

Report on Giving 2022

Learners to Leaders



LEARNERS TO LEADERS

Thanks to your vision and generosity in supporting the campus initiatives you care most about, students at UMN Morris are able to effectively transition from today's learners to tomorrow's leaders. Each gift to UMN Morris enhances the student experience and strengthens student services and resources. Your support makes quality education accessible to talented, deserving students, while fostering equity and inclusivity. Thank you.

FISCAL YEAR 22 GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

- \$6,375,356 in new gifts and commitments
- Second-highest private giving year in UMN Morris history
- Creation of first-ever endowed chair, psychology discipline
- 25% of 2022 donors made their first gift

IMPACTING GENERATIONS TO COME

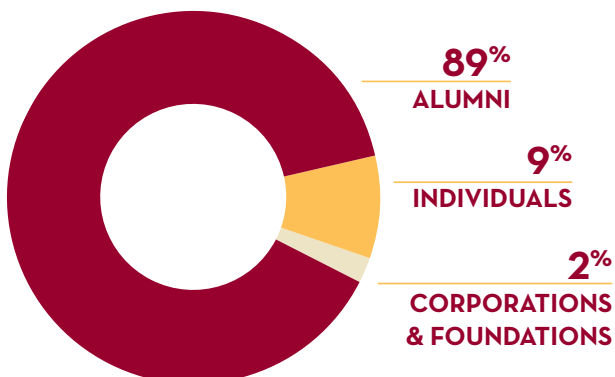
UMN Morris alumni Drs. Puncy Heppner '73 and Mary Soehren Heppner '76 have a distinct, personal understanding of the transformative power of quality education and multidimensional experiences. They come from rural Midwestern backgrounds. Both were the first in their families to graduate from college nearly five decades ago when they attended UMN Morris. It became the springboard for their lives and careers, rich in diversity, mentoring, and servant leadership.

The Heppners recently committed a future gift to the Morris campus for an endowed chair in multicultural psychology. The first endowed chair at UMN Morris, it is for a distinguished faculty member who will provide leadership to enhance current research, teaching, and programming to prepare students for the diverse world they will be part of—both at UMN Morris and after graduation.

This gift builds on the couple's history of philanthropy with the Morris campus, including the donation of the *Nokoomis Nibii Equay* sculpture installed in the summer of 2018. "We learned so much from UMN Morris, and it helped propel us into meaningful careers. We wanted to give back in several significant ways," the Heppners said.

Creating an endowment to attract and retain a faculty member with a highly distinguished career that emphasizes multicultural and cross-cultural psychology can impact the lives of students and faculty across disciplines. This position emphasizes the positive impact of equity, diversity, and inclusion. It will empower all students to provide leadership in their chosen fields, "Long after we're gone, students will hopefully benefit from this investment, and they will do amazing work that will ripple out into the world in different ways," Mary explained.

2022 GIFTS BY SOURCE



The Heppners at the installation of the *Nokoomis Nibii Equay* sculpture.

MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE

“Bill made the impossible... possible. He was as excited about my gift to UMN as I was,” shared one of the many generous donors who worked with Bill Robb. Bill, senior development officer at UMN Morris from 2015 to 2022, passed away unexpectedly in

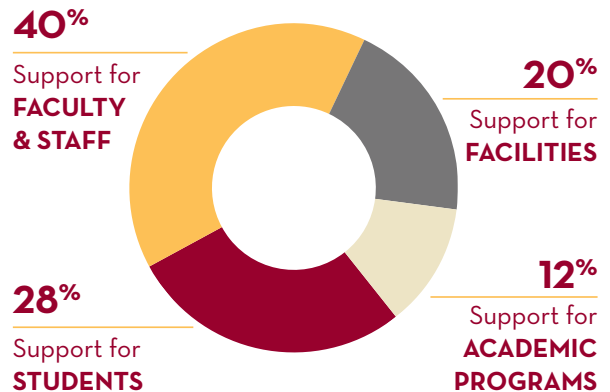


Bill Robb

June 2022. The newly created Bill Robb Memorial Scholarship honors Bill, who believed deeply in the transformative power of higher education. Through the vision and generosity of his family, friends, alumni, and colleagues, the Bill Robb Memorial Scholarship was awarded for the first time this fall. Its inaugural recipient is Ayla Wicklow '25. Bill's enduring legacy at UMN Morris will live on in the many student scholarships he helped donors to establish and in the newly created scholarship that bears his name.



