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Reflecting on a Year of Philanthropy
Annual Report of Donors
Dear PhilaU Donors:

With the first year of my professional career under my belt as a Senior CORE Finance Associate on the Procurement team at Comcast NBC Universal, I’d like to take a moment to reflect on the integral part you, as a donor, play in the Philadelphia University community. You make a huge impact in a multitude of ways by providing resources, motivation and guidance, greatly contributing to the University and its students every day.

One of the most direct ways you are impacting students is through support of financial aid and scholarships. When you give in these areas, you are giving students the opportunity to spend their time on their academic pursuits and exploring their passions, rather than focusing on how to pay for their education—this is profound. I know, because I was fortunate enough to receive a full scholarship for basketball. Aside from affording me the time to focus on the sport I love, it also allowed me the time to grow as a professional and become a member of the National Honor Society, Athlete Advisory Committee and Accounting Society.

Here are two of the figures that most impress me from the past year alone:

• $1,776,277 was given to 288 named scholarships
• 95% of students received institutional support through scholarships or aid

Thanks to you, we are fostering an environment in which students can invest in themselves and get closer to what I call their destinies of greatness. You are creating a network with resources for students to excel, but more importantly, activate their greatness. You are inspiring graduates to want to continue a tradition of giving back—that is why we are “Powered to Do.”

This is the culture that keeps PhilaU strong. I began to see the expanse of our network during my first internship at Verizon; I learned the CFO, Fran Shammo, is a PhilaU graduate and I realized alumni and board members are in many area corporations—Rams are everywhere.

All of these factors amount to great motivation—on top of your financial support, you are giving students a glimpse of success. When I hear about a fellow PhilaU graduate who is donating, mentoring or getting involved in some other way, it sets an expectation. It bolsters what I learned at PhilaU: always put your best foot forward and develop the mindset that whatever you do, you represent PhilaU—this is the gateway to success. Your examples give me a goal to strive toward.

So, on behalf of the Philadelphia University community, thank you for doing your part to help students—to make us stronger as a group. I am proud to call myself a PhilaU graduate and be a member of this community.

With great humility,
Nick Christian ’14
The University’s annual golf invitational raises funds for student scholarships and the Department of Athletics, impacting both athletes and non-athletes alike. The 2015 event’s title sponsors were Thomas Wynne Apartments, Springhouse Apartments and Chesapeake Bay Clubs, and raised more than $75,000. Shown below is golf committee member Kevin Kodz ’97 (right) and his foursome.

Honorees are recognized by President Spinelli at the 2015 Verizon Philadelphia University Celebration of Innovation. Shown from left to right are honorees: Megan Maguire Nicoletti accepting on behalf of the Maguire Foundation; Janice R. Maiden ’81, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Federal-Mogul Powertrain; Chris Rondeau H’15, Chief Executive Officer of Planet Fitness; and Anthony S. Volpe ’72, Shareholder and Co-founder of Volpe and Koenig, P.C. The annual event raises money for student scholarships and financial aid and pays tribute to the University’s students, faculty, alumni and friends for their talent, creativity and impact on innovation.

Physician assistant studies student Emily Reynolds ’16 smiles with the late Elsie H. Hillman, who presented Reynolds with the first-ever Elsie H. Hillman Award for Student Public Service at the opening ceremony for the Arlen Specter Center for Public Service last year. Elsie H. Hillman leaves a lasting legacy of significant impact in the arts, community, education, social services, health and conservation in Pittsburgh and other cities through the Elsie H. Hillman Foundation.

SNAPSHOTS of Impact

The University’s annual golf invitational raises funds for student scholarships and the Department of Athletics, impacting both athletes and non-athletes alike. The 2015 event’s title sponsors were Thomas Wynne Apartments, Springhouse Apartments and Chesapeake Bay Clubs, and raised more than $75,000. Shown below is golf committee member Kevin Kodz ’97 (right) and his foursome. 

Jeff Bruner ’73, left, stands with the first-ever recipient of the Frank L. Scardino ’58 Textile Scholarship, Courtney Lyle ’15, and Frank Scardino ’58 at the Scholarship Donor Reception. The annual event pays tribute to donors who support scholarships that impact many PhilaU students each year. Bruner established this endowed scholarship to honor his mentor by giving the gift of a PhilaU education.

Take photos any day at PhilaU and you will see pictures that tell the story of donor impact. There are thousands of photos that complete this story, but here are four snapshots from the past year that celebrate the impact of our supporters.
The Circle of Giving

Philadelphia University has grown significantly in recent years—no easy feat for the typical college or university. However, as our students, faculty, staff, partners—and especially alumni—know, we are anything but typical.

