Welcome

UW Computer Science & Engineering's annual Scholar-Donor luncheon recognizes the generous individuals and corporations whose gifts make scholarships and fellowships available to our students. Scholarships help make an education accessible for talented undergraduate students, and fellowships allow us to recruit bright graduate students into CSE's classrooms and research labs.

It is also an opportunity for donors and students to meet and exchange stories – for benefactors to understand firsthand the impact of their giving. Scholarships and fellowships represent an investment in a student and express a confidence in their ability to succeed.

Thank you.

“College is full of once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for personal growth, learning, giving back to the community, etc. I've done my best to seize those opportunities to take advantage of everything college has to offer. When I can rely on sources of funding like a scholarship to cover my tuition and expenses, I can concentrate more fully on the latter.”

Krysta Yousefian, 2010-11 Wisniewski scholar
Anderson Family Endowed Scholarship
Corin Anderson Endowed Fellowship

Corin “Corey” Anderson attended the University of Washington from 1993 through 2003. He earned Bachelor’s degrees in Computer Science & Math, and a Masters and Ph.D. in Computer Science. As an undergrad, he was joined at the UW by his brother, Casey, who earned a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Engineering, and his mother, Cathy, who earned a Bachelor’s degree in Technical Communication. Continuing the family connection, as Corey completed his Ph.D., Casey earned a Masters through the Professional Masters Program in CSE. Sharing the college experience with family didn’t even begin at the UW for the Andersons. Corey, Casey, and Cathy all attended Highline Community College before the UW and graduated with Associates in Arts degrees on the same night (and one day before Corey graduated from Foster High School in Tukwila, WA). Corey’s father, Craig, rounded out the Anderson family support network.

Corey always felt that the culture of CSE was one of its best features, and he did what he could to contribute to it. He was known for decorating his office, especially around the holidays, and for always having snacks for visitors. Corey carried on these traditions after graduation when he joined Google in Mountain View, CA, in 2003. He has greatly enjoyed his tenure there, including working with many CSE alums.

— Anderson Scholar —
Oleh Godunok
Daniel Butler

— Anderson Fellow —

Burkhardt Family Endowed Scholarship

Ken Burkhardt earned his Bachelor’s degree in Physics from Cornell University, his Masters degree in Computer Science from Rutgers University, and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Washington in 1975. Dr. Burkhardt spent eight years in academia as a faculty member at UW and at Rutgers. During this time, he was also Vice President of Systems at Intec, Inc., an early pioneer in the electronic weighing industry. He left academia to become the chief system architect in the Unisys workstation group. In 1983, together with two other cofounders, he started Dialogic Corporation, the market share leader in the call processing and automated telephone industries. Dr. Burkhardt and his partners grew the company to 1,400 employees and then sold it to Intel Corporation in July of 1999. Since then, Dr. Burkhardt has gone on to leadership roles at Aloha Networks and Verbier Ventures. Dr. Burkhardt has served on the boards of a number of public and private companies and is presently on the board of advisors of several venture capital funds and a former member of the visiting committee of the UW College of Engineering. He is married with three children and spends his spare time playing the piano, skiing, surfing and coaching lacrosse.

Dr. Burkhardt appreciates the education and opportunities that were offered to him as a doctoral student in UW Computer Science & Engineering. By establishing this endowed scholarship, he is securing financial assistance for undergraduate students who might otherwise not be able to afford a University of Washington education.

— Burkhardt Scholars —
Alex Cartmell
Mark Rathjen
Sunny Sagar
Dain Steenberg
CSE Award for Excellence Scholarship

The CSE Award for Excellence Scholarship was established by funds from donors who wish to remain anonymous. The CSE Educators Fellowship is a result of contributions from Hellmut Golde and other CSE faculty.

— CSE Excellence Scholar —
Jason Uanon

David N. Cutler Endowed Scholarship

David N. Cutler is one of the world’s leading operating system engineers. He joined Digital Equipment Corporation in 1971 where he built a real-time system called RSX-11M that ran on Digital’s PDP-11 16-bit series of minicomputers and developed VMS, the operating system for Digital’s 32-bit VAX-11 architecture; VAX/VMS was the mainstay of technical computing nationwide for a decade. Cutler then moved to Seattle to found DECwest Engineering. In 1988, Cutler joined Microsoft where he led the development of Windows NT. He is a Member of the National Academy of Engineering and is one of only 22 Microsoft Technical Fellows.

In March 2007, Cutler received the inaugural Microsoft Technical Recognition Award for Career Achievement, the company’s top individual recognition. He donated the prize to UW CSE. More than a dozen friends and colleagues, led by Gary Kimura and Rob Short, augmented Cutler’s gift as a tribute to him, creating the David N. Cutler Endowed Scholarship.

— Cutler Scholars —
Patrick Larson  Evan Whitfield

Cisco Scholarship

Cisco Systems provides scholarships to the departments from which it hires. This support allows students greater flexibility during their academic life and is meant to encourage students to spend more time in their academic pursuits.

