The Campaign for UW Bothell: 2018-19 report to you — our donors and community
What now?

So close to the end of the campaign, we see nothing but beginnings. UW Bothell is the university of choice for students who are determined to change the world. Our faculty are advancing exciting new ideas and sharing the journey with their students. Our community and state have invested their confidence and pride in us.

The Campaign for UW Bothell officially concludes in June 2020, but the campaign for our students’ success will never end. They will continue reaching higher every day, setting ambitious goals for themselves — and bolder challenges for everyone around them. As a campus, a community and a state, we must meet their challenge.

We offer you our thanks — and an invitation to continue with us on the adventure ahead.

Wolf Yeigh, Chancellor, UW Bothell

Preston Simmons, Chair, Advisory Board
Avanade and UW Bothell break new ground
A new scholarship program for women pursuing STEM degrees extends well beyond generous financial support.

Helping students lift themselves up
Connie Niva and Jud Marquardt talk about why this campus community is part of their legacy to the world.

The ROI starts here
The School of Business Advisory Board is a working board that produces powerful results for students.

Reimagining global citizenship
A gift from Leslie Olson has bolstered the new Global Scholars Program in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences.

Making it to the finish line
United Way of King County’s Benefits Hubs provide much-needed support to college students. The latest is at UW Bothell.

Honoring Sr. Chief Ronald G. Gamboa
Michelle Gamboa has long been a strong supporter of the School of STEM. In 2019, she took that support to the next level.

Our alumni: Our superpower
The School of Educational Studies’ alumni are committed to addressing the diverse needs of K-12 students.

Looking back and paying it forward
Maureen “Mo” West is an esteemed faculty member and donor to the School of Nursing & Health Studies.

A year to celebrate

By the Numbers
LAURA AVILA IS ALMOST BREATHLESS
when she describes a turning point for UW Bothell’s School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics at the start
of the 2018 academic year: Avanade, a
global company headquartered in Seattle
that specializes in digital transformation,
had selected UW Bothell as a partner in
establishing a new scholarship fund for
women in STEM.

“This had never happened at the
school before, and it was such a generous
scholarship,” says Laura, the director of
undergraduate academic services.

“As we thought of evolving our
programs,” says Heba Ramzy, corporate
citizenship senior director at
Avanade, “we realized that we didn’t have
a STEM scholarship partner in the region
where we are headquartered.

“Then we met with the school’s dean
at UW Bothell, and we got excited — about
the school, the students, the energy.”

MEETING STUDENTS
WHERE THEY ARE

“We’re a perfect fit for a number of
factors,” says Heba, noting the school’s
location within the Seattle region’s tech
corridor. She also cites the strength of the
UW Bothell program that evolved to meet
growing demand in Washington for STEM
professionals. It builds upon a commitment
to educating more women and first-
generation students, which aligns with
Avanade’s goal to help address issues of
social justice. Currently, 30% of UW Bothell’s
STEM students are women, which is about
10% higher than the national average.

In the 2019-20 academic year, the
Avanade STEM Scholarship program
includes 10 scholars who are all
couraged to reapply for funds every year
to ensure they get the support they need
to graduate.

“The staff at Avanade are so
committed to the scholarship mission,”
says Laura, “that they directed an internal
prize to a new ‘Avanade People’s STEM
Scholar’ fund, which will go to yet another
UW Bothell student in 2020.”

One of the current scholars is senior
Jessela Budiman, a first-generation college
student. She started as a Running Start
student, taking classes at a community
college while still a junior in high school.
She eventually transferred to UW Bothell
to pursue a degree in Computer Science &
Software Engineering.

A new scholarship program for women pursuing STEM
degrees extends well beyond generous financial support.
As a recipient of an Avanade STEM Scholarship, she says she now aspires to achieve even more.

“I was spending a lot of time trying to cover college expenses,” Jessela says. “Then the scholarship gave me financial support that enabled me to fully focus on my classes and projects. It’s like finding a home,” she adds.

“As a woman in STEM, I was conscious of the gender ratio, but Avanade has made me realize I’m not alone. I’ve gotten a chance to meet many successful women in technology who have paved the way and inspired the younger generation. My confidence has really grown, and I thank Avanade for that.”

A FIRST OF MANY FIRSTS

The Avanade partnership with UW Bothell has also included a number of firsts.