Philadelphia University characteristically exceeds fundraising goals—like our recent capital campaign that surpassed its goal by fifty-five percent. So, when fundraising and development is such a tough yet necessary aspect of non-profits, how does PhilaU do it so well?

“Here, our community really backs us. We have a very clear vision and a unique culture of giving,” explained Jesse Shafer, vice president for development and alumni relations.

The University experience is very involved, from the campus, to the faculty and style of learning—all parts connect with students to ensure success after graduation, which inspires alumni to give back to their alma mater—it is the PhilaU legacy and tradition.

This unique culture of philanthropy has been officially celebrated for the past two years with the Day of Giving celebration. Volunteers come together to use social media, a phone-a-thon and a walk-in donation zone to encourage people to give.

An exciting challenge was proposed for the recent second annual Day of Giving. Alumnus and and new University Trustee Bryant Greene M’96 agreed that he would make a $25,000 gift if 150 people made donations by noon. With a set goal of $30,000 from at least 350 donors for the day, this gift would make a huge impact. Sure enough, PhilaU received more than 150 donations by noon, and Bryant visited the walk-in area, check in hand, to help celebrate.

For the second year in a row, the Day of Giving far surpassed set targets, raising more than $80,000 from 360 donors over the course of a single day. This great success was a welcome follow-up to the inaugural Day of Giving, when donors managed to triple the monetary goal.

“We invite as many people as possible to celebrate giving around the National Day of Philanthropy,” explained Elona Lakuriqi, director of alumni relations and annual giving, who conceptualized the Day. “The Day is always a lot of fun, and both times we have significantly surpassed our goal.”

“Giving back always feels good—it’s the smiles, the laughs with someone that you haven’t spoken to in years—it’s priceless,” explained Derrick Linton ’11, a class advocate and major Day of Giving supporter. “I’m truly thankful for the opportunities that PhilaU gave me, and the only way I can show that is to step on the other side and show someone the opportunities I had as a college student. Everyone deserves a great college education.”

This kind of involvement from the PhilaU community is a testament to the giving culture we are so proud of. “This year, I’m super excited that we exceeded our goals. I believe that it’s a chain effect,” said Derrick about this year’s Day of Giving. “This day brings out the generosity in the PhilaU community. When you give back, you in-turn gain so much more.”
Great Minds Think Alike

*In the spring, Philadelphia University ran a game-changing fundraiser teaming up with a new partner—Planet Fitness.*

It all started when Philadelphia University named Planet Fitness CEO, Chris Rondeau H’15, as a 2015 Leader of Innovation Medal recipient in honor of his exemplary leadership, innovative spirit and commitment to achievement—all key PhilaU values.

In celebration of this achievement, franchise owners, vendors, friends and family of Rondeau came together to establish a surprise scholarship. Totaling more than $1,000,000, The Rondeau Scholars Program is now the largest endowed scholarship at Philadelphia University and helps bring the opportunity of a PhilaU education to Planet Fitness employees and their families.

“This partnership shows how likeminded organizations can cooperate for the greater good—in this case offering proven, professional education to a new group of students in today’s competitive market,” said Geoffrey Cromarty, chief operating officer and vice president for administration at Philadelphia University, who played an instrumental role in establishing the scholarship fund.

The Rondeau Scholars Program was unveiled to an astonished Rondeau during the annual Verizon Philadelphia University Celebration of Innovation. Coinciding with the thousandth Planet Fitness location opening, this scholarship celebrates the achievements of the entire Planet Fitness Community.

“I’ve been involved with Planet Fitness for nearly half my life and being honored with a scholarship program at Philadelphia University was by far one of the most rewarding moments of my career,” Rondeau said. “It’s hard to explain the feeling you get when people donate to such a special cause on your behalf. It’s truly amazing.”

Then & Now: Sig Ep

Fifty years ago, a group of students came together with a single dream: to create a fraternity that provided vital social engagement for students in their college years and beyond. And so, the Sigma Phi Epsilon Omicron fraternity chapter, known as Sig Ep for short, was founded at Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. This was the beginning of the PhilaU chapter of one of the most distinguished fraternities in the country. The group was immediately well received—in fact, the first pledge class was larger than the establishing brotherhood!

At the 2014 Homecoming Weekend, Sig Ep brothers and sisters celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the fraternity’s founding. The group commemorated their landmark anniversary by establishing the Sigma Phi Epsilon Scholarship Fund in support of current PhilaU students. The scholarship honors the fraternity’s history by providing financial aid to deserving students who model the Sigma Phi Epsilon philosophy of developing young leaders. The wildly successful campaign surpassed Sig Ep’s original goal of $50,000, raising a whopping $84,000 as an endowed scholarship—an honor indeed.
ATHLETICS STATS

16 TEAMS
316 ATHLETES
80 HOME GAMES

impact on
PhilaU ATHLETICS

SUCCESS POINTS

Our supporters are part of our success, here are some of our proudest points:

Awarded the NCAA President’s Award for graduation rates exceeding 90%. The award has been in place for only three years and PhilaU has received it all three years.

