed Scholarship

The John J. '74 and Alice '76  
Riordan Scholarship

The Olivia Rochelle Spencer  
Memorial Scholarship

The Rosen Cancer  
Awareness Fund

The Gregg '86 and Pamela  
(Swartz) '87 Rosen Endowed  
Scholarship

The Allen and Ruth R. (Sadick)  
Rubin '52 Endowed Scholarship

[The Louise A. Russell M.S. '70  
and Linda A. Russell '83  
Scholarship\\*](#)

The Ronald F. St. Amand Biology  
Scholarship

The SCF Urban Studies  
Academic Major Award

The SGA Student Leader  
Scholarship

The Dr. Maureen and Edward  
Shamgoghian Scholarship and  
Research Award

The Sarah E. Sharbach  
Memorial Scholarship

The Helen G. Shaughnessy  
Endowed Scholarship

The Ann E. Sheehan, Class  
of 1939, Memorial Endowed  
Scholarship

The Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan,  
USMC Ret., Endowed  
Scholarship

The Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan,  
USMC Ret., Endowed Study  
Abroad Scholarship Program

The Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan,  
USMC Ret., Honors Program

The Sharen Cutting Shipley  
Scholarship

The Dr. G.B and Lexi Singh  
Fellowship Faculty Fund

The Mary Catherine Smalley  
Memorial Scholarship

[The Smith Family Scholarship\\*](#)

The Helen M. Smith Scholarship

The South High School, Class of  
1957 Scholarship

The Dr. Robert M. Spector  
Endowed Scholarship

The SPORTS ALIVE Scholarship  
- In memory of E. Jay Tierney

The Maureen C. Stefanini '58  
Endowed Scholarship

The Robert J. Stell Memorial  
Scholarship

The Stoddard Endowment Fund  
The Margaret Stone Education  
Department Fund

The Dr. Eugene A. Sullivan  
Scholarship

The Tarmey Family Academic  
Achievement Award

The Mary D. Tateosian  
Scholarship

The Dr. Elaine G. Tateronis  
Scholarships

The George and Sheila Tetler  
Scholarship

The Thompson Education  
Computer Lab Fund

The Anthony Thurston  
Academic Achievement Award  
in Biology

The Edwin S. '51, M.Ed. '54 and  
Margaret M. (Handfield) '58,  
M.Ed. '61 Titus Scholarship

The F. Stephen Trimby Award in  
Economics

The Jessie E. Turner Class of  
1911 Endowed Scholarship

The Ronald R. Valerio '75  
Memorial Scholarship and  
Academic Award

[The Wilbert H. "Bub" Valiquette  
Scholarship\\*](#)

The Elizabeth and Stephen Wark  
Scholarship

[The Phillip Michael Wasylean  
Scholarship\\*](#)

The Phillip M. Wasylean II  
Endowed Scholarship

The Madelin Wilmarth Fund

The Sarah Ella Wilson Memorial  
Scholarship

The Worcester City Hospital  
Annie Vigeant Graduate Nursing  
Scholarship

[The Worcester Railers Nick  
Pennucci Men's Hockey Fund\\*](#)

[The Worcester State Foundation  
Helping Hand Fund\\*](#)

The WSU "Giving Back to the  
Average Student" Scholarship

The Cheng and Christina Yuan  
History Award

The Faith T. Zeadey Dialogs  
on Social Justice and Human  
Rights



## WORCESTER STATE UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

We are grateful to the members of the University's Board of Trustees, Worcester State Foundation, and Alumni Association's Advisory Board for their commitment to the University. One hundred percent of the board members, as well as the Executive Cabinet, are donors to the University. Here are the board members for July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022.

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Alves '14  
David E. Bedard '74  
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Sharen C. Shipley '74  
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Peter J. Staiti '02  
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\* George was a devoted member of the Foundation Board from 2004 until the time of his passing in early November 2021.



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