To celebrate 2019 International Women’s Day last March, Avanade hosted a full day of staff discussions and inspirational talks from Avanade leadership at its company headquarters and broadcast to all offices around the globe. Heba decided to open it to the students from UW Bothell so they could participate with the rest of the company. “It was a special invitation — something we wanted to do with our new partner,” she says.

For many students, it was the first time they had access to a formal forum where they could hear directly from global business executives who are women. For some students, the event was also the first time they had ever visited downtown Seattle. And it was here that many of the scholars first identified their Avanade mentors.

The event was a revelation to the students: The possibilities before them were tremendous.

In another first last June, Avanade hosted an intensive, five-day experience for its scholars at the inaugural FUEL: Innovation, Leadership and Technology Conference at California Polytechnic State University. Avanade flew students in from UW Bothell and the New Jersey Institute of Technology so they could join their counterparts at Cal Poly in the conference’s hackathons, panels on human-centered design thinking and a variety of skill-building sessions.

The Avanade program at UW Bothell is also distinctive for the way it helps students learn how to develop and drive professional mentor relationships. In return, mentors encourage and empower the UW Bothell students as they prepare for their careers, guiding them to leverage Avanade’s rich network of contacts and opportunities.

“A mentor is a sounding board, someone with whom the scholar can explore a multitude of opportunities,” says Heba, noting that staff at Avanade who take on a mentor role consider it a badge of pride. Avanade’s own incoming CEO Pam Maynard participated as a mentor for one of the students.

A NETWORK FOR LIFE

For maximum impact, the Avanade STEM Scholarship program at UW Bothell is designed to be holistic, says Heba.

“It’s beyond economic support,” she says. “Events, skill-building sessions and workshops show students how the sector approaches clients, solves problems and comes up with strategies to engage with clients. It prepares them to engage in that process themselves.”

The program is committed to building a more diverse and dynamic digital workforce in the future as well.

“Being part of a bigger community is important for women in STEM,” Heba says. “We have established an international network of 12 schools and 67 scholars. That’s a global network of like-minded people who will open doors for one another.”

The company recently expanded its engagement by offering internships to both STEM and business students. “This is a paid opportunity and gives first-hand experience in the technology field and the possibility of working directly with clients,” says Heba. “We are also building a closer relationship with the faculty so we can look for other ways to collaborate.”

In reflecting on the program’s impact, students say they will draw on their experiences and new connections throughout their careers.

“It has inspired me to approach challenges with an open mind, and I have a network of people with that shared experience,” says Jessela. “I am so thankful and so grateful.”
Connie Niva and Jud Marquardt — UW Bothell’s 2019 Legacy Award recipients — talk about why this campus community is part of their legacy to the world.

**BOTH WITHIN A FEW MONTHS OF TURNING 80,** Connie Niva and Jud Marquardt have left a powerful imprint on the communities in Snohomish and King counties they call home. This includes UW Bothell, which they have supported for many years and which now figures prominently in their estate plans.

When deciding where and how to give back, says Jud, people often “seek out an established connection — from their own or their children’s history — but it’s not required.”

Neither he nor Connie attended the University of Washington. Only one of their combined six children did. But both saw an untapped opportunity in the young UW Bothell campus.

**SUPPORTING STUDENT ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY**

“When you look at Everett and Snohomish County, there were so many students, but they had been short-changed,” says Connie, noting there was no easily accessible UW campus in the area before UW Bothell was founded. “Now, they make up a significant proportion of UW Bothell students, which provides needed engineers for Boeing, nurses for the region’s hospitals, and teachers and principals for local schools.”

Connie, who was a co-founder of the Center for Women in Democracy in Seattle, says she feels personally connected to the school’s commitment to educating women, especially in fields where they remain underrepresented.

“You don’t have to go back that far,” she says, “to see that there were not many opportunities for us.”

From the very beginning, Connie says, UW Bothell was intentional about attracting students who were financially disadvantaged or the first in their immediate families to earn a four-year degree — students who have incredible drive and important dreams to realize.

As a first-generation college student, this resonates with Jud.

“It’s all about putting the students first,” he says. “You can see this with class size and teacher–student ratios. While these are easier to do as a young educational institution, even as it grows the Bothell campus consistently sets itself apart in this respect and is doing more than ever for the students.”

**IMAGINING THE POSSIBILITIES**

There is absolute clarity of purpose for both Connie and Jud when it comes to addressing the cost shift in public higher education from the state to students and families.

