

THE POWER OF AN OPPORTUNITY

A GIFT. A CHANCE.

Bridgewater State University

2016 - 2017 Philanthropic Impact Report





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Dear Friends,

Since the time we were students at Bridgewater State University, one constant amid all the changes that have occurred on our campus is the strength of the BSU community. We care about each other, and support one another. As students, we experienced and benefitted from the power of the BSU community first hand: in the commitment of faculty to our learning and personal growth; in the financial support provided by the college and BSU alumni; and in the way that administrators and staff challenged and motivated us to do our best and reach for our dreams.

Then, as now, BSU holds open the door of opportunity to BSU students. When we left BSU, we felt a strong responsibility to make sure those doors were kept open for the students who came after us.

The *2016-2017 Philanthropic Impact Report* tells the story of how our alumni and donors are widening the doors of opportunity for today's BSU students.

BSU students are doing work we never dreamed of. Across the curriculum, students are engaged in meaningful undergraduate research, working alongside their faculty members and presenting at prestigious national conferences. Undergraduate research promotes strong analytical skills and teamwork, and BSU's Undergraduate Research Program is ranked among the very best in the nation. BSU is expanding paid internships to put students on a path to employment and help employers fill their talent needs. We have partnerships with 46 universities on every continent, affording students vital study abroad opportunities; vital because developing cross-cultural understanding is not a luxury in a global society.

Our students are doing great work – work that is being enabled by our generous donors who help support these opportunities. Even as we are so pleased to share inspiring stories of others' decisions to help BSU students succeed, we want to encourage your own support, too. You'll find enclosed an envelope and online giving information by which you can direct your gift. We hope everyone who reads these pages will be inspired to open wide the doors of opportunity – just as they were opened for us.

Sincerely,

Frederick W. Clark Jr., Esq., '83
President
Bridgewater State University

Thomas Caron, '75
Chairman
Bridgewater State University Foundation



Dear Friends,

The donor and student stories in the *2016-2017 Philanthropic Impact Report* illustrate the true power of an opportunity – whether that opportunity be to attend university, to pay it forward, to make an impact and/or to shape our collective future.

There are many reasons to support Bridgewater State University. Your gifts truly give our students a chance, not only to attend BSU but also to excel and to be the difference that makes the difference. It honestly doesn't get much better than that.

Similarly, there are as many ways for students to respond to those gifts as there are students. The commonality, however, is in our students' focus and drive to succeed, sometimes against all odds. Bridgewater students are energetic, hardworking and grateful. They aspire to great things and achieve those great things, in part, because of your generous support.

The bottom line: Bridgewater is the key to a world of opportunities for our students. Your gift – your investment in Bridgewater – not only gives our students a well-deserved chance, but also strengthens our region by helping us to educate a skilled, community-minded workforce and the leaders of tomorrow.

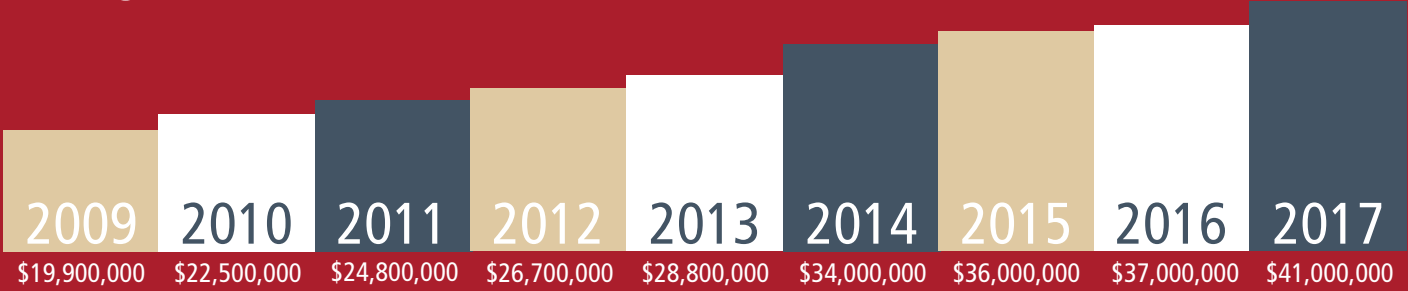
On behalf of the students you support and the university we love, I thank you.

Sincerely,

Brenda Molife
Vice President for University Advancement
Executive Director of the Bridgewater State University Foundation



ENDOWMENT



Through a combination of increased recent fundraising and successful investment management, the Bridgewater State University Foundation endowment has more than doubled over the past eight years.



