In recognition of the challenging transition currently underway at UW Oshkosh, we present our annual UW Oshkosh Foundation Impact and Endowment Report, showcasing our journey over the past year. This report reflects the tangible results of our collaboration with UWO and the lasting philanthropic legacy that fuels our institution’s growth. Your steadfast support has been our guiding light as we navigate the complex landscape of higher education, enabling us to make a lasting impact.

In this report, you’ll find a detailed account of how your generosity has transformed lives, expanded horizons, and advanced knowledge across various fields. From scholarships to UWO alumni outreach, we are proud to share stories that illustrate the depth and breadth of your contributions. This report is a testament to the powerful connection between your belief in our mission and our commitment to excellence. We deeply appreciate your pivotal role in nurturing the growth of the UW Oshkosh Foundation and advancing our mission in education. Together, we can achieve a profound impact, and as you peruse this report, may it remind us of our shared journey and purpose. Thank you for being an integral part of our story.

Amid UW Oshkosh’s ongoing transition, it is imperative to underscore the unwavering commitment of the Foundation to support this new trajectory. As an independent nonprofit entity intimately connected with the University, our Foundation acts as a vital link between the institution and its extensive network of alumni, benefactors, corporate partners, and supporters.

At its core, the Foundation is dedicated to the dual purpose of generating financial resources and nurturing relationships that enhance the University’s influence and sustainability. Through the procurement of philanthropic contributions, endowments, and invaluable support, the Foundation provides essential funding for scholarships, research initiatives, infrastructure expansion, faculty empowerment, and a diverse array of educational programs.

Functioning as a strategic partner, the UW Oshkosh Foundation allocates resources to areas where they can yield the most profound impact. By diligently overseeing financial assets, managing investments, and collaborating closely with UWO’s leadership, Advancement and Alumni Relations, the Foundation ensures the University’s financial underpinning remains robust and adaptable to evolving demands. Moreover, the Foundation’s role transcends mere financial stewardship, as it also acts as a conduit for alumni engagement, networking, and mentorship, fostering a vibrant and interconnected academic community.

In the final analysis, the overarching purpose of the UW Oshkosh Foundation is to empower the University to not only endure but to thrive, innovate, and perpetuate its rich legacy of education, research, and positive societal transformation.
Financial Impact

2022-2023 Highlights

Scholarship Highlights

- UWO Foundation awarded $1,231,680 in scholarship awards, a 10.94% increase from the previous year.
- 967 awards were given out from the UWO Foundation, a 26.57% increase from the previous year.
- 20 scholarships were awarded for the first time during the 2022-2023 academic year.
- 86 emergency awards, totaling $108,305 were granted in 2022-2023 academic year.

Scholarships by College

**College of Business**
- $99,675 in awards given.
- 72 awards given.

**College of Education & Human Services**
- $96,787 in awards given.
- 85 awards given.

**College of Letters and Science**
- $343,173 in awards given.
- 303 awards given.

**College of Nursing**
- $175,260 in awards given.
- 120 awards given.

**Non-College Awards**
- $520,284 in awards given.
- 391 awards given.

*This includes pledges made during fiscal year 2022-23.
As Executive Director of Development and Special Events for UWO, our role is ensuring continued growth and success of the university and its students through financial support provided by the Foundation. We lead efforts to secure essential financial resources that empower UWO to provide a world class education and transformative opportunities for our students. With the unwavering support of our generous donors and alumni, these efforts are instrumental in shaping a bright future and assisting students in their pursuit of a college degree.

Lynn Kleman, UW Oshkosh, Executive Director of Development & Special Events

UW Oshkosh Foundation Projects & Focus

Titan Giving Society
Rolled out during the 2022-23 fiscal year, the UW Oshkosh Foundation Titan Giving Society provides a way to recognize alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends who generously provide support to the University. Offering unique experiences and opportunities at each giving level, the Titan Giving Society provides an opportunity to celebrate donors in several different ways throughout the year.

