

SPRING 2025



REDUCING BARRIERS TO MEDICAL EDUCATION

Two recent legacy gifts to MD scholarships, totaling \$8.5 million, open pathways for more students.

There is a physician shortage in many communities across the five-state WWAMI region (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho). While many extraordinary people have the potential to become medical leaders in these communities, medical school is often financially out of reach. Two legacy gifts to the University of Washington School of Medicine scholarship endowment from Lloyd and Donna Hostetler and Margaret Gaub, MD '60, aim to reduce this financial barrier.

These gifts, totaling more than \$8.5 million, will reduce the barriers to attending the UW School of Medicine and, without a large debt burden, enable these newly graduated doctors to choose careers in primary care or family medicine, care for underserved populations or practice in rural communities.

The School is unique in the country for preparing students for careers in family medicine, primary care and rural medicine, with nearly half of graduates going into primary care residencies, compared to 30% of medical students nationwide.

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"These generous gifts from University of Washington alumni will significantly reduce the financial burden of attending medical school, allowing future students to focus on their education and passion for serving others," says Tim Dellit, MD, Fel. '03, dean of the School.

With these gifts from the Hostetlers and Margaret Gaub, the UW School of Medicine's scholarship endowment now totals over \$154 million, with over \$6.5 million in scholarships awarded to medical students annually.

A meaningful legacy

While Lloyd and Donna Hostetler and Margaret Gaub came to their decision to leave bequests to the School for different reasons, they shared the same goal: to support students who would go on to serve their communities.

"I'm so thankful to the people who recognize the financial burden of medical school and contributed to UW School of Medicine scholarships to help alleviate that burden."

— Arianna Lee

The Hostetlers, who met at a UW Greek mixer, both earned their bachelor's degrees from the University of Washington. They chose to make a lasting impact by directing their \$7.4 million bequest toward MD scholarships for students committed to practicing family medicine.

As one of only three women in the UW School of Medicine Class of 1960, Gaub was a trailblazing physician who understood the life-changing power of education. She designated \$1.1

million of her estate to establish the Margaret L. Gaub, MD, Scholarship Fund to support medical students.

As members of the Henry Suzzallo Society, a fellowship of donors who have committed to future gifts for the University of Washington, the Hostetlers and Gaub understood that estate giving, especially to scholarships and educational endowments, is a powerful way to create lasting change and leave a meaningful legacy.

Together, these gifts will have a profound impact on the UW School of Medicine's students, allowing them to pursue their dreams without finances being a concern. ●

Learn more about School of Medicine scholarships at uwmedalumni.org/legacy

A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

A new chapter in our mission and vision



The UW School of Medicine Alumni Association is thrilled to unveil its refreshed mission and vision statements — a dynamic reflection of our commitment to you, our extraordinary alumni.

Mission: We support our current and future alumni through community, connections, continuing education and career development.

Vision: To cultivate lifelong relationships with and among our alumni.

Why this update? In today's ever-changing landscape, it's crucial to periodically reassess and refine our guiding principles. This ensures our mission and vision remain not only relevant but also deeply resonant with the evolving needs and

aspirations of our alumni community. We believe in continuous growth, and these updates underscore our dedication to providing unparalleled support, fostering meaningful connections and sparking inspiration — no matter where your career takes you or what stage of your journey you're in.

Our aim is to create a thriving ecosystem where you feel supported, connected and inspired. We're committed to building a future together, one marked by growth, innovation and stronger bonds within our remarkable alumni network. Thank you for being an integral part of this community. We're excited to continue to evolve with you.

Sincerely,

Blair Washington, MD '02, MHA '97
President, UW School of Medicine
Alumni Association



HARDSHIP SHAPED ME INTO A STRONGER HEALER

For Amphone Rasasombath, DPT '24, pursuing higher education — and medical school — was a high-wire act.

I was born in Seattle to an immigrant family who risked everything to escape war in Laos and build a new life from nothing. Growing up in poverty, I straddled multiple cultures, identities and challenges. Higher education wasn't an obvious path, but I dreamed of working in physical therapy. Without a roadmap, I had to find my own way.

My journey began in 2003 at community college, where I discovered how unprepared I was. My reading and writing skills were at a seventh-grade level, and I failed most of my classes. But quitting was not an option. While juggling multiple jobs, I worked relentlessly to catch up, determined to succeed.

