

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



Covering the Campaign for UW Bothell 2010-2020



United in our goal to make an impact on students, their communities and the state.

I HAVE HAD THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BE THE CHANCELLOR OF

UW BOTHELL FOR NEARLY 10 YEARS. I've celebrated incredible milestones in my time here, including — thanks to donors like you — the remarkable end of the largest and most successful campaign in UW Bothell's 31-year history, where together we raised \$40.7 million for our campus. (See page 20 for details.) At the other end of the spectrum, I was honored to be part of this community during a difficult stretch for all of us, marked indelibly by a national racial reckoning and a global pandemic.

As we moved into remote operations in the shadow of COVID-19, I tried not to despair — for the students who had worked so hard to make college a reality, for the missed opportunities and closed doors. What came next, I could never have predicted.

In the face of daunting obstacles, instead of growing distant, we drew closer together. We worked collaboratively in ways I never thought possible: turning popular in-person alumni events into online connection points for far-flung supporters, hosting a Global Scholars program with international impact without ever leaving home, and seeing donors step up to provide critical technology such as laptops and mobile devices so that no student was left behind.

And last summer as protests sparked in part by George Floyd's murder swept across the country, UW Bothell rose up, too, publicly reaffirming our commitment to racial and social justice and finding new ways to support how we live up to these ideals.

The stories in this report illustrate how our campus and community never stopped moving forward, dreaming, innovating and excelling together. In reading them, I am struck by the open-hearted creativity of our donors. No matter how you give to UW Bothell, these stories are for you. They celebrate all you do to make our programs and people soar.

This year has given me the utmost gratitude for the deep strength and resilience of our faculty and staff, our students, and our alumni and donors. Over the course of 2020, through every twist and turn, we persevered. And our 2021 graduating class is the largest ever!

This is the spirit of UW Bothell: Together, we turn crisis into possibility.

What we learned about access during the pandemic will continue to benefit our students going forward. Our efforts toward increasing equity, the blueprint on which this campus was built, continue. Although 2020 heightened the public discourse about race, and quarantines and remote operations put greater pressure on all of us, we are harnessing what we've learned and are ready for the hard work ahead.

By the time you read this letter, my tenure will have come to an end. I know you'll welcome UW Bothell's next chancellor, <u>Dr. Kristin Esterberg</u>, with the same heart and hope you offered me. The work she undertakes will be a joy with the greatest community in the world at her side.

Bjong Wolf Yeigh, Ph.D., F.ASME Chancellor Emeritus and Professor of Engineering

2020-21 UW BOTHELL CAMPUS ADVISORY BOARD

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Note: All photographs in this report were taken following appropriate protocols at the time.

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GENEROUS FAMILY LEAVES ONE LEGACY AFTER ANOTHER

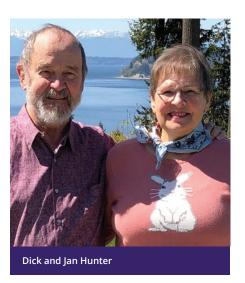
Jan Hunter's family has deep roots in Bothell — and many years of supporting UW Bothell with both their leadership and legacy gifts.

BOTHELL HAS ALWAYS BEEN HOME FOR JAN HUNTER, even when she's lived elsewhere.

The same was true for her late uncle, who left most of his estate to the University of Washington Bothell almost a decade ago. Toward the end of Gordon Green's life, Jan and her brothers helped their beloved uncle map out his vision for a legacy that honored his family's deep Bothell roots.

That vision became a reality in 2013, when the <u>Sarah Simonds Green</u> <u>Conservatory</u> opened on the edge of UW Bothell's campus wetlands. The sprawling greenhouse and classroom is named after Gordon's mother, a lifelong devoted gardener, whose father served as the first superintendent of Bothell Schools and principal of Bothell High School.

Gordon's \$4 million gift remains the largest in UW Bothell's history. Jan and her husband, Dick, pledged their own legacy to UW Bothell this past year: a \$1 million unrestricted gift that helped propel the University past its 10-year Campaign for UW Bothell goal of raising \$35 million.



A long legacy of leadership

Jan hopes their gift and her role as chair of UW Bothell's Advisory Board will help the University maintain the high quality of its faculty and administrators, expand on-campus housing, and continue to open doors to students who face barriers earning a college degree.

"I support UW Bothell because I believe in investing in the future," Jan says. "And I particularly believe in UW Bothell because I know there's a good percentage of students here who are the first in their families to go to college, and that's important to me."

In 2020, Jan assumed her role as Advisory Board chair, bringing decades of valuable experience serving on other boards, including for the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Midway University in Kentucky, Riverview School on Cape Cod and the Jackie Robinson Family YMCA in San Diego.

Jan also leads by example, through her leadership as a volunteer as well as her generosity as a donor. Over the past three years, she has invited friends to join her in supporting students as a dedicated table captain for the I Heart UW Bothell Scholarship Luncheons. When COVID-19 hit, she gave \$10,000 to kickstart the Huskies Helping Huskies challenge, which raised more than \$80,000 in 90 days to provide emergency funds for students who were financially impacted by the pandemic.

The power of the student experience

Jan's 40 years of volunteer and professional experience include more than three decades of working at the local I support UW Bothell because I believe in investing in the future. And I particularly believe in UW Bothell because I know there's a good percentage of students here who are the first in their families to go to college, and that's important to me. Jan Hunter

and national levels of the AFS Intercultural Programs, a global exchange program for high school students. When in high school herself, Jan studied abroad in Switzerland as an exchange student.

"It had a huge impact on me," she says. "I think international experiences are incredibly important for students."

That's one reason she's been a passionate supporter of an endowed study-abroad scholarship fund named after Anna Bui, a UW Bothell student from Mukilteo who died by gun violence in 2016.