Empowered by Experience – College of Nursing Lab Modernization Project
Initiated with gifts totaling $100,000 from interested and dedicated alumni, efforts began on a $2 million fundraising campaign to update and replace teaching and learning tools within the College of Nursing Simulation Center. This project will result in expanded opportunities for realistic clinical experiences for students, offering the rehearsal of procedures, in both the lab and remotely.

Play Ball – UW Oshkosh Baseball and Softball Field Improvement Project
Highlighted by a $1.4 million gift from an anonymous alumnus. The UW Oshkosh baseball and softball teams will experience and benefit from tremendous field improvements beginning in the 2025 season.
Paying It Forward

Dr. Samuel D. Cargile’s journey through UW Oshkosh was nothing short of extraordinary, showcasing the transformative power of education on its alumni. It all began when Dr. Cargile arrived as a freshman transfer from Texas Southern University, a historically Black university, eager to pursue his passion for both academics and athletics. As a dedicated student-athlete, he demonstrated not only his commitment to his studies but also his dedication to his team.

Beyond athletics, Dr. Cargile’s path took another meaningful turn when he was drafted into the U.S. Army and returned two years later as a Vietnam Veteran to become a resident assistant and later a residence hall director. These roles honed his leadership skills and instilled a sense of responsibility, leaving a lasting impact on his peers. His commitment to nurturing a supportive campus community became a driving force in his academic pursuits.

Dr. Cargile’s dedication to academic excellence also led him to become a research assistant and graduate assistant in the Counseling Program, where he thrived. His passion for research and commitment to his field of study were evident in all his endeavors. During this time, he recognized education’s profound value and potential to change lives.

Following his time at UW Oshkosh, Dr. Cargile’s career took him to three of the nation’s major private foundations, Lilly Endowment, the Wallace Foundation and Lumina Foundation, where he played a pivotal role in advancing successful educational equity and diversity initiatives. Witnessing the life-altering impact of philanthropy on students’ lives strengthened his resolve to give back to the institution that was crucial to his journey.

For Dr. Cargile, giving back meant more than financial contributions; it embodied that belief in paying it forward.

He understood that the support he received at UW Oshkosh was instrumental in his success and aimed to ensure similar opportunities for future generations. His commitment to UWO and its mission transcended the ordinary, driven by a desire to make a lasting difference.

UW Oshkosh Chancellor Edward M. Penson also played a crucial role in shaping Dr. Cargile’s philanthropic journey. Cargile was Assistant Vice Chancellor of the Division of Academic Support Services and Penson’s Executive Assistant. Penson designated him to serve on UW System committees dealing with financial support for first-generation students, another piece in Dr. Cargile becoming a passionate advocate for higher education inclusiveness, and tirelessly working to create a brighter future for all students nationally.

In the end, Dr. Cargile’s story is a testament to the enduring influence of education and the power of giving back. His journey from student to student-athlete to resident assistant, research assistant, and graduate assistant exemplifies higher education’s illuminating potential. His professional career commitment to philanthropy reflects a deep understanding of the importance of paying it forward for generations to come.
As the UWO Director of Alumni Relations, our team is dedicated to the vital mission of connecting our alumni community with their alma mater. We work tirelessly to facilitate engagement, networking opportunities and making lifelong connections for our graduates, ensuring that their ties to UWO remain strong and meaningful. UWO alumni are not just past students; they are an essential part of our institution’s legacy and future, and we take pride in nurturing those connections to foster a vibrant and supportive UWO community.

Chris Gantner
UW Oshkosh
Director of Alumni Relations

Alumni Awards

During Homecoming 2022, UW Oshkosh Alumni Relations recognized ten accomplished alumni. Four were honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award for their outstanding professional achievements, while five received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award for their contributions to both their professions and their communities within 15 years of graduation, highlighting their future potential. Additionally, one alum was presented with the Alumni Outstanding Service Award for their exceptional contributions to UWO through volunteerism, leadership, and philanthropic support.

