



STARK STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

# Foundation Focus

*Thanks to your generosity, Stark State College students succeed*

Spring-summer 2015



## Foundation Board Directors

### Officers

George Lemon, President  
Patty Wackerly, Vice President  
Sally Efremoff, Esq., Secretary  
Lisa Warburton-Gregory, Treasurer

Hortense Bobbitt  
Linda DeHoff  
Dan Dyer  
Betsy Engels  
Jerry Gilin  
Monica Gwin  
Alexander Hays IV  
Para Jones, Ph.D.  
Janet Kaboth  
Randy Kreinbrink  
John McGrath, Ed.D.  
Jennifer Meek Eells  
Pat Miller  
Don Mullen  
Gretchen Plewak  
Chris Remark  
Ahmed Sabe, M.D.  
Mary Jo Shannon Slick, Esq.  
Larry Smerglia  
Thomas Strouble  
Michael Thomas, D.D.S.  
Jeffery Walters  
John Westerbeck, M.D.  
Ronald Wilkof  
William Luntz, Emeritus  
Frank Weinstock, M.D., Emeritus



## Focus on you

Your investment in Stark State College and its students truly changes lives. Keeping our benefactors informed is important to us, and to this end, we are launching this new biannual newsletter to share some of the results of your generosity.

College faculty and staff see students on a daily basis. We watch as students pursue their goals and witness first hand many exciting projects come to fruition. It is our hope that this *Foundation Focus* shares some of that excitement with the donors who have made it possible.

The Foundation's 2014-2015 fiscal year ends June 30 and has already passed our expectations. While increasing scholarship funding continues to remain a primary focus, the Foundation also initiated naming opportunities for the downtown Canton campus, sought and obtained grants for innovative programming and partnerships, and secured sponsorship for events. We've included a gift and pledge chart, and full details and a listing of all gifts will be featured in the 2014-2015 Annual Giving Report later this summer.

Thank you for supporting the Stark State College Foundation!

Joanne Lally Eberhart  
Executive Director of Advancement  
and Stark State College Foundation

# Scholars & Benefactors CELEBRATE SUCCESS

Stark State College awarded more than \$250,000 in scholarships to students during the current academic year, and the recipients of those awards had the opportunity to personally thank their benefactors during a luncheon at La Pizzeria on April 24.

The event featured comments from donor Dick Mautz and three student speakers, who shared their inspiring success stories.

## Rachel Ligas

The Dale and Marguerite Young Scholarship is one of the reasons Rachel Ligas, a first-generation college student in a family of nine children, had the opportunity to attend college and work towards her dream of becoming a pharmacist.

Rachel, taking an SSC associate degree in chemistry and biology to the four-year NEOMED doctoral pharmacy program, thanked her donors for their help and inspiration. "After I graduate, I want to give back to the community the same way that you have and help more students follow their educational dreams."

## Nick Harrison

Nick Harrison found Stark State "a great place to get a top-notch education." He switched from a civil engineering program at a four-year university to capitalize on the rising growth of the oil and gas industry.

Awarded a Chevron ShaleNET Scholarship, Nick is finishing a degree in industrial process operations, and he's found small class sizes, weekly conversations with an advisor, hands-on lab experience and state-of-the-art equipment have given him a great opportunity to succeed. "A decision to attend Stark State is like joining a big family who cares about you and wants to see you succeed as an individual, no matter what it takes. That includes donors who provide scholarships and the best tools and equipment possible."

## Juan Nunez Castillo

Two years ago, Juan Nunez Castillo arrived in the United States from Nicaragua with a dream. What he didn't have: English-speaking skills or any idea what the future held.

After finishing high school in Dover, Juan was torn between finding a job or finding the funds for college. With the help of financial aid and scholarships, Juan found the help he needed to continue his education in 3D animation and computer engineering.

"I found Stark State, and it seemed wonderful to me because it was huge and had many students of many cultures and opportunities. But there always is a problem, an obstacle, and in my case it was the money. How could I pay for it? One thing I can say from the heart: thank you for helping me to follow my dream."