Anna was passionate about the learning opportunities gained through travel and was working toward a degree in nursing. The scholarship honors her passion for travel, and helps students interested in a career in health care have transformative experiences studying abroad.

As a resident of Mukilteo, Jan was moved by the local community's efforts to support Anna's family and honor her memory. Thanks in no small part to Jan's generous support, the <u>Anna Bui World of</u> <u>Hope Fund</u> has raised nearly \$100,000 to date and has given 12 UW Bothell students the opportunity to study overseas.

A heartfelt place to call home

Jan hasn't lived in Bothell since she left for college, attending Whitman College



Ronald Green Jr., Janet Green Hunter and Darrell Green stand with Chancellor Wolf Yeigh as Legacy Award recipients at the 2017 Chancellor's Reception.

and then graduating from the University of Maryland, yet she says she still and always will consider Bothell — and UW Bothell — her home. "I'm really proud there's a university in Bothell."

She's also proud to be honoring her uncle and the rest of her family as a loyal UW Bothell donor and volunteer who inspires others to support her hometown University however they can. "This remarkable family has helped shape the face of our community and our campus," noted Chancellor Wolf Yeigh when he presented Jan's family with the <u>UW Bothell Legacy Award</u> in 2017. "Their ongoing generosity epitomizes the spirit of the Legacy Award and serves as an example to all of what it means to give from the heart and to live your values." **W**

BLACK OPPORTUNITY FUND ADVANCES EQUITY WORK

UW Bothell is working to dismantle racism — with the help of our donors who contribute to the new Black Opportunity Fund.

IN JULY 2020, as part of President Ana Mari Cauce's <u>Race & Equity Initiative</u>, the University of Washington established a Black Opportunity Fund on each campus. These funds are an extension of the many ways the UW community continues to engage in social justice.

These funds also acknowledge the impact of systemic racism on the Black community and center the immediate and ongoing needs of UW's Black students, staff and faculty. Each UW campus raises its own donations and directs how they will be used, based on needs that Black students, staff and faculty identify. On the UW Bothell campus, the Black Opportunity Fund has become another way for donors to actively remove barriers for students.

AN INVESTMENT IN EXCELLENCE

2020 represented UW Bothell's largest enrollment of Black students to date. In

September of that same year, Brandon Washington, manager of Annual Giving & Philanthropy at UW Bothell, convened a task force of Black students, staff and faculty to advise University leadership on how to best use the new Black Opportunity Fund for immediate impact. Based on feedback from student representatives, the group's first action was to propose a scholarship for students facing economic or other pressures and who demonstrate a commitment to racial equity work.

"We recognize that a scholarship is not going to resolve every issue; that's not what it's intended to do," Brandon says. "And this is not the only thing we're doing — it's just one piece of the puzzle to make sure our entire campus feels included and uplifted.

"I'm genuinely proud to support and do this work," he says.

In response to the task force's recommendation and with support from

campus leadership, UW Bothell's <u>Office of</u> <u>Diversity, Equity & Inclusion</u> and the Division of Advancement & External Relations created the Black Opportunity Scholarship, a renewable, needs-based scholarship open to all UW Bothell students. The first seven recipients were named in April 2021.

RALLYING TO THE CAUSE

"UW Bothell has a beautiful identity of being diverse, dynamic and innovative," Brandon says. "Often, when we think of innovation, we default to the STEM practices and the digital frontier, but this equity and inclusion work is crucial innovative work, too. We can use this task force as a starting point to build the conversation, and we're poised to make leaps and bounds.

"This truly is an innovative, inclusive, progressive school that I believe can serve as a blueprint for what future higher-ed models will look like." **W**

Visibility matters — in access to new opportunities and in validating our journey and casting out any feelings of imposter syndrome. We belong here, and this opportunity makes that very clear. **Aaron Davis** is a Black Opportunity Fund scholarship recipient who graduated in spring 2021 with a major in Health Studies, and minors in Global Health and in Health Education & Promotion.



⁴⁴This opportunity has allowed me and the work I am doing to be seen, which as a Black student is something incredibly important. Higher education is often less diverse than it should be, and I have seen too few persons of color recognized for their excellence, which we know exists.

"Visibility matters — in access to new opportunities and in validating our journey and casting out any feelings of imposter syndrome. We belong here, and this opportunity makes that very clear.

"I'm inspired by UW Bothell's ability to check, reflect and adjust according to the needs of students. This institution is always striving to do better and uplift more marginalized voices."

Diana Muuru is a Black Opportunity Fund scholarship recipient and a rising junior majoring in Business Administration.



⁴⁴I am the social media and outreach coordinator for the UW Bothell Black Student Union. In this role, I strive to make the club a safe space for Black students and allies, where they can freely express themselves and their cultures, and create a sense of community on campus.

"This scholarship helps me reach my goals as a student by relieving a financial burden that would have impacted my learning experience and allowing me to focus more on my studies. By supporting Black students in this way, donors give us a fighting chance to succeed and thrive in a world where systems are already built against us."

ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

AS WE CONTINUE TO BUILD

AWARENESS and raise funds for the challenges and inequities many UW Bothell students face, we're deeply encouraged by the support and commitment to access shown by our UW Bothell community of alumni, donors and friends. UW Bothell has created a scholarship fund that supports the strength of students who have made social justice a core element of their college experience. However, we recognize that the Black Opportunity Scholarship is just one step forward on the path of systemic change and that our work is far from over. We look forward to updating you on ongoing efforts and future initiatives that address the challenges and harm of racial injustice on Black students, staff and faculty at UW Bothell.

ALUMNI-FUELED EMERGENCY FUND BRIDGES COVID-19 GAPS

The UW Bothell Alumni Council has engaged alumni and friends across the country to raise funds for pandemic-related needs of students — with an eye toward helping them stay in school despite a myriad of obstacles.