Connie explains it was a very different financial picture when she and Jud attended college. “We came through school for under $100 for a quarter because the state was funding school then,” she says. “We came out of college debt-free.”

Graduating without crippling debt made all the difference in what they could do with their lives — and how they could give back.

With an undergraduate degree in microbiology and a master’s degree in government relations — which she earned at age 53 — Connie took on a number of leadership roles in public service. She was a member of the Everett City Council and Everett Port Commission. She served on the Washington State Transportation Commission, for three years as its chair. For 12 years, she also was a member of Washington State University’s Board of Regents, twice serving as chair.

Jud co-founded a successful architecture firm, LMN Architects, which now has a 40-year legacy of projects across the country — including the Activities & Recreation Center on the UW Bothell campus. He also has been a dynamic member of the UW Bothell Advisory Board for the last 15 years, serving as chair for two of them.

On one point, Jud is unequivocal: Had it not been for the state school system, its funding and the doors that a
When asked why they support UW Bothell, the answer is simple: How could we not?

They are quick to point with pride at the successes of the school, its students and alumni.

Statewide, UW Bothell has an enviable graduation rate, says Jud. “Their highest average graduate starting salaries — the ROI of the cost of education — are an assurance that the time and donations we make are fueling success.

“These are powerful ways to say, ‘Don’t overlook UW Bothell,’” he adds, noting that UW Bothell has evolved to become a first-choice school.

This is a transformative moment for UW Bothell, Connie and Jud believe. “It’s a top-tier higher ed institution now and is continuing to evolve every day,” says Jud. “We know that our contribution will help ensure that today’s progress continues into the future.”

Another point of pride for the couple is the fact that 61% of UW Bothell undergraduate students and 54% of graduate students graduated debt-free in 2018-19.

“As donors, these numbers tell us that there is a return on our investment,” Jud says.

In recognition of their service, philanthropy and inspiration, UW Bothell named Connie and Jud the recipients of the 2019 Legacy Award, the highest award for donors and supporters of the university.

“We are ready to support higher education wherever it’s being delivered with enthusiasm and success,” says Connie.

STAYING IN THE GAME

Beyond their own personal contributions, Connie and Jud take a community view of philanthropy and believe in the collective power of giving.

“It’s about creating a group force for change. You need bodies, and there’s nothing better than people working together to support students,” says Jud.

“A hallmark of UW Bothell is to honor all contributions,” he adds. “No gift is too small, and when you look at the board and alumni contributions, this is verifiable enthusiasm for the institution. It shows that everyone is in the game — including faculty and staff — and that’s powerful!”

Adds Connie: “Helping students thrive and live their dreams is the best investment in the future of our community and the school. We put UW Bothell in our estate plan,” she says, “and we want others to stay in the game with us.”
FROM ITS MODEST BEGINNINGS with a handful of students nearly 25 years ago, UW Bothell’s School of Business is now nationally known. With more than 1,000 students in two locations and multiple degree and non-degree programs, the school has earned the prestigious accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—a designation attained by only 5% of business schools worldwide.

The school also has a proven track record of graduating students who are in high demand from businesses in the region. Moreover, according to Washington’s Education Research & Data Center, these graduates do better in terms of initial salary and mid-career pay than the majority of business school graduates in the state.

“Our action-focused leadership is an integral part of our success,” says Dean Sandeep Krishnamurthy. “We bridge academic rigor with relevance to the business world. And, we do this by working as a community.”

A key part of that community is the 27-member School of Business Advisory Board.

OVERCOMING BARRIERS

In 2016, as part of the Campaign for UW Bothell, the board launched the (un)GALA Leadership Dinner and Auction—an event that has become one of the most important in the school’s yearly calendar. More than 200 people attended the 2019 event, raising more than $100,000.

THE ROI STARTS HERE

The School of Business Advisory Board considers itself to be a “doing” board rather than just a “talking” board. And actually walking the talk is producing powerful results for students.
“This is the support that is buttressing our students to transform their lives,” says Sandeep. “Scholarships create dramatic incentives for students to stay in college. They make all the difference.

“But the (un)GALA is not just about raising funds for our campus,” he adds. “It is about raising awareness of our impact and connecting students with leaders in our community.”

The event weaves together an accessible and engaging “come as you are” approach, bringing together advisory board members, other donors and business leaders, faculty and alumni.