— Cisco Scholars —
Mariana Zanella  Tatiana Shefts  Angela Zhu

Denice Dee Denton Endowed Scholars

In 1990, under the leadership of Professor Richard Ladner, UW Computer Science & Engineering established an endowment to help support our commitment to a diverse student population. Fifteen years later, thanks to the generosity of faculty, staff, students, friends, and alumni who share this commitment, the endowment had grown to more than a quarter of a million dollars.

In June 2006, CSE named the endowment to honor Denice Dee Denton, who served as Dean of the University of Washington College of Engineering from 1996-2005. Denice was an inspirational leader and a strong voice for social justice, diversity, and excellence. She possessed enormous vision, courage, integrity, and backbone. Denice left the University of Washington in 2005 to become Chancellor (president) of the University of California at Santa Cruz. She passed away under tragic circumstances on June 24, 2006. The Denice Dee Denton Scholars in UW Computer Science & Engineering serve as a lasting reminder of Denice; of her character and of the principles for which she stood.

— Denton Scholars —
Jennifer Abrahamson  Melissa Winstanley
Dreama Frost Endowed Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was established to honor the memory of CSE Professional Master’s Program Advisor Dreama Frost. Dreama joined CSE in July, 1998. In December, at the age of 28, she was stricken with a sudden illness and passed away. This scholarship was initiated by Dreama’s fiancé, Richard Deal, and was augmented by many generous gifts from Dreama’s friends.

This scholarship is representative of, and a testimony to, Dreama and her life. It represents recognition of her ability and perseverance to achieve a dream under challenging conditions, the desire to utilize knowledge to help us better understand ourselves and the world around us, and the wish to experience joy through helping others realize their dreams. These wonderful qualities, among many others, were the essence of Dreama.

— Frost Scholar —
Monique Franklin

Glerum Family Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established by the Glerum family in order to provide assistance to freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering.

Kirk Glerum received his Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington. His wife, Melissa received her Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from Brown University. Their educations prepared them for highly successful careers at Microsoft, and they hope to make the same opportunity available to future generations of students. At the time of their gift, Kirk stated enthusiastically, “We want every smart kid to give computer science a try and see how cool it really can be.”

— Glerum Scholars —
Tarl Coufal
Christon Fukuhara
Rakib Mirza
Adam Croissant
Nicholas Martindell

Hellmut Golde Endowed Scholarship

Hellmut Golde was founder of the UW Computer Science Group (the predecessor of today’s CSE) and served as acting chair of CSE from 1976-1977. Notably, Hellmut’s collaboration with five graduate students in the late 1970’s and early 1980’s to produce a Pascal compiler for the VAX-11/780 computer had a profound effect on the department. Licensed to Digital Equipment Corporation in an agreement that paid royalties, the compiler generated well over $1M in revenue for CSE. Hellmut and his wife, Marcy, have remained active in the department since Hellmut’s retirement.

The scholarship was established by an anonymous donor in 2001 in honor of Hellmut’s accomplishments and contributions to CSE.

— Golde Scholar —
Hye-In Kim

Google Endowed Scholarship

In 2007, a group of individuals who were both UW CSE alumni and Google employees came together to establish a scholarship that recognized their Google affinity and desire to support deserving undergraduates studying computer science and engineering. Combining their individual gifts and generous matches from Google and the UW Students First matching gift program resulted in meaningful scholarship assistance for outstanding students with financial need.

— Google Scholars —
Vimala Jampala
Parichehr Karimi
Darrin Cole
Andrea McCool
David & Cathy Habib Endowed Scholarship

David Habib received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington in 1986. After finishing his degree, he went to work for Microsoft Corporation as a software design engineer. During his 14 year career at Microsoft, he worked on Windows, applications, and development tools. He was a technical development lead on the first two versions of the Microsoft Access database management system, and also was a development lead and development manager in Visual Studio, working on graphic design tools for web and database development. Since leaving Microsoft in 2000, he is a software consultant who has been focused exclusively on the not for profit sector, where he provides program management and software engineering for database and web based applications.

Cathy Volta Habib received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington in 1986. After finishing her degree, she went to work for Hewlett-Packard, where she worked as a software engineer in their test and measurement unit in Lake Stevens, Washington. She later worked at Microsoft Corporation as a software design engineer, where she was a member of the development team working on Microsoft Word for both the PC and Mac. Since retiring from the software field, she has been very involved in community advocacy for education.

David and Cathy are strong proponents of public education, and they want to make sure that the benefits of a great university education are available and attainable to all young people, especially those of under-represented races or of limited financial means.

— Habib Scholar —
James Lee

Jim Gray Endowed Scholarship

The scholarship was established by Jim and Donna Gray in 2004 to provide assistance to freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering.

Jim Gray (James Nicholas Gray) was born January 12, 1944, and was lost at sea off the northern California coast while sailing on January 28, 2007. Jim was one of world’s most distinguished computer scientists. His numerous contributions to the field of database systems were recognized with membership in the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the European Academy of Science. He was also a fellow of both the ACM and IEEE. In 1999 Jim was awarded the ACM A.M. Turing Award for his seminal contributions to our understanding of the concept of transactions and their implementation.

