A study in studying, then and now

The learning styles of today’s students require different types of spaces – to study, do research and collaborate on projects – than in the past, such as the Learning Connections Center in the former first-floor reference area of Parks Library, made possible with support from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust.

As Iowa State attracts ever greater numbers of students, what must the university do to continue delivering the outstanding educational experience that’s bringing them here?
Today’s Iowa State student experience is still the major factor in attracting students to Iowa State and enabling them to be successful here and after graduation. That’s because it’s still built on the same four mission-driven pillars: great academics, great culture, great faculty, and great campus and facilities.

N FALL 1951, NEIL HARL was a freshman at Iowa State College and downright lonely. He didn’t know many people on campus and wasn’t sure he even belonged there. His parents warned him back on the family farm near rural Seymour, Iowa. Although Harl left college after two quarters because of his father’s illness, he returned to Iowa State in 1952 to earn both a bachelor’s degree in agricultural education and a doctorate in economics. He served on the university’s economics faculty for more than 40 years, retiring in 2004 as the Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture and Life Sciences and professor emeritus of economics.

Not surprisingly, Harl is a firm believer in Iowa State as “one of the finest institutions in the country for helping students build their educational and personal platforms for life.”

Fast forward to fall 2012: Freshman Victoria Thompson arrived at Iowa State University knowing she would have some adjustments to make. After all, her high school class in Woodbine, Iowa, was just 33 students, and she’d chosen to attend a major public research university of 31,000 students.

Still, she was stunned to walk into Gilman Hall and discover she was one of about 300 students in her general chemistry class. “My high school’s whole enrollment could fit into that auditorium!” she said.

Although Thompson was overwhelmed at first by the sheer number of people and the size of campus, that changed as she was drawn into college life. A microbiology major, she was delighted to meet other young women with talents and aspirations similar to hers in the Women in Science and Engineering Living Community in Friley Hall. She joined the Pre-veterinary Club and the Microbiology Club, and bonded with more students with common interests.

“It turned out just like everyone told me it would,” Thompson said. “Iowa State has a big campus, but it seems smaller once you’re here.”

An experience for life

If Harl’s story is that of thousands of alumni – of how Iowa State provided them the tools not just to make a living, but to live a life – then Thompson’s story is evidence that Iowa State’s unique educational environment is still the major factor in enabling young people to be successful here and after graduation, both personally and professionally. That’s because the Iowa State student experience, while being constantly fine-tuned to meet the needs of today’s student, continues to be built on the same four mission-driven pillars as it’s always been: great academic programs, great culture, great faculty and staff, and great campus and facilities.

As characterized by Iowa State University President Steven Leath at his installation last September, “Iowa State’s student experience is our ‘brand.’ Students are coming here because of the quality of our educational programs, our learning environment, and the opportunities that await our graduates.”

While Iowa State is a major public university, with all the advantages that brings, he added, “we also have the feel here of a small, welcoming place because of our supportive community.”

Tom Hill, senior vice president for student affairs, provides a similar take. “Iowa State has focused on who it is, what it is, and we’ve been true to our land-grant tradition and heritage,” he explained. “We’ve developed our student experience is still the major factor in attracting students to Iowa State and enabling them to be successful here and after graduation. That’s because it’s still built on the same four mission-driven pillars: great academics, great culture, great faculty, and great campus and facilities.

HISTORY THAT MATTERS

Iconic engineering

How does one remove two entire floors from beneath a 400-seat auditorium? Or perhaps the question should be why?

“It was certainly an ambitious idea to open this space up and completely change it,” laughed Kerry Dixon-Fox, project manager for Curtiss Hall and coordinator of sustainable design and construction for facilities, planning and management at Iowa State University.