Thanks to their financial and professional support, business students are not only benefitting from scholarships but also from networking and real-world experiences they need to get high-demand, competitive positions in their fields.

TAKING ACTION TOGETHER

This commitment to student achievement, says Sandeep, is exemplified by (un)GALA co-chair Tanya Fraioli, a local entrepreneur who is founder and CEO of Vivi Pizzeria.

“Tanya is a fierce advocate who puts her network to work for the school,” he says. “She is the heart and soul of our event.”

Tanya, for her part, says she is amazed by the shared impact donors make on the School of Business.

“Small and large, they all come together to change lives and launch careers,” she says. “The (un)GALA has created scholarships and other educational opportunities for the students who will be — and in many cases already are — leading our business community.

“As the campaign draws to a close,” she adds, “I hope more people support this school, which is so intertwined with our community.”

SUPPORTING NEW LEADERS

Speakers at this year’s (un)GALA included event chair Tom Sulewski, who leads the audit department at the Clark Nuber certified public accounting firm. He’s the advisory board chair-elect and teaches a course in financial audits at UW Bothell as an adjunct professor. His firm has hired about 30 UW Bothell graduates over the past decade.

One of the next UW Bothell students heading for Clark Nuber is Katie Layman. As the student speaker at the 2019 (un)GALA, Katie told the audience that she grew up thinking she wasn’t good at math but that she gained the confidence and skills to major in accounting while at UW Bothell.

Part of the help she received was a $1,500 scholarship from the School of Business Donor Excellence Fund, which was directly funded by the 2018 (un)GALA. Once math-averse, Katie is already an audit associate at Clark Nuber with an offer of a full-time job after she graduates in March.

“I’m so proud of this school and our students,” says Sandeep, “and I’m even prouder of what our donors’ support is helping us build for the future.”

PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

“We’re an outstanding School of Business today,” Sandeep declares, “and we’ll be an even better School of Business tomorrow because our donors care.

“The members of our advisory board care about our students, our future and this community. They understand that UW Bothell plays a pivotal role in our society and in our economy, and they support us in that role.”
REIMAGINING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

A gift from Leslie Olson, chair of the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences Advisory Board, has bolstered the new Global Scholars Program at UW Bothell. In 2019, the program supported travel abroad for 16 students from all five UW Bothell schools. Building on this success, the program is now positioned to grow significantly in the years ahead.

By Leslie Olson

FOR ASTRONAUTS, THE “BLUE MARBLE” VIEW OF THE EARTH from space is a revelation, inspiring awe, imagination and perspective. For the students who participate in UW Bothell’s Global Scholars Program, the shift in their vision of the world and their place in it can be just as life changing.

The farthest I traveled as a girl was to the local park or my grandparents’ home. I dreamed of visiting France, but it was outside my reach until my first trip at the age of 27. Since then, I have traveled to many countries, where I have consistently been met with disarming warmth and encouraging patience. French doctors treated me, without insurance, because in France good health is not a privilege of the wealthy. Seeing war memorials in Hungary, I could not shake the awe I felt for those who fought for freedom.

And through every country runs a common truth: We all want to belong and to make a difference in the world.

My understanding of the world has been transformed by travel. Everyone should be able to experience this! The Global Scholars Program in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences at UW Bothell provides that opportunity.

The program is a year-long mentored experience that takes students to countries around the world: South Korea, the Czech Republic, Lebanon to name a few. For

“Travel abroad has always been a dream for me — and a dream my parents had for me. As the first in my family to go to college, I didn’t think it would be possible, but the resources and opportunities the Global Scholars Program provided were life changing.

“Learning about the history of these places and cultures changed the way I think about a lot of things. My amazing professors opened my eyes to many things that I otherwise wouldn’t have been exposed to, or able to do.

“Going through this process with a group of wonderful classmates has been a really important part of the program. We became family; we have each other’s backs. This experience was my first time on a plane and going out of state by myself, but I didn’t feel alone. I felt ready.

“Being a Global Scholar is the best thing I’ve ever done.”
Founding a nonprofit civilian media outlet, Save Libya, after high school ignited my passion for foreign affairs and international development. But even though I have traveled before, I never thought study abroad would be something I could do as a working student.

“This is the first trip abroad where I felt intellectually and academically prepared — both for the experience I would have there and to use what I learn after I get back. ‘Being a Global Scholar is a badge of honor. And the network it creates... I have a whole new worldview. I’m excited to focus on the experience and incorporate it into my career in international development.’”