Jim’s pioneering research on transactions at IBM in the 1970’s provides the foundation for today’s world of electronic commerce. Every time someone uses an ATM, reserves a seat on an airplane, or purchases an item on the web, they are relying on the mechanisms that Jim first developed. These techniques ensure that the “right” thing always happens — even in the presence of software and hardware failures. While they seem second nature to us today, when Jim conceived of them they required very deep insight into the complexities of concurrently executing queries against a shared database system.

— Gray Scholars —
Austin Hedeen Andrew Rogers David Wong
James Hewitt Endowed Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was created in honor of James A. Hewitt Jr., Senior Systems Engineer/Architect in Computer Science & Engineering.

James was born in Lincoln, Nebraska on March 8, 1974. He grew up in Dallesport, Washington, graduating from Lyle High School in 1992. Shortly after, he moved to Seattle to begin his college education and, later, his career at the University of Washington. On August 9th, 2003, James passed away in an accident at the age of 29.

James was known to his family and friends for his warm, generous, and playful spirit. With boundless energy and a true appreciation for life, he continuously challenged himself, seeking out opportunities to enhance his life learning. His wide range of interests ranged from scuba diving to flying and included world travel, motorcycle riding, bass guitar, coursework in Islamic studies, and the attainment of his pilot's license. He was also the Founder and CEO of TechWolf Networks Inc.

— Hewitt Scholar —
Sam Hopkins

InfoSpace Endowed Scholarship

InfoSpace is a leading provider of Internet infrastructure services for consumers, merchants and wireless devices. Naveen Jain, former chairman and chief strategist, founded the company in April 1996 with the vision of delivering real world information on the Internet — anytime, anywhere, and on any device. “Giving back” has become a corporate ethic and a cultural value within the company. Established in 2000, the InfoSpace Foundation’s mission is to provide the resources needed to make a positive difference in the communities where the company’s employees live and work. The purpose of the InfoSpace Endowed Scholarship is to provide educational opportunities to talented Computer Science & Engineering students who may not otherwise be able to pursue their college education.

— InfoSpace Scholar —
Janette Su

Intelius Endowed Scholarship

The scholarship was established by Naveen and Anu Jain in order to provide assistance to freshmen entering Computer Science & Engineering and the Foster School of Business. Naveen Jain, a cofounder of Intelius, has served as the company’s Chief Executive Officer, President, and as a member of their Board of Directors since their inception in January 2008. Both he and his wife, Anu, strongly believe in giving back to the community and making a difference in peoples’ lives, and their hope is that this award will help attract top students to the UW and provide opportunities for students for a better future.

— Intelius Scholar —
Nicholas Martindell
As a student at the University of Washington, Gary Kildall received three degrees: a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics (1967), a Master's degree (1968), and a Ph.D. (1972) in Computer Science. He was hired as an assistant professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey and later joined Intel Corporation to write programming tools for the Intel 4004 microprocessor.

A pioneer in the computer revolution, Gary developed CP/M, which became the dominant microcomputer operating system of the 1970's. He was one of the first people to recognize that even the early, simple microprocessors could support a complete minicomputer-style operating system; and he created an editor, assembler, linker, and loader, along with the first file system to use floppy disks as a general purpose storage medium. As personal computers began to be used, he saw that their true potential would be in connectivity, so he developed extensions to CP/M that let computers share files and peripheral devices over a network.

Gary's company, Digital Research, Inc., introduced operating systems with windowing capability, preemptive multitasking, and menu-driven user interfaces years before Microsoft developed Windows. He also created the first practical open-system architecture, which allowed operating systems and application programs to be independent of the specific machines on which they ran. A firm believer that life and work should be fun, Gary also developed an early computer-based arcade game as well as precursors to current interactive multimedia.

Gary passed away in 1994, at the age of 52. His daughter Kristin established the Gary Kildall Endowed Scholarship in his honor in 1997, and it has been awarded every year to outstanding UW CSE undergraduate students. Recognition of Gary’s extraordinary accomplishments has increased recently with his inclusion in the wonderful 2004 book and PBS television series They Made America.

Gary and Christine Kimura are native Seattleites. They received their undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Washington. Gary (CSE - BS ’78, MS ’82, PhD ’84) was in the first class to receive undergraduate computer science degrees from the UW. After completing his PhD, Gary worked at Digital Equipment Corporation and then Microsoft where he was an original member of the Windows NT Operating System design team. In 1999 Gary returned to the University as an Affiliate Professor teaching the Operating System design classes.

Christine (BS ’80, MS ’98) received her B.S. in Metallurgical Engineering, and M.S. in Materials Science and Engineering. She worked 21 years at Boeing in both the commercial and aerospace divisions before retiring in 2002. Gary and Christine want to provide financial assistance to help students attend the University of Washington, just as Gary received assistance for his undergraduate education.

Todd Laney is a Seattle native who graduated from Garfield High School and attended the UW and studied Computer Science & Engineering from 1983 – 1987. Todd believes everyone with a passion for CSE should have the opportunity to attend a great University like the UW. He believes a quality education will allow students to follow their passion for computer science and engineering later in life.

Matthew Bryan
Raymond Zhang

Daniel Kitt

Michael Abboud
Tewodros Wolde
Microsoft Endowed Scholarship

The Microsoft Endowed Scholarship and the Microsoft Endowed Fellowship were established in 1993 to provide financial assistance to undergraduate and graduate students in Computer Science & Engineering.