Distinguished Alumni Awardees:
- Holly (Hahn) Brenner ‘99, ’09
- Barbara Herzog ’70, ’75
- Scott Mahloch ‘02
- Oscar Mireles ’96

Outstanding Young Alumni Awardees:
- John Ackerman ’14
- Christine Juhas ’18
- Thomas Kenote ’16
- Eric Saeger ’08, ’09, ’11
- Sarah Schettle ’08, ’20

Alumni Outstanding Service Awardee:
- Jim Rath ’76

Alumni Fun Facts

- Total alumni living in Wisconsin: 75,466
- Alumni living in Oshkosh: 8,393
- Active Golden Titan Alumni (50th reunion): 14,357
- UWO alumni around the world: 100,229
- Total alumni events hosted in fiscal year 2022-23: 45
- Number of staff who support Alumni Relations: 3
Jim Rath ’76, a political science major, was honored as the 2022 UWO Alumni Outstanding Service Award recipient. He started his career in government as the zoning and code administrator for Manitowoc County before joining the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, where he served as a long-time account executive. He retired in 2017, following a term as president of the Village of Sherwood.

Prior to his long-tenured career, he was an active student leader at UW Oshkosh. Rath was part of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, a member of the Oshkosh Student Association (OSA), Reeve Union Board (RUB) and the Newman Center. For him, each played a role in developing his servant leadership.

With encouragement from his fraternity brothers, Rath went on to serve as Delta Sigma Phi president and later as inter-fraternity council president, regional commissioner and district governor. He provided mentorship to undergraduates and was a recipient of the Harvey H. Hebert Memorial Award for distinguished service.

“All these experiences together nurtured my desire to become involved with service opportunities throughout my adult life,” Rath said.

Rath has been a long-time contributor to the UWO Foundation and has given to a number of initiatives including the Rath Family Endowed Scholarship that he established with his siblings, the Delta Sigma Phi Scholarship fund, UWO athletics and the Culver Family Welcome Center. He is also a founding member of the UWO Foundation’s 1871 Society.

Rath also served on the UWO Alumni Association board from 1998 to 2016. During this time, he served as treasurer from 2000 to 2009 and president from 2013 to 2015. He is still active with the Office of Alumni Relations, currently helping coordinate UWO alumni events in Naples, Florida.

Student Involvement at UWO played role in Rath giving back.
Endowments
Some of the most effective and far-reaching gifts are those given to create an endowment. Endowed funds are critical in providing long-lasting support to UW Oshkosh, allowing colleges and departments to enhance programs, advance research and support outstanding students.

Investment Perspective from North Star Asset Management
In the past fiscal year, markets experienced significant volatility due to the Federal Reserve’s aggressive rate hikes, with stocks rebounding from their October lows as inflation rates declined. The Fed’s tightening actions will continue to impact housing, labor, and manufacturing costs in the coming quarters, possibly allowing for easing of interest rates. Stock market gains have been led by a small group of very large companies, primarily in the technology sector and driven by artificial intelligence growth expectations. As the economy expands and monetary policy eases, we anticipate more stocks to participate, especially those with lower current valuations. While stocks are recovering, the bond market remains steady as investors seek higher interest rates in the coming years, but a rise in bond prices and decline in yields is expected as inflation and interest rates normalize.

North Star Asset Management’s investment philosophy remains rooted in consistent growth, durable industry leaders, profitability, and long-term value creation. We continue to invest in companies that align with these principles, confident in their ability to generate sustained revenue, cash flow, and earnings growth.

