

PRESENTED BY UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT
January 2023

San Francisco State University

University Development Impact Report

Powering Ambition & Talent with Opportunity & Access





A Message from
Jeff Jackanicz, Ph.D.
Vice President of
University Advancement

University Advancement is pleased to present you with this Impact Report, which provides a meaningful insight into the wonderful ways that donors affect the lives of our students, faculty, staff and entire community. The report is a real testament to the incredible dedication that our donors have to the University, and the true partnerships which are formed through the care and generosity of their giving.

I hope that you will click the links in the report to read the moving stories of students whose lives have been altered forever through receiving scholarships, of faculty whose research has been made possible by donated funds, and of the many ways which the University's ethics of community care, compassion and equity are lived by alumni and friends who have selflessly given to the University and our students. The stories are unique and moving, and it is truly rewarding to learn about the impact of giving to San Francisco State University.

Thank you for all you do. Your partnership means the world to everyone at SF State, and we're honored to work with you to provide the best for the University.

Warm Regards,

Jeff Jackanicz, Ph.D.
Vice President of University Advancement
San Francisco State University

Supporting Students with Scholarships

Many SF State students need to work at jobs while balancing their course loads. One \$1,000 scholarship equals 61 hours at a minimum wage job – enough time for a student to complete the work of one class. Many students report a boost in confidence and a deepened sense of belonging at the University when they are awarded a scholarship.

Fiscal Year 2021-22

Number of
scholarships
awarded
1,229

Total scholarship
money awarded
\$2.84 mil

Number of new
scholarships funded
23



Student Profile: **Mina Kasirifar (M.A., '21)** Scholarship Recipient

While a graduate student at SF State, Mina Kasirifar (M.A., '21) received two scholarships, **the Alumni Association Graduate Scholarship** and the **Wilbur Eugene Smith Endowed Scholarship**.

These funds gave her the time and resources to develop her capstone project – a chair for children called FLIP. FLIP enhances children's sensory development and can be used as a rocking chaise lounge, a chair, a rocking horse, a stool, and much more.

FLIP recently won the West District Graduate Student Merit Award from the Industrial Designers Society of America.

[Read Mina's story](#)



Student Video Profile: **Christian Camaño**

Despite supporting himself and paying for college, scholarship recipient Christian Camaño is currently pursuing a double-major in Computer Science and Mathematics for Advanced Study, with a minor in Anthropology. His goal is to become a researcher in applied mathematics. Christian also runs an online forum for 400+ San Francisco State math students. Like many scholarship recipients, Christian is immensely proud of having received a scholarship, and feels that it boosted his confidence as well as his finances.



[Read more about Christian and watch the video](#)



Student Video Profile: **Hassan Malik Russell**

This moving 2-minute video features San Francisco State student Hassan Malik Russell (B.A., Creative Writing, '19), a current graduate student in the M.S. Counseling program, speaking about the financial and emotional impact of receiving a scholarship.



Hassan currently works at a high school in Richmond and is obtaining a master's degree to achieve his dream of becoming a school counselor.

[Read more and watch Hassan's video](#)



Student Video Profile: **Olivia Gillett**

In 2022, Olivia Gillett received a B.S. in Interior Design, with a double minor in Art History and Studio Art. In this inspiring video, Olivia tells her story – before she received her scholarship, she wasn't sure she would be able to graduate, due to financial stresses.



[Read more about Olivia and watch her video](#)

Alumni Donors

SF State has more than 280,000 alumni, the majority of whom live in the SF Bay Area. The University's alumni work in every sector – from jazz musicians to elementary school teachers to biotech executives. They often have a strong drive to help their community and a “giving back” ethic. Last year, almost half of SF State donors were alumni, and many alumni give to the students who come after them in other ways, such as via career support and mentoring.