The PhilaU women’s athletic programs won the CACC Restaino Cup, which goes to the University with the most successful athletic programs. Our men’s programs finished 2nd.

CACC championships in 2014-15 including Men’s and Women’s Soccer, Men’s and Women’s Cross Country, and Men’s Basketball

34 student-athletes selected to All-CACC Teams
7 All-Region
2 All-American
6 Philadelphia Inquirer Academic All-Area Teams

Our student-athletes had a very successful year in the classroom with an overall average GPA of 3.342
Donors have the opportunity to make an impact on many areas within the University. Here is a glimpse of how donors impact the area of Athletics. From scholarship opportunities to equipment to coaches, donors are a big part of the success of our athletes.

**CONTINUING EXCELLENCE, IMPROVING UPON IT**

Thanks to donor support, we’ve been able to continue offering excellent athletics programs and add:

- **2 NEW coaches**
- Indoor **winter rental time** for spring sports
- **Shooting gun** for men’s and women’s basketball
- **Field sheds** for softball, lacrosse, soccer and baseball
- **Flag poles** for the baseball and soccer fields
- **2 new game site tents**
- **50 new chairs** for Gallagher Center
- **Seat-back covers** for team and coaches bench promoting PhilaU
- **New golf cart** for the athletic trainers
- **Framing of sports memorabilia** for The Gallagher Center lobby

**DONATION SUMMARY**

Donations designated to athletics:

$69,340

$26,400 was raised for the **Billy Harris Scholarship**, which supported 19 students who helped manage Gallagher Center Operations in 2014-2015

**THOUSANDS OF FANS**—BOTH STUDENTS AND NONSTUDENTS ALIKE
Bill Smith had a successful career in business, building a Fortune 500 international corporation, Kewanee Industries, which spanned the globe drilling for oil and gas, shipping petroleum and manufacturing specialty chemicals. Even in light of his success, Smith is remembered today not for his business acumen, but for his philanthropy and dedication to causes in the Philadelphia region, unceasingly supported by the efforts of his legacy—the W. W. Smith Charitable Trust.

Established in 1977, the Trust’s mission was directed primarily by Bill Smith’s wife, Mary, helping to provide basic human needs, fund medical research, and offer higher education scholarships—almost exclusively through organizations in the Philadelphia area. A portion of the Trust’s efforts also continues to support non-profit education in maritime skills and heritage along the Philadelphia waterfront, in honor of Smith’s great interest in sailing and ships.

Since 1978, Philadelphia University has been fortunate to receive more than $2,092,000 in grants for student scholarships, awarded to academically qualified students from middle-income families. In exchange, Philadelphia University has been providing a proven, professionally-focused education to students helping to fulfill an important piece of the Trust’s mission: to anticipate some of tomorrow’s needs today.

To help tell the story of the incredible effect the W. W. Smith Charitable Trust has had on our community over the past four decades, we caught up with two recipients; one of the first recipients from nearly 40 years ago, as well as a recent recipient who just started his career. These alumni help illustrate the influence the Trust has made on the lives of more than 600 exceptional awardees.
Orlando Esposito ’80 was a Philly kid who went to Central High School, part of the School District of Philadelphia. The son of immigrant parents, he was the first generation in his family to go to college. Orlando was always a hard worker, and a lot was expected of him, both to live the American dream and to reflect positively on his entire family through all of his pursuits.

When it was time to start applying to colleges, Orlando sought advice from his school’s guidance counselor to help guide him through his decision. “He asked me all kinds of questions,” remembered Orlando. After getting to know Orlando’s personality and goals, the counselor recommended Philadelphia University, then known as the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. “I had such respect for him,” said Orlando—so he went to see what Philadelphia University was all about.

“I visited a number of schools, but I literally only applied to one college—here,” explained Orlando.

“It felt right for me on a lot of levels. Today, people can’t even imagine applying to only one school. But after visiting all the schools I did, I still applied only to Philadelphia Textile, because I knew it was the perfect fit.”

During his first two years, Orlando funded his tuition through state and federal support and part-time work, and took loans to help with living expenses. Then, just before the start of his junior year, he discovered he had been selected to receive a scholarship, which covered a significant portion of his tuition.

“The scholarship was the difference between me having to stress about all the other expenses to get through school,” said Orlando, as he reflected on the relief and excitement he felt from receiving the W. W. Smith Charitable Trust scholarship. “It was huge.”

Orlando still took the opportunity to work part-time during school, always going above and beyond, striving to work harder even though he had the unexpected help from the W. W. Smith Trust.

