

Dear friends and supporters,

Thank you for giving generously to support our engineering students through scholarships. **Through your annual contributions and endowments, you are providing crucial financial support and intrinsic encouragement to the student recipients by supporting their current studies and future ambitions.** As a former recipient of scholarships myself, I remember how grateful I was to receive financial support and the difference-maker it was for me to be able to stay focused on school and successfully strive toward graduation. Through your contributions, you are perpetuating these values and instilling the act of philanthropy for our students.

Approximately 10% of our 2,500 undergraduates receive donor-sponsored scholarships. A scholarship award recognizes the student recipient for a variety of reasons: for their academic effort and merit, their dedication and pursuit of an engineering degree, financial need, their involvement in engineering student societies, their leadership and volunteer work on campus, etc. These and other points of recognition reflect the values of our donors, and quite often align with the core mission of the college.

I have chosen to underscore the values and intangible benefits scholarship support provides because the university is changing how we administer scholarships and our expectations of the student recipients. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and CSU's Principles of Community, we will no longer require, as a term of scholarship award acceptance, students to complete thank you letters or attend events. Examples of how this change may be felt include in-person engagement with the student(s) at the Engineering Scholarship Social this spring. We will continue to provide opportunities for students to express and demonstrate gratitude, and you will undoubtedly meet and connect with many of our students benefiting from generous scholarships during the Social. However, we can no longer guarantee that you will meet the student(s) receiving your scholarship.

Despite this evolution in our policies and approach, the value you bring to our students' educational success has not changed. Your generous contributions are more important than ever. Through your support, you're making an excellent college education more accessible, you're encouraging more students to pursue engineering at CSU, and you're perpetuating skills and determination for future engineering leaders.

I look forward to seeing you and many of our students at the Engineering Scholarship Social this spring so I can personally thank you for your valuable contributions. Together, we can congratulate our scholarship recipients and encourage their persistence to graduation.

With gratitude,

Dave McLean, Dean

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