LEARNING BY DOING

Experiential learning is multifaceted, life-changing and powerful and includes internships, undergraduate research, study abroad and community service projects to name a few. The one thing each has in common is the tremendous value inherent in learning by doing, which boosts students' confidence levels, helps improve communication and business skills, builds a compelling resume, and cultivates a network of professionals. When considering that 84 percent of Bridgewater State University graduates remain in the commonwealth, we can more easily appreciate the positive return on our investments when we support BSU students, who will soon contribute to the economic, social and cultural well-being of our communities. Support for student internships is high on the priority list for Emeriti Faculty Jack Jones, '62, G'66, a long-time BSU volunteer and loyal donor.

Jack Jones, '62, G'66

The John W. Jones, '62, G'66,
and Martha D. Jones, '64,
College Advancement Fund

Back in the day when Jack Jones graduated from Marshfield High School, college wasn't part of the plan. It was 1958, and his two older siblings got there first. The finances just weren't there.

Enter – one caring high school teacher and one supportive teachers' association. The result: when Mr. Jones took the stage to accept his high school diploma, he was awarded a \$100 scholarship, which was enough to pay his first year's tuition at what was then known as Bridgewater State Teachers College.

And so began his journey. He studied hard; worked 40 hours a week in the library as well as a difficult-to-calculate number of hours as a property manager/handyman in Brant Rock. His task was to maintain the summer home of a Harvard University professor and his

“The \$100 was more than the gift of an education. It was the beginning of a lifetime of service. Martha and I both lived the spirit of Bridgewater.”

responsibilities included, among other things, gardening and painting. You name it, Mr. Jones did it. And with it all, he managed to graduate in four years.

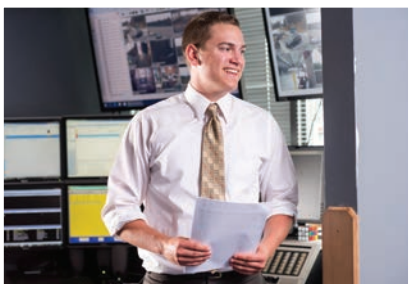
He went on to earn his master's degree in science and education, and after seven years teaching sixth and seventh grade in Marshfield, he was invited back to Bridgewater where he spent the next 46 years as a science professor. He met his wife, Martha (Drinkwater) Jones, at Bridgewater and, through the years, each served several times as president of the Bridgewater Alumni Association. Both shared a passion for their alma mater, served on scholarship committees and became loyal donors.

Clearly, Mr. Jones knows firsthand the difficulties of balancing work and study. He is well aware of the challenges today's students face. Mrs. Jones, beloved by all, served as assistant dean of students for 45 years. Mrs. Jones passed recently, but not without first discussing with her husband the endowment they would create for the benefit of generations of BSU students.

The John W. Jones, '62, G'66, and Martha D. Jones, '64, College Advancement Fund supports the university's urgent needs as determined by the president and his representatives. For the launch of the fund, however, Mr. Jones has indicated a desire to support student internships, a top priority at the university and one about which he and Mrs. Jones felt particularly strong.

“The \$100 was more than the gift of an education,” said Mr. Jones, “It was the beginning of a lifetime of service. Martha and I both lived the spirit of Bridgewater.”





Phillip Rondelli, '17

Internship, Taunton Police Department

Policing is a challenging profession, as dangerous as it can be rewarding. It takes commitment, courage and a sincere desire to make a difference.

Phillip Rondelli has what it takes. And his internship with the Taunton Police Department, which he was able to accept thanks to donor support and BSU's internship initiative, convinced him that his goal was worthy and attainable.

A criminal justice major, Mr. Rondelli graduated magna cum laude. Despite having to work part-time jobs to finance his education, he still managed to make the dean's list seven of his eight semesters. He now approaches his goal of becoming a police officer with the same steadfast determination.

"My internship with the Taunton Police Department was an awesome, eye-opening experience," said Mr. Rondelli. "I wasn't in the station pushing papers around. Most of my time was spent in a squad car riding with my supervisor, Detective Ralph Schlageter.

"I got my hands dirty, pulled up to scenes wearing a bulletproof vest, and learned a lot from Detective Schlageter."

Mr. Rondelli remembers one incident clearly as the two searched for a suspect. "After five or six hours, we brought in the canine unit and we found him," said Mr. Rondelli, who added that his ultimate goal is to work with a canine unit in a city rather than a small town. "Small towns don't have the resources of a city," he said. "They have a small force and, usually, do not have a canine unit."