Then everything changed again. I was diagnosed with kidney failure, and suddenly, my fight wasn't just for education — it was for survival. I faced impossible choices between tuition, transplant surgery and income. Instead of dialysis, I chose to wait for a transplant, managing to earn an associate and

a bachelor's degree in the process. After a four-year wait, I got the call in 2018: a kidney match. With it came the chance to pursue my next big dream — medical school.

I was accepted into the doctor of physical therapy program at the UW School of Medicine, but the struggles didn't end. A full-time program meant giving up my stable income, leaving me financially vulnerable. I received scholarships that placed value on my dreams and helped me achieve my goals.

The reality is no one chooses to be born into poverty, but I am proud of where I came from. Every hardship has shaped me into the clinician I am today. Physical therapy meets patients at their most vulnerable, requiring resilience, strength, leadership and compassion — qualities my journey has instilled in me. And I can now share those qualities with the people I serve. ●

Read more of Amphone's story at uwmedalumni.org/amphone

ACCESS FREE LEARNING AND AFFORDABLE CME CREDITS

Did you know that the UW School of Medicine can help you fulfill your continuing medical education (CME) requirements?

Through the School's Office of Continuing Medical Education, alumni can access many accredited series across UW Medicine, including grand rounds in anesthesiology and pain medicine, neurological surgery, pathology, allergy and immunology, general internal medicine, laboratory medicine and more. You can participate for free or register for CME credits for a nominal fee.

You can also find accredited in-person, online and hybrid conferences by browsing the course catalog (fees apply).

Learn more at uwmedalumni.org/cme



2025 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Each year, we celebrate exceptional alumni with our Distinguished Alumni Awards. This year, we are recognizing the following alumni for their contributions:

ALUMNI EARLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Ruanne Barnabas, MBChB, MSc, DPhil, Fel. '11, for her extraordinary contributions to global health and early career achievements. Her research has had a profound impact on public health policy, particularly in the areas of HIV treatment and prevention and global health interventions.

ALUMNI HUMANITARIAN AWARD



Peter Hashisaki, MD '75, for his profound impact as an infectious disease physician, improving patient care and mentoring colleagues and medical students. He has focused on work in Malawi, where he provides crucial medical care, enhances local staff training and introduces innovative resources to improve patient care.

Read more about the award recipients at uwmedalumni.org/alumni-awards

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD



Ramoncita Maestas, MD '83, Res. '86, for her exceptional dedication to the UW School of Medicine and to underserved communities. As a compassionate teacher, leader and clinician, her contributions to the medical school, the local community and the broader medical field have been truly transformative.



LeeAnna I. Muzquiz, MD '00, for her lasting contributions to the UW School of Medicine and her community. She has been instrumental in mentoring students, developing innovative pathways for students interested in serving Indigenous communities and fostering an inclusive environment.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD



Christopher Flowers, MD, Res. '00, MS '02, Fel. '02, Fel. '03, for his outstanding contributions to oncology, particularly in lymphoma research, clinical trials and addressing health disparities. Through his leadership, Dr. Flowers has significantly advanced both cancer research and healthcare policy. ●

UPCOMING EVENTS



MAY 6

Alumni and Student Physical Therapy Networking. Vista Café, Seattle

JUNE 6

Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony.
The Lodge at St. Edward Park, Kenmore

JUNE 6-7

UW School of Medicine Alumni

Reunion Weekend, celebrating MD graduation years ending with a 5 or 0.
The Lodge at St. Edward Park, Kenmore

JUNE 8

UW School of Medicine Alumni Family Day. The Lodge at St. Edward Park, Kenmore

Register for the latest Alumni Association events at uwmedalumni.org/events

CLASS NOTES

Here are just a few of the wonderful Class Notes we've received from you and your classmates! Read more and submit yours at uwmedalumni.org/classnotes.

PHD

Howard Young, PhD '74, says, "After 40+ years of research, retired in 2024 and now an NIH scientist emeritus. The International Cytokine and Interferon Society has renamed its Distinguished Service Award as the ICIS Howard A. Young Distinguished Service Award in recognition of my years of service devoted to the ICIS and to the fields of cytokine and interferon biology."

Residency/Fellowship

Richard Siegfried, MD, Fel. '92, has been appointed senior associate consultant in pain medicine at Mayo Clinic Health System. In addition, he has been appointed instructor in anesthesiology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.

John Verrilli, MD, Res '77, says, "Happily retired in Seattle with my wife, Mary, three adult and independent daughters and three grandchildren."