Fiscal Year 2021-22

Alumni Donors

1,889

Total donated
by alumni

\$2.2
million



SF Chronicle profiles Johnny Mathis

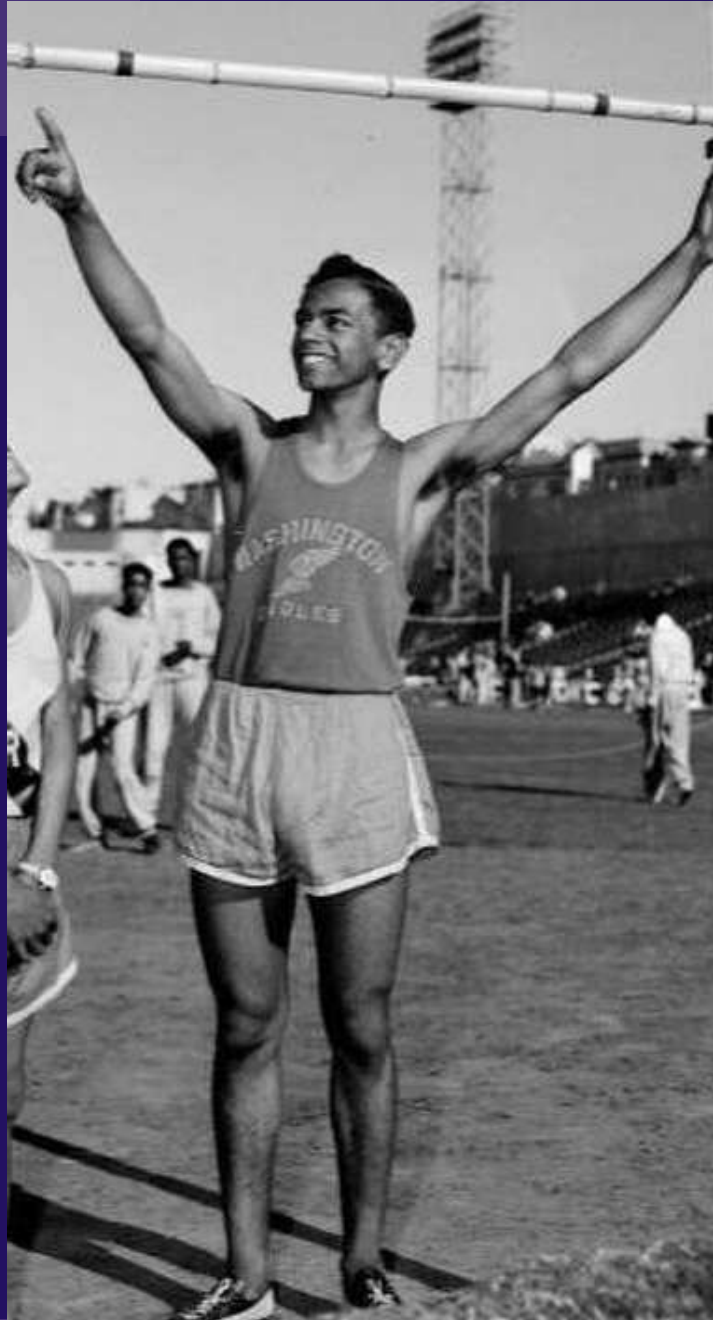
San Francisco Chronicle profiled singer, alumni and donor Johnny Mathis in April 2022. Entitled, **“Johnny Mathis—yes, the singer—was an S.F. high jump champion. Seventy years later, he’s still giving back”**, the article tells Mathis’ story, from track star to famous singer to major financial supporter of SF State’s Gator Athletics.

[Read the article about Johnny Mathis](#)

“We were able to race in the Johnny Mathis Invitational [in spring 2022] and honor him as one of our donors. I have so much gratitude, because a good amount of this is because of Johnny Mathis. Everyone on the team is grateful as well. We’re able to have such a great Athletics culture and experience, and it makes this a fun place to be.”

-Katya Candray

Student-Athlete, Track & Field
Biology major with a concentration in Physiology
Chemistry minor



Gator Athletics

develop.sfsu.edu/johnny-mathis

Donor Spotlight | **Adrienne & David Yarnold**

Adrienne (B.S., '83) and David Yarnold (B.S., '82) have become major donors to the Lam Family College of Business, with a focus on funding scholarships for Accounting students. Having come from less privileged backgrounds themselves, they have a deep appreciation for hard work and the road blocks many students at SF State face.

[Read more about the Yarnolds](#)

"Our deal, our whole life, is 'work hard and do the right thing.' It's still at the core of what SF State is about. It provides an opportunity for students to get a relatively inexpensive education, and to do whatever they dream of accomplishing."

