

# STETSON UNIVERSITY Making a Difference

Fall 2008

## Endowment fund established for Family Enterprise Center

**F**red and Patricia Lane's family business began in 1968 and, at one point, employed eight members of the family in full-time administrative positions. So the Lanes know firsthand the challenges of working side-by-side with family members.

That's why they believe deeply in Stetson University's Family Enterprise Center, which offers a major and minor in Family Business and continuing education for existing family business owners and the professional advisers who work with them.

"When I came in and saw the specialized curriculum the Family Enterprise Center is teaching, a light bulb went off," said Fred Lane, who serves on the center's board. Both Fred and Patricia are alumni. "This is exactly what family businesses need. What the students learn makes their family businesses more successful. This program gives them a self-awareness and focus."

This year, the Lanes gave Stetson \$500,000 to ensure the Family Enterprise Center will continue into the future and to nurture the undergraduate degree programs and the center's new continuing education initiatives. Because it is an endowed fund, the principal of the Lane Family Enterprise Center Endowed Fund will remain intact



Vice President for University Relations Linda Parson Davis '73, Trustee Patrick Lane '79, Freda Lane Smith '80, Patricia Snowden Lane '53, MA '75, Fred Lane '52, MA '75, and President Doug Lee.

permanently, with spending coming from the fund's earnings.

"The endowment is critical to help secure the sustainability of the center," said Family Enterprise Center Director Mario Fidanzi.

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the center, which offered the nation's first undergraduate major in Family Business. In addition to the Lanes' gift, Stetson trustee, alumnus and chairman of the center's board Geoff Jolley '75 and his wife, Kay, recently established a Challenger Scholarship, contributing \$25,000 annually to provide financial assistance to Family Business majors.

About 40 students are currently enrolled. Continuing education conferences are offered at the Stetson University Center at

Celebration, near Orlando, and in cities across the United States.

These days, the Lanes enjoy retirement while their three children – all of whom attended Stetson – continue to operate Countryside Lakes assisted living facility in Port Orange. They sold most of their health care facilities, including nursing homes, assisted living facilities, a pharmacy and rehab center, in 1998.

"Words cannot express our gratitude to the Lane family for this new endowment for the Family Enterprise Center," Fidanzi said. "They have consistently supported the university in every way possible. This endowment comes at an important time in our history. It will generate benefits for families and their businesses for generations to come. The positive impact of the Lane family is truly timeless."

Stetson President Doug Lee added his thanks. "Fred and Patricia Lane and their family have had great success in business, and they have a rich history of support for Stetson's programs. We appreciate their commitment and feel fortunate to have them among our alumni and as friends. This new endowment will have a lasting impact by enabling the Family Enterprise Center to assist students and family businesses in perpetuity."

## Howard Thurman Program inspires alumnus to set up new scholarship

**A**lumnus Steve Urich '91 came up from Davie, near Fort Lauderdale, to hear former Black Panther Flores Forbes speak at Stetson. It was Urich's first exposure to the university's Howard Thurman Lecture Series. Now he often makes the 240-mile trip.

"I think it's very important that we try to work through some of the social issues that we as a country have," said Urich, who owns a video production company.

The Thurman speakers have opened his eyes on issues related to race and given him the opportunity to meet people he wouldn't normally encounter, he said. The lecture series brings in nationally known speakers each fall and spring.

After seeing Thurman Program Director Jefferson Rogers and President Doug Lee working together to unite people and to extend the legacy of theologian Howard Thurman (1900-1981), Urich decided to establish a scholarship for a student to assist with the program.

Named for his parents, the David and Shelia Urich Scholarship has been awarded to Political Science major Akeel St. Jean '11 of the Virgin Islands. It began in 2007-08 and will be funded annually.

"I think the topics are interesting," said St. Jean, who hasn't missed a Thurman Lecture since he started at Stetson. "It's something that interests me because of



Akeel St. Jean '11 with Steve Urich '91

my upbringing, which emphasized fairness and justice for all. I am honored to be the first person selected – that they felt I fit the criteria for the values associated with the scholarship."

Top priority, the Annual Fund for scholarships, meets \$2.3 million goal

Stetson University achieved its fundraising goal for the Annual Fund – receiving just over \$2.3 million for student scholarships in 2007-08. Gifts of all sizes, from \$5 and up, combined to reach this goal.

“Scholarships are critical for recruiting and retaining talented students,” said Kate Pearce, director of Annual and Planned Giving. “So many students could not afford a high-quality private education if they did not receive scholarships.

“In a recessed economy such as we have today, access to higher education becomes a much greater challenge for students and their families,” she said. “The economy is making it hard for students to remain at Stetson. Support from alumni and friends literally makes all the difference for them.”