By designating this gift for Computer Science & Engineering, Microsoft made an important investment in the future of the software industry. According to Bill Gates III, “Institutions such as the University of Washington provide the software industry with the research and development talent we need to continue our success. Microsoft has enjoyed a close working relationship with the University of Washington and will continue to look forward to a strong relationship in the future.”

— Microsoft Scholars —
Kevin Clark  Nicholas Reiter
Cooper Clauson  Cody Schroeder
Jeff Lowdermilk  James Youngquist
Mussie Nigussie

Jerre Noe Endowed Scholarship

The Jerre Noe endowed scholarship was established by Jim and Donna Gray in 2001 in honor of Jerre’s accomplishments and contributions to CSE. Jerre was recruited from SRI to head the newly-created Computer Science department in 1968 and served as chair until 1976. Beginning in 1950, Jerre, then SRI’s Assistant Director of Engineering, led the technical team of the ERMA (Electronic Recording Machine, Accounting) Project — a joint venture between SRI and Bank of America laying the cornerstone of modern electronic banking. The project resulted in checks with pre-printed account numbers; a check reader and sorter that could process ten checks per second with an error probability of less than 0.00001 percent; and the ERMA prototype, which was the first machine to enable multiple workers within a branch bank to determine account status and validate inputs electronically. In March 2001, Jerre and his ERMA team were honored with the Weldon B. Gibson Achievement. As chair, Jerre brought not only technical expertise, but also a sense of excellence and culture that still forms the cornerstone of CSE today.

On the evening of November 12, 2005, after a brief battle with mesothelioma (a rare and aggressive form of cancer), Jerre Noe passed away at the age of 82.

— Noe Scholar —
Jerry Li
Pedrizetti Family Endowed Scholarship

Ray and Louise Pedrizetti have two sons, and have named this scholarship endowment with the family name to encourage their sons to continue giving to higher education and other nonprofit organizations. Ray began his higher education at Bellevue Community College, and transferred to the University of Washington’s College of Engineering. He earned a bachelor’s of science degree in electrical engineering in 1981. His first job after graduation was at Fluke Manufacturing Company. Later he joined Microsoft, managing server and other hardware technologies. He retired from the company in 2004.

— Pedrizetti Scholars —
Josiah Adams  Michael Hotan  Kerry Lam

RealNetworks Endowed Scholarship

The RealNetworks Endowed Scholarship was established in 2006. This generous gift is intended to support UW CSE in providing worthy undergraduate students in need of financial assistance with an opportunity to advance their education.

RealNetworks has enjoyed real success in the world of digital media — hundreds of millions of people have downloaded the company’s RealPlayer product to stream and download audio, video, and other multimedia content. Its software and subscription services provide access to news, sports, and entertainment content (RealOne), downloadable games (RealArcade), and streaming and downloadable music (Rhapsody, RealPlayer Music Store, RadioPass). The company also serves the enterprise market with tools for creating, delivering, and licensing digital content.

— RealNetworks Scholars —
Cassius Butcher  William Pitts
Kate Mitchell-Liotta  Taylor Williams

Tock Family Endowed Scholarship

Theron Tock graduated from UW CSE in 1990, attended University of Illinois’ graduate school and worked for Sun Microsystems in San Francisco. He followed this by joining a start-up company focused on streamlining health care back-office operations using the internet. The success of that company provided the independence to cofound Neoteris in 2000. Kalée Tock graduated in 1995 from Harvard with a degree in Chemistry. After teaching in Italy for a year, she attended graduate school at Stanford receiving degrees in both chemistry and education. Following her graduate studies, she joined Stanford as a researcher at the Educational Program for Gifted Youth.

The Tocks established this scholarship in recognition of the importance of education in both their lives. Their goal was to have a scholarship that benefits students for whom an education might otherwise be out of reach. They hope that recipients of the Tock Family Scholarship will later look back at their time at the UW as pivotal in their lives.

— Tock Scholars —
David Wong  Yifan (Benny) Zhang

Alfred C. Weaver Endowed Scholarship

This scholarship was established to honor Dr. Alfred C. Weaver, a professor of computer science at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. Dr. Weaver has been Chairman of the Department, Director of the Computer Science Corporate Partners Program, and has taught more than 20 different courses within the Department. He has directed the research of 9 Ph.D. dissertations, 27 master’s theses, and 29 master’s projects. Dr. Weaver is a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, ACM, and IEEE. He is a Fellow of the IEEE. He holds patents and copyrights and has founded several companies.

An anonymous donor dedicated the scholarship to “an incredible person, a fantastic computer scientist, husband, father, and friend.”

— Alfred C. Weaver Scholar —
Alex Hanson
Wisniewski Endowed Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was established in 1998 by Dr. Jo-Anne Wisniewski in memory of her husband, John. John Wisniewski graduated from the University of Washington in June, 1973 with a double major in psychology and mathematics (numerical analysis). A week after graduation, he married Jo-Anne, who majored in mathematics.

