Wright State University **ALUMNI** 2017 Annual Report

VISION

TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE AND SUPPORT CURRENT AND FUTURE ALUMNI IN A LIFE-LONG RELATIONSHIP WITH WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY.

About the Wright State Alumni Association

The Wright State Alumni Association was founded in 1971. The purpose is to foster a fellowship of individuals who share a common institutional interest and to develop a sound collegiate heritage by coordinating activities and services which contribute to the academic, cultural and physical growth of Wright State University.

Since its inception, Wright State University has awarded degrees to nearly 110,000 alumni who have benefited in many ways from the Wright State Alumni Association. Since 1984, the Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship program has been providing tuition assistance to students pursuing their Wright State degrees. These scholarships are intended for the families of alumni association members and continue the growth of our institutional heritage. The Wright State Alumni Association was recognized with the prestigious Inventing Tomorrow Award in recognition of their 30 years of continuous support and philanthropy to Wright State University.

The alumni association is governed by a 25-volunteer Board of Directors, who give their time and talents and participate in a variety of alumni and foundation events and programs. This group also works with volunteers on planning social events and bringing alumni together.

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WRIGHT STATE ALUMNI

WHAT A MILESTONE...50 years! That's Wright!

Wright State University celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017, and what a year it was. The Rise.Shine. Campaign concluded raising more than $167 million for student scholarships, academics and campus improvements. We also enjoyed record numbers of alumni returning to campus, including Homecoming Weekend 2017, which saw approximately 3,000 event attendees over a three-day weekend.

As we look ahead to the next 50 years, I am encouraged by what I see happening across campus. Wright State continues to excel at its core mission of taking in students from all walks of life, and empowering them to become leaders in the classroom and the community. There is no better branding for the university than its alumni, who are scattered throughout each of the 50 states and in more than 80 countries.

As young persons matriculate and graduate, we are proud to say that each is a member of the Wright State Alumni Association. It is our goal to continue to raise funds to support scholarships—but even more to support our alumni by offering opportunities to connect with one another, to promote career growth and placement, and to provide opportunities to connect with current students.

I encourage each of you to look at the many ways you might become engaged with the association and the university. And, if you do not see the opportunity you are seeking, then please raise what you see as a need to our attention. We are YOUR alumni association and we want you to be involved and mold the next generations of Wright State alumni!

Tony Alexander '88
President
Wright State Alumni Association

Happy 50th Birthday to Wright State University!

2017 was Wright State's 50th year and our alumni came out in droves to help celebrate! We had nearly 3,000 people come to Homecoming to blow out candles and eat some 50th birthday cake. Homecoming had 21 separate events and eight reunions for alumni to participate in. It was our biggest and best Homecoming in Wright State's history!

We also launched our first-ever giving day, Wright Day to Give, at Homecoming, which saw 548 donors contribute nearly $50,000 in 50 hours to various scholarships and programs on campus.

While Homecoming was certainly the highlight of the year, we also held more than 150 events and engaged more than 9,000 alumni and friends in events throughout the entire year. We had nearly 300 alumni volunteers help us write postcards to admitted students, staff career exploration fairs, give advice to seniors, raise funds for scholarships, and, overall, just make Wright State a better place.

The first 50 years were awesome. Please join us in making the next 50 years even better!

Greg Scharer

Executive Director, Alumni Relations

Stay Connected

Phone
937-775-2620

Email
alumni@wright.edu

Facebook
facebook.com/WrightStateAlumni

Twitter
twitter.com/WrightStAlumni

Linked In
linkd.in/JKMRa7

Instagram
instagram.com/wrightstatealumni

In Person
Foundation Building – Second Floor
3070 Presidential Dr, Fairborn, OH 45324