She’s referring to Harl Commons which, in no small feat of engineering, is being carved out of the east side of Curtiss Hall, with support from Neil E. ('55, '65) and Darlene ('81) Harl. “We knew we wanted to do more than bring this 100-year-old icon into the 21st century,” said David Acker, associate dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ academic and global programs. “The people who built Curtiss Hall in 1906 were looking to the future, and with this renovation we wanted to pay forward in the same way to those future leaders in agriculture and life sciences who will come to Iowa State over the next 100 years.”

Watch video on Curtiss Hall’s renovation at www.foundation.iastate.edu/forwardmag.
experience based on our land-grant tradition, providing diverse opportunities to students, along with connectedness.”

As a result, students from across Iowa, the country and the world are flocking to Iowa State in increasing numbers, with fall 2012’s enrollment of 31,040 topping all previous years.

Such success, however, doesn’t come without challenges. As Hill summed it up, “As we grow, we must take care not to lose the very thing that has made Iowa State the outstanding institution that it is.”

Turning growing pains to growing gains
Preserving the transformational experience students receive is so critical to Iowa State’s mission and success that, in November, Leath created the Student Experience Enhancement Council. Its purpose is to find ways to maintain and enhance the campus experience for all Iowa State students.

The council is examining the many elements of the student experience for any “pinch points” that might limit the quality of academic or campus experiences – academics, internships, study abroad opportunities, leadership development, cultural events, health and safety, student organizations, intramural activities, housing and more.

“Some of us have made sure the experience has remained strong,” said Tahura Hira, senior policy advisor to the president, who heads the council. “Faculty and staff have risen to the occasion and poured their utmost into making students’ experiences the very best. And we couldn’t have maintained the quality of people and facilities, and attracted and sustained the quality of students we have were it not for the strong partnership with our alumni and supporters.”

It’s a collective effort, Hira says, that Leath appreciates as another pillar of strength, one he is committed to building upon. “The president understands that we need to be proactive and intentional about addressing our pressure points. We need to make sure we have a structure that allows us to work in a more effective and cooperative way to preserve and enhance this wonderful experience for our students that enables them to thrive and grow.”

Building quality and capacity
Indeed, just as with students, the university has a long history of engaging the imagination and passion of its alumni and supporters to enrich the Iowa State experience for future generations, whether through academic and co-curricular programs or the spaces in which students learn, work and play.

One example of donor-inspired programming is the Curriculum-based Design Outreach Fund established by Stan ’69 and Doty ’00 Thurston of Des Moines, Iowa. Its goal is to develop a holistic perspective and design skill set in students in the College of Design through integrating interdisciplinary, curriculum-based urban design outreach across all of the college’s programs.

Donors are also playing a large part in reimagining existing facilities and spaces to better serve students, says Warren Madden, senior vice president for business and finance.

A prime example is the comprehensive restoration and renovation of Curtiss Hall, including Harl Commons. “Alumni like Neil and Darlene Harl inspired us to think big,” said David Acker, associate dean for academic and global programs for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the Raymond and Mary Baker Chair for

Initiating opportunity
From Neil Harl in the ’50s to Victoria Thompson today, Iowa State University has a long tradition of wrapping its arms around students, providing them a college educational experience that is second to none.

Just as important as providing an outstanding educational experience is ensuring it is financially accessible to students, both in bringing them to Iowa State and enabling them to engage fully in their education while here. To that end, Iowa State University President Steven Leath has launched Moving Students Forward, a five-year fundraising initiative to raise $150 million for scholarships and other support for Iowa State students. Through this initiative, the university seeks new gifts for student scholarships, including flexible scholarship funds, funding for international and experiential learning, and graduate scholarships and fellowships.

Iowa State’s alumni and friends have already had an incredible impact on the university – on facilities, faculty quality, new and improved academic programs, and more than 800 new scholarship programs in the last campaign alone. “But we can and must do more,” Leath said, “because the need is great.”

Scholarships not only make the difference in enabling young people of all backgrounds and abilities to attend Iowa State, he says. They also ensure that once here, students are able to engage to their fullest potential – excelling in the classroom and participating in organizations and activities that build skills, character and confidence.