AS PANDEMIC RIPPLE EFFECTS CONTINUE TO MAKE UNCOMFORTABLE WAVES in

many areas of our lives, the University of Washington Bothell community has channeled these currents into a force for good. Alumni, faculty, staff, volunteers, neighbors and parents have stepped up for students in multiple ways, including through their generous contributions to the COVID-19 Emergency Student Fund via a Huskies Helping Huskies match and the <u>UW Bothell Husky 5K</u>.

When COVID-19 forced classes online in March 2020, many students lost oncampus jobs while others saw vital retail and restaurant work disappear overnight. In addition to lost income, many students confronted family health crises and new care responsibilities, including teaching their own kids from home — all of these stressors magnified by the uncertainties of daily living during a pandemic.

Not surprisingly, UW Bothell's CARE Team experienced an immediate and dramatic increase in applications for student emergency grants. In spring quarter 2020, requests for aid topped \$150,000 — nearly four times the total emergency fund dollars distributed in all of 2019. The burgeoning need quickly drained the student emergency fund, leaving staff scrambling to find replacement jobs for student staff who had in-person work and worrying about how the students facing compounding hurdles would manage to stay in school.

NEW FUNDS, NEW HOPE

As the severity of the situation became clear in spring 2020, UW established COVID-19 Emergency Student Funds at each of its three campuses to provide emergency grants to those affected by the pandemic. Students could apply for financial assistance with a number of expenses, including tuition and fees, textbooks, medical bills, transportation and other living costs.

Thanks to the efforts of UW Bothell alumni, word traveled quickly, and three months later more than 350 gifts poured in to the campus fund. The money was dispersed as quickly as it arrived, with nearly \$100,000 provided across 150 grants to cover everything from computer fixes to bus passes, electric bills or even funeral expenses.

"In the best of circumstances, many of our students are juggling responsibilities to make their college dreams a reality, and then the pandemic hit," says Rosemary Simmons, former director of Counseling, Health and Wellness, who oversaw distribution of emergency funds in 2020 and 2021. "I am proud to be a member of a University community that invests in our students' commitment to education and champions their positive contributions to the world."

One student, a single parent whose grant covered medical bills, summed up its significance: "I greatly appreciate everything the UW Bothell family has done to assist me with completing my goals... my dream! Regardless of my predicaments, I am committed to my academics. I appreciate your help from the bottom of my heart. I have maintained my grades, though it's been tough, and I'm determined to keep my grades up because I am so honored and blessed to be a part of the UW Bothell family."

ALUMNI POWER

The community's outpouring of support was largely driven by two major fundraising efforts led by UW Bothell alumni: The Huskies Helping Huskies matching challenge and UW Bothell's Virtual Husky 5K.

The annual run, organized by the <u>UW Bothell Alumni Council</u>, is a longtime community favorite, with extended family members and friends gathering to run and enjoy kinship in an outdoor festival atmosphere. Although the funds raised normally support UW Bothell's Alumni Endowed Scholarship, the council unanimously decided that pandemic needs were the biggest priority at this time and directed registration proceeds to the Emergency Student Fund.

"Campus was partially shut down and students were really hurting," says Mary Howisey, a founding member of the council who currently serves as its fundraising events chair. "We could see the Emergency Student Fund was crucial due to its openended nature, so we decided to shift our focus."

The council also revamped the Husky 5K as a virtual event, which was held on May 16, 2020. It drew a record-breaking 830 runners. As UW Bothell alumni, friends and family laced up their running shoes and logged kilometers in communities across Washington and in 23 other states, they helped raise nearly \$15,000. In fact, the virtual elements added to the event were so popular that the council plans to host all future runs as hybrid events

partially in-person and partially online
to allow more far-flung supporters to continue joining in the fun.

"There were so many disappointments in the world at that point, and we decided: Here's something positive we can make happen," Mary says. "We knew it was going to look different, but we were going to do



it together while apart. We were amazed at the level of support and excitement."

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

According to Jacque Julien, an Alumni Council member who chaired the group in 2020, moving forward with the event virtually was the best choice.

"There was a commitment to be courageous and daring, even if we failed," she says. "We were all affected by the pandemic, and it was really beautiful to see the community lean in, to see collectively what we could accomplish."

While a student at UW Bothell, Jacque says she benefited from the generosity of others and is now gratified to pay it forward to those pursuing their degrees today. Jacque started her college career in 2012 as a single mother who was raising four school-aged children. From personal experience, she empathizes with the challenges students can face.

"For me, scholarships were imperative and a huge contributing factor to my

Photo by: Zorn B. Taylc



Mary Howisey, IAS '02

success and ability to graduate," she says. "They allowed me to complete my studies and gave me the time and space to be a mom — so I could also be there for my children's visions, their dreams, their aspirations."

As the Alumni Council began planning for the 2021 UW Bothell Husky 5K, emergency grant applications continued to stream in. With the pandemic still reverberating through the community, the council again chose to support the COVID-19 Emergency Student Fund, raising an additional \$10,000 through community support and corporate sponsorships.

PAYING IT FORWARD

"The scholarship endowment isn't going away — it's still there earning money," Mary says. "I think of the Emergency Student Fund as supporting scholarships by allowing students to stay in school.

"It's like we are providing a whole bunch of smaller scholarships," she says, "and that feels amazing." **W**

A CLEAR MESSAGE: "WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK"

Tremendous support for a University-wide endowment matching campaign affirms the strength of the UW Bothell community and buoys students who are ready to change the world.

THANKS TO A COMPELLING MATCHING OPPORTUNITY, University of Washington Bothell faculty, staff and retirees have established vital new endowed scholarships in all five of the University's schools. These gifts were catalyzed by a UW-wide campaign, but the energy came from within the UW Bothell community.

In October 2016, the UW launched a \$5 million Faculty/Staff/Retiree Campaign for Students at all three of its campuses. Participants in the matching program could create endowed scholarships at a reduced minimum investment with a 50% match.