Mohamed Bughrara, senior
majors in Global Studies and in Law, Economics & Public Policy minor in Human Rights

Mohamed studied in Lebanon last year, interning at Blue Mission, which supports displaced persons.

Pictured above: Members of the first Global Scholars cohort, representing all five UW Bothell schools and more than 10 majors.
THERE ARE ALL TOO MANY REASONS
why capable students do not stay on course
to graduate from college. Some of the
most difficult have nothing to do with what
happens in the classroom.

“It takes creative partnerships to tackle
the non-academic barriers many students
face,” says Charlotte Gavell, manager of the
College Success & Housing Stability Program
for the United Way of King County.

Research shows that students who
have lower incomes, are single parents,
would be first in their families to earn a
college degree or are from other groups
traditionally underrepresented in higher
education often also have lower college
 persistence and graduation rates.

To address the particular issues these
students face in their pursuit of higher
education, United Way of King County
turned these research insights into action
by launching Benefits Hubs at community
colleges as part of its Bridge to Finish
campaign.

Then, in 2018, the University of
Washington Bothell and Cascadia College
shared campus was selected as the site to
pilot the first Benefits Hub at a four-year
college.

PAVING THE WAY

UW Bothell was a logical choice to start
the new program: About 36% of incoming
first-year students and 34% of incoming
transfer students are eligible for federal Pell
grants. Many students face housing and
food insecurity, which may prevent them
from achieving their academic goals.

The new hub on campus aims to help
keep these students in class and on track
to graduate. It is a go-to destination for a
variety of needed services: homelessness
prevention, food access, financial aid
application assistance, public-benefits
enrollment and tax prep.

Before the hub was established,
students who needed these kinds of
assistance might have had to visit multiple
agencies across King and Snohomish
counties. Now, students can walk in
between classes to apply for food stamps,
insurance, utility assistance and more.

The on-campus location is key, says
Rosemary Simmons, director of UW
Bothell’s Counseling Center and its Health
and Wellness Resource Center,
which houses the new hub.

“Imagine a student trying to juggle
the scheduling conflicts between public
transportation, classes and assistance agency
hours — and still staying focused on learning,”
she says. “Suddenly, a brilliant, motivated
student is in danger of not finishing school.”

Already, the Benefits Hub has
been “life changing” for many students,
Rosemary reports.

“UW Bothell students are smart,
persistent and driven individuals, but
when a financial emergency strikes and a
student’s support network doesn’t have the
resources to help, then that student must
figure out how to manage on their own,”
she says. “This meant many students were
taking multiple jobs, leaving them no time
to study or even attend classes.

“Now,” she says, “students can quickly
receive the assistance that allows them to
stay in school.”

As a Pell grant student when she was
in college and a first-generation graduate,
Rosemary knows the difference even just
a little assistance at the right moment can
make.

“It’s pretty revolutionary how this
kind of support can truly help students,”
she says. “It’s also a social justice and
equity issue. I know the power of higher
education. It’s the way out of poverty.”

PARTNERING FOR IMPACT

Part of the immediate success for the
hub programming is due to the students
themselves, Rosemary notes.

“When the Benefits Hub was
established, students led the way to raise
awareness of these services and support
each other,” she reports. “They understand
the need and the urgency — and that is
incredibly powerful.”

MAKING IT TO
THE FINISH LINE

United Way of King County has established a network of Benefits Hubs across
the region to provide support and resources to students facing barriers to college
completion. The latest is at UW Bothell.
As the year progressed, United Way made a significant additional contribution to the UW Bothell Student Emergency Fund. The goal is to address other unexpected situations students can face, such as a car breaking down, child care falling through or housing challenges.

In 2019, United Way and UW Bothell also partnered with Washington State Employees Credit Union (WSECU) to launch a matched savings program. Students commit to saving a minimum fixed sum, which each institution will match up to $250, potentially giving students another $500 in savings.

The program is also designed to help students improve their financial skills and resilience over the long term. Students receive additional incentives for attending financial coaching sessions, filing taxes on time and completing their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) forms.

Karen Zukaitis, WSECU’s community relations coordinator who teaches classes on credit and workshops on financial wellness, says the students she interacts with through the Benefits Hub at UW Bothell are unusually enthusiastic and proactive.

“We welcome this opportunity to help empower students who are navigating complex financial challenges — often for the first time,” she says. “WSECU is so excited to collaborate with UW Bothell and United Way of King County through the matched savings program.”