2022 GIFTS BY DESIGNATION



PRESERVING HABITAT FOR LEARNING AND RESEARCH

“UMN Morris is a wonderful educational institution,” says Linda Dahlen '72. Dahlen credits her liberal arts education at UMN Morris for helping her develop problem solving skills. “This has helped me greatly in my work as an attorney and in life.” She wanted to find a way to give back to her alma mater, a place where she says she was able to grow and dream. So, when she inherited land from her parents in Wright County, she thought about how she could use that as a gift in tandem with the scholarship she had set up.

“I wanted a way to provide the land as a testamentary gift to UMN Morris, but also to preserve the habitat into the future.” She decided to convert most of the land to a wildlife habitat. Impressed with UMN Morris's mission to support environmental stewardship, she hopes that the land will be used by students and faculty for learning and research purposes. “I am also hoping that this gift will provide future students with scholarship support.”



Linda Dahlen '72

Dahlen acknowledges the distinctiveness of her gift. “This gift is unique and there were many challenges in putting all the pieces together to the satisfaction of everyone involved.” Dahlen is appreciative of the attention given to this project and the work done by Bill Robb, UMN Morris development officer. “I am eternally indebted to the late Bill Robb for all of his efforts and support. Without his involvement, this gift would never have been possible.”

HONORING THE SPIRIT OF 1970 FOOTBALL

Former Cougar Head Football Coach Wayne “Mike” Simpson and his wife, Dorothy Simpson, were overwhelmed by the number of former athletes and cheerleaders who attended the 1970 Cougar football team reunion at the homecoming celebration in October 2021. “We talked about how unique that seemed to be,” said Dorothy. They were so moved that they decided to find a way to honor the people and the spirit of the 1970 team while promoting the value of a UMN Morris education. Establishing an endowed scholarship at UMN Morris was their way of doing that. “We wanted to support students who embody the spirit and characteristics of the teammates, cheerleaders, and friends of the 1970 Cougar football team.”

The 1970 Cougar Pride Scholarship will provide financial support to UMN Morris students who are entering their sophomore year. “We hope this will be a way to join together with UMN Morris grads to make a college degree affordable to the same type of small-town student that played on the 1970 team.”

When asked why they chose the words “Cougar Pride” in the scholarship name, the Simpsons acknowledged



Simpson, far right, with members of the 1970 football team at Homecoming 2021

“all those who worked hard to establish the very good reasons to be proud of UMM and its programs.” Former UMN Morris players, alumni, and friends agree. “It was a special group of athletes that participated during that time. They put in the work not only on the football field but in the classroom. They were special, and they accomplished some wonderful things... they accomplished what we set out to do, they’re happy about it, and that’s why I think it’s great to honor them,” said Mike.

INVESTING IN A STABLE FUTURE

Many things factored into Jeannine Churchill’s decision to establish a scholarship at UMN Morris. High rankings among other colleges of its size, its strong support for Native American students, her family’s ties to the school, and her own experience attending UMN Morris are some reasons. But when asked what prompted her most to start a scholarship, she says, “mounting concern about rapidly growing student debt issues and the inescapable evidence of impending disaster due to climate change.” She adds that starting this scholarship is also a way to honor her parents. With today’s ongoing climate concerns, she often thinks back to growing up on a small dairy farm in Minnesota, the looks on her parents’ faces as they scanned the sky for signs of rain still fresh in her mind. “I learned firsthand the importance of soil health, regular precipitation, and moderate temperatures.”



Jeannine Churchill

The J. A. Gilbertson Churchill Scholarship is a renewable scholarship for students at UMN Morris who are seeking a degree in the field of environmental science or environmental studies. With this scholarship at UMN Morris and a fellowship at UMN Twin Cities for students who will devote themselves to climate science, Churchill hopes to address student debt and the climate crisis. With her vision and generosity, she is accomplishing both.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA PRESIDENT'S CLUB

With gratitude, we welcome these fiscal year 2022 members to the University of Minnesota President's Club and recognize those Morris donors who reached a new giving level.

HERITAGE SOCIETY

Punky Paul '73 and Mary Soehren Heppner '76
Dr. Robert C. Hansen
Jeffrey L. and Lisa J. Tate
Jeannine A. Churchill
Steven M. Jerve
Mark Bergherr

WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

Stevens Community Medical Center's gift to the Morris Community Softball Complex is rooted in its dedication to serving its community. With a long tradition of supporting initiatives that strengthen the vitality and health of the people in the region, it was a perfect fit for SCMC to invest in an athletic facility that supports the health and development of elementary through college-aged athletes.