With his eye on the prize, Mr. Rondelli works three part-time jobs, while studying for his EMT certification. He credits his internship as critical to his career development, helping to make him more marketable as he reaches for his goal.

With his eye on the prize, Mr. Rondelli works three part-time jobs, while studying for his EMT certification.

Jordan Andrade, '19, and Colin Fitzgerald, '18

Undergraduate Research

If you have lots of determination, the desire to learn, an enduring passion and a steadfast commitment to that passion, you pretty much have it all with the possible exception of the financial means.

Chemistry majors Colin Fitzgerald and Jordan Andrade were offered the opportunity to conduct undergraduate research in Dr. Penny Beuning's lab at Northeastern University. For Colin, the financial support that allowed him to accept this opportunity came in the form of a grant through the Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research. For Jordan, it was Northeastern University itself, which paid him a stipend. Additionally, Bridgewater State University provided funds to help both students with housing expenses.

Now we come to the passion, each student's innate desire to make a positive impact in

their chosen field – cancer research. At the risk of severely oversimplifying, Jordan and Colin hope that through their research they will discover new ways to predict and treat cancer more accurately.

“For example,” said Colin, “chemotherapy works by blasting cancer cells, rendering them incapable of replication because it damages DNA. We want to find a way to increase chemotherapy's effectiveness.”

“I started doing research at BSU with Dr. Samer Lone,” said Jordan, adding that Dr. Lone was instrumental in securing both students' positions in the Northeastern lab. “I got my feet wet at BSU and now have this great opportunity to get more experience and become more involved. Bridgewater made it all happen. I honestly couldn't be in a better place.” Colin seconds the sentiment.

When at BSU, both students work part time to help finance their education.



Jordan Andrade, '19, (left) and Colin Fitzgerald, '18, (right) conduct undergraduate research at Northeastern University.

Genie Lee Perron, '86

Ilene and Richard Perron Scholarship Fund

Genie Lee Perron graduated from Bridgewater in 1986 with a degree in elementary education. Today, she is a certified health and wellness coach, a loyal donor to the university, a proud mother of two grown daughters, and an inspiration to countless women and men who know her story of courage in the face of hardship.

Last year, Ms. Perron endowed the Ilene and Richard Perron Scholarship Fund to honor her parents, whose life lessons impacted her immeasurably. “My parents raised me to think about how blessed we were,” she said, “and they instilled in me and my siblings the importance of giving back to society. Sometimes that meant money, sometimes time or gifts. Education, too, was extremely important to them, and we all took it very seriously.”

After teaching in preschool for a short time, Ms. Perron worked 10 years for an optometrist whose forte was vision therapy with children. Here, she used the skills she learned at BSU to positively impact the lives of these children.

Then, Ms. Perron’s story took quite a different turn. Diagnosed with leukemia, she was given three to five years to live. By then, she had two daughters, three and five years old. During the same time frame, each of her parents was diagnosed with cancer and soon succumbed to the disease. And to complicate an already complicated situation, in the midst of this, she and her husband divorced.

Fast forward to 2017. Ms. Perron is in remission. Her two daughters, Deanna, a BSU senior majoring in sociology, and Debbie, a veterinarian technician, are thriving. She remarried, returned to school, became a certified health and wellness coach and opened her own practice, the Heal Your Life Center of Plymouth.



Of the decade devoted to her own healing, she is forthright. “I tell people you have to feel what you have to feel,” she said. “It’s perfectly normal to be afraid. But I look at a spectrum of emotions, with fear on one end and love on the other. The more we can shift that focus away from fear to love, the better we’re going to be.”

“I realized if I gave into fear, I’d release stress hormones and pinch myself off

from the ability to heal. That doesn’t mean a cure necessarily. We just need to try to put ourselves in a place to be still,” which, said Ms. Perron, “allows you the space to consider all options whatever challenges you face.”

Thinking back to her time at Bridgewater, she said, “I absolutely loved Bridgewater. I got a top-notch education, and when I graduated I felt like I was prepared for the world. It felt good.”

“My parents raised me to think about how blessed we were, and they instilled in me and my siblings the importance of giving back to society.”

MAKING AN IMPACT

Consider: an endowment fund makes an impact in perpetuity, that is a long, long time and includes many generations of students. Now that's an impact worth considering. An endowment has enduring value because its principal is never spent. Instead, it is invested with a portion of the income generated used as an annual award according to each donor's specifications – forever. Ken, '75, and Dora, '75, G'79, Ottariano have chosen to make an enduring impact by establishing endowment funds. In turn, the students who benefit from endowment funds can better position themselves to make their own impact in the world.