MEDEX Northwest



Glenn Knight, PA-C '94, writes, "I was honored with the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian award, by the

U.S. Congress. Vietnam Dustoff Crews of the Vietnam War members included pilots, crew chiefs and medics who are credited for evacuating 900,000 wounded U.S., Allied and Vietnamese and achieving the goal of getting the wounded to the OR within the 'golden hour' of survival. Serving as an Army medic in '68-69 led to civilian

employment in operating rooms as surgical assistant, family practice PA-C and general surgery PA-C."

Rehabilitation Medicine

Tina Eng, BS '95, says, "Even though I retired 10 years ago, I've been able to use my training and skills to help others as a volunteer. Between 2017 and 2019, I was able to help children in China with CP and other physical disabilities using my training and experience and offer training to their therapists. I am thankful for the excellent training and support I received from the UW occupational therapy training program. I'm also happy to report a few have followed in my footsteps to become OTs. The education I received was priceless and changed the lives of many — including my own."

MD

William McIlroy, MD '57, says, "I am living in a small cottage at Patriots Landing in DuPont, WA. My wife Jan died in 2015 of ovarian cancer. We married in 1961, both in the Army, but in those days, married couples were not acceptable. Jan got out and spent a career managing our finances, animal welfare volunteer (anyone remember "Pet of the Week" Tuesdays on KIRO TV?). Our one son is retiring from a successful career as a research scientist and director of a nationally known lab. I did 20 years in the Army as an OB-GYN and 12 in private practice in downtown Tacoma. Jan and I had bird watching as a hobby, both in the USA and internationally."

Hugh Straley, MD '68, says, "My wife Linda died in 2019 of ovarian



John Verrilli, MD, Res. '77, and family.

cancer after 53 years of a wonderful marriage. Fortunately, our two sons and their families live close by in Seattle with my four beautiful and smart grandchildren. In 2021, I was introduced to a great woman, Jennifer Potter, and we became a happy couple quite suddenly living together in Seattle. We have traveled widely and are thoroughly enjoying this last phase of a lucky life. I am almost completely retired from medicine but still sit on several boards trying to fix our broken medical system. Hope to see everyone at our reunion in 2028."

Alvin Matsumoto, MD '75, Res.

'78, Chief Res. '79, writes, "I retired from clinical and administrative responsibilities in 2020 after nearly 40 years on the regular faculty in the Department of Medicine at the UW School of Medicine and the VA Puget Sound Health Care System in Seattle. After retirement, I continue collaborative clinical research related to sex hormones and to



Top: Howard Young, PhD '74, celebrating 40+ years of research. Bottom: John Addison, MD '79, Res. '82, relaxing at the cabin.

publish papers (>300 so far) with colleagues in the U.S. and Australia. I maintain academic appointments as a professor emeritus at the UW and clinical investigator in the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) at the VA. Except during a health setback 2 to 3 years ago, my wife of 53 years, Marianne, and I have continued to exercise rather obsessively but age-appropriately nearly every day, investing in a stationary bike and water rower during COVID. We have enjoyed having our three sons and two granddaughters in Seattle and had a great family vacation with them in Hawaii last year. It was great seeing medical school classmates of 50 years ago at a recent get-together."

Paul Williams, MD '75, Fel. '91, says, "I retired from active practice in 2021, but volunteer at a local free clinic and continue on the clinical faculty at UW School of Medicine as a clinical professor. I have remained



active in national specialty medical society work and am serving as president of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma

& Immunology, the premier allergy specialty society in North America, for 2024–2025. Otherwise enjoying retirement and visiting with our 11 grandchildren. My society work has enabled me to travel extensively this past year, with trips to southeast Asia and Europe. I am looking forward to spending part of the year in our new home in Peoria, AZ."

John Addison, MD '79, Res. '82, writes, "Still plugging away at playing doctor at age 72. Married for nearly 50 years, we now have three grandchildren, who were the excuse for moving from Washington to Colorado. I still own and practice a little with Northwest Geriatrics,



UW School of Medicine Alumni Family Day

Sunday, June 8, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

AT THE LODGE AT ST. EDWARD PARK

Alumni from all UW School of Medicine degree programs and their families are invited to a summer BBQ in the park! Join us for a casual buffet-style lunch and an afternoon of fun, family-friendly activities.

