"We learned early in life that you help each other."

"When students can't complete their entire education, it is such a loss," says Margery Gaede, '65 Dip(NU), '66 Dip(PHNU), '67 BScN.

That's why Margery and her husband, Harry Gaede, '69 LLB, '66 BA, help students by supporting student awards, bursaries and other programs at the University of Alberta's Augustana and North Campuses.

Their degrees from the U of A have led both of them to rewarding careers. Margery taught nursing at the University of British Columbia after receiving her master's degree there and subsequently taught nursing at the University of Alberta. Harry practiced law and was appointed as a provincial court judge.

Through her teaching career in nursing and psychology, Margery saw students work hard at part-time jobs to fund their education. "Some of them dropped out because they and their parents couldn't afford to continue. Maybe they'd get a first degree, but they would have loved to do graduate work but couldn't, unless they got good scholarships. Even with scholarships, some still couldn't complete their education," she says.

Margery and Harry were both encouraged by their parents to pursue an education, as neither of their parents could. They've also ensured that their grandchildren – of whom they have eight – can complete their education debt-free.

These days, they are devoted to paying their gratitude forward and helping others – especially students and programs at the U of A.

"When I was young in Calgary, my parents were part of a Danish Canadian community. And it was modelled that everybody helped each other out," says Harry. He explains that his grandparents were very poor. Their survival during the Great Depression depended on the assistance of others. "We learned early on that you help each other."

They've also been longtime supporters of Augustana and its students. Harry also created an endowed award, named after him and his late wife, Betty Gaede, to support Augustana music students.

And through estate planning, they're ensuring that their grandchildren are well taken care of in the future. They've also generously provided a percentage of their estate to causes they believe in, including Augustana.

Their philanthropic legacy will have a profound and lasting impact, long into the future.
“It’s incredibly gratifying to know that something I’ve done can live on.”

After a fulfilling career in the Canadian textile and fashion industry, Marilyn McNeil-Morin, ’77 BSc(HEc) is committing herself to helping the next generation of students and textile researchers.

She has set up a bequest in her Will to further support the Marilyn McNeil-Morin Graduate Research Scholarship in Textile Sciences at the University of Alberta.

Marilyn wants to see more research and development in Canada on fibre crops – such as linen and hemp – and use of agricultural by-products and wood materials as sources for materials in the Canadian textile industry.

She is also dedicated to addressing sustainability concerns.

“Textiles are the largest growing waste stream.

Recycling technology exists, but it’s not really mainstream. There’s a lot of work to be done,” she says.

As retired Director of Toronto’s George Brown College Fashion Exchange, Marilyn strived to help decrease fashion’s environmental footprint, while growing its social and economic benefits.

Supporting graduate students is one way for Marilyn to ensure that her passion for textiles and sustainability lives on. As she says, “This is an area that affects all of our lives.”

She adds, “I don’t have children, so for me, a legacy can be something that goes to support the next generation of students.”

Marilyn knows firsthand how helpful scholarships are as she benefited from them during her time at the U of A.

Growing up on a farm in rural, central Alberta, she was inspired by the work being done by the home economists in today’s Alberta Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

This led her to the U of A for a bachelor of science in home economics with a specialization in clothing and textiles, where she developed her passion for textiles. “I found I loved chemistry – the underlying chemistry behind textiles and food.”

She followed her dream of working in the ministry, eventually changing careers after moving to Saskatchewan and then Ontario.

Marilyn remains grateful to the faculty members she met while studying at the U of A.

“They were so instrumental to me. We had a culture of learning and a pretty amazing faculty. I felt honoured to be part of it and to have the opportunity to learn with them.”

Supporting students at the U of A is a meaningful and impactful way to pay her gratitude forward.

“Our graduate program in textile and apparel science has been growing and the research focus has been increasingly centered on issues related to the environmental and social impact of the clothing and textiles industry. Marilyn’s impact will continue through supporting the training of the next generation of Canadian textile professionals.”