John obtained his Masters degree in computer science from Washington State University in 1975. After graduation, he worked for the Department of Defense in Fort Meade, MD. He then went to work for Sandia Labs in New Mexico. In the summer of 1978, he went back to school at the University of Illinois to complete a Ph.D. in Computer Science/Applied Mathematics, graduating in 1980. He then returned to Sandia Labs in New Mexico until 1989 when he moved his family to Oregon to work for Mentor Graphics.

In the meantime, his pride and joy and only child, Jonathan, was born. He loved being a father and was proud of both his wife and son for all their accomplishments. He became an expert veterinary assistant for his wife, not to mention a stall cleaner specialist. Dr. Wisniewski began working for Intel in 1992 where, in four short years, he had a major impact on both individuals and projects. In March, 1997, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and died at home five months later.

Dr. Wisniewski loved teaching as well as learning and acted as a mentor for many young people. He was known for his ability to problem-solve even before the problem could be recognized by those around him. He gave quietly of himself throughout his life. His steadfast support of his family and his embodiment of a successful work ethic provided inspiration to everyone he interacted with. His positive outlook on life brought out the best in people. Watching others obtain the goals they set for themselves was one of his greatest pleasures.

— Wisniewski Scholars —
Finn Parnell         Brian Walker

Yamasaki Endowed Scholarship

Brian Yamasaki came to the University of Washington as an undergraduate in the early 1980's with the intention of pursuing a degree in business. He took a computer science course out of curiosity and found he just couldn't stop. He had been bit with the “technology bug.” Brian cites the intelligence of the students and instructors in Computer Science & Engineering as inspiration for him to work twice as hard to achieve his full potential. In 1986, he graduated with two Bachelor's degrees, one in Computer Science and one in Business Administration.

Brian strongly believes that the UW is at the heart of innovation and academic excellence in the Pacific Northwest. He understands that at the core of every great University are the students that will set standards, challenge conventions, and ultimately contribute to society. Brian hopes this scholarship will help attract and nurture the best and brightest students to study methods, ask hard questions, create new solutions, and become the next great leaders in technology, whether in academia or industry. Brian enjoys his many connections and conversations with undergraduates as they journey through their education.

— Yamasaki Scholars —
Siavash Baratchi     Ji Mun         Michael Wiktorek
ARCS Fellowship

The ARCS Foundation (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists) has helped launch hundreds of careers by awarding millions of dollars to outstanding graduate students. The Seattle Chapter of the ARCS Foundation celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2008. The Foundation is one of the largest foundation donors to the University of Washington and among its most steadfast long-term partners.

Volunteers of the Seattle Chapter, a group of more than 110 women in the Puget Sound area, are dedicated to helping graduate students in science, engineering and medicine earn advanced degrees and become leaders of world-wide scientific discovery. Since 1978, they have provided merit-based fellowships totaling approximately $10 million. As a result, the ARCS Foundation has greatly helped the University of Washington recruit highly gifted graduate students.

— ARCS 2011-12 First Year Fellow —
Maxwell Libbrecht (ARCS Seattle Chapter)

Jeff Dean/Heidi Hopper Endowed Regental Fellowship

Jeff Dean received his Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Economics from the University of Minnesota. He received his Ph.D. in Computer Science in 1996 from the University of Washington, enjoying his time in Seattle greatly. After graduation, Jeff worked for Digital Equipment Corporation’s Western Research Lab for almost three years. In 1999, Jeff joined Google as an early employee, writing significant portions of Google’s crawling, indexing, and query serving systems, building systems infrastructure for large-scale storage and computation, and generally having a great time working on difficult problems with great colleagues and producing software used by hundreds of millions of people.

Heidi Hopper received her Bachelor’s degree in 1990 in Psychology from the University of Minnesota. She received her Ph.D. in Organization Behavior and Human Resources Management from the University of Washington in 1997.

Heidi and Jeff both believe strongly in the value of education at all levels. They hope that this fellowship will help attract and support the best and brightest students to explore and solve problems in computer science.

— Dean/Hopper Fellow —
Dimitrios Gklezakos
Anne Dinning-Michael Wolf Endowed Regental Fellowship

Anne Dinning joined D.E. Shaw group in 1990, after receiving a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from New York University’s Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, where she won the Howard Grad Memorial Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Candidate. From 1995 until her retirement in 1999, she was the managing director responsible for the firm’s worldwide asset management activities, as well as in 1996 for the management of an international broker dealer business based in London. In August 2002, Dr. Dinning rejoined the D.E. Shaw group as managing director. She directs certain strategic initiatives and is jointly responsible for the overall management and trading of the firm’s investment strategies, as well as on the firm’s institutional asset management business and certain other strategies. Dr. Dinning is a member of the joint executive committee of D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P.

Michael Wolf received his Bachelor’s degree in Physics and Applied Math from UC Berkeley in 1984 and his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Stanford University in 1992. Dr. Wolf joined D.E. Shaw group in 1992 and later worked at various firms in the financial and technology industries. Dr. Wolf’s 1991 paper on compilation for improved data locality was included in a 2004 “Best Of” retrospective of the ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation (PLDI). Dr. Wolf is currently a full-time stay-at-home parent.

Anne and Michael appreciate the opportunities that have been made available to them because of their excellent educations and want to make similar opportunities available to others.