Mail
3640 Colonel Glenn Highway
Dayton, OH 45435

Online
wrightstatealumni.com

STAFF

Greg Scharer
Executive Director

Holly Gersbacher
Associate Director

Nick Warrington '12
Assistant Director

Nicole Craw
Assistant Director of Alumni
Marketing & Communications

Kathy Kuntz
Office Services Coordinator

Elaine Pruner
Records Technician

Shelly Neuhart '18
Graduate Assistant

Salem Albayyari '18
Marketing & Communications Intern

ANNUAL GIVING STAFF

Amy Jones '06
Director of Annual Giving

Becky Valekis
Assistant Director of Annual Giving

Michele Curran '16, '18
Graduate Assistant

Sarah Runyan '14, '15, '19
Graduate Assistant

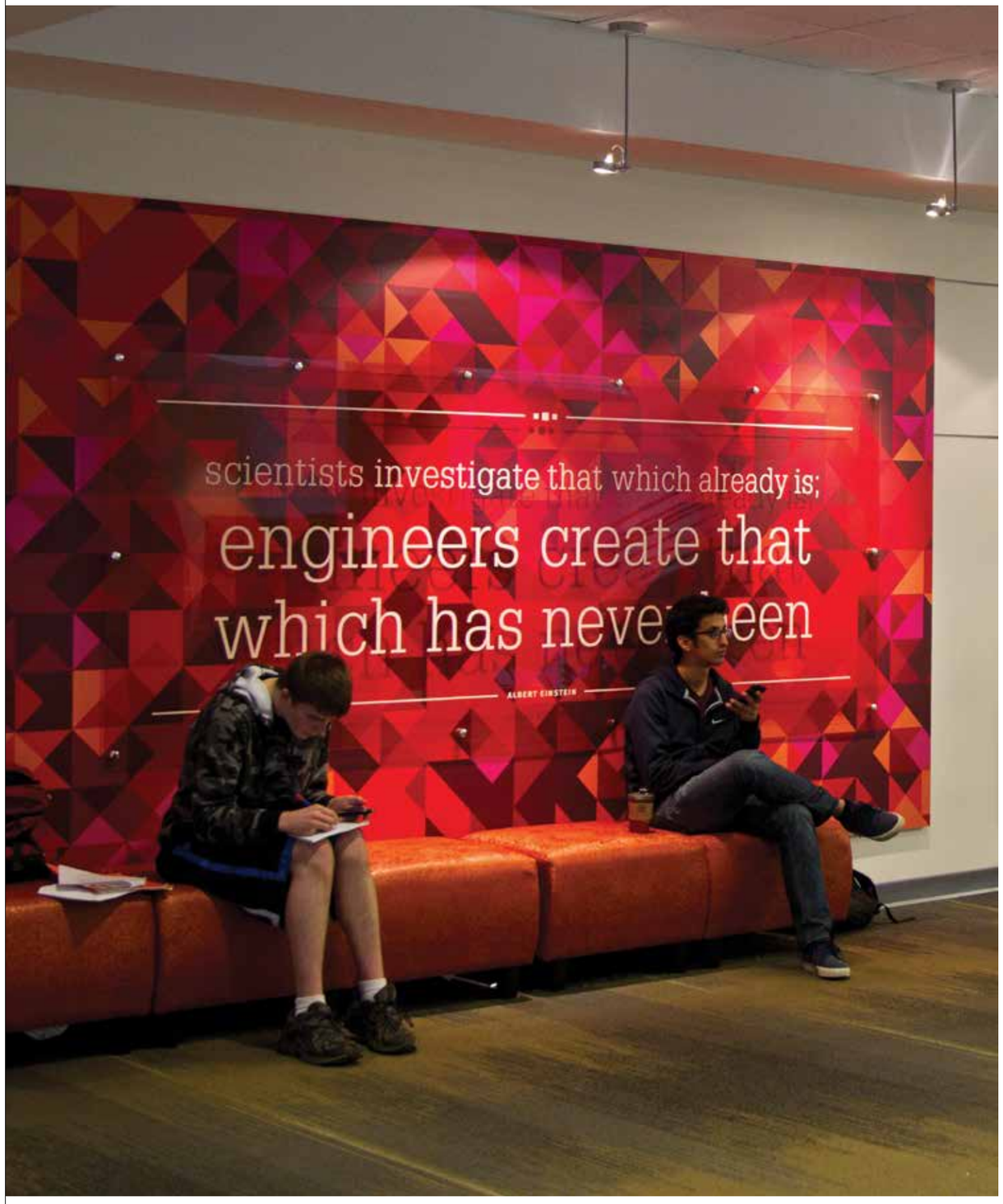
Jessalyn Besecker '17
Development Student Aide