Ken, '75, and Dora, '75, G'79, Ottariano Kenneth D., '75, and Theodora M., '75, Ottariano Scholarship Fund

Ken and Dora (Tosches) Ottariano are, in a word, successful. They married, bought a house, raised two sons, Mark and Michael, and have been gainfully employed for decades: she as a high school math teacher and, for the past 20 years, a professor at Middlesex Community College; he, a self-employed business executive.

But it wasn't always the case. And therein lies their story.

After a somewhat uncertain start as an undergraduate student, Mr. Ottariano settled on history as his major. He had, however, the foresight to take some economics classes, perhaps knowing somewhere in the back of his mind that he was an entrepreneur in the making. Upon graduation, he began his career as a junior high school history teacher.

Mrs. Ottariano, on the other hand, embraced math as her calling and after graduation became a high school math teacher.

However, in the late 1970s to early 1980s, both the Ottarianos were casualties of Proposition 2½, a Massachusetts statute designed to balance the state budget. Reduction in the number of teachers was deemed one solution, “reduction” being a fancy name for laying off hundreds of educators. Mr. Ottariano was laid off, by his account, at least eight times; Mrs. Ottariano, once.

Instead of continuing to depend on the fluctuating school budgets, Mrs. Ottariano elected to stay home to raise the couple's two boys and to teach part-time night classes at Middlesex Community College beginning in 1985. And, Mr. Ottariano, with Mrs. Ottariano, took out a bank loan putting their house up as collateral. With the new-found capital, they bought DeBourke Company located in Wakefield. The DeBourke Company “offers sales and service for mailing and forms handling equipment needs... from product sales to comprehensive technical service support.”

It was a bold move, that paid off. And is proof that courage and persistence in the face of adversity is often the key to success.

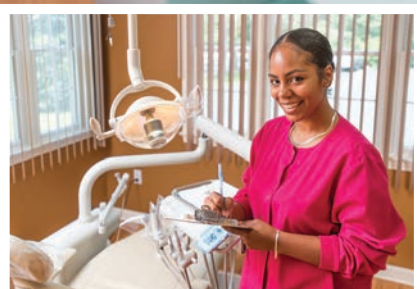
“When we made the move, it was risky,” said Mr. Ottariano. “Losing our home was a real possibility. But my mother said we'd always have a place to live. We never looked back.”

Which brings us to the couple's decision to endow a scholarship and the impact their decision will have on generations of students to come. “Dora was a recipient of an alumni scholarship,” said Mr. Ottariano. “So we know the value of a scholarship.”

“College is a significant expense,” said Mrs. Ottariano, “For some students, a little financial support is all they need. At Bridgewater, so many students work and have families to support.”

“We're now in the financial position to give back,” said Mr. Ottariano, “and we couldn't be more pleased to support students at our alma mater.”





Danielle Lopez, '17 **Bartlett Scholar**

Today's graduates have it within their power to be the difference that makes the difference. Danielle Lopez is one example of how hard work and determination forge a pathway to success.

A Bartlett Scholar, Ms. Lopez earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. Her goal is to become a dentist and, ultimately, open a practice of her own specializing in pediatric dentistry. "I have a burning desire to change the world," she said. "That's hard to do. But if you try, and if you live a story of positivity, you can get through whatever challenges you face."

Ms. Lopez faced her share of challenges as she navigated through the financial trials of funding her education. There's tuition, fees, and books, and the fact that she is one of

14 children. "We're a loving family, and we all work hard but finances are pretty tight," she said. "In my senior year, I came close to not being able to finish."

Two things were vital to completing her degree. The first was a retention grant that allowed her to return for the spring semester. However, she still had an outstanding balance that would keep her from graduating.

"During my darkest moments," said Ms. Lopez, "I was awarded a Bartlett Scholarship, an absolute blessing that allowed me to graduate."

Ms. Lopez is also wired to give back. Mentoring young students is one way. "In FAM for Change, I worked with high school students on team building, goal setting and how social interactions, career goals and health all combine to make them better people. We talked about how they can benefit themselves and society."

Which is exactly what Ms. Lopez wants to do in her dental practice. "I had an internship at a dental office in Bridgewater, and I watched how the dentist interacted with his patients. I watched him work with children. He was empathetic and understanding."

