

September 20, 2024

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: WSU Foundation Board of Regents Report

SUBMITTED BY: Mike Connell, Vice President of Advancement & CEO, WSU Foundation

The Washington State University Foundation is pleased to report the following:

- WSU's philanthropic momentum continued in FY2024, with alumni, friends, and industry partners contributing \$154,346,752 system-wide during the fiscal year, which ended June 30. This marks the third consecutive year WSU fundraising topped \$150 million and is the second-best fundraising year in WSU history. Donors supported more than 1,000 different projects, initiatives, and funds system-wide, benefiting academic, research, and outreach efforts in every college and at each of the university's six campuses as well as research and extension centers across the state.
- The WSU Foundation's endowment market value was \$722,564,874 as of June 30, 2024, representing a 12-month return of 10.80%. The WSU Foundation also distributed a record \$27.3 million from the consolidated endowment fund to support scholarships, faculty positions, research, and outreach programs across the WSU system.
- Last month, Mike Connell was joined by Leslie Brunelli, Executive VP of Finance and Operations, and Phil Weiler, VP of University Communications and Marketing, for a virtual "WSU Investments and Endowment Forum." The discussion covered the Foundation's role and its relationship with the university, as well as how the endowment functions and is managed. The conversation also highlighted how it benefits WSU's students, faculty, research, and outreach system wide. Leslie also touched on processes related to non-philanthropic dollars, such as tuition/room and board, and state funds to help clarify the distinction between how those funds and philanthropic dollars are managed. A recording of this forum can be viewed on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/PMm4o12YjhQ>.
- We look forward to formally announcing soon an anonymous gift to establish an endowed chair position in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The \$5+ million investment is one the largest gifts in the college's history and will have an immediate impact on the college, benefiting people and pets alike.
- "[WSU in Seattle](#)" will occur September 9-14 with various events leading up to the Apple Cup. In addition to activities planned by the WSU Alumni Association and WSU Foundation, including "A Night with Cougs," we are grateful for the large number of colleges and units who have coordinated gatherings for their donors, alumni, and friends.
- The next meeting of the WSU Foundation Board of Directors will be held on October 24.