In addition to reaching out to donors through correspondence and direct mail in 2008-09, Stetson is continuing its successful Phonathon program, in which students make fundraising calls and share stories about their majors, activities and experiences at the university. Last year’s fall and spring Phonathons raised a combined \$107,248.

“It’s a wonderful way for alumni, parents and friends to hear from a student and is a great two-way dialogue,” Pearce said. “Not only do donors get to talk to students, who are the beneficiaries of their financial support, but the experience is energizing for students as they visit with those who are helping to make their education possible.”

Stetson supporters are encouraged to continue giving annually, regardless of the size of their gift. Alumni gift participation

School of Music alumni couple never miss a year in giving

Ron and Polly Thomas Bostic have made a gift to Stetson’s Annual Fund every year since 1971, when they graduated, because they want young people to have the same opportunity they had to attend a fine School of Music.

“We continue to give to Stetson because we believe the school prepares students for graduate school and for making a living,” said Polly Bostic ’71. “It challenges students to do their very best.”

The Bostics met when they were music students at Stetson. He was a Church Music major, and she was a Piano major. They married right after graduation. Her older brother, Frank Thomas Jr. ’69, is also a Stetson graduate.

Ron Bostic ’71 went on to earn a Doctor of Musical Arts degree and has

been a Music professor at Wingate University in North Carolina for 30 years. Polly earned a master’s degree and is an instructor in Piano and university accompanist at Wingate. They

are both in music ministry at Wingate Baptist Church, have three grown children and are expecting their first grandchildren – twins!



Ron and Polly Thomas Bostic began their giving tradition after graduation in 1971.

“Stetson is important to me because I got a really fine education there,” Polly Bostic said. “The School of Music is terrific and has been for a long time. I was truly challenged by the faculty. I met my husband and other wonderful people at Stetson and loved the atmosphere.”

“Students truly appreciate the commitment of consecutive-year givers like the Bostics,” said Director of Annual and Planned Giving Kate Pearce.

Music

Performance-Orchestral Instrument major Hassan Anderson ’09, who is from Jacksonville and plays oboe, agreed. “I couldn’t be here if people like the Bostics didn’t make a gift every year,” he said.

“Their gifts make educational dreams realities and encourage building one’s personal character through education.”



The Bostics visit New York City’s Central Park.

is important and is given consideration in national rankings and corporate and foundation grant applications.

“If you benefited from donor support

during your time here, please contribute during the 2008-2009 year to help students following in your footsteps achieve a Stetson education,” Pearce said.

DeLand student receives first Boulevard Tire Center scholarship

Earl and Patricia Colvard have strong connections to Stetson and the DeLand community. Earl’s parents and sister attended the university. His grandfather, Earl Brown, served on the Stetson University Council and Stetson Alumni Council during Ollie Edmunds’ presidency. Their niece, Olivia Stevens ’12, is a current student.

With those ties and to help a local student succeed at Stetson, the DeLand couple recently established the Boulevard Tire Center Endowed Scholarship. Earl Colvard is the chief executive officer of Boulevard Tire Center on South Woodland Boulevard.

“Patty and I feel deeply about our relationship with Stetson and DeLand,”

Earl Colvard said. “This scholarship is one way for us to give back to the community by helping students who have the drive and ambition, but not necessarily the financial means, to pursue their educational dreams.”

The scholarship is being awarded each year to an entering freshman, so that in four years and thereafter, there will be a Boulevard Tire scholar in each class. Recipients will have an opportunity to do an internship at the business between their junior and senior years.

Music Education major Sophia McCallister ’12 was awarded the scholarship at her DeLand High School senior awards ceremony.

“I am honored to be the first recipient

of this scholarship, and glad that local businesses are stepping up to help aid those seeking higher education,” McCallister said.

After the announcement, Sophia’s father went to Boulevard Tire Center to thank Colvard in person. Patrick McCallister had printed a photo of his daughter with the title “Boulevard Tire Center Endowed Scholar” as a gift for Colvard.

Coincidentally, the McCallisters live right behind Boulevard Tire Center.

“For years I’ve looked across the yard at a local business that, unbeknownst to either of us, would reach out and help my child achieve her dreams,” McCallister said. “It shows how interconnected our community is, which fills me with faith that all will go well for my daughter during and after her Stetson years.”



Sophia McCallister ’12

## New donor-funded lecture series focuses on study of Holocaust

The new Bernard Weiner Memorial Lecture Series was established by Dr. Sy Weiner of DeLand to honor the life and work of his brother, the late Bernard Weiner.