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Deb Downing '81
Vice President, Tony Alexander '88
Secretary, Jason Lansdale '00
Treasurer, Bob Reynolds '88

Dan Baker '12, '12, '15
Chris Brookshire '11, '14
Mike Brush '02
Amanda Burks '05
Eric Crouch '91, '95
Paula Cosby '12
Pat Jones '01
Stacey Lawson '94, '96
Edwin Mayes '89, '96
Chris Moyer '85, '86
Mary Murphy '89
Penny Profitt '94
Michael Robertson '11, '14, '16
Anne Marie Singleton '91
Rick Smith '84
Deanna Springer '04, '06, '17
Amanda Thompson '08, '09
Jerry Tritle '81, '83
Sarah Williams '04
Woody Willis '83
TyKiah Wright '00, '01

**The above list represents the 2017 Alumni Association Board of Directors*



2017 By The Numbers

TOTAL # OF EVENTS

2017 | 152 Events
2016 | 179
2015 | 186
2014 | 172
2013 | 211

OF VOLUNTEERS

2017 | 299 Volunteers
2016 > 228
2015 > 245
2014 > 245
2013 > 210

EVENT ATTENDEES

2017 | 9,255 Attendees
2016 | 7.660
2015 | 9,530
2014 | 8,141
2013 | 7,672
2012 | 6,642

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook
2017 | 9,892
2016 | 9,644
2015 | 9,074
2014 | 8,392
2013 | 2,445

LinkedIn
2017 | 7,527
2016 | 7,511
2015 | 7,251
2014 | 6,900
2013 | 6,287

Twitter
2017 | 2,100
2016 | 1,939
2015 | 1,612
2014 | 1,280
2013 | 772

Instagram
2017 | 1,163
2016 | 1,075
2015 | 621 *(new in 2015)*

COMMUNICATIONS

235 E-MAILS SENT TO **2.98 MILLION** ALUMNI RECIPIENTS

14% OPEN RATE ON E-MAILS

2 MAGAZINES SENT TO **168,035** ALUMNI HOUSEHOLDS

42,910 WEBSITE UNIQUE VISITORS

172,532 WEBSITE PAGEVIEWS
[68% ARE NEW VISITORS]

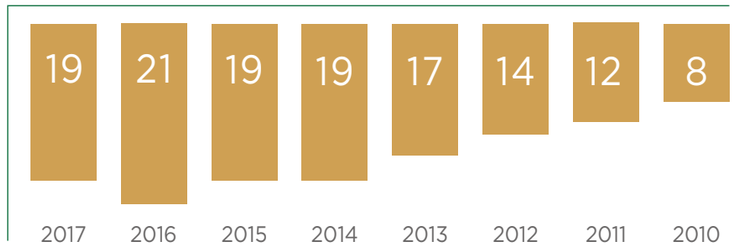
Networks and Societies

The Wright State University Alumni Association Network and Society programs exist to provide assistance and support for the continuing success of Wright State University. By offering responsive programs, diverse activities, and services, they enrich the camaraderie among alumni association members.

STATISTICS

8	10	51	1,551
NETWORKS	SOCIETIES	NETWORK/SOCIETY EVENTS	ATTENDANCE

TOTAL NETWORKS/ SOCIETIES



ALUMNI NETWORKS

Greater Cincinnati Alumni Network
Cincinnati, Ohio

Greater Cleveland Alumni Network
Cleveland, Ohio

Greater Columbus Alumni Network
Columbus, Ohio

Greater Dayton Alumni Network
Dayton, Ohio

Greater New York City Alumni Network
New York City, New York

Lake Campus Alumni Network
Celina, Ohio

Tampa Alumni Network
Tampa, Florida

Washington, D.C. Alumni Network
Washington, D.C.

