

Season's Greetings

FAIRMONT
STATE
FOUNDATION

A LETTER FROM THE FAIRMONT STATE FOUNDATION

DECEMBER 2015

\$1 million from BrickStreet to fund FSU scholarship program



Dr. Maria Rose (from left), Gary K. Bennett, Skip Tarasuk, Greg Burton and RJ Gimbl pose for a photo with a \$1 million donation made to the Fairmont State Foundation on Thursday, November 12 at the Falcon Center on Fairmont State University's campus. The donation was made by the BrickStreet Foundation in honor of Tarasuk, an alumnus of FSU

A \$1 million gift from BrickStreet Foundation to the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., will create a new scholarship fund for Fairmont State University students.

Greg Burton, Chief Executive Officer of BrickStreet Mutual Insurance Company, presented the gift to FSU President Maria Rose and Fairmont State Foundation President RJ Gimbl during a recognition reception at 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, in the Falcon Center. Representatives from BrickStreet and the Fairmont State Foundation, FSU deans and vice presidents were invited to attend the special event.

"With this endowment we are able to help a number of students fulfill their dreams of attending and graduating from college. A portion of the scholarships will be used for students from West Virginia who are from families of a parent who received a permanent total disability (PTD) award or unfortunately died from a work place injury. Helping the families of injured workers in West Virginia is something our board feels very strongly about and we want to give back to the communities in which we live and work. This is a fundamental part of our core values at BrickStreet," Burton said.

FSU students each year will be named BrickStreet Scholars in Honor of H. Skip Tarasuk, Jr. A portion of the scholarships will be awarded to children of parents from West Virginia who have either a PTD or have passed away from a work related injury. The remaining scholarships will be awarded based on financial need and academics. The scholarships can be given for any major, but preference would be given to any student in mathematics, nursing, occupational safety or loss or the

insurance field. BrickStreet will be involved in the selection process through a scholarship committee comprised of BrickStreet employees and FSU representatives.

"With support like this generous donation from the BrickStreet Foundation, Fairmont State University continues to meet students' need for financial aid and to provide a unique learning environment close to home in North Central West Virginia," Rose said. "Gifts like this one truly make a difference in the lives of our students and help foster student success. This is an investment in the future of our great state."

H. Skip Tarasuk, Jr. graduated from Farmington High School in 1967 and continued his education at Fairmont State. He graduated with a degree in secondary education in 1971. Tarasuk is employed by BrickStreet Mutual Insurance Company in Charleston as a Special Projects Consultant. He serves as Chairman of BrickStreet's Agents Advisory Council. Tarasuk was the first Chairman of the Board of Directors for BrickStreet Mutual Insurance Company from 2006 to 2009. BrickStreet was the 15th largest writer of workers' compensation coverage in the United States and the second largest West Virginia based insurance company with more than 550 employees and first year premium of \$530 million.

The BrickStreet Foundation exists to invest in and realize BrickStreet's corporate responsibility to support the well-being of local and regional communities where BrickStreet and its subsidiaries conduct business. For more information, visit www.brickstreetfoundation.com.

IMPORTANT YEAR END GIVING GUIDELINES

CHECKS - Date your check on or before Dec. 31, 2015, Mail via U.S. Postal Service with postmark on or before Dec. 31, 2015.

CREDIT CARDS gifts by phone or mail - Gifts must be received by 2 p.m., Dec. 31, 2015, in order to be processed.

CREDIT CARDS gifts online - Deadline is 11:59 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on Dec. 31, 2015.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES - Gifts of securities require planning. Please contact the Foundation office at 304-534-8786 to notify us of your intentions.

www.FSUFoundation.org

From the President



Season's greetings from Fairmont! My name is RJ Gimbl and I have the honor of serving as the President and CEO of the Fairmont State Foundation. It is a privilege to lead this organization and be part of a team that is on a great path to achieving greater levels of success.

As I work to gain a better understanding of the needs for FSU through meeting with board members, University administrators, faculty, staff and campus leaders, please be assured that the Foundation is committed and focused on making the dream of higher education a reality.

Each year, alumni, friends, corporations and foundations provide significant support in so many ways to Fairmont State through the FSU Foundation. Philanthropic support is critical to the growth and success of the University and truly makes a difference in the lives of our students.

Whether it is through your participation in the Fairmont Fund, or by endowing a scholarship, your gift can impact an individual or group and make a difference.