Beyond the great financial impact, receiving the scholarship also boosted Orlando’s confidence in college. “Remember, I was the first generation in my family going to school—the scholarship had, in a way, told me that I belonged and that much was expected of me to work hard,” he said. The scholarship provided great encouragement and motivation as Orlando finished his PhilaU education.

Throughout his undergraduate career, Orlando established a good rapport with his professors, who guided him both academically and professionally. They encouraged him to spare travel time by changing jobs to work on campus, and recommended he join a baseball league for Philadelphia CPA firms to broaden his network.

“I learned as much about life as a professional outside of the classroom as I did about accounting in the classroom. And that has always been really special to me about the school,” said Orlando of PhilaU professors combining practical solutions and professional guidance.

“They even showed me how to approach a successful career path in a way that could be really fun.

“It never felt like professional advice and academic lessons were siloed,” said Orlando.

By senior year, Orlando’s professors were pitching for him to enter a statewide CPA competition, which seemed daunting, going up against top accounting students across the state. As it turns out, Orlando won, and just as he had exceeded in the competition, he fared well when looking for a job after graduation. He started his career, earned his master’s degree at Villanova, and ultimately landed at PNC.

“The scholarship was the difference between me having to stress about all the other expenses to get through school. It was huge.”
Devin Bachurski ’15 originally chose to attend PhilaU because he preferred the sense of community and the ability to have close relationships with his professors over the feel of larger universities he visited.

A recent recipient of the W. W. Smith Charitable Trust scholarship at Philadelphia University, Devin’s feelings about receiving the gift are similar to Orlando’s. “Knowing I was chosen was very supportive. It really helped me to take advantage of so many more opportunities,” said Devin.

Throughout his undergraduate career, Devin stayed involved in a variety of extracurricular activities, including the crew team his freshman year, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Future Alumni Association, and the Senior Class Committee. With all of these commitments, Devin continued to be an exceptional student—the kind of student the W. W. Smith Charitable Trust aims to help as an investment in the future.

“I had a really great four years, I think about them all the time,” said Devin. In addition to creating some great memories, Devin’s time at PhilaU ultimately led to his current position at Georgia Pacific, and the Trust’s support helped him feel free to pursue experiences to fuel his career ambitions. “Receiving the scholarship helped give me more financial freedom by lessening what I had to borrow.”

While working toward a degree in mechanical engineering, he participated in several industry-sponsored projects as part of the University’s unique Nexus Learning curriculum. After one such project with Georgia Pacific, Devin pursued an internship for the summer before his senior year—and was offered a full-time position with the company upon graduation.

“I still see the concepts of Nexus Learning where I work now. I’m not just working with engineers; I also have to work with people on the business side, or the design side,” explained Devin. “The industry project experiences were very helpful and really prepared me to work well with different disciplines.”

Reminiscing about PhilaU and the scholarship he received, Devin recalled a breakfast he and other recipients attended. “I remember meeting Mary Smith,” he said. “It was really incredible to see all the students and know W. W. Smith has been helping students like me for almost forty years. It shows they really believe in contributing in the long-term value of the school, it is definitely a ‘wow’ factor.”

Students like Devin, who strive to accomplish more at every opportunity, are just the people the Trust looks to support.

“it was really incredible to see all the students and know W. W. Smith has been helping students like me for almost forty years. It shows they really believe in contributing in the long-term value of the school.”

The Impact of Scholarships

W.W. Smith is a major contributor to PhilaU student scholarships, but it is one of many scholarship funds at the University. Scholarships and aid play an important role for our students—in fact, 95% of Philadelphia University students received some sort of financial help, including 288 students who received scholarships established through philanthropic donations in the last year.

Every year, new scholarships are created to help a wider range of students access a PhilaU education. In the last year alone, more than $1.7 million was raised for student scholarships. These scholarships are inspired by a variety of different factors—to honor influential people from our community, to encourage students in particular majors or career paths, to support and help represent those with different nationalities, hardships, challenges and more.

One of the biggest motivations for establishing new scholarships is to honor a person or group’s legacy. The recently endowed Amber Long ’11 scholarship was created to honor the promising, dedicated architecture alumna after her untimely death. The Sig Ep scholarship was created last year to honor the legacy of a group of friends and fraternity brothers, and founding members of the ZBT fraternity are currently working toward the same goal.
Devin is currently based in Atlanta, Georgia, and looks forward to having the opportunity to get more involved with PhilaU in the future.

After 27 years at PNC, Orlando is currently head of its asset management business, managing 260 billion dollars. He has recently returned to serve on the Philadelphia University Board of Trustees.

The scholarship has helped numerous students reach their potential, and for Orlando, that has meant a rewarding career, and plenty of philanthropic pursuits along the way.