ALUMNI SOCIETIES

‘67 Society
African American Alumni Society
Amigos Latinos de Wright State University
College of Nursing and Health Alumni Society
Fraternity and Sorority Alumni Society
Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD)
LGBTQ and Ally Alumni Society
Model UN Alumni Society
MPA Alumni Society
Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Alumni Society
Social Work Alumni Society

MISSION

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Launching ’67 Society

In 2016, a student taskforce was established to evaluate the Student Alumni Association (SAA) and the Student Philanthropy Council (SPC) at Wright State University to develop a plan that would merge the two student organizations and their respective missions, while fostering student autonomy, and positively impacting student lives.

In 2017, the newly formed ’67 Society started their first official year as a student organization. Serving as the University’s premier advancement organization, ’67 Society lives out the mission of Wright State University by promoting an inclusive community at WSU that encourages student philanthropy and engages with alumni. Celebrating the founding year of Wright State University (1967), this organization promotes tradition and school spirit.

MISSION

AS 67 MEMBERS OF THE ’67 SOCIETY, WE LIVE OUT THE MISSION OF WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY BY PROMOTING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY THAT ENCOURAGES STUDENT PHILANTHROPY AND ENGAGING WITH ALUMNI.

GOALS

- Foster & build traditions at Wright State University
- Share the Wright State Alumni Association’s vision with students
- Provide professional development and networking opportunities for students
- Continue the spirit of giving and educate students about Wright State philanthropy

Student and Young Alumni Events
2017 | 12 2016 | 17 2015 | 28 2014 | 23 2013 | 8

Attendance at Student and Young Alumni Events
2017 | 1,178 2016 | 793 2015 | 1,300 2014 | 1,480 2013 | 655

GOLD Social Media Outreach
2017 | 673 2016 | 619 2015 | 934 2014 | 789

’67 Society Social Media Outreach
2017 | 155* (*New account just established)

HOMECOMING 2017: Celebrating 50 years

From September 29 to October 1, 2017, Wright State University celebrated our 50th anniversary year. The Wright State Alumni Association and many organizations held events celebrating 50 years of history, progress and friendship.

Homecoming 2017 was the perfect time to reconnect and rediscover Wright State while celebrating generations of Raiders!

HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

1,750

Festival attendees

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

2,990

Nearly 3,000 attendees throughout the weekend

29

EVENTS

Including 8 sessions of Alumni College, held during the weekend

HOMECOMING ATTENDANCE

2017 | 2,990 Attendees
2016 | 1,171
2015 | 1,220
2014 | 875

8 REUNIONS

The Guardian and WWSU Reunion
Black Alumni Reunion
Founding Classes ('67–'71) Reunion
Greek Alumni Reunion
Resident Assistant/Housing Reunion
Student Government Reunion
Campus Rec Student Employee Reunion
Model UN Reunion

WRIGHT DAY to Give

In honor of our 50th birthday, Wright State University launched the first-ever Wright Day to Give—a 50-hour online philanthropic giving challenge to our alumni, friends, parents, students, faculty, and staff. Engaging with Wright State for a day that would bring together ALL Raiders.

We set a new record for giving in a 50-hour period with a total of **548** proud Raiders and friends supporting Wright State, raising nearly **$50,000**. We set a record for giving at Wright State. In the first day of this campaign, we received the greatest number of gifts in a 24-hour period. It was amazing to see the global community of Wright State come together to step up for our students.

The Wright Day to Give reached donors from coast to coast, plus several alumni abroad in Japan, the Philippines and Canada.

GIVING TRENDS

- 79% WERE ALUMNI DONORS
- NEARLY 10% WERE STUDENTS
- 32% WERE RE-ACTIVATED DONORS*
- 17% WERE NEW DONORS

* Re-activated donors are donors we've welcomed back who didn't give last fiscal year.

DONORS

ALUMNI	389
FRIENDS	53
STUDENTS	45
OTHERS	61
TOTAL	**548**

Alumni Achievement Awards

The Wright State Alumni Association held its annual Alumni Achievement Awards ceremony on September 29, during Wright State's Homecoming Weekend.

The Alumni Association recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of Wright State alumni each year at the event. Winners are selected from a pool of nearly 110,000 alumni and are recognized for numerous accomplishments in their chosen fields.