We look forward to working with you to advance Fairmont State and the success of our students. Please enjoy the holiday season.

Sincerely,



FSU Awarded \$10,000 Grant from Dominion Foundation for Solar Energy Project

A \$10,000 grant from Dominion Foundation will help Fairmont State University's College of Science and Technology launch a solar energy program that has on-campus and community outreach components.

Mark Barnes, Director of Gas Operations for Dominion Hope in Clarksburg, visited the FSU campus on Wednesday, Oct. 28, to present the grant funds to the Fairmont State Foundation, Inc., on behalf of the FSU College of Science and Technology. Barnes met with FSU President Maria Rose; Foundation President RJ Gimbl; Dr. Don Trisel, Dean of the College of Science and Technology; Dr. Erica Harvey, a faculty member in the College of Science and Technology; Amantha Cole, grant author; and three FSU students, senior Chemistry major Kevin Dudley, sophomore Biology major Jenni Perkins and M.Ed. Digital Media and Technology student Sean Harwell.

The overarching goals of the project, titled "Solar Powered Learning, Research and Outreach" led by Trisel and Harvey, are to provide hands-on learning and STEM research opportunities for University and high school students in the region in a real-world application and to raise awareness among students and the community about the viability of solar energy.

"It's a very good project. We're excited about the partnership with FSU," Barnes said. "As a diverse company as Dominion is, it's important that we support ventures like we have here at Fairmont State. It is important that the business community support student ideas."

A small solar array will be installed on campus, along with a cell phone and laptop charging station. Students will assist in the planning and preparation for these solar stations and then will observe and analyze their energy production.

For more information about Dominion, visit the company's web site at www.dom.com or Dominion Energy Solutions at www.DominionEnergy.com.

The Next 150 Campaign Update

As the close of the sesquicentennial year approaches, the Foundation is excited to announce that the 150 Campaign has surpassed the goal of raising \$150,000. At the time of printing, we have secured gifts and pledges totaling \$235,700. This campaign was designed to increase the scholarships available to students who are considering attending Fairmont State. The Foundation currently provides \$75,000 annually for these scholarships from its unrestricted funds. The campaign was originally intended to increase the \$75,000 to \$90,000 over the next ten years. As a challenge goal, we would like to increase the \$75,000 to \$105,000. Please help us reach the challenge goal by designating your gift to The Next 150!

Fairmont Fund

The mission of the Fairmont Fund for Fairmont State University is to bridge the gap between state allocations and the funds necessary to continue to provide quality education.

Investing in FSU through annual gifts allows you to truly make a difference in the lives of today's students. Unlike endowed gifts, annual gifts may be used in the current operating year, providing discretionary funds to be allocated where they are most needed. This kind of flexibility allows the institution to maintain their high levels of success in this ever changing world of higher education.

Please consider making a gift of \$150 or more to commemorate the 150 year history of Fairmont State.

You may make an annual gift at any time to the Fairmont State Foundation online by visiting FSUFoundation.org or by calling 304-534-8786.

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFTS

In some instances the company that you work for will match or multiply a donation made to charitable organizations through a matching gift. To find out if your company participates in such a program, ask your Human Resources department.

Planned Giving

Naming the Fairmont State Foundation as a beneficiary of your will builds our long-term financial strength and allows you to create a meaningful legacy.

It's Simple: One paragraph in your will can set up your gift. A bequest doesn't take effect until your death. It's a gift that won't affect your current asset balance or cash flow.

It's Flexible: You can give us a specific asset, or a share of what's left after your gifts to your friends and family. Your bequest can support a particular program, or allow us to use it for our greatest needs when your gift is received.

It's Revocable: If your plans or circumstances change, you can easily change your will.

Donors have the option of becoming members of the 1865 Heritage Society as a result of their gift intentions.

We can assist you in taking the next steps in planning your gift. Please contact the Foundation for more information.

Impact Scholarships

Interested in making an immediate impact by supporting student scholarships for a specific period of time? This non-endowed, cash gift will reflect a donor's commitment to support a scholarship for a specific number of semesters or years. The contribution will be put to immediate use as instructed by the donor and the Foundation staff will work with you to define the awarding parameters. The donor determines the area of interest and the Financial Aid Office selects a deserving and eligible student. Contributions are normally made and expended in the same fiscal year. Example, a donor could commit \$1,000 a year for 5 years and award a \$500 scholarship per semester for that period of time.



Fairmont State Foundation

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