“My dad told me ‘you understand, when you go to school you represent more than you, you represent the family,’” said Orlando. He compares this mentality to students who receive this scholarship. “They represent everyone before and after them. Their responsibility is a lot bigger than themselves, and that is actually pretty special.”

Thoroughly a “numbers guy,” as he says himself, Orlando sees the Trust’s magnitude of impact through its chain effect—the scholarship benefited hundreds, who have gone on to influence thousands of others—and believes it is profound.

“Everyone, at some point, will reflect on one critical question—did I really make a difference when I walked on this planet? And for them, for the Smiths, I would tell them ‘yes,’” said Orlando. “The numbers are pretty big, but I think the story is even bigger.”

In addition to his position at the University, Orlando gives to the Philadelphia Zoo and the Philadelphia Museum of Art—places that had the most profound impact on his childhood.

“PhilaU was the place that helped bring all of my experiences together to help me figure out my career and the next fifty years of my life,” said Orlando. And the Smith Trust played an integral role in making this experience as accessible as possible.

“I feel really lucky and very honored to have been the recipient of so much help. What the school did for me and for a lot of my friends—it all started at PhilaU. Feeling a part of making sure that continues as a board member is an honor, a privilege and a responsibility.”

This is the kind of return you see from investing in students like Devin, Orlando and the 600 others like them that W. W. Smith has helped cultivate at PhilaU. The brand of character illustrated by these two flourishes when given opportunity, and at PhilaU, we are lucky for the W. W. Smith Trust to have encouraged so many.

The Trust’s magnitude of impact can be seen through its chain effect—the scholarship benefited hundreds, who have gone on to influence thousands of others.

PhilaU has numerous funds like these to honor members of our community (such as the Rondeau Scholars Program mentioned on page 5).

While celebrating their namesakes, scholarship funds offer donors a personalized way to give that directly affects students’ ability to attend Philadelphia University. Through establishing a new scholarship or supporting an existing one, these funds make a significant, lasting impact on our students, and allow donors to connect to students through a common career, hobby, home town, hardship or other commonality that inspires the scholarship—the possibilities are endless.

Visit our website to donate or learn more about scholarships at PhilaU: www.philau.edu/development/scholarships or contact Tracie Burruel at BurruelT@PhilaU.edu.
A FULL EMBRACE
Capturing Bob Lockyer’s Impact on Philadelphia University
By Merrill Meadow
To tell the story of someone notable, you first need an image of that person in your mind’s eye; that image becomes the frame through which you tell their story.

At least, that’s how it usually works. Not so, when the subject is Bob Lockyer, the businessman, philanthropist, devoted husband, PhilaU alum, advisor, University trustee, and father of three. What comes to mind with Bob is a collage—a long series of powerful images, both distinct and complex, from a 50-year legacy of engagement with the PhilaU community. Narrating the entire collage would require a book-length essay. But a careful selection of snapshots gives a clear vision of who Bob Lockyer is and why he is revered across campus.

The first image dates from 1964. A recent Cheltenham High School grad sits in the office of then-admissions director, Mott Lynn. The young man had earned mediocre grades in school and, to most eyes, was wholly unprepared for college. But Mott Lynn saw something in the 18-year-old Bob Lockyer. He knew the young man hadn’t had things easy growing up: raised by a single mother (who also cared for her own parents) in tough financial circumstances, school grades had been the least of his concerns. Perhaps Mott also saw evidence of the native intelligence, grit, and caring spirit that would soon bloom.

“The College took a chance on me,” Lockyer recalls, decades later. “They started me with night classes, to prove I could do the work, then admitted me to the Textile Management and Marketing program. In the end, I earned my place at the school, and my degree was the foundation for a 25-year career in the industry.”

Not only did he prove he could handle the academic work, Bob showed that he wasn’t afraid to work hard in any context. He held a part-time job throughout college. He also made time to be part of campus life, which can be tough for a commuter student. An avid member of the sailing club, he became president his senior year. But even recreation required hard work: the enduring snapshot from those years is of Bob and his club-mates trekking all the way from campus down to the Schuylkill River after classes and jobs, then back up again after hours of sailing. (Bob is pictured with his sailing mates in the top-right photo on the opposite page.)

Jump ahead about forty years, to spring 2006. Another snapshot of Bob at the Schuylkill. But this time, he’s sitting aboard the coaching boat for the just-established PhilaU rowing team. He and Coach Chris O’Brien are watching the rowers trying out their brand new racing boat, named Who’s Yo’ Daddy.

“A few months earlier, not long after we first met,” O’Brien recalls, “I’d sat down with Bob and asked for his help. I told him that if we were going to succeed with the team, we needed a new boat. He thought about it for a little while, then said, ‘If that’s what you need, I’ll help you get it.’ His ‘help’ was buying the boat for us.”