UW Bothell donors used the opportunity to establish 11 endowed scholarships and expand one existing scholarship, with total investments reaching \$465,000.

INSPIRING INSIDERS

"It speaks volumes that the people who work on our campus use money they have earned here to reinvest in our students," says Sean Marsh, interim vice chancellor for Advancement & External Relations. "This shows students we care about them and what they're working to become. It confirms that we believe in their dreams."

Sean notes that scholarships such as these — including one designed for students returning to finish their degrees — not only stoke the aspirations of recipients but also have the potential to fuel generational change when a student's college experience inspires







Pictured above: UW Bothell faculty, staff and retirees attend a reception celebrating the impact of their donations to the campus.

a sibling, cousin, parent or neighbor to pursue higher education themselves.

One clear example of this is the eponymous Kelly and Virgil Snyder Endowed

Scholarship for Women in Engineering. (See the story on <u>page 11</u>.)

"What Kelly and Virgil have done with their endowment is provide more than just an opportunity for young women in engineering," says Sean. "They're offering a glimpse of what could be for whole families, whole communities.

"And this is true for every one of these scholarship endowments," he adds.

WAYS OF GIVING

Sean says he is continually impressed by the generosity of this special group of donors. "Not only do they teach, mentor and guide students, but our faculty and staff also give back financially. They understand more than anyone the challenges students face."

Almost half of UW Bothell undergraduate students will be the first in their families to earn a four-year degree, and many also juggle jobs and child-rearing responsibilities while completing their studies.

"For UW Bothell students to do the incredible things they're doing, they need to know that we have their backs," Sean says. "I want to thank our faculty and staff donors for being there when students need them most.

"We can't do the work we do without this support. Side by side, our donors and students continue to work together to create profound impact in our community, our region and our world." **W**

CHAMPIONING WOMEN IN STEM

Two UW Bothell ambassadors invested their inheritance in a scholarship endowment for young women aspiring to STEM careers — and a UW matching program doubled their impact.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

BOTHELL would have been the ideal school for Kelly Snyder, except that it didn't exist. The former assistant vice chancellor of government and community relations at UW Bothell was a community college transfer student in the 1990s and struggled to find her footing at the larger Seattle campus.

Kelly and her husband, Virgil, are both longtime Bothell residents, UW Bothell promoters and STEM devotees. In her time at UW Bothell, Kelly helped secure funds for Discovery Hall, now home to many classrooms, labs and faculty in the School of STEM. She also headed the 2017 Campus Master Plan for the development of the campus UW Bothell shares with Cascadia College.

The Snyders have honored the University by establishing the Kelly and Virgil Snyder Endowed Scholarship for Women in Engineering.

TAPPING MORE TALENT

"This scholarship is a way to break down financial barriers," says Kelly. "What makes you competitive in the workforce are vital experiences outside the classroom, such as internships, volunteer work or research for capstone projects.

"You don't have time for those things if you're working three jobs just to pay tuition."

Both Kelly and Virgil were the first in their families to attend college, so they feel a strong kinship with the first-generation



Kelly and Virgil Snyder, who were recognized in 2019 as UW Bothell Benefactors for their generous gifts to the University.

and transfer students who make up almost half of the undergraduate population at UW Bothell. They say they hope to reach these students, while also tapping the talent of women who have long faced many obstacles pursuing STEM careers.

Their own daughter is a 2020 University of Washington alumna who followed in her father's footsteps to become an engineer at The Boeing Company. Virgil recently retired after 36 years at Boeing, where he noticed a scarcity of women engineers, especially early in his career.

He celebrates the excitement he saw in his daughter's eyes when she was a member of her high school robotics team — and where that excitement has led her since.

"This scholarship will honor that glimmer of excitement and open up opportunities for more young women to participate," he says, noting that when girls see women in STEM jobs, they realize they can achieve that dream for themselves.

Kelly, who currently holds the position of public works director for Snohomish County, notes that it takes incredible talent and tenacity to be a woman in STEM, especially for first-generation and transfer college students. That's why the scholarship also comes with broad, open-ended support from the Snyders for networking, mentorship and career advice.

LEVERAGING THEIR PLEDGE

It was serendipitous that the UW Faculty/Staff/Retiree Campaign for Students coincided with the arrival of a family inheritance that enabled the couple to create their endowment in 2017. Three years later, after Kelly's father passed away, they pledged to quadruple their initial investment.

"We were incredibly blessed with these additional resources and chose to expand the initial fund to help even more students," Kelly says, adding that her dad was a UW employee who would be honored to know that part of his life savings are helping students fulfill their educational dreams.

Kelly says she is also excited about the future for the School of STEM. She's impressed by both the dedicated core faculty and the visionary new dean, Dr. Leslie Cornick.

"UW Bothell is a possibility maker," Kelly says. "Whether you're faculty, staff, a student, an administrator or a community member, it will change your life forever. It certainly changed mine." **W**

AT&T STEPS UP IN A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

AT&T's support for UW Bothell's Black Opportunity Fund meant the world to students and staff.

IT WAS TOUGH TO IMAGINE how dancing in the streets could be reinvented online. But Director of Alumni Engagement Tiffany Kirk was determined to create a virtual Bothell Block Party and BrewFest that accomplished both goals of the live event: engage attendees and raise support for UW Bothell.

Then AT&T stepped forward. In addition to sponsoring the event, the company tripled an earlier commitment to the <u>Black</u> <u>Opportunity Fund</u>, which works to address the impact of systemic racism on Black students, staff and faculty. (See the story on <u>page 6</u>).

"I am so grateful to AT&T for stepping up when we needed it most," Tiffany says. "When outcomes were uncertain, they doubled down on their commitment to our Black community and Black students."

IN SUPPORT OF EQUALITY

With AT&T's backing, the block party was transformed into an online celebration featuring Black and allied artists, including The Black Tones, King Youngblood and Pickwick. It was a resounding success: hundreds of UW Bothell supporters tuned in, forging camaraderie via photos posted to social media with the hashtag #virtualbothellbp.