Tickets: \$25 (includes lunch, non-alcoholic drinks and entertainment); **kids 12 and under complimentary**

Learn more and register by May 30 at uwmedalumni.org/familyday

which has grown to seven providers. We do not have an office, but see patients where they live in nursing homes, retirement homes, adult family homes and patient homes. In Colorado, I practice half-time in a hospital-sponsored senior clinic and just love the work. On other days, I enjoy golfing, skiing, reading and time with my children and grandchildren. I continue to be blessed with good health and only forget a few things. I wish the same joy to all."

Mary Jo Kintner, MD '84, says, "Recently returned from a slow boat flotilla we've wanted to do since before the pandemic. I'm captaining the North Sound Swimmers, Swim Across America Team, planning a fundraising beach sale and silent auction. Also fund angel grants to researchers at Fred Hutch."



Dale Holdren, MD '90, writes, "2024 has been an amazing, notable year. On one hand, I have had to retire from my

helpful career as an ophthalmologist because I am now officially disabled from my ALS condition. On the other hand, it has also been very productive, since me and my family have been very involved in making the wonderful movie, 'Bob Trevino Likes It,' which has won awards at almost every major film festival this year! It is a fun, sweet movie and very good for healing and building relationships."

Melissa Molsee, MD '07, Res. '10, says, "Ten years ago, we helped to open a brand-new hospital in northern Togo, West Africa. Since then, over 123,000 individuals have passed through our gates arriving from our region and the seven surrounding countries. Last year, we had close to 1,500 births (many referred for complications from surrounding government clinics as we are the closest hospital with a stable oxygen supply and surgeon), more than 40,000 clinic visits and more than 10,000 hospitalized patients. My husband works as the hospital's administrator and I work as a physician in the clinic and hospital, and together we are raising our four sons. It has been a joy and a privilege to serve side by side with our expatriate and Togolese brothers and sisters over the last 10 years. The security of our region continues to be more and more threatened by terrorist groups, but we pray that we will be allowed to continue to care well for all who come to our gates seeking compassionate medical treatment for many years to come."

Lauren Verrilli, MD '15, writes, "Living in Salt Lake City, UT, and working as a reproductive endocrinologist at the U! My husband and I have an 8-month-old baby boy. We (used to) spend a lot of time skiing and now spend a lot of time with our little guy and doing home projects." ●



Top: Mary Jo Kintner, MD '84, takes a break from swimming and funding angel grants. Bottom: Lauren Verrilli, MD '15, with her newest family member.



STAY CONNECTED

Every month, we share an email that features news about alumni, the UW School of Medicine and your alumni association. Make sure we have your email so you never miss out.

uwmedalumni.org/connect



MEDICAL STUDENTS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

As students navigate medical school and begin their careers, they often have questions about residency, work-life balance, practicing medicine and more. Sharing expertise and advice is a great way for alumni to pass along their insights and lived experience.

The UW School of Medicine Alumni Association's Student-Alumni Informational Discussions (SAID) program connects alumni with students for small-group discussions. Alumni can enjoy an engaging conversation while answering students' questions — and hearing from them about what it's like to be in medical school today.

The discussions take place online or in-person within 30 minutes of any WWAMI site and are open to all current UW School of Medicine MD students. Virtual events usually last about 90 minutes, while in-person events typically last one to two hours and can include coffee or a meal.

Our 2024 season was the most popular to date, with 42 alumni

"I really appreciated hearing more about a rural surgeon's practice... made me more open to practicing in a rural setting."

hosts meeting with 184 students in a total of 50 sessions. The hosts represented 26 specialty areas and included several alumni who graduated in the last decade, ensuring a wide range of experiences to share with students. This record-breaking year we were thrilled to include, for the first time, in-person sessions in Anchorage, Alaska, and Laramie, Wyoming. Thank you to all our alumni hosts!

"I really appreciated hearing more about a rural surgeon's practice... made me more open to practicing in a rural setting," says one student participant. ●

Learn more at
uwmedalumni.org/said



2024 SAID sessions with alumni hosts Dr. Jane Lester, Dr. Thomas Green and Dr. Kathleen Burgess.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO STUDENTS TODAY

Your caring gift can support scholarships, student programs and even in-person, community-building events for students that create lasting memories and impact. Make a gift today and make a difference to students at the UW School of Medicine.



MAKE YOUR GIFT
now by scanning this
QR code or online at:

uwmedalumni.org/spring2025