-David Yarnold
B.S., '82





Donor Spotlight | **Loretta Doon**

Although Loretta Doon (M.A., '73) graduated from San Francisco State with a M.A. in Elementary Education, much of her career has been in the accounting industry. Loretta is a passionate mentor and philanthropist with an unwavering dedication to her community and alma mater.

In 2020, she established the **Loretta Doon Scholarship Endowment in Accounting** at the Lam Family College of Business to ensure that future Accounting students have the means to persist towards graduation.

[Read about Loretta](#)

"I'm so delighted to know that San Francisco State University and the Lam Family College of Business are keeping up in a world of dynamic changes. I'm happy to help the college grow."

-Loretta M. Doon
M.A., '73



Donor Spotlight | **Vanson Nguyen**

Carrying forward the ethic of service that he learned from his Buddhist parents, Vanson Nguyen (M.S., '05; Ph.D., '15) established a scholarship fund in 2018 to support students in the GCoE educational doctorate program, from which he graduated in 2015.

Named the **Vanson Nguyen & Cheryl Quan Scholarship** (Cheryl is Vanson's wife), the scholarship has no GPA requirement, which he feels strongly about.

[Read about Vanson](#)

"I'm a student who was on academic probation, and I was dismissed," recalls Vanson. "I don't want a student like me to not have the opportunity to get a scholarship because of a low GPA for a few semesters."

