



# Annual Report on Giving

2021





## **Mission**

To produce, in a humanistic tradition, health care professionals and biomedical knowledge that will enhance and extend the quality of life in our communities.

# **Quick Facts**

- \$3.8M Scholarships
- 419 Students Receiving Scholarships
- 63 Students Receiving Emergency Support Funds
- ~\$550K COVID relief funds awarded to 553 students

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Without our donors' support and human touch, we could not continue to increase scholarship dollars and gifts to the University.



# Thank you, WesternU alumni, friends, and donors!

We are so grateful to you for stepping up and showing your support for our University in a year unlike any other.

Our students and faculty stepped up, too. By administering tens of thousands of COVID vaccines throughout California and Oregon, they directly served the WesternU mission... to enhance and extend the quality of life in our communities.

Thanks to you, and every member of our incredible WesternU family, I can proudly look back on the great successes of the past year, many of which are highlighted within this year's Annual Report.

In front of us, now, I see hope and optimism, and there is so much to be thankful for and excited about as we look ahead to our University's continued success.

Thank you, again, for your enduring support of our students and our mission.

DIANE M. ABRAHAM, PHD, MBA, CFRE Senior Vice President for University Advancement



## **Testimonials**

WesternU students and alumni appreciate all who support their education. Read about the impact scholar-ships have made in their education and in their lives. Your contributions continue to leave a lasting impact on our current and future healers.

"As I continue my journey on this career path, I have found comfort and pleasure in serving the patients I interact with and forming valuable relationships with the community around me. Going forward, I hope to continue working on my professional and clinical skills while I endeavor to improve the health of the patients I will serve in the future. This scholarship will relieve some of the financial burdens I have accumulated on this journey and allow me to move forward on my path to becoming the best pharmacist that I can be."

SHOGO KONO, COLLEGE OF PHARMACY CLASS OF 2023

"My end goal after optometry school is to help my underserved community and give them the resources they need. This scholarship has just added more motivation for me to become the best health care professional I know I can be. Thank you again."

**ORIANA LOPEZ, COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY CLASS OF 2025** 



"Through organizing free dental clinics, working with faculty and community leaders, and challenging myself to improve my Spanish speaking skills to communicate more effectively with my patients, I learned how to better provide culturally competent care. It has been rewarding to see the positive impact these outreach efforts have had on these communities and I plan to stay involved in community dentistry."

#### **COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE ALUMNA JENNY NGUYEN, DMD '21**

"From assisting my fellow classmates in the curriculum as a tutor to providing free medical services to the greater Los Angeles and Orange County areas, I am tremendously pleased to give back and provide my support to others as this scholarship will do for me. This greatly impacts and relieves the financial burdens I face on my path in medical school. I hope in the near future to pay it forward and help many students in similar situations as mine achieve their goals."

JACQUELINE SANDOVAL, COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE OF THE PACIFIC CLASS OF 2022



"I'd like to work in the veterinary field and focus on combating zoonotic diseases. This scholarship will greatly help me offset the burden of tuition and I can focus more on my studies. I hope to do the same for students in the future. Again, thank you very much."

**ALEXIS ALLEN, COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE CLASS OF 2023** 

"Because I am relocating so far away, this scholarship will assist me in beginning my medical education in California. This scholarship will allow me to concentrate on my studies while also alleviating the financial load of medical school. Thank you very much for your continuous generosity and support!"

DAVID RAMON II, COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE CLASS OF 2025

# Give the Gift of Hope. For our Students. For our Communities.

Our students' education isn't solely based on learning new skills. We teach them to see the person sitting across from them, the families affected, and the communities impacted. If you believe in bringing humanism back to health care, we'd love your support.