“We can achieve this,” Leath said, “with Iowa State’s incredible family of alumni and friends as our partners every step of the way.”

Learn how you can be involved in Moving Students Forward at www.foundation.iastate.edu.
Global Agriculture. “Their idea was to create a space to bring students in contact with each other, which we took a step further to ask, ‘what are the technologies and services students need that will enable them to collaborate successfully?’” (See “Iconic engineering,” page 5.)

New facilities are key as well, says Madden, such as Troxel Hall, the 400-seat auditorium made possible in part by a gift from the Change Happens Foundation and scheduled to open this fall. Named for 1967 alumnus Doug Troxel, the auditorium will help greatly in optimizing the quality of instruction and student learning in high-demand, high-enrollment introductory courses with its state-of-the-art instructional technology and lecturer demonstration capabilities. “Many of our students come from smaller communities and may be in a large lecture that’s bigger than their high school class,” Madden said. “I think Iowa State does a good job of maintaining the small-environment feel and making students feel special.”

Pillars of support
All across campus, philanthropy will continue to be instrumental in reinforcing Iowa State’s four pillars of strength to help even greater numbers of students succeed, Leath says. “Private support to Iowa State is important in enhancing the student experience in so many ways – by helping fund state-of-the-art facilities and equipment that allow students to step right into professional positions when they graduate, to faculty resources, especially endowed faculty positions, that are critical for attracting and retaining the top people in their fields.”

Yet, “a big part of maintaining the student experience is ensuring that students are able to engage fully in the programs and opportunities both inside and outside the classroom while here without incurring huge amounts of debt.”

To that end, Leath has launched Moving Students Forward, a five-year, fundraising initiative to raise $150 million for scholarships and other student support. (See “Initiating opportunity,” page 7.)

For students like Scott Connell, private scholarship support has made all the difference in his educational experience at Iowa State. A senior from Pine Springs, Minn., majoring in computer engineering, Connell has served on the Government of the Student Body as a senator representing the College of engineering as a senator representing the College of Engineering, and on the GSB Finance Committee – leadership positions he’s been able to assume due in part to private scholarship support. Last semester he studied abroad in Switzerland, an opportunity he says he wouldn’t have been able to take advantage of had it not been for the Johnson-Engel Scholarship in engineering he received.

“My time in Switzerland taught me a lot of important lessons about international perspectives and how important it is to view all opinions as equal,” he said. Moreover, “This scholarship has impacted my life by showing me that people believe in my ability to succeed, which enables me to believe that about myself and others.”

According to Hill, that, too, is a defining characteristic of the Iowa State student experience, and one just as important to preserve. “Students who receive private support feel that others are invested in their success, which enables me to believe that about myself and others.”

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“Students who receive private support feel that others are invested in their success, which enables me to believe that about myself and others.”

What you can do
One of Iowa State’s greatest strengths is its supportive alumni and friends, who recognize that helping more students succeed through philanthropic giving is key to our shared future.

- Scholarship support that may be used flexibly to address the university’s changing scholarship needs creates opportunities for students who wish to attend Iowa State.
- Scholarship support may also be designated to fulfill specific goals: drawing students who are academically gifted, rewarding and encouraging students who engage in leadership or international study, or recruiting and retaining talented graduate students.

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What’s at work
EXTENDING IOWA STATE’S IMPACT THROUGH PHILANTHROPIC GIVING

Curiosities piqued
Blending the unfamiliar, exotic, bizarre and nostalgic objects that are part of Iowa State University’s academic land-grant heritage is “Cabinet of Curiosities,” just one of the more than 20 exhibits University Museums mounts each year, with support from private donors.
FINDING SOURCES –
AND INSPIRATION

On the hunt for ancient ruins, Mike McCullough found his future direction, helped along by the Barbara King Scholarship Endowment for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Photos: Edward O’Neill, Aqueduct Hunters

During a 2009 study abroad program in Italy, Mike McCullough heard a lecture on the search for the “lost” aqueducts of ancient Rome – and found his own life’s path.