A physician who has actively participated in Stetson's intellectual and cultural life since his retirement, Sy Weiner does not want the history of the Jews in Eastern Europe lost on future generations. His grandparents and several aunts and uncles were killed in the Holocaust. He was in the United States by then, and his older brother, Edward, was killed in World War II fighting as an American soldier.

Bernard Weiner, his other brother, subsequently became a leader in developing the Holocaust curricula for New York state schools and was one of the founders of the Rockland Center for Holocaust Studies, now the Holocaust Museum and Study Center, in Spring Valley, N.Y.

The Bernard Weiner Memorial Lectures, given annually, will focus on serious academic studies of the Holocaust. The inaugural lecture, in April, featured Peter Black, senior historian and director of the Division of the Senior Historian in the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Eventually, Stetson hopes the program will be endowed to support courses and lectures on a wide range of topics in Jewish history, culture and religion.

"It's been a personal honor to work with Dr. Weiner and our Jewish Student Organization to establish this lecture series as a memorial to his brother, a leader in Holocaust education," said Dr. Grady Ballenger, dean of the College



Dr. Sy Weiner, left, and Dr. Peter Black, second from right, met students Marissa Pilson '09, Andrew Davis '09 and Rob Gilbert '10 at the lecture.

of Arts & Sciences. "We are still struggling to understand the Nazi plan for genocide, and there are fascinating academic perspectives that we hope to bring to our students and the wider community through these lectures. What we learn may help us in responding to genocide in our own time. Beyond that, learning about the courage, imagination and determination of the Jews during this period and throughout history will be an inspiration to all students."

## Alumnus gives back to Science and Business

Alumnus Daryle Vlic Scott '80, MBA '82, who earned an undergraduate degree in Chemistry and a Master of Business Administration, has made a \$400,000 gift to Phase I of the new Sage Hall Science Center, a building project to advance science education at Stetson.

The \$8.5 million addition will open for classes in January and will be dedicated March 21, 2009, during Homecoming. Fundraising continues as Stetson pushes toward the completion of funding for the addition.

"I honestly believe the six years I spent at Stetson studying were some of the most formative years of my life,"



Daryle Vlic Scott '80, MBA '82

said Scott, a longtime supporter of his alma mater. "I received an outstanding education that prepared me for the real world. I met professors who had a huge influence on me like Dr. (James) DeLap, Dr. (Donald) Musser and Dr. (Judson) Stryker to name a few, and I formed lifelong friendships with other students."

Scott is president and CEO of Venus Swimwear, which he began when he was a student. He and three friends invested \$5,000 each in the venture, which operated out of Scott's apartment in Jacksonville. The company grew at a phenomenal rate, with sales of roughly \$100 million at the time it was sold to

Golden Gate Capital in 2006.

"I have been very fortunate in my business endeavors, and while simple hard work gets a lot of the credit, I don't ever discount the fact that I am who I am – in large part – as a result of my Stetson experience," he said.

Scott is a leadership volunteer on the School of Business Administration Board of Advisors and has funded two new endowed programs for Business students – an entrepreneurship competition and a scholarship.

"As I look at my success today, I am very thankful to Stetson, and I want to help ensure that the school continues to provide future students with the education and life experiences that it afforded me," he said.

## Class of 2008 provides for future students

As a Senior Class gift, the Class of 2008 established an endowed scholarship fund with a goal of raising \$25,000 to fully fund it by its five-year reunion in 2013. So far, \$2,554 in gifts and pledges has been received, said Joseph Sasek '06, development officer.

Jim Burleson '08, who helped organize the class gift, challenged his classmates to support the scholarship as a way of giving back.

"I would not have even been at Stetson without the Edmunds Scholarship," Burleson said. "In fact, 95% of Stetson students receive some kind of

assistance, which made me realize just how important the donations of alumni are to students.

"Those of us who were fortunate enough to receive financial assistance have an obligation – an obligation to give back, so that future Stetson students can have the same chances we had," he said. "How many



The Class of 2008 at Senior Celebration

of you would not have graduated without the help you received? What did it mean to you to get that help? Wouldn't you want the opportunity to extend the same helping hand? We, as a class, have the opportunity to

start an even greater tradition of giving at Stetson. I encourage all of you to take part."

## Foundation funds scholarships for first-generation students

The Chatlos Foundation Inc. has awarded a \$10,000 grant for scholarships for students who are first in their immediate families to attend college. Therese Adipietro '12 and Tyler Brandafino '12 are the first recipients.

About 40 percent of this fall's first-year students were first-generation students. Research indicates that students whose parents did not attend college are more likely than other students to need

academic support and financial assistance to ensure their success.