— Dinning-Wolf Regental Fellow —
Maxwell Libbrecht

Faithful Steward Endowed Fellowship

Shun-Tak Leung graduated with a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Washington in 1996. In the fall 1990, he stepped into Sieg Hall, then home of Computer Science & Engineering, to begin his studies. He had only a week earlier departed from Hong Kong and arrived alone in a new land. In the fall of 1996, he stepped out of the now familiar Sieg Hall into another adventure in the heart of California’s Silicon Valley.

In his journey, he always remembers with gratitude the divine grace and human kindness he has experienced along the way. For his six years of graduate studies in Seattle, he especially thanks Prof. John Zahorjan, his ever-optimistic adviser, for the advice, support, and constant encouragement; and Prof. Ed Lazowska, with such contagious enthusiasm, for critical help in his early career. As it was once spoken, it is more blessed to give than to receive. Through this endowment, he is delighted to give back in some small way for so much that he has received. As it is written, those who are given a trust must prove faithful. He is honored and humbled to establish a lasting legacy with what is at his disposal today. It is fitting that this will benefit generations of graduate students to come. He trusts that they, too, will find the University of Washington a welcoming and stimulating place to learn, to grow, to pursue their dreams.

It is his earnest hope that the beneficiaries will in time become benefactors; that those entrusted with talents and opportunities will live up to their calling and stay faithful in their stewardship; and that those endowed with abilities and equipped with knowledge will be the first to serve but the last to claim privilege or honor.

— Faithful Steward Fellow —
Ezgi Mercan
Dora Zee Ling Endowed Fellowship

This endowment was established to honor Dora Zee Ling, by her son, Daniel Ling and his partner, Lee Obrzut.

Dora Zee Ling was born on July 27, 1924, in Shanghai, China. She was intellectually brilliant, strong-willed, and determined at a time and in a culture that discouraged such traits in women. She pursued the rigorous education and training to become a physician like her father, even though she suffered from a serious congenital heart defect. She loved children and was dedicated to improving their well-being by doing research in the area of tuberculosis in children. She had an inquiring mind with wide ranging interests ranging from art and literature to the sciences and was always concerned about social issues. She died prematurely and unexpectedly at the age of 39, of a brain tumor, and was greatly loved by her son and her husband.

Daniel Ling and Lee Obrzut are life partners. Dan came to the Seattle area to help found Microsoft Research. He was one of the leaders who transformed the new laboratory into a world renowned research institution in the area of computer science. Lee found a psychological counseling service that helped disadvantaged children in Northern Arizona. He then held senior accounting positions for the State of Arizona. Both Lee and Dan believe strongly in the value of education and particularly want to help students achieve their educational objectives. They are delighted to be able to fund this fellowship because they recognize the important contributions that Computer Science & Engineering at the University of Washington has made to both the discipline of computer science as well as the intellectual and economic vitality of the Seattle area.

— Ling Fellow —
Jingjing Wang

Marilyn Fries Endowed Regental Fellowship

This endowment was established to honor Marilyn J. Fries by her children and their families.


Marilyn and her husband, Jim, had three children: Ed, Bob, and Karen. Each followed Marilyn into the information technology field. Ed concluded his 20 year career at Microsoft as Microsoft Game Studio’s vice president of games publishing. Bob designed both hardware and software at Digital Equipment Corporation and then Microsoft, where he currently leads a storage systems project. Karen has worked on product design — making computer interfaces easier — for the last 15 years at Microsoft.

Throughout her career — including her time as a University of Washington student — Marilyn Fries had a keen interest in the status of women in computer science, and in engineering as a whole. Marilyn led by example, and also by her commitment to organizations such as the Society of Women Engineers. Today, women continue to be underrepresented in computer science.

The Marilyn Fries Endowed Regental Fellowship in Computer Science & Engineering provides a permanent legacy to Marilyn, enabling the University to attract and/or retain outstanding graduate students in Computer Science & Engineering. Like Marilyn, these students will be role models who lead by example and by commitment.

— Marilyn Fries Fellow —
Kyle Rector
Hacherl Endowed Fellowship

This fellowship was endowed in 2007 in recognition of the widespread effects that computer systems have on everyday life, and of the importance of allowing future designers of those systems to acquire the knowledge and experience to do so wisely.

Don and Cindy Hacherl both did their graduate work at the University of Washington. Don’s studies were in Computer Science & Engineering. After leaving the UW, Don spent the next two decades at Microsoft where most of his time was spent designing and implementing distributed computing systems. This fellowship was prompted by Don’s interest in supporting students who will contribute to the continued success of the software industry in our region.

— Hacherl Fellow —
Brandon Holt

Weil Family Endowed Fellowship

Dave Weil is a graduate of Stanford University (BS Mathematics, 1974) and the University of Washington (MS Computer Science, 1977). Following graduate school, he spent four years as a software developer for The Boeing Company, eventually getting involved in software development for early microcomputers. In 1980, he joined Microsoft Corporation where he spent 17 years as a software developer, program manager, and software development manager for a variety of products including Visual C/C++ and Microsoft Works. He retired in 1997.