Endowment Stats

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<th>Historical Investment Returns</th>
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Endowed Assets Over the Past 5 Years

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Asset Management Partner
North Star Asset Management takes seriously the responsibility of managing the UW Oshkosh Foundation’s endowment. With five UWO alumni on their 21-member team, North Star oversees over $2 billion in assets under management, serving private clients, commercial enterprises, and non-profit institutions.
The SMEF program funds are managed by UW Oshkosh students with faculty oversight and contain over $1,000,000 in assets under management, which is divided among seven portfolios. These funds are held at the UW Oshkosh Foundation in a collaborative partnership. This program contains one of the largest amounts of assets among the comprehensive universities in Wisconsin. Students actively manage the portfolios by:

1. Developing/revising each portfolio’s investment policy statement (IPS), including each portfolio’s target asset allocation.
2. Evaluating numerous financial assets and investment strategies.
3. Implementing appropriate investment strategies.
4. Monitoring/rebalancing each portfolio relative to its IPS.
5. Evaluating the performance of each portfolio and individual holding.

### Program Objective
The primary objective of the SMEF program is to provide a learning environment where students have the opportunity to manage an institutional investment fund.

### Investment Objective
Managers will follow a total return objective, seeking a return equal to the spending rate plus inflation, with a moderate amount of risk.

### Trading Constraints
Initial investments are limited to 5% of the overall portfolio. The portfolio is rebalanced if any stock holding is greater than 10% of the overall portfolio.

#### Student Managed Assets Over the Past 5 Years

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As a first-generation college student, my journey towards higher education was a path less traveled in my family. Growing up, the idea of attending college seemed like a distant dream, especially after getting married at a young age. However, it was my husband who became my greatest source of inspiration and encouragement, planting the seeds of possibility in my mind. He believed in my potential and convinced me that I could achieve my dreams through education.

With a family to help support and the responsibilities as a new spouse, the decision to return to school was not without its challenges. Balancing coursework, work and household duties was a daunting task, but the thoughts of setting an example for others and the promise of a brighter future propelled me forward. The long nights of studying and the countless sacrifices made were all worth it, knowing that I was working towards a better life for my family and myself.

One fateful day, as I nervously checked my inbox, I saw an email notification that would change my life forever. It was a first generation college student scholarship offer, a golden opportunity that would alleviate the financial burden of my education. The overwhelming mix of worry and excitement gave way to tears of joy as I realized that my dreams were becoming a reality. This scholarship provided by UW Oshkosh Foundation not only eased the financial aspect but also reinforced my belief in the power of education to transform lives.

Today, I stand on the cusp of completing my degree in the medical field, a testament to perseverance, the unwavering support of my husband, and the generosity of the UW Oshkosh Foundation.

As I look forward to graduation, I am filled with a sense of purpose and determination. I am eager to give back to others, to use my education to make a difference in the lives of patients and their families, and to be an inspiration for others like me who dared to dream big. My journey as a first-generation college student and a new spouse has been challenging, but it has also been a remarkable testament to the power of education and the support of loved ones in achieving one’s aspirations.
UW Oshkosh Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors

The Foundation is governed by a 13-member Board of Directors representing alumni, former faculty and community members. The Board of Directors conducts the affairs of the Foundation as an independent non-profit corporation, so that no member of the Board shall derive any profit from the operation of the Foundation and employs/evaluates the Executive Director. Members may serve three years and may serve three consecutive terms.

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• President Elect: Holly Brenner ’99 ’09
• Past President: Tim Mulloy ’80 ’93
• Secretary: Janet Tierney ’10
• Treasurer: Chad Durkee ’14

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• H. Gene Drecktrah, Retired Faculty Biology
• Jon Dudzinski ’12
• William Everson ’02
• Thomas Guyette ’68
• Michael Hochholzer ‘89
• Norbert Hill, Jr. ’69 ’71
• Katrina Schiedemeyer ’17

Ex-Officio:
• Andrew Leavitt, Chancellor
• Kurt Leibold, Acting Vice Chancellor for University Affairs
• Greg Giles ’91, Executive Director

UW Oshkosh Advancement Department

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• Beka Smith, Scholarship Manager
• Suzette Thibadeau, Administrative Assistant

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• Theresa Braatz, Alumni Relations Officer
• Carrie Rule ’15, Alumni Outreach Coordinator