The Lockyers’ support of the rowing team is just one poignant example in decades of support for an array of University athletics programs, including both men’s and women’s rowing, men’s basketball, and the Ram Fund. In 2002, Bob started investing time and energy, as

The women's rowing team heads down the Schuylkill River in Who's Yo' Daddy II.
well, joining the organizing committee of the PhilaU Golf Invitational. The annual event had started modestly in 2002 as a way to engage University supporters. But Bob saw its potential as a major fundraiser and began working to make that happen. He’s now chair of the event and his real estate management company is its title sponsor. “Bob’s been the driving force in the Invitational’s year-to-year growth,” O’Brien notes. “He’s determined to have it raise at least $50,000 annually.”

Bob’s leadership on the Golf Invitational has had a tangible impact on the University. The $300,000 that the event has raised has enabled the Athletics program to address a series of seemingly small, but crucial, needs—such as portable defibrillator devices, flag poles and equipment sheds at the fields, and resources for coaches to attend annual conferences. “Bob knows that it can be challenging to fund these kinds of expenses,” observes PhilaU Athletic Director Tom Shirley, Jr., “which is why he works so hard to ensure the Golf Invitational’s success.”

In recognition for all that he’s done for the Athletics program, Bob was inducted into the PhilaU Athletics Hall of Fame in 2012 and given its Lifetime Achievement Award. “He has answered so many bells for us,” Tom says. “He’s done whatever we’ve needed him to do—and over the years it’s been a lot!”

Bob’s impact on the University goes well beyond Athletics. He’s wholly committed to the institution’s academic mission and to students’ success. Two images capture this. The first is set at the annual scholarship stewardship reception, where donors get a chance to meet the young people whose lives they’ve touched, and students have an opportunity to say “thank you.” In this image, Bob sits forehead to forehead and deep in conversation with Destinn McKnight, ’15, the summa cum laude Physician Assistant program graduate who held the Lockyer Family Scholarship. (Bob and Destinn are pictured top-right on this page.)

“Bob and I realized that we have a lot in common,” Destinn recalls. “We’re both Cheltenham High grads who have dealt with some significant family and financial challenges. He understood intuitively how important his scholarship has been to my success at PhilaU—and recognizes that his support will, in turn, enable me to improve other people’s lives.”

“I also asked his advice,” Destinn remembers. “He responded thoughtfully; telling me about some of his own difficult experiences and the importance of perseverance in the face of tough times. It was a deeply personal conversation, which I never would have expected to have with someone of his stature.”

“It made me realize how broad an effect he has had on the University—in terms of his philanthropy, sure, but in many other ways too.”
Juxtapose that snapshot with this one: Bob sitting at Hymie’s Restaurant in Bala Cynwyd for his regular working breakfast with Barbara Klinkhammer, executive dean of the College of Architecture and the Built Environment. “Bob is one of my most important advisors,” Barbara explains. “He has a real passion for architecture and was the first person I recruited to the College’s Advancement Council. We meet regularly—often over breakfast at Hymie’s—to discuss ideas and opportunities, and to analyze challenges facing the College.” (Bob and Barbara are pictured at Hymie’s on this page, top-right.)

Bob possesses a wealth of business and management experience directly relevant to Philadelphia University’s overall mission and to the College’s goals. “The two segments of his career—first in textiles, then in property management—enable him to understand business and the qualities businesses need from our graduates,” she notes. “As a result, he’s focused on keeping our curriculum and facilities right in step with—or even a step ahead of—fast-changing professions.”

Yet, Barbara sees deeper motivations for Bob’s engagement with the College: “First and foremost, he is concerned about our students’ welfare, short-term and long-term. He wants to be sure we’re giving them every possible chance to have impact and create value from the outset of their careers. I believe his commitment grows from his own positive experiences as a student, and from his son Sean’s (‘99) extraordinary success as an architect and developer.” In other words, he wants for PhilaU’s students exactly what he and Sean have each been able to build on the foundation the University gave them.

For Bob, supporting the College—specifically, its students and faculty—might aptly be called a visceral experience. “In fact,” said Jesse Shafer, vice president for development and alumni relations, “one might say he’s given new meaning to the expression ‘give until it hurts.’” Jesse recounted being present at a meeting with Bob at which Casey Heilig, director of special gifts, outlined the College’s desire to install 50 new desk-top monitors that would mimic the design environment that PhilaU’s soon-to-be architects would find on the job.

“Given how much Bob had already done for the University, and that he was still in the midst of paying commitments he’d made to PhilaU and other organizations, we were a bit hesitant to approach Bob about this project. At the same time, knowing his passion for the College and helping students, we felt we needed to bring it to his attention. When Casey asked Bob if he and Carol could consider a gift of $50,000 to purchase the monitors, his immediate one-word reply was ‘Ouch.’” That was such an honest, human response. He then went on to explain that he had a number of other commitments, but said he’d talk it over with Carol and think about it.