Marsha Weil is a graduate of the University of Washington (BS Occupation Therapy, 1978, and MS Occupation Therapy, 1993). She worked for the Northwest Center, the UW Experimental Education Unit, Seattle Children’s Hospital, and Bellevue School District while raising two sons. She retired in 1998, but continues to work on-call for Bellevue School District to keep current in her field.

The goal of this fellowship is to attract first-year graduate students by providing them the opportunity to work in a research setting during their first year in the program.

— Weil Fellow —
Makrand Sinha
Wissner-Slivka Endowed Fellowship

The Wissner-Slivka Foundation was established by Lisa Wissner-Slivka and Benjamin W. Slivka in 1997 to provide grants primarily in support of education.

Lisa Wissner-Slivka earned a B.A. in Computer Studies from Northwestern University in 1985 and an M.B.A. from the University of Washington in 1988. She worked at Microsoft as a program manager and product manager on programming language tools and electronic mail applications for six years. She currently serves on the boards of the Bellevue Schools Foundation, Social Venture Partners, Kindering Center, and Puget Sound Susan G. Komen Foundation. Her past board service includes Bush School, Seattle Children’s Theatre, and the Overlake Hospital Foundation, and she was co-chair of the Kindering Center capital campaign that completed successfully in 2001.

Benjamin W. Slivka grew up in the Mount Baker neighborhood of Seattle and graduated from Garfield High School. He met Lisa at Northwestern University, where he earned B.S. degrees in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics in 1982 and an M.S. degree in Computer Science in 1985. He spent 14 years at Microsoft working on OS/2, MS-DOS, Windows, Java, and MSN. Perhaps his most visible project at Microsoft was starting the Internet Explorer team and leading it through the release of IE 3.0. After a brief stint at Amazon.com, he retired in 2000 to focus on his family and philanthropy. He co-founded DreamBox Learning in 2006, and DreamBox Learning K-2 Math – a web-based math game for kids 4-8 years old – launched in early 2009 to rave reviews. He is a Trustee of Northwestern University and a director of the Garfield High School Foundation.

— Wissner-Slivka Fellow —
Raymond Cheng

Emerging Leaders Scholarship

Emerging Leaders scholarships are awarded annually to outstanding students in the College of Engineering who demonstrate both academic and leadership potential. These scholarships are funded by corporations such as Boeing and Lockheed Martin, the Seattle Foundation, and private donors. Scholarship recipients are selected based on academic excellence, demonstrated involvement in school, public and community activities, service, and present and long-term career goals and aspirations.

— Emerging Leaders Scholars —
David Colmenares  Ekaterina Nepomnyashcha
Peter Fidelman  Cullen Walsh

Hewett Scholarship

This endowed scholarship was established in 2007 with a bequest from Verelynn M. Hewett. The fund provides assistance to financially needy students in the College of Engineering.

Verelynn Hewett, or Shad as he preferred to be called, was a man for all seasons. He loved to boat in the fjords of Canada in the summer with friends, chase pheasants with his dog in the fall, and winter ski in the Cascades. He managed a successful career as a systems engineer at Boeing while enjoying all of his outdoor adventures.

Hewett attended Boise State College acquiring his associate’s degree. He then joined The Boeing Company and completed his degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Washington in 1965. He passed away in 2007 leaving family and friends to bring to fruition his desire to give back to the two institutions who helped him achieve the lifestyle he enjoyed. As a result, endowments in his name exist at both Boise State College and the University of Washington.

— Hewett Scholar —
Cooper Clauson
Robinson Endowed Scholarship

This endowment was established in 2002 by Frank and Barbara Robinson. In creating this scholarship they wished to express their deep appreciation for engineering education, and the value of scholarships for students who might not otherwise be able to attend college.

Frank graduated from the College of Engineering in 1957 with a degree in mechanical engineering and a passion for helicopters. He worked for several helicopter and aeronautical companies, then in 1973, founded Robinson Helicopter Company to design and develop a small personal-type helicopter. The company originally occupied the living room and garage of Robinson’s California home and had only two employees. Robinson flew the prototype of his first two-seat helicopter in 1975 and his larger four-seat helicopter in 1989. Today, his company occupies a modern 260,000 square foot factory in Southern California, has approximately 600 employees, and is producing more helicopters than any other U.S. manufacturer. He continues to be very involved in the engineering, design and development of helicopter aircraft, and has been honored by a variety of organizations for his achievements with the company.

— Robinson Scholar —
Peter Brook

Wayne C. & Grace M. Stanley Endowed Scholarship

This endowment was established by a gift from the estate of Grace and Wayne Stanley.

Grace and Wayne Stanley were life-long Vancouver residents, attended local schools and graduated from Vancouver High School. Their marriage took place in 1935, when both were on the staff of the Clark County Auditor. Grace was Deputy Assessor at the time, and Wayne was a Field Representative. Shortly after, she accepted the position of Secretary for the Washington State Tuberculosis Association. Mr. Stanley continued in county government for a number of years, eventually being elected County Assessor.

Following his term of office, he purchased a printing and advertising business in Vancouver, which he operated until retirement. Next came a period of extended travel, an activity that enhanced their interest in world history. Financial security had been previously attained through their investment program of long duration. After Mr. Stanley’s death in 1982, Mrs. Stanley continued to successfully manage the portfolio until she passed away in March 1994, at the age of 93.