This new partnership is already surpassing their expectations, adds Charlotte, the United Way manager. “We met our enrollment goals and exceeded retention goals. We discovered that the students were sticking with the program, saving at higher than minimum.”

**PROVIDING MORE SUPPORT**

United Way is now exploring additional ways to increase services or add new programs at UW Bothell.

“We immediately saw that we could expand on the program,” Charlotte says. She also hopes others see the enormous opportunity for impact as well.

“We’ve learned there are nuances to the hurdles students come up against. Ultimately, we are learning alongside UW Bothell, Cascadia College and our other amazing partners,” Charlotte says. “We want to support the processes in place, as well as challenge the social support systems in our region to work better.”

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[Image of UW Bothell, Cascadia College, and United Way logos]
A 2005 graduate of the School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, Michelle Gamboa has long been an active supporter of UW Bothell. In 2019, she took her support to the next level by making the largest gift from any alumni to UW Bothell on the inaugural Husky Giving Day. Her gift? A $100,000 faculty endowment — named in honor of her father.

By Michelle Gamboa

“THE WORLD MAY NOT ALWAYS BE KIND, but no one can take away your education and achievements,” my father would say. “Stay focused, put in the work, and anything is possible.”

Resilience, confidence and faith in education: My father, Ronald G. Gamboa, had those qualities in spades. Who was he? An American, a career U.S. Navy Senior Chief, an immigrant from the Philippines, a mentor to many and the most influential person in my life. He cut short his engineering studies when he moved to the United States where he met and married my mother, but he remained steadfast in his convictions about the power of education.

I was a tomboy, and I loved school, especially math and science. I also loved science fiction and video games. My father always encouraged my interest in technology, and I dreamed of working in the gaming industry. But when high school graduation approached, I wasn't sure what came next. I considered joining the military's officer training program, but my dad encouraged me to go to college as a civilian. “I'll proudly salute you if you become an officer,” he said, “but try this path first.”

I enrolled at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, to study computer science. At that time, there was no clear path for women in STEM — no female role models that I could see. I struggled to connect my video game dream to my daily studies. Then I moved to Seattle with my fiancé, taking a hiatus from school to work in the burgeoning Microsoft Games division.

That job helped me see the connection between my passion and computer science. I knew I could advance further. With my father’s words echoing in my head, I decided to return to school to finish my bachelor’s degree. And that’s how I discovered UW Bothell.

From the minute I set foot on campus, I could feel how hands-on the School of STEM was. The faculty made computer science sing. Dr. Carol Zander, my adviser and a brilliant mathematician, broke down concepts better than anyone I've ever seen. I still channel her instruction today in my job at Adobe!

The School of STEM at UW Bothell is truly special. Female role models — among the administration, faculty and classmates — abound. I am blown away by some of the research that I’ve seen there, including a study on zebrafish that has implications for human heart health, innovative deep dives into the Internet of Things and the rapidly growing field of cybersecurity.

UW Bothell is a really good place to do all these things. The faculty are thinking about everything as a whole and in context, not just the hot topics. Like my dad, the STEM faculty inspired and pushed me.
“Supporting students is critical — but we often forget that faculty also need support. Given my gratitude to the teachers in my life, I knew my contribution would be to the faculty who make UW Bothell so special.”

As a very proud UW Bothell alumna, I have long been determined to find a special way to honor my father and give back to the school. I was one of the earliest members of UW Bothell’s Alumni Council, a group dedicated to creating opportunities for alumni to engage with one another, students and their alma mater, while fundraising to ensure access and opportunity for students through the UW Bothell Alumni Endowed Scholarship. As a STEM Advisory Board member, I get to see firsthand the impact that endowments make.

Supporting students is critical — but we often forget that faculty also need support. Given my gratitude to the teachers in my life, I knew my contribution would be to the faculty who make UW Bothell so special.

When I saw the incredible change that the Campaign for UW Bothell is bringing to campus, I wanted to be a part of it. I knew that this was the time. So I made a contribution that was meaningful to me — and employee matching from Adobe amplified its impact.

My gift provides faculty support in honor of my father. The Sr. Chief Ronald G. Gamboa Endowed UW Bothell STEM Faculty Fellowship will give faculty more freedom to pursue their most creative and innovative ideas.