-Vanson Nguyen
M.S., '05; Ph.D. '15

Impact of Giving

Fiscal Year 2021-22

Endowment
Value

\$156.2
million

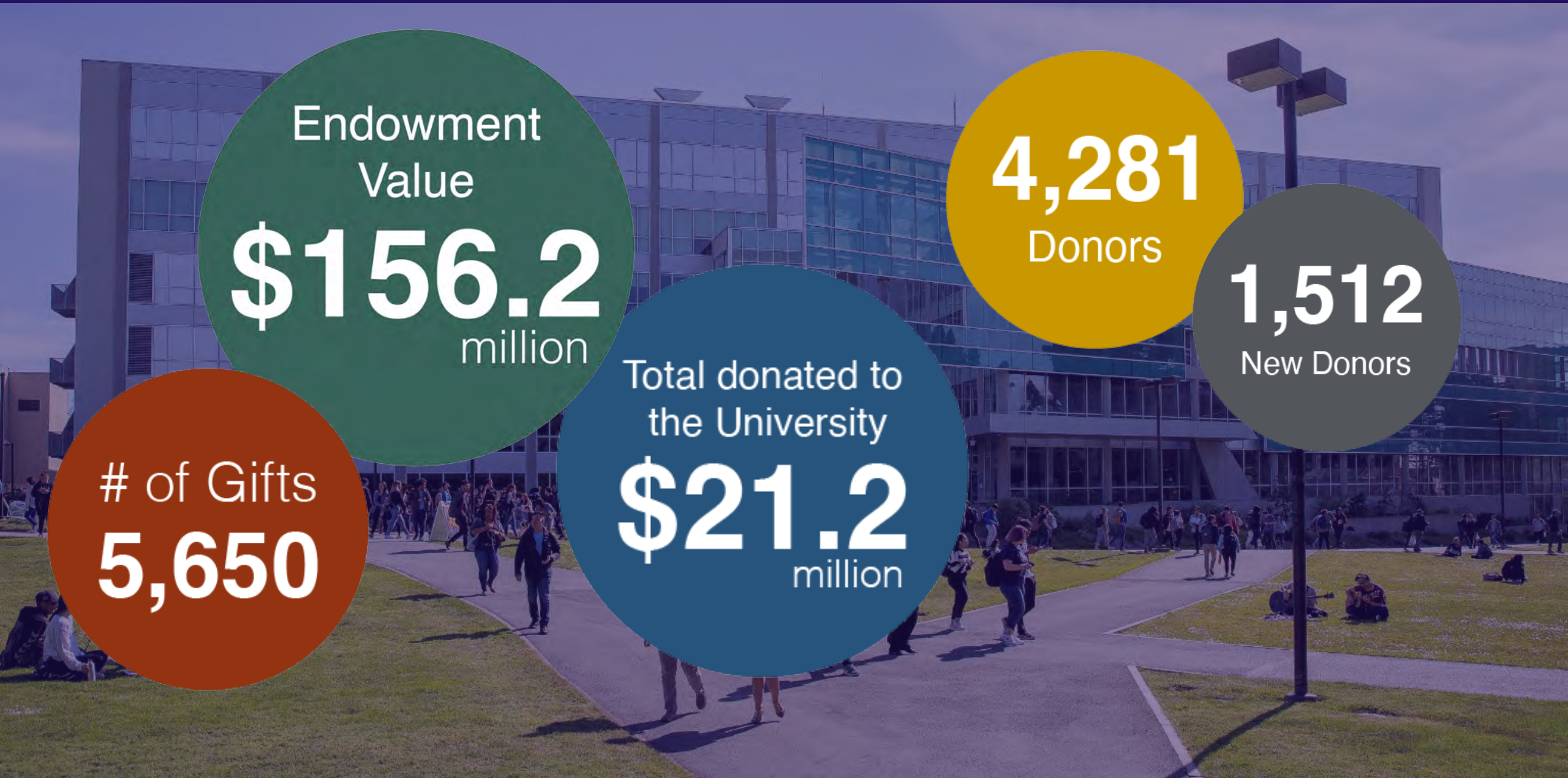
4,281
Donors

1,512
New Donors

of Gifts
5,650

Total donated to
the University

\$21.2
million



Jeff Duncan-Andrade, Ph.D.

Inspiring Students to Dream Through Positive Leadership

As the recently appointed chair of Latina/Latino Studies, Jeff Duncan-Andrade is forging a new kind of leadership that is connected to the values of Ethnic Studies. Read about his thoughts on equity in education and the value of dedicated donorship to the Latina/o/x department.

[Read about Jeff Duncan-Andrade, Ph.D.](#)

"As an educator, it's always about trying to pull out of students and unpack with them – what's your dream? What and where do you want to be? What do you know, how do you want to be contributing to community and country and world?"

-Jeff Duncan-Andrade
Chair, Latina/o/x Studies





SF State's Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies Responds to Iranian Crisis

The Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies (CIDS) launched in 2017 with a \$5 million gift from SF State alumna Neda Nobari. Led by **Persis Karim**, the **Neda Nobari Distinguished Chair**, it is the first and only center of its kind at an academic institution.

As protests against Iran's discriminatory laws ignited in Iran this year, Persis became a vocal advocate for supporting the women of Iran. In this article, she shares her insights into the protests and calls for people the world over to take action in support of Iranian women.

[Read about Persis' perspectives](#)

The Allen Institute

Funding Groundbreaking Neuroscience Research

This year, SF State **Associate Professor of Biology Robyn Crook** was named an Allen Distinguished Investigator by The Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group, a division of the Allen Institute. Crook was among 23 of this year's honorees and will receive \$1.5 million over the next three years for innovative early-stage research. She is the first California State University faculty member to win the award since its inception in 2010.

[Read about Robyn's work and funding](#)

"I'm incredibly excited and delighted to be selected for this award. It's very prestigious and it gives us so much scope to do research that we wouldn't otherwise be able to do just because we're limited by how expensive the technology is."

— Robyn Crook, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Biology





Vic Rowen Scholarship Fund

Gator Gridiron Club Raises \$104,000 as part of a \$150,000 Campaign for Student-Athlete Scholarships

A committee of dedicated alumni joined with Gator Athletics to raise more than \$104,000 towards athletic scholarships in Vic Rowen's memory. Vic Rowen (1919-2013) was the esteemed head coach of San Francisco State University's football team from 1961-1989.

[Read about the Vic Rowen Fund](#)



Gator Athletics

develop.sfsu.edu/vic-rowen-scholarship



Q&A with GCoE Dean Cynthia Grutzik

The important role of the Graduate College of Education in education

Dean Grutzik sat down with University Development to answer questions about the college, her vision, and how philanthropy fits in with her goals.