Neither had a direct connection with the University of Washington. Grace attended Walla Walla College, and Wayne was a Washington State University Cougar. However, they were true advocates and active supporters of causes related to higher education, feeling that dedicated students deserved encouragement in preparing for future leadership roles.

— Stanley Scholar —
Jeff Rasley
Henry L. Gray Endowed Fund

Henry L. Gray was born in Pike County, Missouri, October 1880. He was educated in local public schools, and enrolled in the Engineering School of the University of Missouri in 1901, spending about two years there. He spent the next three years working on railroad and bridge construction jobs in the Midwest.

Gray came to Seattle in June 1906, as a construction engineer on the Milwaukee Puget Sound extension. In 1907 he entered the employ of the Railroad Commission of Washington, and in 1909 was made Chief Engineer; and through the change of name in 1911, became the first Chief Engineer of the Public Service Commission of Washington. He was considered informed on public utility regulatory matters, and made several contributions to the literature on the subject. On February 1, 1913, he resigned from the Public Service Commission in order to open an office in Seattle and specialize in public utility and other engineering work.

In order to have additional electrical education, he attended the University of Washington, graduating in 1945 with a B.S. in Mining Engineering. He retired from active practice in 1970, and devoted his time to writing local historical narratives.

Gray passed away in 1974. Through a generous bequest from his estate, the Henry L. Gray Fund was established in the College of Engineering in 1975.

— Gray Scholar —
Danushen Gnanapragasam

— Gray Fellow —
Daniel Butler

Allan and Inger Osberg Endowed Presidential Fellowship in Engineering

This College of Engineering endowment was established by Allan and Inger Osberg in 2006 to support graduate students in a variety of disciplines.

Allan Osberg graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1945. He was the Presidential Medalist, recognizing his academic achievement as the top student graduating from the University that year. Mr. Osberg received an M.S. from Harvard University in 1947. He is president of the Osberg Construction Company, which was founded by his father.

Allan and Inger Osberg have long been supporters of the University of Washington and the College of Engineering. They are lifetime members of The President’s Club, of which Allan Osberg served as a Trustee from 1976-80. In addition, Allan also served as an active member of development committees for the university’s two campaigns. They have been recognized with the status of “Laureate” for their giving.

— Osberg Fellow —
Kristi Morton

Donald Whitworth Endowed Fellowship

A graduate of the class of 1938 with a B.S. in Aeronautics & Astronautics, Donald Whitworth left a portion of his estate to the University of Washington. The College of Engineering uses this scholarship fund, created in 1992, to recruit and retain exceptional students. The scholarship rotates among the College’s ten departments; each administers the fund for a period of five years.

— Whitworth Fellow —
Mayank Goel
Competitive Scholarships and Fellowships

Boeing Scholarship

Boeing has been a generous supporter of UW students for decades. The company focuses on the student experience by giving generously to establish scholarships and fellowships and sponsor events and conferences led by student groups.

— Boeing Scholars —

John Chilton       Michael Haeger

Ford Fellowship

This endowment was established as part of a large gift from the Ford Motor Company to the University of Washington in 1989. At the time, Donald E. Peterson, a 1946 graduate of the University, with a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering, was president of the Ford Fund, and chairman and chief executive officer of Ford Motor Company.

The fellowship was established to provide support for graduate and post-doctoral students with research interest in microsensors. At the time, the company’s hope was to advance the development of microelectronic technology for industrial applications. Ford felt that microsensors had potential broad applications for automotive manufacturing. They also sought to support the education of quality engineers with interests in the automotive industry. More than twenty years later, this fellowship continues to ensure the success of engineering students.

— Ford Fellow —

Karl Koscher

Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship

Google established the Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship to honor Anita’s memory and support women in technology. Google hopes to encourage women to excel in computing and technology and become active role models and leaders in the field.

— Anita Borg Fellows —

Janara Christensen       Kateryna Kuksenok

Google Fellowship

Nurturing and maintaining strong relations with the academic community is a top priority at Google. The Google U.S./Canada PhD Student Fellowship Program was created to recognize outstanding graduate students doing exceptional work in computer science, related disciplines, or promising research areas. This is a highly competitive program with a limited number of fellowships awarded annually.

— Google Fellow —

Thomas Bergan
Competitive Scholarships and Fellowships

Intel Fellowship

Intel Corporation and the Intel Foundation together support graduate fellowship programs at select universities in the United States. These fellowships are awarded to outstanding students in Engineering, Computer Science and other technical majors focusing on semiconductor technologies, micro-architecture, Software Technology and Design, and communications. This is a highly competitive program with a limited number of fellowships awarded annually.

— Intel Fellow —
Joseph Devietti

Microsoft

MSR’s Women’s Scholarship

The Microsoft Research Graduate Women’s Scholarship is a one-year scholarship program for outstanding women graduate students and is designed to help increase the number of women pursuing a PhD. This program supports women in the second year of their graduate studies.

— MSR Women’s Scholar —
Kateryna Kuksenok
Congratulations 2011-12 scholars and fellows, and thanks to the friends, alumni, and companies who support our students!