MAKE A GIFT (https://alumnifriends.westernu.edu/giving/make-a-gift)

**LEGACY GIVING** (<a href="http://westernulegacy.org">http://westernulegacy.org</a>)

**GET INVOLVED** (<a href="https://alumnifriends.westernu.edu/get-involved">https://alumnifriends.westernu.edu/get-involved</a>)

WESTERNYOU WEBINARS (https://alumnifriends.westernu.edu/benefits-/benefits-westernyou-webinars)



# The Impact of Humanism

The 2020-21 academic year was unlike any other, and the WesternU mission - to produce, in a humanistic tradition, health care professionals and biomedical knowledge that will enhance and extend the quality of life in our communities - was more critical than ever. Thankfully, we saw the WesternU family come together to contribute their money, their time, and their talent to not only fight the pandemic but also to ensure the University's mission was not just sustained but advanced.

Humanism is WesternU's trademark value, and it encompasses empathy, equity, humility, and justice. In health care practice, it's about connecting with the patient and treating them as a whole person (or animal) and not just their ailment. In education, it's about teaching students not only the knowledge and skills, but also compassion and caring. And at WesternU, it's about the support we receive from our community—people like you—who make up our loyal community and give us hope for a better tomorrow.

#### **SUPPORT STORY**

### Giving from the Heart

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (CHS) SCHOLARSHIP

"The difference between charity and philanthropy is the distance of the soul...To be philanthropic is to give something, to be charitable is to give one's own heart."

-Maya Angelou

Western University of Health Sciences Founding Chief of Mission Integration Stephanie Bowlin, EdD, PA-C, MSHPE '92, gives from her own heart and understands the critical importance of giving back.

#### >> SEE THE FULL STORY

#### **HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**

## Vaccinating the public

WesternU faculty, staff and students worked on the front lines to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. The WesternU Health Vaccine Clinic in Pomona, California has administered more than 33,000 vaccinations to date, and WesternU volunteers gave thousands of hours of their time at mass vaccination hubs. WesternU Health Oliver Station in Portland, Oregon has administered hundreds of vaccines to patients and WesternU faculty, staff and students. COMP-Northwest students have helped administer thousands of vaccines to the Linn County community.



# **Building Relationships, Inspiring Hope**

#### CONNECTING WHILE WE'RE APART

WesternU found new ways to connect with alumni, students and donors and build new relationships amid the COVID-19 pandemic when in-person activities were limited or shut down completely. WesternU Giving Day far exceeded all expectations in raising money and engaging donors on our campuses and in the communities we serve. A Tribute to Caring and the East West Scholarship Dinner were reimagined to provide inspiration and express gratitude to donors while keeping them safe. The Alumni Mentor Program builds strong bonds between WesternU alumni and students to the benefit of all.

#### **FUNDRAISING**

## **WesternU Giving Day**

These past 18 months have reminded us that health care professionals are our heroes; and while our students are preparing to join their ranks, they can't do it alone. WesternU's Giving Day on Sept. 7, 2021, raised over \$173,000 to support students.

Nearly 300 donors, including alumni, trustees, administration, faculty, staff, parents, friends, corporate partners and students all contributed to show that we are ALL IN for our students.

#### >> SEE THE FULL STORY

#### DONOR OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

## **Scholarship Appreciation Event**

A donor event with rich and storied traditions at WesternU transformed and evolved amid the pandemic.

The East West Scholarship Dinner became a Scholarship Appreciation Event, with donors receiving champagne and chocolate and receiving gratitude for their generosity to WesternU from the comfort of their own homes.

#### >> SEE THE FULL STORY

#### **DONOR OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**

## A Tribute to Caring

A Tribute to Caring became an online celebration of WesternU students who served on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and who raised money and collected PPE and other supplies for others on the front lines.



#### **WESTERNU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

## WesternU Alumni Mentor Program

The Alumni Mentor Program provides an opportunity for current students and alumni to network in a mutually rewarding relationship based on student academic and professional goals. Through this program, alumni are guiding current students by sharing their career and WesternU experiences.

#### >> SEE THE FULL STORY

#### **WESTERNU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

## **Alumni Engagement**

The WesternU Alumni Association reached new heights in alumni engagement via fun, unique virtual events and activities in 2020-21.