"I'm really proud that AT&T has believed in and supported equality for generations," says Aracely Cuadra, director of retail operations for AT&T. "Black lives matter, and we have a moral and a business obligation to engage in fundamental issues of equality. The Black Opportunity Fund and UW Bothell's work toward overcoming systematic educational barriers align perfectly with what we're committed to doing."

In 2020, AT&T spent \$3.1 billion with Black-owned suppliers, surpassing a \$3 billion, two-year commitment to drive meaningful change through economic empowerment. It also directed \$11.5 million to create economic opportunities for Black and other communities facing systematic barriers to success.

AT&T also funded two scholarships at UW Bothell in 2020. The company's partnership expands the University's base of support, making it easier for students to achieve their goals and build awareness around UW Bothell's distinctive campus experience, says Tiffany.

"We have amazing national rankings," she says, "but another big source of pride is how incredibly brave and outspoken our students are — and how effectively they advocate for ideas they're passionate about."

FOR COMMUNITY NEEDS

Throughout this past challenging year, Tiffany has seen UW Bothell message boards light up with students reaching out to establish virtual support systems and strengthen connections with each other and with faculty, staff and alumni.

This focus on community wellness is a trait shared with AT&T employees, Aracely says.

"When it comes down to it, you're going to see AT&T family members rolling up our sleeves," she says. "We're going to get involved, we're going to listen, and then we're going to take action based on what our communities need.

"We are honored and humbled to have the opportunity to partner with the University to advance our shared values." **W**



The AT&T Scholarship allows me to focus on learning and inspires me to help others. Thank you for your confidence and willingness to help me achieve my educational and career goals.

- Priscilla Tsa, School of Business '21

LEGACY OPENS DOORS FOR TEACHERS OF COLOR

A new School of Educational Studies endowment honors two remarkable mothers and their zeal for education.

BEULAH SHAW-WALKER GREW UP IN 1930s RURAL ALABAMA, where it was illegal for Black people — especially girls and young women — to go to high school or college. Still, she valued schooling as highly as she did helping out a neighbor in need.

Two states north in Virginia, Lula Hines-Jiggitts was also being raised in a Black household devoted to learning. Her mother was a college professor, and Lula became an elementary school teacher.

These community-minded women raised UW Bothell advocates Clyde and Sherrelle Walker, a couple who embody a commitment both their mothers lived by to be catalysts for transformation.

Through the Beulah Shaw-Walker and Lula Hines-Jiggitts Endowed Fund in Education, Clyde and Sherrelle also honor their mothers' passion for schooling. The endowment celebrates generations of community leadership and a commitment to equity in education by supporting young women of color, helping them harness their talents and achieve their goals in college and beyond.

FOLLOWING INSPIRATION

As a child, Sherrelle spent her Saturdays tutoring at a school her mother hosted in their home for other Black children in the neighborhood.

"We heard the message every single day of our lives: You have gifts — and you have the opportunity to use those gifts to help others," Sherrelle says. "Find something



Sherrelle and Clyde Walker

that you care about, follow that dream and engage the community with you."

As an adult, Sherrelle worked to help revolutionize educational experiences inside schools, across districts and eventually around the nation by leading Scientific Learning Corporation's efforts to share how brain plasticity can change learning patterns for struggling students. She currently volunteers with the University of Washington Brotherhood Initiative, a leadership program for men of color. Sherrelle says plans are in the works for a UW Bothell program as well as a Sisterhood Initiative for women.

Clyde, too, clearly remembers his mother's commitment to serving others. "My mom created a waystation to selfsufficiency for family and friends," he says.

Now a retired business strategist, Clyde holds volunteer leadership positions on the UW Bothell and UW Foundation boards, and previously chaired the UW Alumni Association board. He's impressed by UW Bothell's safe, supportive environment for first-generation college students and envisions the endowment as another way to foster community among students.

"Sherrelle and I hope to be part of the critical mass of support it takes for any society to thrive and be sustainable," he says.

Adds Sherrelle, "We want students to know there are people of color who believe in them."

CULTIVATING POSSIBILITIES

Ed Buendia, dean of the School of Educational Studies, says the Walkers' gift complements the University's <u>Diversifying</u> <u>Pathways Project</u>, a partnership focused on North Puget Sound residents from underrepresented communities who are pursuing teaching and health care careers.

"When we cultivate these possibilities for students, we help them actualize their goals to become educators," Ed says. "They become mentors to other young people, and so we are fostering an ethic of giving back to the communities where our students come from."

He adds that the Walkers' gift is foundational to the school's educational infrastructure, which is shaping the future of education in our region.

Clyde views it as another way to pay it forward, just as his mom taught him.

"We have a responsibility to support young women's willingness to take on by far the most important responsibility in our society — educating our children." **W**

BRIDGES TO RESILIENCE FOR TOMORROW'S NURSES

Parents honor the legacy of their only daughter through an endowed scholarship for nursing students.

THE WORLD HELD GREAT PROMISE FOR 2015 UW BOTHELL Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduate Jessica Hammons, a gifted and charismatic young woman who left a lasting impression on everyone she met. She had just landed a hospital nursing job — a dream she'd worked toward for years — and recently married her longtime boyfriend. The couple was excited to start a family.

Then, in what her mother calls a perfect storm of events, a series of misfortunes piled up in quick succession: a heartbreaking miscarriage, a gap in health insurance, a grueling new nightshift schedule and an exorbitant rent increase.

The newlyweds had both battled addictions, and as their problems mounted, the safety net of sobriety they had woven through years of constant effort was tattered beyond repair. Jessica and her husband died of overdoses in August 2015.

"One of the things that propelled me to speak out about this is that I don't want her to be remembered as just another overdose," says her mother, Mary Hammons.