SCMC President/CEO Kerrie McEvelly knows that the Morris Community Softball Complex allows an opportunity for athletes and fans of all ages to interact in a safe and healthy environment.

“One way we can fulfill our mission is to support healthy initiatives that keep people active and contribute to their overall well-being. We know our patients, friends, and neighbors, as well as our employees and their families, will benefit from our support of the Morris Community Softball Complex.”

Over the years, SCMC and UMN Morris have had collaborations that provide mutual benefits, including the Regional Fitness Center. Additionally, SCMC provides medical staff for the campus Health Service.

More broadly, McEvelly says that having UMN Morris in the community is a benefit for SCMC. “We’re committed to providing ongoing educational and economic opportunities such as the softball complex to help this community thrive for one simple reason: it’s our community too.”

The University of Minnesota Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization soliciting tax-deductible private contributions for the University of Minnesota. Financial and other information about University of Minnesota Foundation's purpose, programs and activities can be obtained by contacting the Chief Financial Officer at 200 Oak Street SE, Suite 500, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612) 624-3333, or for residents of the following states, as stated below. **Maryland:** For the cost of postage and copying, from the Secretary of State. **Michigan:** MICS No. 50198. **New Jersey:** INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY DURING THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD THAT WERE DEDICATED TO THE CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING (973) 504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/charities>. **New York:** Upon request, from the Attorney General Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. **Pennsylvania:** The official registration and financial information of University of Minnesota Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. **Virginia:** From the State Office of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. **Washington:** From the Secretary of State at 1-800-332-4483. The registration required by the state charitable solicitation act is on file with the Secretary of State's office. **West Virginia:** West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAW. **REGISTRATION IN A STATE DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA FOUNDATION BY THE STATE.**

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MORRIS

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

Welcome Center
600 East Fourth Street
Morris, Minnesota 56267-2132

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Giving to UMN Morris

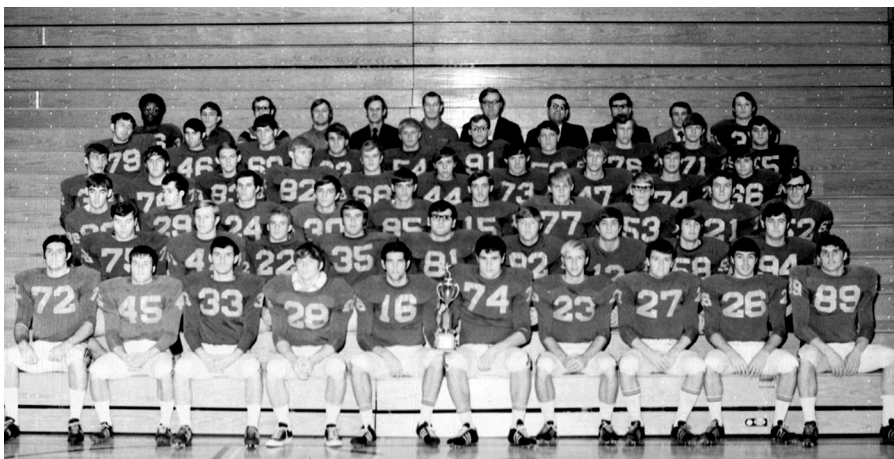
In partnership with the University of Minnesota Foundation, all gifts designated to UMN Morris are received by and invested in the Morris campus. The Foundation serves as the legal, charitable entity for the University system.

SUSAN SCHMIDGALL
senior director of advancement
320-589-6160
sschmidg@morris.umn.edu

ERIN CHRISTENSEN '05
senior development officer
320-589-6067
erinc@morris.umn.edu

JENNIFER ZYCH HERRMANN '00
director of alumni engagement
320-589-6048
zychja@morris.umn.edu

give.morris.umn.edu



The spirit of the 1970 Cougar football team, shown here, inspired a scholarship gift from former Head Football Coach Wayne "Mike" Simpson and his wife Dorothy Simpson. Read more inside.

The University of Minnesota shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, familial status, disability, public assistance status, membership or activity in a local commission created for the purpose of dealing with discrimination, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.