“Privately,” continued Jesse, “we decided not to raise the subject with Bob again; after all, he’d already done so much for us. Then, at a September 2014 reception in
celebration of the success of our Power to Innovate fundraising campaign, Bob took Casey aside and said, “I’m just so proud of what this University and its students have accomplished. I’ve thought about the monitors, and I’m going to do it.”

That remarkable gesture is appreciated by people like Kevin Ryan ’15, a recent architecture graduate. “Those 50 new monitors meant that every fifth-year student in our program had a dedicated set of monitors and workspace,” he notes. “That contribution had such a practical impact. It’s clear that he both understood our needs and cared deeply about our learning environment.”

Contemplating Bob’s multifaceted role and impact, Kevin observes, “Students can be very comforted knowing that a leader like Bob is out there doing everything he can to make our education as effective as possible.”

Bob is a perceptive leader and friend. The image capturing this is a little abstract but I think you’ll get it: Imagine a hug; envision a leader who offers the institution an all-encompassing embrace. That’s the image that President Stephen Spinelli describes.

“Bob is a gentle man and a gentleman,” the President explains. “His gentleness belies an underlying energy and rigor. And the product of those qualities is dedication, consistent support, and full engagement. I call it the ‘full Lockyer embrace.’”

That embrace reflects the course of his personal life and the unique mixture of experiences he has had. Bob had to earn his place as a Textile student and he worked hard at it. He grew into his deep capabilities, but remained the same person. Later in life, he became wealthy, but retained the same gentle approach to people and the same strong ethical sense he learned from his mother. (Bob and his mother are shown smiling together top-left on the following page.) “He is consistent in that demeanor: if you watch as he hugs somebody on campus, you’ll see he does it the same way he hugs his children,” continues Spinelli.

The “full Lockyer embrace” of PhilaU captures his wide-ranging engagement. Everyone benefits from it. “Bob has a holistic, all-in commitment to the University,” President Spinelli explains. “He sees the complexity of the institution in four dimensions and engages across them all.”

It is fairly unusual to have a trustee and their spouse who are involved in so many facets of the University: you’ll see Bob and Carol at all kinds of events around campus, from Board of Trustees and Advancement Council meetings to student fashion shows and sporting events. But their full engagement and their purposeful philanthropy are intrinsic parts of their family tradition. Indeed, Bob credits Carol as being his closest advisor and partner in making PhilaU such a part of their legacy. “And that’s what you do when you embrace an institution, as Bob has embraced this University,” Dr. Spinelli notes. “You make it a core aspect of who you are.”

The final snapshot is more concrete than a hug, literally and figuratively. It reflects what Bob Lockyer uniquely means to an institution devoted to accomplished, pragmatic professionalism. It’s offered by Bob’s friend, colleague, and admirer, Dean Barbara Klinkhammer: “I see Bob as a supporting pillar of this institution—a leader, advocate, and philanthropist.”
“I see Bob as a supporting pillar of this institution—a leader, advocate, and philanthropist.”

Barbara Klinkhammer
Executive Dean, College of Architecture and the Built Environment
Frank Cardillino ‘72

“I transferred to Philadelphia University in 1968 from Temple because I liked the campus much better. A friend told me about Philadelphia Textiles. I asked what sciences they offered, he told me about textile engineering—neither of us knew much about it, but I remember him saying, ‘but they all get jobs.’

Sure enough, I had no problem getting a job. I graduated in December 1972, first in my class, and started out in research and development. I later interviewed with the top two papermaker felt companies in the U.S. The first came in with an offer too low, so I made it my mission to help the number two company take their place.

I eventually went into business for myself, and didn’t do too badly; I retired at 53. My wife and I never had children, and we started considering how to leave a meaningful legacy. I chose to include PhilaU in my plans because I figured the school has always done right by me—I had good memories, there were great professors—I’d like to return the favor.”

The Tapestry Society recognizes those who have provided for the University’s future through a bequest, charitable trust, gift annuity, gift of retirement plan assets, life insurance or other estate plans. Tapestry Society members create a meaningful legacy for present and future generations at Philadelphia University. To support the University and show Ram Pride through Tapestry Society membership, please contact Michael S. Molloy by phone at 215.951.0254, or via email at MolloyM@philau.edu.

Liz Copple ’84

“I made Philadelphia University a part of my legacy because when I go, I want to leave behind something good, my own little positive mark on the world.”

Bill Finn ’67

“I’m grateful for the financial support I received as a student. I made a commitment then to help future generations of PhilaU students along their way, just as I was helped. Prudence and I try to support the University every year, but we’re especially pleased to include PhilaU in our estate plans—our “ultimate annual gift!”