Then an Iowa State University student in landscape architecture, McCullough learned that the British father-and-son team Michael and Edward O’Neill were filming a documentary about the aqueduct systems crucial to the Roman Empire’s rise. The systems moved water up to 50 miles through canals, mostly underground but occasionally crossing valleys and streams over bridgework. The filmmakers were focusing on a significant system, the Aqua Traiana, built in 109 A.D. They hoped to discover the springs that fed each branch, locate and map the channels, and explore other mysteries.

When Edward O’Neill asked for volunteers, McCullough signed on. Shortly before he arrived at the site near Lake Bracciano, northwest of Rome, the team made an important find: the system’s main source – a spring under a 13th century church.

McCullough filled the role of sound engineer. He was hooked, but was unable to return before the semester’s end. McCullough tracked the project as he continued his studies. In 2011, he learned of the Barbara King Scholarship endowment for Innovation and entrepreneurship, which annually supports several landscape architecture students. He submitted a proposal to work at the site for a month creating more accurate maps using global positioning technology. He won the award – and headed to Italy.

When McCullough rejoined the researchers, they made another discovery: the ruins of an ancient bridge, with sections of aqueduct channel in the riverbed below. Team member Rabun Taylor, associate professor of classics at the University of Texas at Austin, identified the brick work as an above-ground Aqua Traiana portion. The group was even more excited to find a nearby hole, where they suspected the system continued underground. McCullough was the first to climb inside – and likely the first person to view the aqueduct in centuries. He and another student crawled through a 4-foot-high tunnel “with a light that stayed on only a minute and a half at a time, taking photos, until we got about a hundred feet in,” he said.

The photos revealed another finding. Although records indicated that the Aqua Traiana channels had been reconstructed centuries later, no one had proved it. “Rabun could see that one wall was constructed in the style of the second century, and the other wall and ceiling were added much later – proving that later builders indeed incorporated ancient ruins into their systems,” McCullough said.

The experience inspired McCullough to strike out on his own. After graduating in 2011, he started a landscape design business with a fellow Iowa State alumnus in Des Moines.

“Toward my career,” he said. “It taught me that if you work hard to pursue something that interests you, you can make it happen.”

To support international design experiences, contact us:
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LIKE MANY IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY students, Kristen Alverson is employed on campus. But rather than the typical work-study job, she’s researching the endangered burrowing owl and preparing a paper for publication. The Cottage Grove, Minn., sophomore is working with Stephen Dinsmore, an associate professor in the department of natural resource ecology and management, as a College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Dean’s Leadership Scholar. The scholarship, established in 2010 by Dana (‘67) and Martha Robes, allows nonresident undergraduate students to engage in research in areas related to their majors during their first two years at Iowa State.

The scholarship provides funds specifically for recipients’ employment – at least 10 hours a week – by the college’s faculty. “The award is designed to connect students with people in their department who can help them be successful,” said Andy Zehr, the college’s director of marketing and recruiting.

Alverson has embraced that goal through her study of burrowing owls, Dinsmore says. “She really wanted, in the spirit of the scholarship, to have a broad set of experiences at Iowa State that would build her career as a scientist.”

Understanding how burrowing owls establish habitat has greater implications for their conservation and management. According to Alverson’s analysis, size is the main factor influencing which abandoned prairie dog colonies Montana burrowing owls choose to occupy.

“The whole research process of analyzing data then writing the paper has been really interesting to me,” Alverson said. She appreciates the fact that she has been able to conduct this research in her first few years at Iowa State.

That’s the real benefit, Dinsmore says. Scholarship recipients get “dialed into research and science very early on during their time at Iowa State, providing them the opportunity to build these skills throughout their career.”