Mary, along with her husband and Jessica's stepfather, Conrad Brown, established an endowed scholarship in 2019 for UW Bothell's School of Nursing & Health Studies in Jessica's name.

OPENING MORE DOORS

"Jessica was a shining star in so many ways," says Mary. "We're hoping this endowment will be a way to remember who she was and all she had to give — and help other people through hard times."

Mary and Conrad have chosen to share Jessica's happiest experiences with others, donating her cherished wedding gown to a group that supports womanfocused nonprofits, installing a bench at Echo Lake where Jessica loved to swim, and now making a gift to ease the way for future UW Bothell nursing students.

"Those who knew Jessica remember her as a dynamic, hard-working, brilliant nurse who was passionate about helping others," says SNHS Dean Shari L. Dworkin. "Jessica loved being a UW Bothell student, and this endowment is a profound way to honor her legacy in perpetuity."

Mary says UW Bothell was the perfect school for Jessica because its smaller size allowed her to easily make friends and connect with professors. Jessica did well academically, which boosted her selfconfidence and fueled her desire to excel.

As conscientious an employee as she was a student, Jessica was stubbornly selfsufficient, never allowing her parents to kick in for tuition or other bills. She paid for nursing school by waiting tables and working first as a certified nursing assistant and then as an RN for people recovering from strokes and injuries at Richmond Beach Rehab.

Mary was herself a struggling single mother when she pulled herself through college and graduate school in the 1980s. She knows how it feels not to know where your next meal is coming from and wants to help upcoming nursing students get the support they need to thrive.

"UW Bothell has such a strong community, and they really care about their students," she says. "I hope the scholarship will show students that somebody is looking out for them and help build up their belief that they can make it.

"We see these scholarships as bridges if someone needs a little money — for rent, gas or food for their family — that can make all the difference in the world."

FACING NEW CHALLENGES

Shari says COVID-19 has added another layer of hardship for many SNHS students enrolled at the Bothell campus. Many were already juggling work and family with school; now they have increased caregiving responsibilities, including homeschooling their children, on top of keeping up with their own studies.

"It's particularly visionary of Mary and Conrad to make this funding so flexible. This is truly critical for our students for whom finances, even small amounts, can make or break their ability to complete classes and graduate," Shari says. "We are proud to honor Jessica's passions, expertise and legacy by helping SNHS students attain their educational aspirations and become the best health care and community health workers they can be."

Mary and Conrad, who are both retired from careers in social work and have witnessed the benefits of a multidisciplinary approach to addiction and other mental and behavioral health issues, say they appreciate that the SNHS curriculum is grounded in interdisciplinary principles.

The new Behavioral Health Program is bringing these issues to the forefront in schools and hospitals. In a partnership with the Renton School District, for example, K–12 teachers were trained to employ their roles as frontline classroom touch points to recognize and respond to students' mental and behavioral health needs. Last year SNHS also piloted trainings in Alaska for frontline health care employees who work with people with complex mental health and substance abuse needs.

Both arms of the program were so successful that plans are underway to implement them across Washington state.

"Given the existing need, combined with the political environment, race relations, COVID-19 and everything else going on in today's world, we know that there's exacerbated demand for mental and behavioral health care," Shari says. "And we're proud to be a part of the solution in our region."

Another thing that sets SNHS health programming apart, says Shari, is that it recognizes and addresses how social inequality shapes health.

"The fact that we can conjoin ideas about social justice and health makes us very distinctive in the region," she says. "We think our students, particularly given this historical moment, are getting exactly the cutting-edge training that's needed





Top photo: Mary Hammons and Conrad Brown sitting in their backyard holding photos of Jessica Hammons. *Lower left:* Conrad, Mary and Jessica at a family celebration. *Lower right:* Jessica on a trip to Slovakia.

to make a long-lasting impact on health among diverse communities."

FOR FUTURE HEROES

One keepsake Mary and Conrad treasure, along with many family photographs and Jessica's two orange tabbies, is her UW Bothell diploma. Not only does it signify their daughter's academic achievement, but it reminds them of her supportive nursing school community.

"I'll never forget that inside this big white envelope with Jessica's diploma was a personal handwritten letter from the dean," Mary says. "The people we have met at UW Bothell are really friendly, caring people.

"When something horribly tragic happens, you just want things to be normal again and, of course, they never will be," she says. "Through this endowment, we can reach people who want to go into nursing and become tomorrow's heroes.

"We have learned this year that nurses really are heroes, and I think Jessica would be happy we're doing this." **W**

INTERNING IN INDIA FROM HOME IN SEATTLE

The Global Scholars program hit a COVID-19 speedbump, but thanks to essential donor support, these students had powerful international experiences despite the pandemic.

NAOMI YOHANNES APPLIED TO THE GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM on the

recommendation of a professor.

Like many UW Bothell students working full time to pay tuition, she had never considered studying abroad an option. As an Ethiopian American, Naomi didn't believe she fit the profile of the mainly white students who have the privilege and financial freedom to pursue extra educational opportunities.

Although COVID-19 thwarted her plans to volunteer with a global health program in Jamaica last summer, Naomi says, "Global Scholars ended up being one of the most amazing experiences in my life so far."

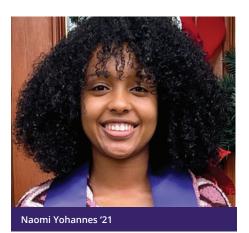
BROADER PARTICIPATION

"Our aim is to reach students who, like Naomi, have received the message that these programs are not for them," says Ron Krabill, co-founder of the program and professor in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences. "Their participation deeply enriches how we understand global education.

"It's powerful to learn from our amazing students and accompany them on these journeys."

<u>Global Scholars</u> was only in its second year when the pandemic turned everything upside-down, so Ron is especially grateful to donors for standing by the nascent program.