Ms. Lopez knows she, too, will be that compassionate practitioner and "maybe inspire a child; help them understand that if you follow your dreams you can get through."

"During my darkest moments, I was awarded a Bartlett Scholarship, an absolute blessing that allowed me to graduate."

SHAPING THE FUTURE

The bottom line is, the Bridgewater Fund changes lives. And changed lives shape our collective future. It's that simple.

Contributions of any size are unrestricted, meaning your financial assistance is applied toward students' most urgent needs, and that includes scholarships. The BSU Sponsor-A-Student Scholarship, a Bridgewater Fund initiative, is only one of many opportunities donors have to support students with need- or merit-based scholarships. Then, there are the individual donors who elect to create their own unique scholarship support.

Dr. Joan Warrington, '56, is one example as to how an individual can help shape the future – one student at a time.

Dr. Joan Warrington, '56 Warrington Twins Scholarship

To some, “paying it forward” is a vague promise; to others, it is a resolute pledge – if not now, then later, when fortunes change and circumstances permit.

When Dr. Joan Warrington began her education at Bridgewater, she was the recipient of a \$200 scholarship, the largess of an anonymous donor. It allowed her to enroll at Bridgewater. “I was one of seven children,” she said. “That scholarship opened the door for me, otherwise I wouldn't have even thought of going to college.

“Because the donor was anonymous, I was never able to say ‘thank you,’” said Dr. Warrington. “But I always thought that if, one day, my situation changed, I would fund a student and make it possible for her to go to Bridgewater.”

“I always thought that if, one day, my situation changed, I would fund a student and make it possible for her to go to Bridgewater.”

Which is exactly what Dr. Warrington did when she created the Warrington Twins Scholarship, in honor of her twin sister and in thanks to her anonymous donor, whose generosity set her on a path of success.

A Lynn resident and graduate of Lynn English High School, Camille San Gabriel is the proud recipient of the Warrington Twins Scholarship, which will support her through her tenure at Bridgewater State University. An art major, Camille hopes to become a high school art teacher.

Dr. Warrington graduated from Bridgewater with a degree in physical education. “I had an amazing experience at Bridgewater,” she said. “I was just a teenager. I'd never left Lynn where I grew up. From the standpoint of education, I learned so much, of course. From the standpoint of personal development like character, personality, my understanding of myself, that all emerged. That was my foundation.”

After graduation, Dr. Warrington attended graduate school at the University of Michigan and later earned her PhD. By this time, she had moved into administration. “My last position before I retired,” said Dr. Warrington, “was at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where I was assistant dean of the graduate school and assistant director of graduate records.”

Fifteen years ago, Dr. Warrington retired and moved to Florida. “When I look back on my career, I look back on a good one,” she said. “I think I was able to make a contribution. I stood tall with ethics and principle, morals and good character, all formed and developed at Bridgewater.”





Camille San Gabriel, '21 **Recipient of the Warrington** **Twins Scholarship**

Camille San Gabriel knows only too well the power of artistic expression.

“Art class is what got me through high school,” said Camille, who, like many students, struggled but made it through unscathed.

“Art helps a lot of people to express themselves,” she said, which is why she has chosen to major in art at Bridgewater State University. “I want to become an art teacher to provide a safe, structured but free atmosphere for students to find themselves through art,” she said. “I want to help my students find a way to branch out. For me, it was art; for others, it might be music or theater. Everyone needs a mode to express themselves.”

Despite her struggles, Camille was very involved in many extracurricular activities at Lynn English High School, most notably as president of the Model United Nations Team and president of the Gay Student Alliance.

Camille is an only child. Her mother is unable to work, so finances in the San Gabriel household are tight. She was shocked when she received the Warrington Twins Scholarship, a unique award in that it will follow Camille through all four years of her tenure at BSU. “I never thought I would get such a big scholarship,” she said. “It is a really big deal to me and my mother.”

It was also a really big deal when Camille met her benefactor, Dr. Joan Warrington. “She was so cool,” said Camille of Dr. Warrington. “It was awesome to meet her. We talked about why she set up the scholarship and how meaningful it is for her. We talked about her experience at Bridgewater. It was

great to hear more of BSU’s history,” said, Camille, “After meeting her, I felt more a part of the university.”

Dr. Warrington is an inspiration to Camille who indicated that paying it forward is definitely in the cards for her. “One day, I’d absolutely love to give back in whatever way I can.”

Part of Camille’s giving back might be financial. But, most certainly, part of it will be empowering her students through artistic expression to become the best they can be. And that is one way, one person, can help shape the future.