The Dean’s Leadership Scholarship helps set Iowa State apart when recruiting sought-after, high-achieving students from outside Iowa, Zehr says. “More than offering a scholarship, we’re offering students an experience. I think that’s pretty compelling,” he said. The award’s two-year term also helps retain these top students. “This scholarship is valuable not only from a reward standpoint, but also for the role it plays in the personal and professional development of these students.”

That’s been true for recipient Josh Sonnabend, a junior from Vernon Center, Minn. He entered Iowa State as an undeclared agriculture major, but chose agricultural business after working with Chad Hart, an associate professor of economics and ISU extension grain markets specialist. Under Hart’s guidance, Sonnabend spent two years studying switchgrass and corn stover use for ethanol, and the effect of expiring Conservation reserve Program acres on corn production.

His research experience, Sonnabend says, was a big factor in earning him a summer 2013 internship at a commodities brokerage.

“It takes that one professor willing to give you a challenge,” he said. “It helped get me where I am.”

Delving into research

Kristen Alverson works with Professor Stephen Dinsmore to understand the nesting habits of burrowing owls.
Supply chain student in demand

Katie Burney knows how to successfully manage the supply chain, whether it’s getting food from producer to grocery shelf, or herself through Iowa State University by earning scholarships along the way.

In 2012, the senior in supply chain management from Bluegrass, Iowa, received an L.L. Waters Scholarship from the American Society of Transportation and Logistics, and was one of only 10 students nationally to win the prestigious R. Gene Richter Scholarship.

The scholarships are only the latest of a number of awards she has garnered, starting with a Gerdin Citizenship Program award early in her Iowa State career. The program is aimed at freshman and sophomore business students and engages them in hands-on activities meant to develop their leadership skills, knowledge and abilities. Through the program, Burney attended the Institute for Supply Management’s national convention in Baltimore, Md., where she first made essential contacts in her chosen field. Since then, “I’ve been able to work with mentors and make lots of friends and professional connections in the industry.”

In fact, after graduating in May, Burney will begin her career at ConAgra’s national headquarters in Omaha, Neb. She credits the scholarship support she has received during her Iowa State education for helping her get from there to here.

“I’m proof of the impact scholarships can have,” she said.

Class acts

Cognizant of the financial pressures on college students, Iowa State’s Class of 2012 has helped build the endowment to fund scholarships for future Iowa State seniors. To date, more than 600 recent graduates have pledged a total of nearly $50,000 to the scholarship fund.

CENTER FOR SWINE
ONE OF A KIND

Iowa State is home to the only national center devoted to swine medicine education. The center is a joint effort between the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Iowa-based Audubon-Manning Veterinary Clinic, and is supported in part by private giving.

$1,000,000

A $1 million gift commitment by ISU Dance Marathon will benefit the University of Iowa Children’s Hospital building campaign. The gift will support the new 14-story, 195-bed children’s hospital, and a playroom will be named in honor of ISU Dance Marathon. Over the past 15 years, ISU Dance Marathon has generated more than $2 million in support for UI Children’s Hospital.

Neuhaus leads ISU Foundation

For Roger Neuhaus, being named president and chief executive officer of the Iowa State University Foundation is at once a return to his roots and an exciting new direction. Neuhaus and his wife, Theresa, both grew up in Dubuque, Iowa, so “this was a unique opportunity to come to a place where we feel at home,” he said. Moreover, “Iowa State is a crown jewel in the state’s higher educational system. It’s an honor to be able to play a part in advancing such a distinguished institution.”

Most recently senior vice president for development and university campaigns at the University of Arizona Foundation, Neuhaus led major gift fundraising and capital campaign planning, management and execution. In his four years at Arizona, the UA Foundation reported private gifts in excess of $600 million, including a record $181 million last year.

“Roger’s Iowa roots and many years of fundraising experience will make him a valuable asset to the ISU Foundation,” said Iowa State University President Steven Leath. “I look forward to working with him and the rest of the foundation staff as they continue to support Iowa State’s priorities.”