An endowment also draws others to give. It’s a multiplier, just like the greatest teachers can be. Like my father was. This is the first endowment of its kind at UW Bothell, but it won’t be the last.

I’m so excited to do this now, at this moment in UW Bothell’s growth — to be able to see what the faculty will do with it, and the ripple effect. Everything that the faculty fellows supported by this endowment publish will include my father’s name. It matters to me that his legacy will be attached to amazing discoveries and research.

I want this endowment to grow, and I hope other faculty endowments will be built, by individuals and groups alike. What a wonderful way to honor the people, ideas and institutions who help us realize our passion.”
OUR ALUMNI: OUR SUPERPOWER

School of Educational Studies staff, faculty and alumni are partnering to remake the region’s educational landscape and address the diverse needs of K-12 students across Washington state.

WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE IMPACT THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES has in the regional community, Dean Edward Buendía gets right to the point.

“Our alums are our superpower.”

Not only do they make a lasting impact on individual K-12 students, he says, but they also understand the educational system in which they work, and they are committed to making it better for the sake of diverse students and communities across the state.

DIVERSITY MATTERS

“As we prepare our students to graduate, we must place equity at the forefront. It is at the core of our work, and our teaching candidates embrace it, knowing they are going into a long career in diverse communities,” Ed explains.

“We are here to ensure their success by providing programs that are tightly woven with equity, support and sustainability.”

Building and cultivating an equity framework for the next generation of teachers, administrators and principals takes time and financial support. Through the Campaign for UW Bothell, the school has established three new endowed scholarships to help recruit and retain students who will pursue teaching careers in underserved communities.

One of the newest scholarships was established by former dean Bradley Portin and his husband, Mark Wicks. The Leslie S. Wicks & Vernon H. Portin Endowed Scholarship is named in honor of their fathers — two men who believed in the power of education to enhance life and society. The scholarship provides financial support to first-generation students pursuing careers in education.

“Through our graduates, we are strengthening the fabric of the education system in the region and bolstering the diversity of the teaching pool,” says Marissa Heringer, assistant director of academic services.

Research from the American Federation of Teachers shows that teacher diversity is crucial to student success for a number of reasons, Ed notes. Students of color, for example, benefit from having teachers from their own racial or cultural background who can serve as academic role models.

The School of Educational Studies is committed to diversifying the educational system, he adds, noting that the number of teachers of color in Washington’s schools increased by 32 percent over the previous five years, according to a 2018 news report in The Seattle Times.

THE “FOOTINGS”

The school is proud of its growth and the contribution it makes to the regional school systems, but there is more to accomplish. And, Ed says, he is going to do it with the help of his alumni.

One way alumni can get involved is through the school’s new advisory board. Volunteers serve as ambassadors between the school, its alumni and the community. They are also focused on garnering financial support for the school.

Ed calls the founding alumni members of this new board the “Footings.” They include a superintendent, an assistant principal and other community leaders.

“Our alums are moving into the advancement space in novel ways, not limited to making financial gifts but also developing strategic networking opportunities to shape the career arc of our teachers,” he says. “Their time and leadership on the advisory board is invaluable.”

“We look forward to welcoming more alumni to their ranks.”
LOOKING BACK AND PAYING IT FORWARD

As a member of the faculty, Maureen “Mo” West has been tracking the growth of the School of Nursing & Health Studies. Proudly, she has now become a donor.

IT WAS 2017, AND MAUREEN “MO” WEST was thriving in her professional career, marking her fifth year on the UW Bothell faculty as a senior lecturer in the School of Nursing & Health Studies.

That was also the year David Allen, the school’s dean and Mo’s former doctoral adviser, planned to retire.

“David Allen gave me more than the doctoral experience; he made an investment in me,” she says of her longtime mentor. “He nurtured my curiosity and enhanced my confidence that I could complete my doctoral dissertation in an unconventional area in nursing.

In 2019, in his honor, Mo decided to establish the David G. Allen Endowed Scholarship to help provide nursing students with the “empowering and liberating education” he fostered for her and so many others.

“I wanted to give back to that investment,” she says.

DEEPER LEARNING

“Under David’s leadership, the school broadened our focus on global and public health while strengthening our commitment to social justice and outreach to underserved communities,” Mo says.

She also gives credit to the current dean, Shari L. Dworkin, and all the school’s forward-looking faculty for igniting the school’s academic firepower.