In addition to possessing high standards of integrity and character, they have also given their time and talent to benefit the Wright State Alumni Association.

THE FOLLOWING AWARD WINNERS WERE HONORED:

Nicole Scherzinger
Alumna of the Year Award

Karri O'Reilly, '98 B.F.A.
Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award

Colleen Ryan
Honorary Alumna Award

Theadore Hufford, '08 B.S., '12 M.D.
Graduate of the Last Decade Award

Bruce Kline, '82 Psy.D.
Volunteer Service Award (Awarded Posthumously)

Stefanie Hreha, '11 B.A.
Alumni Society Award of Excellence

Left to right:
Stuart McDowell, accepting the award on behalf of Nicole Scherzinger; Theadore Hufford '08, '12; Leora Kline, accepting the award on behalf of her late husband Bruce E. Kline '82; Wright State President Cheryl B. Schrader; Stefanie Hreha '11; Karri O'Reilly '98; Colleen Ryan; and Wright State Alumni Association President Deb Downing '81

Wright State University **ALUMNI**
2017 Annual Report

College Outstanding Alumni Awards

Since our first awards ceremony in 2000, the College Outstanding Alumni Awards have honored alumni from each of the colleges and schools within Wright State University.

This event is planned and sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations. This year's College Outstanding Alumni Awards was held on February 3, 2017, on the Wright State University campus.

WE HAD THE PLEASURE OF PRESENTING AWARDS TO NINE DESERVING RECIPIENTS:

School of Professional Psychology
Gregory Archer, '84 Psy.D.

Raj Soin College of Business
Dave Dickerson, '84 B.S.B.

Wright State University – Miami Valley
College of Nursing and Health
Alan P. Dine, '77 B.S.N.

College of Education and Human Services
Anne Johnson-Oliss, '91 B.S.Ed., '94 M.Ed.

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Brian D. Joyce, '97 M.S.Eg., '04 Ph.D.

Wright State University Lake Campus
Lisa R. Klenke, '97 M.B.A.

College of Liberal Arts
Michael Neatherton, '75 B.A.

College of Science and Mathematics
Thomas D. Reed, Ph.D., '91 M.S.

Wright State University Graduate School
Michael R. Roediger, '12 M.S.L.D.

Top, left to right:
David S. Dickerson '84; Michael R. Roediger '12; Thomas D. Reed '91; Brian D. Joyce '97, '04
Bottom, left to right: Anne M. Johnson-Oliss '91, '94; Lisa R. Klenke '97; and Gregory A. Archer '84

Education and Travel

We believe the pursuit of knowledge is a life-long quest. The Wright State University Alumni Association offers several opportunities to learn and expand your horizons after graduation—from streaming online lectures, to exotic and culturally rich trips, to theater events, to the Alumni Speaker Series.

Started in 2013, Alumni College is a rich opportunity to enjoy the university learning experience again and to sample the recent research and academic courses of Wright State's distinguished faculty.

11
Alumni College sessions with faculty

1,560
Total attendance for educational events

ALUMNI COLLEGE 2017 SESSIONS:

The Science (and Pseudoscience) of Forensic DNA Profiling
This Show is NOT Chemical Free: And other reasons why we need to set our classrooms on fire
The Downside of Being Elected President of the United States
NAFTA and US employment
Wright State History Through the Eyes of *The Guardian*
Build It and They Will Come: The History of Wright State University
Ohio's Opiod Crisis: Committing to Solve Complex Community Issues

The Wright State Alumni Association offers educational tours with unique itineraries exclusively to our Wright State family (alumni, friends, faculty, staff & retirees). Travel to exotic destinations to learn about culture, art, history, and much more.