“She [Dr. Warrington] was so cool... after meeting her, I felt more a part of the university.”



Callie Martin, '18

Walking with Jane Dybowski Sponsor-A-Student Scholarship

Biology major Callie Martin's goal is a worthy one. To achieve it, a person needs to be committed and totally vested in the cause. She needs to be intelligent, hardworking and focused.

She needs, in fact, to have the can-do attitude of Callie Martin. Callie plans to become a physician's assistant and works long hours with her goal in mind. But, like many students, finances are tight. Callie's older and younger sisters are both in college. Three siblings in college simultaneously is a challenge for any family.

"By the time I received my scholarship, I was already \$2,000 in debt and still had my books to buy. However, with money from the Jane Dybowski Scholarship, I was able to buy all my books, which are always expensive for a biology major," said Callie. And time is tighter still.

During the academic year, Callie tackles the rigorous science curriculum at BSU. Integral to her studies, she conducted research under the guidance of Dr. Michael Carson. Her project involved isolating random and unidentifiable DNA, identifying mutations within the genome and determining how common the selected mutation was within her random population.

"This was basic research," she said. "I learned how to measure and how to use machines to code for mutations."

Her training paid off. This past summer, thanks to a stipend from BSU's internship fund, Callie interned at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston where she conducted research on Huntington's disease.

Callie managed her financial challenges thanks, in part, to receiving the Walking

with Jane Dybowski Scholarship. "It took a great weight off my shoulders," she said. "I was so grateful."

Jane Dybowski succumbed to cancer several years ago after a long career as a science teacher. Her husband, Harry Proudfoot, created the scholarship in her honor.

A transfer student, Callie has nothing but good things to say about her Bridgewater experience. "I love Bridgewater. The people are friendly and professors are approachable and willing to help."

"With money from the Jane Dybowski Scholarship, I was able to buy all my books, which are expensive for a biology major."

HOW YOU CAN HELP

| OPPORTUNITY | GIFT AMOUNT | YOUR IMPACT |
|---|-------------|---|
| Bridgewater Fund - Unrestricted - Financial Assistance - Internships | Any | Open doors for many students by supporting the critical philanthropic priorities of BSU. |
| Sponsor-A-Student | \$1,000 | Support a single student with a one-time scholarship award in your name. (You will learn the name of your student recipient and how your gift directly helped him or her.) |
| Sponsor-An-Intern | \$2,500 | Support a single student with a one-time paid internship in your name. (You will learn the name and placement of your student and how he or she benefited from the experience.) |
| Leadership Celebration | \$250+ | Support BSU Internship Initiatives. Contact University Advancement for sponsorship opportunities. |
| Crimson Pride Club | Any | Support students playing your favorite sport. |
| RedZone Seat Sponsorship | \$1,000 | Support your favorite sport and name a seat at Swenson Field. |
| Endowed Fund | \$25,000+ | Generate income in perpetuity by naming a fund for whatever purpose you choose. |
| | Any | Support an existing fund. |
| Bequest Intention | Any | Bequeath a portion of your will, insurance, or retirement asset to be used for any of the aforementioned purposes. |
| Charitable Gift Annuity | \$10,000+ | Support any designation while receiving a tax wise guaranteed income for life. |

For more information, contact Betsy Dubuque, Director of Development, at 508.531.2100
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Dr. Mary Lou Thornburg IRA Charitable Gift Rollover

Dr. Mary Lou Thornburg joined the faculty at Bridgewater in 1964 dedicating the next 35 years to her students and the institution she liked to call home. For 33 years, Dr. Thornburg taught in the Department of Health and Physical Education; the final two, she served as acting dean of the School of Education and Allied Studies. She was instrumental in raising the funds to supplement equipment needs for the Thornburg Fitness Center, named in recognition of her support.

Dr. Thornburg retired in 1999, yet she continues to support BSU students through her IRA Charitable Gift Rollover. An IRA Charitable Gift Rollover allows individuals to give a tax-free donation annually to a qualifying charitable organization, while significantly reducing the tax burden on the donor. For example, if an individual's annual minimum distribution (after age 70½) is \$40,000 and \$15,000 of that is a direct transfer to a qualified charity, then the charity owes no taxes and the individual is responsible for taxes only on the remaining \$25,000.

"I'm a product of public education, and I believe it is important to support public higher education. I named the Bridgewater State University Foundation as one of the beneficiaries of my IRA Charitable Gift Rollover. It's an easy win-win option for anyone considering a charitable donation."