"Without donor dollars, we wouldn't have been able to guarantee scholarship money that is essential for most of our participants," he says. "These contributions



are especially significant because studies show students who complete study abroad programs are much more likely to graduate."

ALL MADE WELCOME

Global Scholars works to include all students, including those who are undocumented or unable to travel for other reasons. Because Ron and his team had connected students with virtual international experiences even before the pandemic, they could use established connections to reassign students as the realities of 2020 unfolded.

Some students ended up participating in a course in international human rights and policymaking in which they connected with government officials in D.C. Pravah, a youth-leadership nonprofit partner based in India, also arranged student internships.

This is how Naomi found herself developing a social media campaign and webinar about gender-based violence for youth in India from her bedroom-turnedoffice in Seattle. "I learned how important a space like this was, especially for the people who are new to the [LGBTQ+] community and discovering who they are," she says. "This rings true not just for this community, but for people of color, women and others. Having a space with individuals who identify similarly as you can give you a sense of community and security."

CONNECTED LEARNING

In addition to their internships, students had weekly conversations with UW Bothell instructors and joined virtual discussions with international mentors on topics including "Women's Rights and Leadership in Tanzania" and "Mexico's Response to COVID-19 and Healthcare Inequalities."

"Our conversations were so relevant, especially because Black Lives Matter was coming to the forefront and we were seeing the different impacts COVID-19 had on people from the rich to the poor," Naomi says. "We all have biases that we need to reflect on. This program gave us time to delve into what our roles are as global citizens, especially as Westerners."

In spring 2021, Naomi graduated from UW Bothell with majors in Community Psychology and in Society, Ethics & Human Behavior and minors in Human Rights and in Global Health. Looking back, she says, it was her experience with Global Scholars that inspired her to start "critically thinking about my role in global health through my identities and my experiences." **W**

STUDENTS UNFURL 'SUPERPOWER' SKILLS

Corporate-sponsored capstones in computer science develop UW Bothell student skills — and infuse partner companies with fresh ideas and perspectives.

IT WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE THEIR

FINAL PRESENTATION to Apollo Video Technology, and UW Bothell students Jeffrey Murray and Ji-Hoon Kang were bound and determined to solve a puzzle that would be the icing on the cake of their four-month Computer Science and Software Engineering capstone project.

The two were members of a fourperson team sponsored by the School of STEM's Computing & Software Systems division chair, Bill Erdly, to work on this innovative partnership.

Founded by Bill in 1997, industrysponsored projects have long been a hallmark of this division and provide students with real-world applications for ideas they learn in class. In this case, Apollo Video, a leading national manufacturer of video monitoring systems, sought a student dream team to deliver a fresh live-streaming mobile application for its customers to use in public transportation.

Although audio capability wasn't a project requirement, the student team was intent on creating an optimal product — which meant finding and quashing a stubborn bug.

LESSONS PUT INTO ACTION

Their dedication paid off. After scouring the code line by line, they found the culprit, deleted it and — voila! enabled sound.

"It was a real accomplishment to bounce ideas off each other while working



Jeffrey Murray presents his final capstone project to Apollo Video Technology leaders in spring 2020. The capstone team included Jeffrey, Ji-Hoon Kang, Jeremy Tanjung and Yanling Zhu.

on two separate approaches to overcome a major coding obstacle," Jeffrey says.

"The project management classes offered at UW Bothell were completely reflective of how it was done in industry," he says, adding that he was grateful for the school's focus on maintaining a modern curriculum by recruiting instructors from companies such as Microsoft, Google and Amazon. "I don't think we would have been as successful if they hadn't prepared us so well."

Bill was not surprised by the students' feat — or by Apollo Video's job offers, delivered as the project ended. Companies admire UW Bothell students' determination, passion and refreshing viewpoints, he says, noting that over the past 24 years the school has been refining its program so companies will see UW Bothell as "the place for innovation."

"Capstone projects help students translate all they've learned into action," Bill says. "I tell students that their degree is a type of 'superpower' — and it's their job to go out there and make a difference in the world. We've equipped them with key tools, requisite theory and knowledge, and, most important, a thirst for continued learning because computing is always changing."

As for Jeffrey, his capstone experience prompted him to pursue a master's degree in Cybersecurity Engineering at UW Bothell. He thanks his outstanding mentors at Apollo Video for sparking this interest, and Bill for encouraging him to follow his instincts.

INDISPENSABLE PARTNER IN THE REGION

Having a dedicated School of STEM is a distinction UW Bothell shares with only a handful of schools across the nation, says Leslie Cornick, the school's dean.

She also appreciates how this allows for integration and interdisciplinary learning so that students can see and experience a variety of career pathways.

"My vision for the School of STEM is to be the indispensable partner in the region," Leslie says. "We already have many great relationships with industries and companies, and we have an opportunity to do even more. We're working hard to grow our connections and are excited about the initiatives we have coming online soon." W

ACCOUNTING FOR GOOD

The UW Bothell accounting program provides a pathway for students to gain experience at regional firms — and partner on projects that make a difference.

TO DATE, ABOUT 1,000 STUDENTS HAVE GRADUATED FROM UW BOTHELL'S

ACCOUNTING PROGRAM. Nearly all have found jobs in the field, many of them at firms in the region. And the alumni who have found jobs at local firms frequently return to UW Bothell to hire new graduates.

"UW Bothell is proud of its strong relationships with regional accounting firms," says School of Business Dean Sandeep Krishnamurthy. "The firms provide mentoring and financial support to UW Bothell's outstanding accounting students — and the students enrich the firms' talent pool after they graduate."

AN ADVOCATE FOR ACCOUNTING

UW Bothell's accounting program gained national recognition under the leadership of professor Ron Tilden, who retired from his full-time faculty position in 2021. After a successful career as CFO of a large global company, Ron found his calling at UW Bothell, where he mentored thousands of students over 21 years.