[Read about Dean Grutzik's vision for GCoE](#)

"Our priority is to be the best source of educators for the Bay Area and beyond. We want to be the college where our local districts come for their teachers, leaders, clinicians, and specialists."

-Cynthia Grutzik, Ph.D.
Dean of the Graduate College of Education



Robert Bechtle Artwork Donated to SF State

Renowned artist Robert Bechtle inspired thousands of art students in his painting classes at SF State. As his international career flourished, he remained a devoted professor for 30 years, teaching and inspiring beginning through graduate art students. Bechtle's wife Whitney Chadwick, an art historian widely known for her expertise in women surrealists, taught in the Art department for many years as well. She is the author of the groundbreaking book, "Women, Art and Society," which is widely held as a seminal work on art made by women.

In 2022, the Robert Bechtle and Whitney Chadwick Trust, overseen by Chadwick's cousin Robert Firehock, donated five original Bechtle works on paper to the University. These beautiful works on paper will be exhibited on campus and used in coursework and study in the Art department.

[Read about the Bechtle art donation](#)

Science & Engineering Innovation Center (SEIC) & Catalyze the Future Campaign

Due to be completed in 2024, the cutting-edge **Science & Engineering Innovation Center** will be home to the College of Science & Engineering, with offices, labs, and classrooms for the School of Engineering and the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry.

Construction funding has been provided by the CSU. San Francisco State launched a \$25 million fundraising campaign this year called **Catalyze the Future** to equip the new Innovation Center with state-of-the-art technology.

[Learn about the SEIC and the Catalyze the Future campaign](#)



The Science & Engineering Innovation Center (SEIC) will consist of a newly constructed 125,000 sq.ft. building and the renovation of an existing adjacent 54,000 sq.ft. building. Features include:



Two “garage” makerspaces and a machine shop to support students in team problem-solving, final project and prototype construction, and real-world engineering experiences.



Three studio-style integrated lecture/lab chemistry classrooms, which will provide a total learning environment to accommodate team learning, and integrated research and lecture labs.



The state-of-the-art Applied Project Space will advance education in structural dynamics, advanced experimental testing, structural control and monitoring, fire safety engineering, and smart structure technologies.



The Fluids and Process Controls Laboratory is an instruction laboratory that will serve upper division students in Civil and Mechanical Engineering, with a focus on liquid-phase flow and energy conversion and transfer processes.

Donor & SF State Foundation Board Member Profile

Camilla Smith

In 2022, Camilla Smith and her husband deepened their commitment to science and engineering at SF State with a major gift to the University's **\$25 million Catalyze the Future campaign**, which will fund state-of-the-art technology in the future Science & Engineering Innovation Center.

[Read more about Camilla's gift](#)

"When we visited the old science building, which was built in the 1950s, we were kind of shocked at the state of the labs and classrooms," recalls Camilla. "It was clear that the University's students needed a new facility and equipment that would train them to enter the workforce and higher education well prepared for successful future careers."

— Camilla Smith
Philanthropist



Anthem Blue Cross scholarships at SF State's Longmore Institute aim to include people with disabilities in the health-care workforce

A \$100,000 donation from **Anthem Blue Cross** to The Longmore Institute on Disability at San Francisco State University has established a scholarship fund to support education-related expenses for students with disabilities who have committed to careers in healthcare, whether directly as healthcare practitioners or in the field of health justice.

[Read more about Anthem and the Longmore Institute](#)

"Anthem Blue Cross has made a commitment to identifying California-specific health disparities and partnering to introduce solutions that create more equitable healthcare experiences, enhance access to care and services, and improve health outcomes."

-Les Ybarra

President of Anthem Blue Cross's Medi-Cal



A new scholarship fund in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program tributes former dean **Ann Hallum**

Knowing how important aid can be to students, emerita professor Sandra Radtka and her husband Michael Patterson endowed a scholarship named **The Ann Hallum Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund** to support students in need within the Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

The scholarship is a tribute to Ann Hallum, the enormously popular and fondly-remembered physical therapist, emerita professor, former Associate Dean of the College of Health & Human Services, and former dean of Graduate Studies who passed away in 2020.

[Read about Ann Hallum and the new scholarship fund](#)



THANK YOU

for your partnership and support!

For more information about giving to San Francisco State, please contact:

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