– Rachel McQueen, PhD, MSc, Associate Professor, Textile Science

Saving through sharing: Leveraging philanthropy in the sale of your business was held on February 8 and featured a panel of U of A alumni, Ray Muzyka, CM (’90 BMedSc, ’92 MD), Heather Barnhouse (’98 BSc, ’03 MBA, ’04 LLB), and Mike Harris (’05 BSc, ’10 LLB). If you wish to view the recording or have any questions, please contact a member of our team.
A lifetime of caring for others

When Fran shared her highlights of a well-lived life with us, she had many, including:

› Helping hundreds of injured workers return to work using community resources and programs.
› Creating a wheelchair mouthpiece adaptation so a quadriplegic could operate it by mouth.
› Establishing discharge plans to maintain patients at home and enhance the lives of patients in long-term care facilities.

These are just a few gems from the career of occupational therapist, Fran Foga Williams, ‘71 Dip(RM), ‘90 BSc(OT).

Raised on a farm in Saskatchewan, Fran earned her degrees at the University of Alberta. After graduating, she worked for 47 years in public and private practice.

Fran recognizes the shortage of skilled workers in the field, so she wants to support the next generation of occupational therapists (OT). This includes students from Saskatchewan who are attending U of A because there is no OT program in their home province. They will be able to go on and help people in communities where the need is high.

With a Gift of Securities, she has created the Fran Foga Williams Graduate Award in Occupational Therapy at the U of A. And she has included a bequest in her Will to fund her award into the future.

“I’m designating this award to the occupational therapy student who best uses their practical skills and abilities to cooperate with others. I believe these qualities will optimize the outcome for patients with serious injuries or medical illnesses,” says Fran. As she adds, working collaboratively with other therapists is the best way to help clients improve.

“Rehabilitation professionals deal with devastating changes to a person’s life, and they must have empathy and the ability to be creative.”

Fran’s award will support talented students dedicated to assisting people suffering in our communities. At some point in their lives, a huge number of Canadians will require occupational therapy – for a pediatric condition, an accident or aging. Occupational therapists will enhance the quality of their lives.

Through her gift, she will help students lead fulfilling careers in occupational therapy. And she’s also continuing to help people whose lives will improve because of the treatment they receive.

We thank Fran for her generous support of students at the U of A. Her life’s work will continue helping others for many, many years to come.

Upcoming Events

**May 9, 2024:** We look forward to hosting our annual QVHS Luncheon in Edmonton. It’s a special opportunity to spend time with fellow alumni and supporters who are passionate about making a difference. And this year we have a great lineup of student speakers. Please don’t forget to RSVP by May 1.

**June 6, 2024:** We hope you’ll join us in person for our annual Celebrating Women in Philanthropy event in Edmonton. You’ll hear from inspiring women in the U of A community about the impact of philanthropy in their lives.

**WWYL? at U of A Days 2024:** Join us for this year’s What Will Your Legacy Be? event during U of A Days on September 19-22. Planning is underway and event information will be available soon.
Planning a Legacy Gift

Whether you’re passionate about helping students succeed, or supporting game-changing research or a specific project or faculty, a legacy gift allows you to invest in what’s important to you without affecting your current financial resources.

With careful planning, a legacy gift can even help you to make a much larger gift than you could have otherwise, while still taking care of your loved ones. And your gift can help minimize your estate taxes.

There are many ways to give a legacy gift, including through:

**Bequests in Wills:**
Through a bequest gift in your Will, you can make a significant gift through accumulated assets. The most common types are residual bequests and specific bequests. And you maintain control and use of your assets during your lifetime. You can modify your bequest if circumstances change, and your estate is entitled to a charitable tax receipt for the gift’s total value.

**Gifts of Shares and Securities:**
By gifting appreciated publicly traded securities — including stocks, bonds and mutual funds — you can donate to the area that is most important to you while taking advantage of major tax benefits.

We recently updated our Donation of Securities Form. You can request a copy online at uabgive.ca/shares.

If you have questions, we are here to help you. Please contact any Major Gifts & Planned Giving team member at the U of A. Their contact details are below.

If you've already made a legacy gift and haven’t told us yet, please let us know. Then we can work with you to ensure your gift does precisely what you’d like it to do.

To learn more about the different ways to plan a future gift to the U of A or receive a FREE Estate Planning Organizer, you can contact a member of our team or visit us online at uabgive.ca/Legacy.

The information in this newsletter is of a general nature. It is not intended to substitute for professional financial or legal advice. Please consult your own financial or legal advisors before finalizing a legacy gift to the University of Alberta.