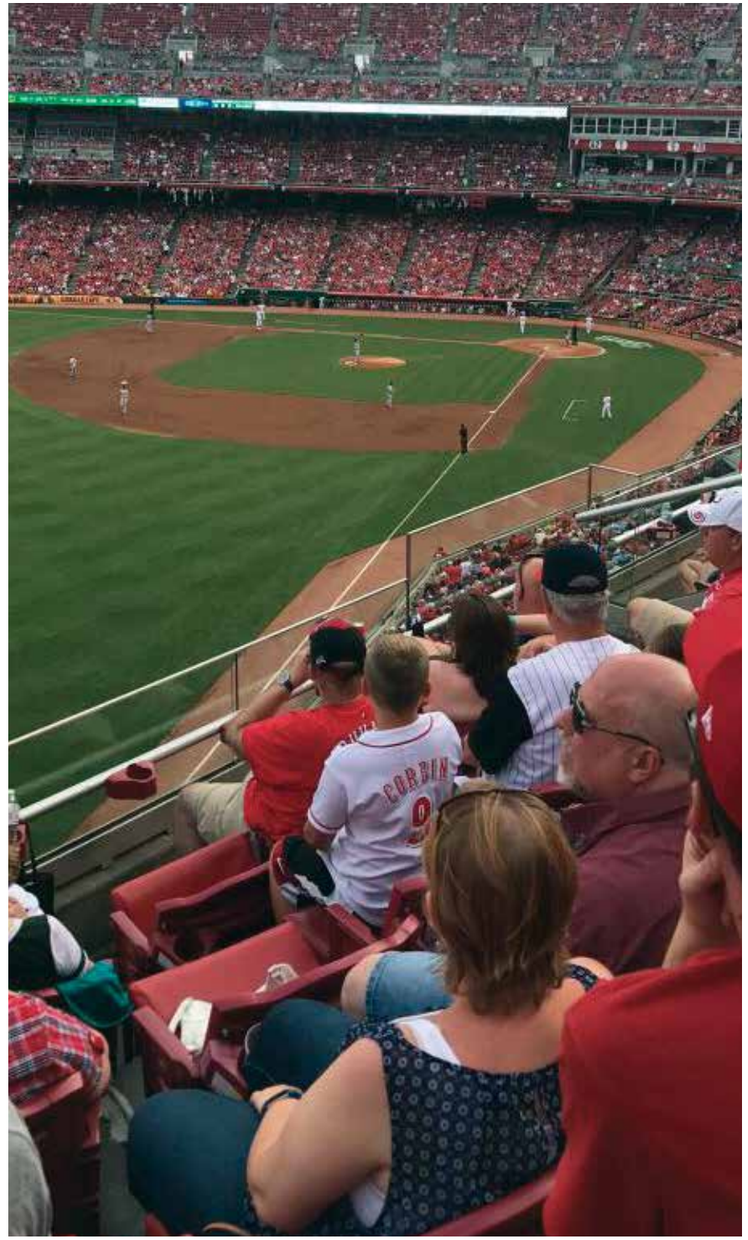
WINTER
- Baja and The Riviera
- Pure Polynesia

SPRING
- Havana Impressions

SUMMER
- Indiana Wine Trail Bus Tour
- Vineyards and Vignettes
- Pacific Coast Paradise
- Washington, D. C. Bus Tour

FALL
- Bourbon Trail Bus Tour
- Mediterranean Radiance
- Autumn Colors River Cruise

140 Travelers
10 Educational Tours



Scholarships and Giving

The Alumni Association has been awarding scholarships to Wright State University students for more than 40 years through its scholarship programs.

2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED IN 2017

39

$41,917 **TOTAL**

$711,140

TOTAL AWARDED TO DATE

864 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO DATE (SINCE 1984)

Our newest initiative on campus is Alumni Grove, which is a park-like setting around Alumni Tower. Since its inception, we have installed:

153 BRICK PAVERS 14 TREES 4 BENCHES

Resulting in more than **$30,500** in giving.

This year we added **1 new named LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP** endowment, bringing us to a **total of 5**. Current Legacy Scholarship endowment: **$46,236**

