

# Alumni and Friends

are Gathering Around the Country to *Join the Pursuit!*

In July 2013, Truman launched the five-year, \$40 million “Pursue the Future” campaign. The



Above: Linda Miller ('70) speaks at Mid-Atlantic Campaign event. Below: Vid Vidyasagara ('92) speaks at Arizona Campaign event.

campaign has now moved into year four and is continuing to build momentum. After three years of securing gifts, the campaign has reached more than \$30.6 million in commitments.

During the public phase of the campaign (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2018), all alumni, parents and friends are being asked to partner with Truman and provide financial gift commitments in support of the University. To get the word out, generate enthusiasm for the campaign and provide an

opportunity to participate, a number of regional campaign events are taking place in the University’s largest alumni markets.

Four regional events have already occurred this year, and six additional campaign events are planned for the next 18 months. A regional campaign goal of \$6.75 million has been set, and more than \$4.8 million has been secured.

To learn more about the “Pursue the Future” campaign, go to [campaign.truman.edu](http://campaign.truman.edu).



## Regional Campaign Schedule

Arizona	February 16, 2016
Mid-Atlantic	April 16, 2016
Dallas	May 21, 2016
Kansas City	August 27, 2016
Chicago	November 12, 2016
Mid-Missouri	April 29, 2017
Iowa	June 17, 2017
St. Louis	July 28, 2017
Denver	September 23, 2017
Northeast Missouri	November 4, 2017

# Student Support Still a Top Priority for the Painos

Not long after President Troy D. Paino announced he would be stepping down on June 30, 2016, alumni, students and friends rallied to establish the **Troy and Kelly Paino Emergency Student Relief Fund** through the Truman State University Foundation.



Paino kept student learning, achievement and academic quality at the forefront of his six-year presidency. His remarkable personal qualities and extraordinary leadership skills provided a powerful combination as he so capably served all University constituencies.

The fund honors the Painos and will assist current students facing economic hardship and provide resources to help them continue their education at Truman. In establishing the purpose for the fund and setting criteria, Troy and Kelly knew from the start that they wanted it to be about students.

*“Our desire in setting up this fund was to provide financial support to students, who are already part of the Truman family, at the time when they need it most.”* – TROY AND KELLY PAINO

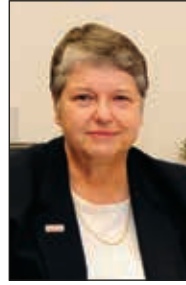
A \$40,000 matching challenge gift was established to encourage all constituencies to support the fund. With support coming in from alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students, the Troy and Kelly Paino Emergency Student Relief fund has received commitments totaling more than \$57,000.

Donors interested in contributing to the Troy and Kelly Paino Emergency Student Relief Fund can do so by visiting [giveonline.truman.edu](http://giveonline.truman.edu) or by contacting the Office of Advancement at (800) 452-6678.

Total Support to “Pursue the Future” by Priorities AS OF 7-31-16

**\$30,639,034**

# A Message from the Campaign Chair Sharron Quisenberry...



I couldn't be more pleased to share an update on the continued support of alumni and friends for the \$40 million “Pursue the Future” campaign. On June 30, we completed the third year of the campaign and the first year of the public phase. More than \$30.6 million (77% of our goal) has been raised through the campaign. With two years remaining, we are encouraged with the excellent progress and remain confident the goal will be met and surpassed.

The top priority of the campaign is scholarships. The level of state funding for higher education has significantly declined over the past 20 years. As a result, private support from alumni and friends is more important than ever. The success of our campaign is extremely important to ensure there are adequate scholarship funds to allow Truman to continue attracting high-caliber students and provide the financial support they need.

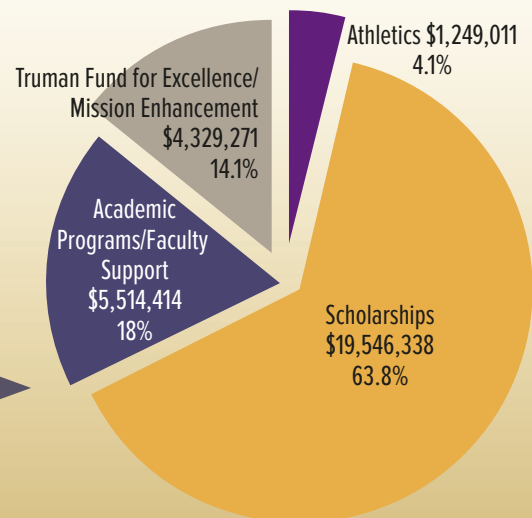
In February 2016, the first of ten regional celebration events was held. Regional campaign events build momentum and support for the campaign as well as remind alumni and friends of the University's tremendous progress and accomplishments. Over the next year and a half, regional events will continue to occur in our major alumni markets. I encourage you to join us at an event in your area that will enhance your interest and pride in “our” excellent University.

I remain excited about this campaign and the opportunities it will provide students, faculty and the University in general. Your support makes a difference and creates a sustainable foundation of funding for future generations of students while enabling the University to continue its nationally acclaimed educational programs.

Truman has provided generations of students with an excellent education and vast opportunities. Your support through a financial commitment to the “Pursue the Future” campaign is one way to ensure Truman's impact continues for generations to come.