“Our curriculum and delivery of health care translates a vision of social justice,” she says. “That means supporting and engaging students to think critically, argue effectively and challenge inequities — and at the same time, empowering them to transform the lives of others.”

Couple this with an exceptional student body — one of the most diverse in the state — and it creates an especially dynamic learning environment.

“Our students are so hard-working, many of them juggling jobs with school and never taking their education for granted,” Mo says. “They also bring diverse lived experiences with fresh perspectives to class discussions, and this helps everyone think more broadly and engage more critically on issues of access, equity, power and privilege.

“The lessons are richer,” Mo says, “the learning is deeper.”

There is also a distinctive culture at UW Bothell that aligns evidence-based theory and practice with hands-on engagement with local shelters, schools and nonprofits.

By doing this work in the real world, says Mo, students gain experience, while partner organizations benefit from faculty and student research, insights and assistance.

WATCHING IT GROW

Mo says she loves watching UW Bothell grow and its students prosper.

Enrollment in the School of Nursing & Health Studies has increased by 65% over the past six years, and the school’s RN to BSN program is now one of the largest in the state.

As UW Bothell takes its place among the most sought-after campuses in the state, says Mo, setting up an endowed scholarship has been particularly satisfying.

“I get to see the impact,” she says. “It’s exciting to see the number of scholarship recipients grow and to support students.

“I am paying it forward,” Mo says, “and in doing so I feel like I am enhancing health care.”

Mo also hopes others will continue the legacy of educators like David Allen.

“Scholarships open doors for students, and UW Bothell can be the place where that happens.”

W
Whether we are hosting a 5K or raising a toast, we love to see our alumni, donors and volunteers at events! Enjoy some highlights from the 2018-19 year.

**Commencement Ceremony**
Nearly 2,000 graduates and 15,000 family members and friends celebrated the “Best Day Ever” at the UW Bothell Commencement Ceremony at T-Mobile Park on June 16, 2019. UW Bothell has now graduated more than 23,500 alumni in its 29-year history.

**Encore! Lecture**
The Encore! lecture recognizes UW Bothell’s distinguished faculty as they retire. On January 17, 2019, UW Bothell alumni and other members of the campus community had the opportunity to hear Bruce Kochis, senior lecturer in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, deliver “The Way Forward: A Human Rights Response to Social Trauma.”

**Husky Giving Day**
In the very first year of a new UW tradition, Husky Giving Day was a major success for the UW Bothell campus. With major gift announcements from Michelle Gamboa, Preston Simmons and Leslie Olson — and participation in a live telethon — UW Bothell alumni and friends rose to the occasion, raising $144,664 in just 24 hours!

**Chancellor’s Reception**
Chancellor Wolf Yeigh hosted UW Bothell’s most dedicated volunteers and generous donors on May 3, 2019, for an evening of storytelling and celebration. Guests raised a toast to the 2019 Legacy Award Winners, Jud Marquardt and Connie Niva, and enjoyed a video about the remarkable impact two engineering students have made in the life of a young girl named Reese.
Faculty, Staff & Retiree Donor Appreciation
The annual Faculty, Staff & Retiree Donor Appreciation event celebrates all of those who choose to give back to the University of Washington. On May 16, 2019, UW Bothell staff, faculty and retirees gathered at the beautiful Novelty Hill Januik Winery in Woodinville to enjoy a wine reception and celebrate their collective impact on UW students and programs.

Bothell Block Party and Brewfest
The 2019 Bothell Block Party and BrewFest drew more than 2,500 people to downtown Bothell on May 18 to enjoy the region’s best food, drinks and music. With a second stage for live bands, a new VIP section and a swanky rooftop after-party, this party was one for the books!

I ♥ UW Bothell Scholarship Luncheon
On February 5, 2019, the second annual I ♥ UW Bothell Scholarship Luncheon raised more than $300,000 to help keep students in school through graduation. Despite the snowstorm, hundreds of guests made it “rain love” for UW Bothell — and were treated to a surprise performance by Purple Mane, a Prince tribute band.

UW Bothell Husky 5K
On May 18, 2019, more than 1,200 walkers, strollers, joggers and runners hit the streets of Bothell for the 14th annual UW Bothell Husky 5K. For participants, it’s a friendly race to the finish line. For beneficiaries of the event, it’s a critical step to finishing their UW Bothell degree. Proceeds from the race, which has raised more than $175,000 since 2004, benefit the UW Bothell Alumni Endowed Scholarship.
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