The Chatlos Foundation is a private, philanthropic foundation based in Longwood, Fla. The foundation's areas of interest are Bible colleges and seminaries, religious causes, medical concerns, liberal arts colleges and social concerns. Founded in 1953 by William Chatlos, a residential and commercial builder who died in 1977, the foundation was selected as the

"Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation" for 2007 by the Central Florida Chapter of The Association of Fundraising Professionals. William J. Chatlos Jr. now serves as president of the foundation.

The foundation gave Stetson a grant for its Beckerath organ in 1992, when the organ was taken apart for a thorough cleaning and a new organ case was built to complement the traditional look of the university's Elizabeth Hall Chapel.

## Stetson receives grant for digital signs in Lynn Business Center

The Gladys Dickson Charitable Trust awarded a \$16,000 grant to the School of Business Administration to provide the Lynn Business Center with BizNet, a digital signage system.

BizNet was proposed as a series of full-color digital monitors similar to those in airports and stock market tickers that would display information to students, faculty and staff. Stetson matched the grant, and the first phase began in October 2007 with installation of two 60-inch and six 32-inch plasma televisions on the walls of the business school. In February, BizNet added the stock market ticker.

Information is provided on topics including Cultural Credit events, Career

Services opportunities, registration, class schedules, class locations and the Lynn Letter.

"BizNet makes it easy to keep up with news in the Business School," said Business junior Matthew Hicks.

There are many future plans in the works for the BizNet system, said Associate Dean and Professor of Decision and Information Sciences Ted Surynt.

"We are working on increasing the number of plasma panel applications,



Digital BizNet signs keep students updated.

expanding hardware pieces, and we also want to include tickers so that information can be displayed above the monitors as well," Surynt said. "We are also always looking for new and exciting content. We want the monitors to show anything the students are interested in, not just Business School-oriented information."

Surynt also said that in the near future BizNet will provide students, faculty and staff with important information pertaining to campus emergencies or weather warnings.

## The Stetson Society: Your Questions Answered

### Q. I've heard about the Stetson Society. What is it?

The Stetson Society is a recognition group created for people who have included a provision for the university in their estate plan or who have established permanent, endowed funds. It's a way for Stetson to thank them for helping to provide for future generations of students.

### Q. Why does Stetson want to know if I have included it in my will or estate plan?

Being aware of your estate plan allows staff to talk with you about your provision and clarify how you want your gift to be used. If you can provide an approximate amount of your estate gift, it will be added to our Planned Giving Inventory, an estimate of anticipated gifts, which is currently more than \$85 million. The president and Board of Trustees use the "PGI" to make better long-term financial plans for the university.

### Q. The Stetson Society sounds like something for rich people.

The amount of your estate provision is not important. The vast majority of Stetson Society members are every day people who are not wealthy. What's important is that you are committed to the future of Stetson and want to make a legacy gift that will help

the university to prepare students to lead meaningful and productive lives.

### Q. What's involved in becoming a member?

You can include Stetson in your estate plan in many different ways—the most popular is a charitable provision in your will or living trust. Another easy way is to name the university as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or qualified IRA.

Establishing a charitable remainder trust might be beneficial for you and your family. Also, if you are age 70 or older, funding a charitable gift annuity can provide payments to you for the rest of your life.

If you want to see your gift at work during your lifetime, you could establish a permanent, endowment fund, such as a scholarship. These can be established with a minimum gift of \$25,000 which can be made in payments over several years, and you will have opportunities to meet your

scholarship recipients.

### Q. How can I find out more information about the Stetson Society?

Contact Kate Pearce or Tisi Blakeslee in the Office of Planned Giving for free informational booklets they can send you. Their phone number is (386) 822-7461 or e-mail is [plannedgiving@stetson.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@stetson.edu). Helpful information is also available online at [www.stetson.edu/plannedgiving](http://www.stetson.edu/plannedgiving). You are strongly encouraged to work with your professional advisers to determine the best charitable estate plan for you and your family.

### Q. What if things in my life change that alter my estate plan?

Circumstances in your life may change and, as a result, your estate plans may change. Just let us know of any changes in your provision for Stetson.

### How to Give - You, Too, Can Make a Difference

**Give by Credit Card:** It's easy and secure! Go to [www.stetson.edu/give](http://www.stetson.edu/give) for our convenient online gift form or call the Office of Development at (386) 822-7455 to make your gift by phone.

**Send a Check:** Mail your check payable to Stetson University, Office of Development, 421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8286, DeLand, FL 32723.

**Contribute appreciated securities:** Contact the Office of Development at (386) 822-7455 for more information on how to process your gift.

**Questions?** Contact us at (386) 822-7455 or send an e-mail to Director of Annual and Planned Giving Kate Pearce at [kpearce@stetson.edu](mailto:kpearce@stetson.edu).