# **Scholarship Gifts**

#### CHARITABLE GIFTS AND GRANTS PROMOTE DIVERSITY AND SUPPORT STUDENTS

WesternU received multiple gifts and grants that will support students, attract a more diverse student body and equip faculty with high-tech learning tools.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP GIFT**

## CDM receives \$1 million gift from WREB

Western University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine (CDM) received a \$1 million gift from the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) to fund scholarships and carry on WREB's legacy of helping students.

The gift will fund a perpetual endowment that will provide partial scholarships for two third-year and two fourth-year CDM students from one of nine pioneering WREB states.

#### >> SEE THE FULL STORY

#### **SHPEP**

## **Summer Health Professions Education Program**

Western University of Health Sciences has been awarded a \$330,000 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant to host the Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) for the fifth year in a row.

#### >> SEE THE FULL STORY

#### **CGN GRANT**

# Henry L. Guenther Foundation award to CGN will support Emergency Nurse Practitioner simulation equipment

In August 2021, the WesternU College of Graduate Nursing (CGN) received a \$97,000 grant award from the Henry L. Guenther Foundation to purchase procedural training equipment for the College of Graduate Nursing Simulation Center.



# Establishment of memorial scholarships

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

Five memorial scholarships established this year honor the lives and the legacies of faculty, alumni and friends of our University.



#### Vicki Wedel PhD Memorial Scholarship

The Vicki Wedel PhD Memorial Scholarship is in memory of Dr. Vicki Wedel, who was a key faculty member for the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific and was well known for her forensic anthropology. She served in many leadership roles and was one of the most popular and successful faculty advisors ever. The scholarship will be awarded to a first-year WesternU COMP student with a GPA of 3.0 or greater with demonstrated financial need who excelled in first-year anatomy classes. The support for this new memorial scholarship from the COMP community has been wonderfully strong with over 50% funding already achieved towards the minimum endowment level of \$20.000.

#### David Shofler DPM Memorial Scholarship

Dr. David Shofler earned his Master of Science in Health Sciences (MSHS) degree in August 2013 from Western University of Health Sciences while serving as a Faculty Scholar at WesternU's College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM). After earning his MSHS degree, Dr. Shofler immediately joined CPM as an instructor before quickly moving up the ranks to become an Assistant Professor of Podiatric Medicine, Surgery & Biomechanics, Director of Research and Director of Assessment.

Dr. Shofler inspired CPM students to participate in the summer research fellowship and had the highest number of students participating from a college several times – 26 one year and 22 this year. His mentorship led to numerous publications with students. In addition, Dr. Shofler recently collaborated with Dr. Devendra Agrawal, Senior Vice President of Research and Biotechnology, in the publication of several articles. His passion and success in research has been passed on to many graduates of the college and will be sorely missed.



Dr. Shofler passed away unexpectedly on the evening of Monday, May 10, 2021, and is survived by his wife Sarah and their three young children, Everett, Daphne and Hannah.

The students adore him and upon learning of his passing created a memorial for him outside of his office and quickly volunteered to help his family. Faculty, staff, and graduates of the College have established the David Shofler DPM Memorial Scholarship in memory of Dr. Shofler to honor his passion for research and success in mentoring CPM students. It will be awarded to a fourth-year WesternU College of Podiatric Medicine student with a GPA of 3.0 or greater, with demonstrated financial need who excels at and enjoys research.

CPM Dean Kathleen Satterfield summed up that "his reach is long and his influence indelible."

#### Dr. Ingrid Roberts-Terrell Memorial Scholarship

WesternU College of Graduate Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice alumna Dr. Ingrid Roberts-Terrell passed away unexpectedly in spring 2021. Although stunned by her early passing, the CGN community quickly came together with Dr. Roberts-Terrell's family to establish the Dr. Ingrid Roberts-Terrell Memorial Scholarship Fund in her memory.

