With Thanks To Our 2014 Donors

EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
We Couldn’t Do It Without You…

I frequently tell our donors — alumni and other friends of the University — that we could not offer a quality liberal arts education to our students without their support. Whether it is helping out a student with financial need so that they can attend Eastern, rewarding outstanding student achievers with merit scholarships, or supporting one of our academic programs, the generosity of Eastern’s friends helps us serve more students and serve them better.

We speak of the Eastern “family” without fear of hyperbole. There is a strong bond between the students, faculty and staff who study, teach and work on our campus each day. This is not a new thing — a common purpose and a sense of connection and community has marked Eastern since its beginnings. It also gives me great satisfaction to see our alumni, emeriti faculty and other University friends embracing Eastern as active, proud members of the University family.

We are strong because you care. We witness wonderful achievements by Eastern students because you share our commitment to them. Our future and the future of our students is bright because of the generosity and dedication of “those who are Eastern.”

Most of all, we understand that when you integrate top-notch teaching, interdisciplinary learning and enthusiastic students, you develop tomorrow’s leaders and visionaries prepared to take on the challenges of the new global society we live in. That is what Connections has come to expect of one of the best public liberal arts universities in the region, and we couldn’t do it without you.

Elsa M. Núñez
President

A Message from the Foundation President

Dear Friends of Eastern:

Last year I wrote to all of you and described the groundbreaking ceremony that took place in the fall of 2013 for the new 118,000-square foot Fine Arts Instructional Center that is being constructed on Eastern’s campus. Over the past year I have had the opportunity to visit campus a number of times and see this truly amazing building take shape. This new building, along with other projects taking place on Eastern’s campus, will continue the university’s transformation as a beautiful and inspiring setting for Eastern’s students to learn and prepare for future success.

Just as Eastern’s campus continues to transform, the outstanding faculty and staff at Eastern continue to transform the lives of Eastern’s students. The transformative impact that a liberal arts education from Eastern provides was evident to me from speaking to a number of recipients at this year’s annual scholarship awards ceremony. Thanks to the generous support of our donors, the ECSU Foundation, Inc. was able to provide a record-breaking $790,000 in scholarships to approximately 325 deserving students. This unprecedented level of support is only possible because of donors like you; we couldn’t do it without you!

For just the second time in the ECSU Foundation’s history, total giving to the foundation has exceeded $2,000,000 for three straight years in a row. At a time when Eastern’s budget has gone from being over 60 percent state funded to less than 40 percent state funded, philanthropy has never been more important to Eastern. The charts below demonstrate how donors directed their gifts to the foundation and the breakthrough of donors by their constituency while the graph compares Eastern’s participation rate with those of all U.S. regional universities as reported by U.S. News and World Report. As you will see, the number of alumni donors is once again at an all-time high of 2,335 and accordingly, Eastern’s alumni participation rate now equals that of all regional universities in the U.S. I am also happy to report that, thanks to the hard work of the foundation’s staff and management, the fiscal year 2014 external audit of the foundation, conducted by CohnReznick, resulted in an unqualified opinion, i.e. a clean audit.

You support of the ECSU Foundation puts Eastern in a better position to attract more qualified students who otherwise could not afford a college education. While everyone cannot give at the same level, there is strength in numbers and gifts of all sizes are greatly appreciated. If you are already a donor, thank you and please continue your support of Eastern in 2015. If you have yet to give to the ECSU Foundation, please consider making a gift to Eastern in 2015 so that we can continue to support Eastern.

On behalf of the ECSU Foundation, I want to express my appreciation for the outstanding response from alumni and friends over this past year. The results of last year’s fundraising speak volumes about the loyalty of so many friends of the University and our shared promise for the future. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Justin Murphy ’86, Esq. – President, ECSU Foundation, Inc.
President's Legacy Society

The President's Legacy Society was established to recognize a special group of alumni and friends who have demonstrated a long-term dedication to the University in support of its mission. Each year, an award is given to a group of alumni and friends who have demonstrated exceptional support in the form of a gift in their will. Gifts are typically major gifts that provide significant financial support to the University. The donor is recognized in perpetuity in the President's Legacy Society and on the University's donor wall. The current members are as follows:

Anonymous (2)
Anonymous (2)
Anonymous (2)
Anonymous (2)
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Anonymous (2)
The university is thankful for the thoughtful individuals who chose to remember a family member, loved one, colleague or friend to remember a family member, colleague or friend. Such gifts have been made in honor or memory of the following individuals. For those individuals who may have multiple gifts made in their memory, the number of gifts is indicated after their name.

Lauren Babin
Lillian Helen Briggs
Lauren Balog
Coach Rick McCarthy
Michael Leonard
Marilyn Landry
Coach Miller
Elsa Núñez
Heidi Roberto
Arnold Prince (2)
Eugene Mittelman
Luva Mead Hoar '42
Dr. Robert Spillane '56
Dr. Colette Trailor '61
Kathleen Fabian '72
Mary Lou DeVivo '60
Richard Bright Jr. '97
Mary Mattke
Joseph Lobe '03
Paul E. Johnson, Sr.
Hans Helen Briggs
Grace Enggas (2)
ECSU Men’s Soccer Team
Josh Dyrland
Eleanor Driscol
Frank D’Ambrosio
Lillian Helen Briggs
Victoria Leigh Soto (4)
Andrew Scully
Amanda Featherston Sachs
Sheila Rujoub '14 (6)
Heidi Roberto
Arnold Prince (2)
Elsa Núñez
Heidi Roberto
Arnold Prince (2)
Elsa Núñez
Heidi Roberto
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