Indeed, Neuhaus says, “I want the ISU Foundation to continue to be a place that Iowa State’s donors trust and feel good about being associated with and investing in. Even though I’m new to the institution, I appreciate all they’ve done to make Iowa State great. I look forward to getting to know them, hearing their personal stories and what they want to see happen at this university, and helping fulfill those goals.”

Marks of distinction

Iowa State University’s highest honors will be awarded to the following individuals at the 2013 Distinguished Awards Celebration April 19:

Order of the Knoll Campanile Award
Dr. Robert H. Cox (’62)

Order of the Knoll Cardinal and Gold Award
Lora and Russ Talbot

Order of the Knoll Corporation and Foundation Award
The Meredith Corporation Foundation

Order of the Knoll Faculty and Staff Award
Dr. Neil E. Harl (’55, ’65 Ph.D.)

Distinguished Alumni Award
Dr. Leola Adams (’70, ’73 Ph.D.)
David W. Raisbeck (’71)
Nicholas L. Reding (’36)
Esmail Zirakparvar (’77, ’79 Ph.D.)

Honorary Alumni Award
Gregory L. and Kathleen C. Geoffroy
Melvin R. Weatherwax

Learn more about the Distinguished Awards Celebration at www.isualum.org/en/awards/distinguished_awards_celebration.

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Imagine being personally welcomed to Iowa State by President Steven Leath and Cyclone Football Coach Paul Rhoads. That’s how students today learn they’re admitted to Iowa State – and just one more way Iowa State is making the newest Cyclones feel at home.

For

SUPPORT

GIFTS AT WORK / IN BRIEF

$1,000,000

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NEWS

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A big part of the Iowa State experience is student involvement in more than 800 organizations on campus, including these recently named top chapters nationally:

- Iowa State Agricultural Business Club
- Iowa State Chapter of the American Meteorological Society
- Iowa State Material Advantage

WANTED!

Help us make Forward magazine as relevant, readable and interesting as possible by participating in a short online survey at www.foundation.iastate.edu/forwardsurvey. Thank you for all you do for Iowa State!

1st CHAPTERS. A big part of the Iowa State experience is student involvement in more than 800 organizations on campus, including these recently named top chapters nationally:

Impact

84%

of engineering students graduate from Iowa State with industry internship or co-op experience, including senior John Ryan, a Roderick Seward, Flossie Ratcliffe and Helen M. Galloway Foundation Merit Scholarship recipient. The computer engineering major spent last summer interning with Arturia, a company that develops music hardware and software in Grenoble, France.

Engineering in motion

Included in the growing online library of videos on news, happenings and discoveries in the College of Engineering is Hans Van Leeuwen, professor of civil, construction and environmental engineering and Vlasta Klima Balloun Professor. Van Leeuwen and his research assistants walk viewers through the process they developed to turn an ethanol waste product into a high protein animal feed supplement.

Watch the video: www.youtube.com/ISUengineering.

WANTED!

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Your Opinion

I never thought I’d attend a Super Bowl let alone be on the sidelines as one of the grounds crew. It’s an incredible opportunity to meet some of the leaders in my industry and expand my network.

— Kevin Hansen, a senior in horticulture at Iowa State and Robert M. Clark Memorial Scholarship recipient, who was selected for the annual Toro Super Bowl Sports Turf Training Program, providing him the opportunity to be part of the grounds crew on the field at New Orleans’ Superdome for Super Bowl XLVII on Feb. 3

On the field at the Super Bowl was another Iowa Stater, former Cyclone and All-American Kelechi Osemele ('11), who started for the world champion Baltimore Ravens.

Outreach

1,900 JOBS. In partnership with the ISU John Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship within the College of Business, Iowa State’s Small Business Development Center counseled nearly 2,700 clients, created or saved 1,900 jobs, helped raise $42 million in capital, and assisted in generating 179 business startups during 2011-12.