Dr. Roberts-Terrell was a valiant advocate for higher education and service to underserved patient populations, serving in several educator and mentor roles during her nursing career, including leadership positions with Charles R. Drew University Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing, and West Coast University. The Dr. Ingrid Roberts-Terrell Memorial Scholarship will provide financial support to student nurses who are advancing their education in pursuit of improving health equity and access to care for vulnerable populations.

"Any of Dr. Roberts-Terrell's colleagues would say Ingrid had a spirit that was underpinned by supporting education through humanism, equality, and justice; and I wanted to help Ingrid's family honor that spirit," said Assistant Professor Bethany A. Thrasher, DNP, BSBM, RN, PHN, CNE, who was a longtime colleague and friend of Dr. Roberts-Terrell, and who quickly stepped up to support Dr. Roberts-Terrell's family in their efforts to establish this scholarship. "Ingrid believed in developing one's attitude and practice through the passport of education and held giving back to others in high regard. Ingrid understood the social and financial value that such efforts can provide."

The response to the establishment of the Dr. Ingrid Roberts-Terrell Memorial Scholarship Fund has been strong. The Fund has already received more than \$10,000 in donations on the way to \$20,000, at which point it can become endowed to honor Dr. Roberts-Terrell's legacy in perpetuity.



#### Howard Scalone DO Memorial Scholarship

The Howard Scalone DO Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of one of the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific-Northwest's earliest and most dedicated supporters. Dr. Scalone was an anesthesiologist at Eastmoreland Hospital, where he trained countless medical students and residents over the years, including most of the DOs now on faculty at COMP-Northwest. He rarely missed an interview day to help select the next class of students, and he cheered as each class graduated a few years later. Within the Oregon osteopathic community, Dr. Scalone was one of the giants, whose shoulders were always broad enough to carry many. His wisdom, dedication, kindness, intellectual curiosity, love for osteopathic medicine and all of our students and his love for his family will always be remembered. To honor Dr. Scalone and his commitment to COMP-Northwest, the Howard Scalone DO Memorial Scholarship shall be awarded to a COMP-Northwest student in good academic standing, who is committed to incorporating osteopathic manual manipulation (OMM) into their practice. With the assistance of his friends and family, the legacy of Dr. Scalone will always be a part of WesternU's COMP-Northwest.

#### Birdie Willis Memorial Scholarship

Long-standing Oregon osteopathic physician Birdie Eugenie Willis, DO, practiced for more than 30 years in the Woodstock region of Portland. She earned her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the Chicago College of Osteopathy in 1968 and completed her internship at Portland Osteopathic Hospital.

"No one was ever refused service and I gave full service to the best of my ability," Dr. Willis said in an interview published in 2012 on the Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of Oregon (OPSO) website. "I delivered babies, assisted in surgery and performed surgery, held hands and slapped them when necessary, and was available to my patients 24/7 until 2004."

Answering to Birdie or Genie, Dr. Willis's interests spanned from raising bees to women's health and education. Dr. Willis gave not only her time back to her community, but contributed to scholarships for women in osteopathic medicine so she could help others who aspire to become osteopathic physicians, according to OPSO.

Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific and COMP-Northwest Dean Paula Crone, DO '92, was one of Dr. Willis' scholarship recipients as a fourth-year COMP student.

"She truly loved osteopathic medicine and was so proud when COMP-Northwest opened," Crone said. "And she always, always supported students with scholarships."

Dr. Willis passed away in December 2019. Her legacy of caring, compassion and mentorship will continue with her gift to WesternU to create the Birdie Willis Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund. This will fund Birdie Willis Memorial Scholarships for COMP-Northwest students.

"We will make sure her legacy is well honored and that those that are rising up behind her get the opportunities she spent her life working so hard for," Crone said.



# **Financial Insights**

Thanks to the generous gifts of our donors and the successful awarding of grants, we continue to make an impact in the lives of our students by supporting them financially, increasing their access to education, and addressing needs across our University. Without our donors' support and human touch, we could not continue to increase scholarship dollars and gifts to the University.