Please join us at the regional events and consider supporting Truman State University.

Sincerely,  
  
Sharron S. Quisenberry, PhD



# Donors Give Back with Pitch Competition

Alumni Doug ('94) and Diane ('95) Villhard awarded \$6,000 to Truman students as part of the inaugural Bulldog B.I.T.E. elevator pitch competition.

An elevator pitch outlines the concept or idea for a product, service or project in a short period of time, typically from 30 seconds to three minutes. The length of the pitch mirrors the time spent waiting for and riding an elevator in a high-rise building. The purpose of the pitch is to spur the interest of a potential investor or financial backer.

Bulldog B.I.T.E., which stands for Business Innovation by Truman Entrepreneurs, allowed participants to pitch a for-profit or not-for-profit concept. Judges selected six teams to attend the live pitch competition in March in St. Louis to present their product to an alumni panel. Contestants were judged based on the problem, product/service solution, market, competition, value creation, seed money, a Q&A session and the presentation of the project.

William Fries, a junior computer science major, won first prize and earned \$3,000. Fries won for his pitch of a small USB security device for protecting digital data,



Doug Villhard ('94) congratulates the finalists at the inaugural Bulldog B.I.T.E. competition.

such as emails, passwords or encryption keys. The product keeps data offline and securely encrypted, while still allowing for easy access with a short pin.

Anthony Hill, a junior accounting major, won second place and \$2,000 for SpiroRip, a notebook ripping device. Stephen Cutler, a junior business administration major, received third place and \$1,000

for Lily Luggage, a luggage concept that combines motorized wheels with Bluetooth technology.

The judges for Bulldog B.I.T.E. were alumni Stacey George ('00), Amanda Gioia ('93), John Haney ('01), Marco Iardi ('99), Chris LeBeau ('05), Cody Sumter ('10) and Kevin Tibbs ('95).

## Commitment Enhances Parents' Scholarship

Pinney Allen and her husband, Charles "Buddy" Miller III recently made a \$175,000 gift commitment through the "Pursue the Future" campaign to enhance the **Walker and Doris Allen Scholarship**. When received, this gift will boost the balance of the scholarship fund, which supports first-generation, underserved students who also have demonstrated financial need, to nearly \$275,000.



Walker ('39) and Doris Allen

The Walker and Doris Allen Scholarship was established in 2012, during

Truman's "Bright Minds Bright Futures" campaign, in recognition and honor of Pinney's parents, Walker ('39) and Doris Allen. Walker served Truman as a member of the Foundation Board of Directors from 1998-2003. The Allen's also provided generous financial support for faculty members through the Walker and Doris Allen Faculty Fellowship program, which provided \$10,000 fellowship awards for outstanding members of Truman's faculty.

*"My parents always felt that education made the difference—was what made a path to a more promising future possible. My family*

*and I are delighted to provide scholarship support to an institution like Truman both for what it does and because it is cradled in the area that gave my parents—and derivatively all of us—a start."*

— PINNEY ALLEN

Pinney continues the family's legacy of strong support and service to Truman. She currently serves on the President's Advisory Council and is also a member of the steering committee for the "Pursue the Future" campaign.

## Campaign Steering Committee

Dr. Sharron Quisenberry ('66), Chair  
Pinney Allen  
Dr. Cheryl Cozette

Chuck Foudree ('66)  
Mike McClaskey ('85)  
Linda Miller ('70)  
Dr. Larry Quisenberry ('66)

Dr. Sue Thomas, University President  
Charles Woods ('86)  
Scott Zajac ('83)

# Estate Gift Funds New Scholarship Endowment

*It is an appreciation that she shared with her godparents who always encouraged those that were looking to improve their lives and themselves to do so by furthering their education.*

The Truman State University Foundation has received a nearly \$190,000 gift due to the generosity of Dorothy "Dottie" Marie Dieckman and her godparents, Lieutenant Colonel James Mathey Huebsch and Dorothy Moore Huebsch. Although Dieckman spent much of her 34-year teaching career in Arvada, Colo., she never forgot her Missouri roots or how she got her start. A native of Warrenton, Mo., Dieckman enrolled at the University and earned a Bachelor of Science in Education in 1967. Then, she earned her Master of Arts in mathematics in 1972. Dieckman has developed a deep appreciation for the critically important role that quality public education fulfills for the future of our nation. It is an appreciation that she shared with her godparents who always encouraged those that were looking to improve their lives and themselves to do so by furthering their education. They believed that education is a basic foundation for a successful life and they were lifetime learners.



*Dorothy Dieckman ('67, '72)*

Jim and Dorothy were married for almost 70 years before her passing early in 2015. Jim passed away in early 2016 leaving Dottie as the beneficiary of an annuity. Dieckman's generous nature compelled her to gift her

inheritance to Truman and fund a scholarship endowment that she had created previously with a \$300,000 planned gift commitment from her own estate plan. This newly funded scholarship endowment will assist academically promising students with financial need who are preparing for careers in math or science education. Preference will be given to students from Warren County R-III High School and Arvada, Colo. Support from this generous endowment will begin assisting Truman students as early as fall 2017.

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