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Who or what inspires you to give?

Amanda Gibney Weko
College of Architecture and the Built Environment Advancement Council Member

I’ve served Philadelphia University since 2012 as a member of the College of Architecture and the Built Environment Advancement Council. I was one of the first design and construction community professionals Dean Barbara Klinkhammer invited to join the Council. Barbara’s dynamism, charisma, and genuine warmth along with Council members’ diverse industry perspectives combine to become greater than the sum of the parts. As a professional, I get so much out of our strategy sessions and I feel energized by the group and our impact on students and the University.

My involvement has expanded over the last two years as I’ve worked with Professor Donald Dunham, AIA, and the College’s students on the first two issues of SPACEWORK. The compelling, 100+ page volumes highlighted work from all of the College’s programs and included interviews with faculty and graduate professionals. Conceived, written, designed, and produced entirely by the students, SPACEWORK exemplifies collaboration, critical dialogue, and creativity. I am proud to have participated as guest editor for both volumes.

“Through my involvement at PhilaU, the students, faculty, and administration continue to inspire me with their passion, commitment, and drive for innovation.”

In 1884, Theodore C. Search saw a need for world-class textile education in the United States. He raised $35,000 to establish the Philadelphia Textile School, secure a location, buy looms and hire teachers. The Theodore C. Search Society recognizes those who demonstrate leadership through philanthropy by contributing a minimum of $1,000 annually (Young Members, graduates of the last ten years, contribute $100 and above). For more information or to become a member of the Search Society, please contact Elona Lakuriqi, director of alumni relations and annual giving at 215.951.2186 or LakuriqiE@PhilaU.edu.
Who or what inspires you to give?

Andrew Cherry ’87

“Being personally passionate about a cause or endeavor is what inspires me to give to an organization or enterprise, like PhilaU, my alma mater—whether it is my time or financial resources.”

David Gingras ’69

“I was first inspired to give from my involvement with the Alumni Association as a senior. My motivation continued when I was invited to the Alumni Board.”

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afa Jefferies
The President’s grant that contributed to making it
all possible. I look forward to giving
more in the future.”
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Tammy Ebersole ’84
“Who motivates me to support
Philadelphia University is the
relentless drive they show towards
preparing students for real world,
interdisciplinary collaboration and
and their unwavering focus on innovation.
The DEC program, the innovation
competitions and the faculty’s
consistent push to have students
exposed to real-world business
situations continues to impress.”

Dennis Cullen ’74
“I had to pay for my own college
and it was difficult. I
was the beneficiary of grants
in aid, scholarships and the GI
Bill. The education I received at
Philadelphia University helped
me to achieve my career goals
and I wanted to give back to the
University and help support others
in need.”

Jordan Cammarata ’12
“I give to PhilaU because I support
the vision that the University is
cultivating. I’m grateful for the
experience I had in Götz Unger and
Mike Leonard’s Industrial Design
program, as well as the President’s
grant that contributed to making it
all possible. I look forward to giving
more in the future.”

*deceased
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We are grateful to the faculty and staff who made a gift to Philadelphia University in 2014-2015.

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What’s an image from campus that highlights the impact of our donors?

Jeffrey Ashley, PhD
Director, Center for Teaching Innovation and Nexus Learning

“I see the impact of donors through our faculty members facilitating active and collaborative learning in our new Nexus Learning Hubs, and witnessing how receptive our students are to these student-centric teaching methods.”

Jack Klett
Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Kanbar College of Design, Engineering and Commerce

“Every day, I have the pleasure of seeing students collaborate and discover in the Lawrence N. Field DEC Center. This space provides the ideal environment for Nexus Learning to thrive! Maurice Kanbar, Lawrence Field and other PhilaU donors made this space a reality.”

Pat Thatcher
Director, Academic Success Center and Academic Affairs

“Donors allow us to do special, smaller projects—ones that impact our community. One of my favorites was when Frank Baseman’s students in the Philadelphia University Design Workshop created the Title IX campaign, for their client, the Office of Student Life, to raise awareness about sexual violence on campus.”
Last year our percentage of donors increased by 13% and giving increased by an incredible 73.4%.

Some of the big numbers that helped make this happen:

- The total **alumni giving amount** increased by 510%
- The number of **student donors** increased by 222%
- The total **corporation/foundation giving amount** increased by 171%
- The number of **staff donors** increased by 167%
- The number of **faculty donors** increased by 122%

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- **Endowed/Term Scholarships**: $1,776,282.39
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### SOURCE OF SUPPORT: STAKEHOLDER BREAKDOWN

- **Alumni**: 36.89%
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for supporting PhilaU!