"I came to UW Bothell thinking that this would be a wind down for me, and it ended up being the most rewarding thing I did in my entire business life," he says.

Sandeep credits Ron with helping to make the Bothell experience for students just as rewarding, noting that Ron initiated the school's membership in Beta Alpha Psi and created partnerships with numerous



The 2018 Beta Alpha Psi team with advisor Ron Tilden at a regional conference in Portland, Oregon.

regional accounting firms that continue to recruit UW Bothell students today.

"Accounting is integral to the fabric of our society," says Sandeep, "and our student programs tie the school directly to the community. Our accounting firm partners also want students who work beyond the classroom. They want people who are asking how they can make a difference in the world."

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY

In addition to studying to become sought-after accountants, UW Bothell students are working hard to support the regional community before they graduate.

In 2019, accounting students gave more than 1,000 hours of free tax advice to fellow students, families and businesses through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Accounting students also offer free consulting to minority-owned businesses, coach teens in financial literacy and help women in domestic violence shelters develop workable budgets on their path to independence.

A mainstay of the school's accounting program is its membership in Beta Alpha Psi, a national honor society for students and professionals in the financial information industry. The group emphasizes community engagement and lifelong service. Among 300 chapters nationwide, UW Bothell is consistently top-ranked, says Orchideh Raisdanai, Beta Alpha Psi faculty adviser and a 2016 and 2018 alumna of UW Bothell's undergraduate and graduate accounting programs, respectively.

CALCULATING A BETTER FUTURE

Another point of distinction for the accounting program at UW Bothell: In 2021, the students were awarded the "Best Practice" award by the national Beta Alpha Psi chapter for their new Diversity in Accounting Conference. This is UW Bothell students' ninth "Best Practice" award in 11 years.

"This highlights not only what our students are passionate about and our school is focused on, but what is paramount in the industry right now," Orchideh says. "How can the accounting profession move the needle on marginalized communities and those who are economically challenged when we look at diversity in the professions that manage the financial system?"

She is impressed by how the students tackle tough issues, such as salary equity among men and women and a more just recruitment process. True to their school's values, she says, these young leaders use accounting as a world-changing instrument for good. **W**

CAPITAL ALLIES

Special thanks to these regional accounting firms for their collaborative spirit and partnership:

Berntson Porter & Company Clark Nuber CliftonLarsonAllen LLP Falco Sult Moss Adams Sweeney Conrad

ACCOUNTING ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT: CL/ EMMA ZHOU sha

EMMA ZHOU was a chemical engineer before she emigrated from China to Seattle in 2007. She enjoyed the intricacies of the tax code and knew she wanted a second career that was more people-focused. So, when her first son turned 2 years old, she decided to go back to school for an accounting degree.

"I enjoy working with people and feel a big accomplishment when we can help our clients with our knowledge and resources," she says.

Emma chose the UW Bothell accounting program and earned a 3.98 GPA while working seasonally for H&R Block and caring for her young son. She received a merit-based scholarship that covered a year of tuition. During her final year, a UW Bothell professor recommended her for an internship with an accounting firm partner, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP.

At the end of Emma's internship, CLA offered her a full-time job. She started as an associate there after she finished school, passed her CPA exam and spent a few months with her second son, born soon after she completed the internship.

Today, Emma is a tax principal at CLA, specializing in serving global clients

with her international tax expertise.

"The culture at UW Bothell and at CLA are similar ... people are willing to share what they know and help each other," she says. "This helped me reach where I am and made me want to pass my knowledge on. My passion is to help people pursue careers that inspire them."

Emma says she enjoyed her time at UW Bothell and stays connected to the University through Beta Alpha Psi, most recently contributing to the school's Accounting Ethics Conference.

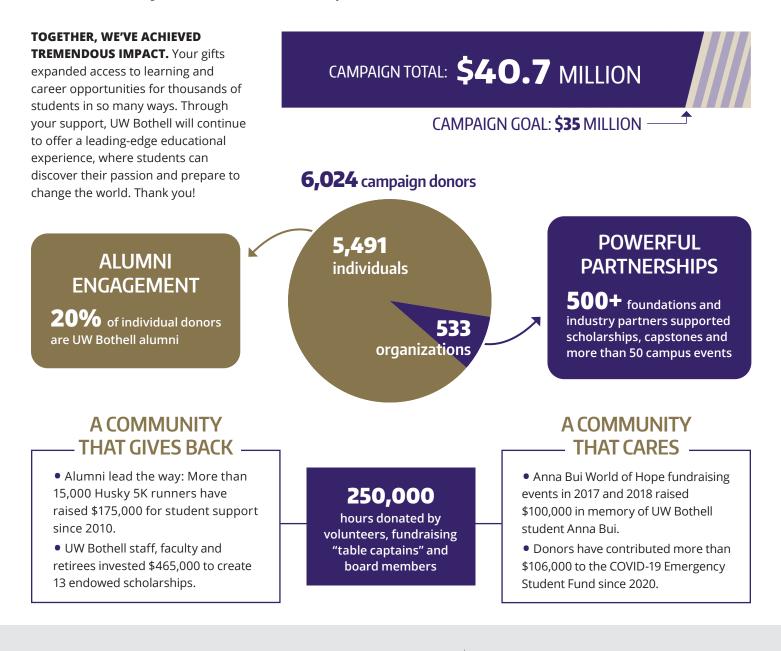
"It's a very diversified campus that serves people at different stages in their careers," she says. "They have personalized programs to fit everyone's needs." **W**



Emma Zhou (second from right) is actively involved with Nexia International, an accounting network of which CliftonLarsonAllen LLP is the largest member.

BOUNDLESS TOGETHER CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF IMPACT

The <u>Campaign for UW Bothell</u> concluded on June 30, 2020, and raised \$40.7 million. Your support propelled us past our \$35 million goal — transforming our campus, our community and our students' experiences.



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