ISU Extension and Outreach helped more than 8,000 Iowa crop and livestock producers manage last summer’s drought through webinars, 78 live educational forums throughout the state, one-on-one consultations, and numerous publications and resources available through its “Dealing with Drought” website.
JUST ADD LOVE

Stirred by the plight of children dealing with cancer, Iowa State dietetics student Kelly Wagner combines her passions for kids and nutrition to serve up compassion.

By Debra Solberg Gibson | Photo: Amy Allen

AS A HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEER at a support community for people living with cancer and their families in Bettendorf, Iowa, Kelly Wagner was frequently moved by the struggle parents went through getting their children with cancer to eat. Four years later, the Iowa State University senior found a way to use her nutrition education to help these young patients and their families combat the dietary challenges that come with pediatric cancer.

The recipient of several private scholarships, including the Wayne H. and Gladys T. Scholtes Scholarship, Wagner developed the “Children’s Cookbook During and After Cancer” as her University Honors project. Organized by the common side effects of cancer treatment – such as mouth sores and diarrhea – the nearly 40-page cookbook contains recipes for foods likely to alleviate these symptoms as well as lack of appetite.

“In high school, I saw how strong, positive and open-minded family members were going through such hard times,” Wagner said. “I wanted to do something for patients in these difficult situations.”

Fortunately, Wagner is enrolled in Iowa State’s dietetics program, with its long tradition of excellence and rich history of serving Iowans. Her original and modified recipes were tested in state-of-the-art sensory labs, where Iowa State dietetics and nutrition faculty helped Wagner analyze foods to determine the products’ consumer acceptance. Ruth MacDonald, chair of the department of food science and human nutrition and Wagner’s Honors advisor, educated her in researching pediatric cancer therapy complications and conducting nutritional assessments.

“It’s very stressful for parents when their child is going through a medical crisis and can’t eat,” MacDonald said. “This cookbook provides a great resource by helping parents understand why their child isn’t eating and showing them how to adapt foods they can introduce to the child.”

Channon Timm, program services manager for the Children’s Cancer Connection in Des Moines, agrees.

“These recipes help our families with that struggle of what to feed their kids to get both their immune systems and weight back up,” she said.

After graduating, Wagner hopes to work in pediatric nutrition in a hospital setting. In the meantime, she’s continuing the tradition of bringing Iowa State’s research-based knowledge in dietics and nutrition to the people of Iowa and beyond.

WHAT INSPIRES DWIGHT INK?

Ink credits both his family and Iowa State for preparing him for what he calls “the most interesting, exciting, fulfilling career in the world: public service.” The 1947 Iowa State graduate in history and government went on to serve seven consecutive U.S. presidents, from Dwight D. Eisenhower to Ronald Reagan. Now 90, Ink says his decades in public administration taught him that “it’s fruitless to put a lot of effort into developing sound policies if you don’t have the capacity to implement them.” That’s why, he maintains, Iowa State students must learn not only how to create policies but also how to execute them.

HOW HE GAVE:

Putting policy into practice

Since 1994, the Ink Policy Implementation Fund has provided scholarships for graduate students in public administration to conduct practical research in public policy implementation, as well as the Ink Public Service Award to honor an Iowa public servant for excellence in the implementation of a public policy. A recent will bequest by Ink allowed a previous faculty award to be restructured as the Dwight Ink Policy Implementation Professorship. Ink’s intent: to extend the scope of the department of political science to the policy implementation dimension through fostering linkages between the classroom and federal, state, and local governmental institutions in Iowa.

Preserving the privilege for posterity

Ink gives credit to leadership in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, ISU Extension and the University Library for helping him build this emphasis in policy implementation at Iowa State. In fact, in 2012 he donated 68 boxes of personal papers to the University Archives, further cementing the legacy of this man who still considers it “a calling and a privilege to serve the people of this country.”

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What you make possible

Feathered friends
Katelyn Schreiber, an Iowa State senior majoring in animal ecology, holds Harvey the great horned owl, one of the many injured raptors who receive excellent care each year in the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Wildlife Care Clinic, whose work is made possible in part by private gifts.