It is through the support and generosity of our donors that students like Rachel, Nick and Juan find success, a career and hope at Stark State College.

## Donor profile: George Lemon



George Lemon has served on the Foundation Board since 2004 and as president from 2013 - 2015. His charisma and steady leadership has guided our fundraising efforts and facilitated many new partnerships throughout our community.

George graduated from Stark State College with a degree in electrical engineering in 1965. After a 25-year career with Fortune 500 company AMETEK, he founded Technical Products Group, Inc. A well-known community leader, George has served many organizations, including the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton Museum of Art, United Way, Goodwill Industries, Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Stark County Urban League. George was past chair of the Alumni Advisory Council, 2003 Alumnus of the Year and the 2010 Ohio Association of Community College's Alumnus of the Year.

In 2002, George created the George W. Lemon Endowed Scholarship, awarded to an exceptional business student. Most recently, as president of the Stark State College Foundation, George presided over a goal-breaking fundraising year.



### Benefactor, Dick Mautz

Retirement from the Timken Company did not slow Dick Mautz down. With a love of cars and desire to help Stark State students afford college, Dick works with co-directors Mike Johnson and Dan Thoma to organize and present the annual Canton Carnival of Wheels.

This fundraising event showcases more than 500 vehicles from classic cars to hot rods, as well as tractors and motorcycles, with proceeds going to the Stark State College Automotive Technology Scholarship Fund. Since it began in 2009, Canton Carnival of Wheels has donated more than \$52,000 toward student scholarships.

The 8th annual Canton Carnival of Wheels will be held on the Kent State University at Stark campus on September 13. [www.cantoncarnivalofwheels.com](http://www.cantoncarnivalofwheels.com)

College president, Para M. Jones, Ph.D., congratulates scholarship recipients at the annual Scholars and Benefactors Luncheon.





# STARK STATE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

6200 Frank Ave NW | North Canton, Ohio 44720

## Looking forward: culinary focus

The culinary arts major at Stark State College is a newer program preparing students for a competitive market and growing industry in our region. Not only are students being taught about the industry, cooking and management, but also the curriculum includes sustainable environmental education and practices, including organic foods and the benefits of buying locally.

The College has invested more than \$800,000 in refurbishment of a state-of-the-art kitchen and teaching space for the program, incorporating many recyclable materials and environmentally friendly products. A wish list for the future includes plans for a small greenhouse and herb garden (estimated cost of \$20,000), as well as a variety of new equipment to accommodate more students (ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000). The Foundation plans to focus funding efforts on the culinary arts program during the 2015-16 academic year.



We'd like to give special thanks to those whose recent donations support culinary arts: **Timothy O. Miller Scholarship Endowment, Tony and Sally Efremoff Scholarship Endowment and Lally Eberhart Endowment for Culinary Arts.**

## Goal-breaking year

|  | <i>to date</i>      |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>2014-15 Foundation goal</b>         | <b>\$500,000.00</b> |
| Project accounts                       | \$35,425.60         |
| New endowed scholarships               | \$68,318.14         |
| Gifts to existing endowed scholarships | \$87,200.75         |
| General fund                           | \$15,990.30         |
| Corporations and foundations           | \$763,632.88        |
| Matching                               | \$4,379.00          |
| In-kind gifts                          | \$163,861.56        |
| Total 7/1/14 - 4/27/15                 | \$1,125,808.23      |

## YOU make all the difference

Special thanks to each and every one of our generous donors who make the Stark State College Foundation thrive for the benefit of our students. If you are interested in a gift to the Foundation, contact Joanne Lally Eberhart at 330-494-6170, ext. 5825 or by email at [jeberhart2@starkstate.edu](mailto:jeberhart2@starkstate.edu). Students are finding the motivation and drive in themselves to succeed, and they need YOU to make it financially possible. *Thank you for all you do!*