Strength in Numbers

2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	
$51,630	$51,967	$36,636	$52,231	$55,040	$20,521	Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship (includes Legacy Golf Outing $)
$11,154	$7,537	$10,583	$4,832	$3,000	$2,250	Alumni Association Named Legacy Endowments
$1,928	$5,250	$5,800	$2,687	$1,314	$1,899	African-American Alumni Society Scholarship
$1,507	$564	$1,004	$2,417	$4,300	$4,871	Alumni Grove Campus Fund
$1,701	$550	$3,312	$1,915	$3,440	$3,020	Lake Campus Alumni Network Scholarship
$200	$546	$1,198	$400	$5,415	$485	Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Alumni Society Scholarship
$275	$3,270	$3,530	$1,365	$5,909	$415	Social Work Alumni Society Scholarship
$1,568	$1,355	$1,650	$150			Cleveland Alumni Network Scholarship
$1,290	$4,215	$450	$1,000			College of Nursing & Health Alumni Society Scholarship
$620	$1,345	$520	$20			Fraternity & Sorority Alumni Society Scholarship
$71,873	**$76,199**	**$64,683**	**$67,017**	**$78,418**	**$33,461**	

Alumni Giving

Gifts to the Wright State University Foundation are making a positive impact all over the world. Support for Wright State University helps to expand our curriculum, attract top-flight faculty, build world-class facilities, and provide scholarships for more students.

BY THE NUMBERS: Annual supporters can CONTRIBUTE to more than **2,100** different funds at Wright State, giving them the ability to support what is most important to them.

TOTAL ALUMNI DONORS | 2,593

$3,671,965.32 | **CONTRIBUTIONS BY ALUMNI**

Gifts of all sizes make a difference. In 2017, we had **1,059 ALUMNI DONORS** who made gifts less than $100. That's **41% OF ALL ALUMNI DONATIONS** received.

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

- 21% Re-activated donors (welcomed back donors who didn't give last fiscal year)
- 17% First-time donors
- 14% Donors who increased their gift

WRIGHT STATE ALUMNI

RISE. SHINE ON.
The Conclusion of Rise.Shine.

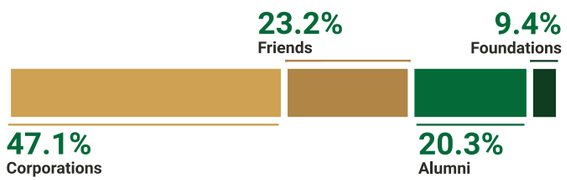
When *Rise. Shine. The Campaign for Wright State University* launched on July 1, 2008, with a goal of $150 million, it was the largest campaign in the university's history. When it concluded on June 30, 2017, the campaign raised an impressive $167,742,525, thanks to your generosity.

Achieving—and surpassing—the dollar goal, while noteworthy, is only part of the story. Your gifts are already hard at work on behalf of students and faculty, campus facilities, and the programs and centers that touch our community.

Most importantly, *Rise. Shine.* was an opportunity for the entire Wright State community to come together to transform the university to benefit students and the economic future of Ohio and far beyond. Thank you for making this campaign such a success!

BY THE NUMBERS

$167,742,525
Total raised

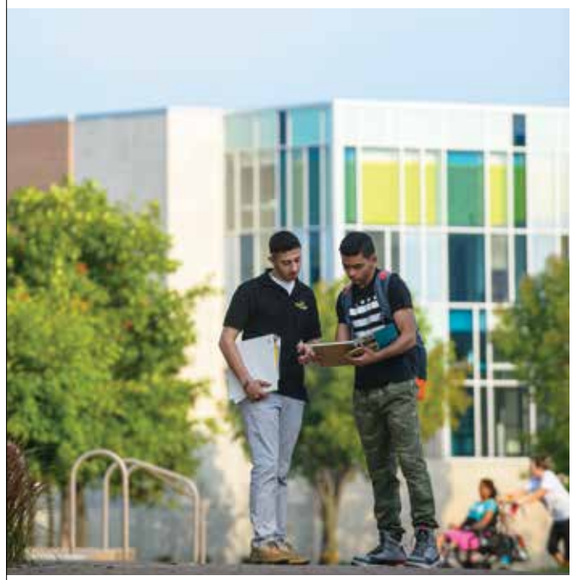


SOURCE OF CAMPAIGN GIFTS

31,310
TOTAL DONORS

17,659
NEW DONORS

13,051
ALUMNI DONORS



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Wright State Alumni Association
3640 Colonel Glenn Highway, Dayton, Ohio 45435
wrightstatealumni.com

WRIGHT STATE ALUMNI