foreword
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

The nature of discovery

STORIES OF IMPACT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS

FLEXING HIS CHOPS | PG. 14
Forestry major has an ax to swing
Life-changing discoveries don’t happen by accident. That’s why Iowa State is creating the environment for the cutting-edge research and education needed to solve the greatest challenges of our time.

By Jodi O’Donnell

The nature of discovery

Life-changing discoveries don’t happen by accident. That’s why Iowa State is creating the environment for the cutting-edge research and education needed to solve the greatest challenges of our time.

> Building Iowa State’s research engine
Propelling discovery forward at Iowa State takes all parts of the research enterprise working together, with philanthropy infused throughout.

1. The trailblazers: innovative faculty who are conducting cross-disciplinary research that fosters the collaboration needed to solve complex global problems.

2. The next generation: graduate students here to gain training to be tomorrow’s independent researchers advancing the frontiers of knowledge.

3. The pipeline: undergraduate students who are engaged in hands-on research that sparks their curiosity to learn “what’s next?”

4. The setting: state-of-the-art facilities and equipment that provide the tools for answering these questions.
IOWA NATIVE Tom McCarville was 65 when he was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. Although he’d seen it strike four of his uncles, “We’d always heard that Parkinson’s wasn’t hereditary,” said McCarville’s wife, Joyce. “So we didn’t believe the diagnosis at first.” Yet as they learned, it’s now known that defective genes do indeed play a role in Parkinson’s. The McCarvilles also learned that while there are drug therapies for treating the disease’s symptoms – uncontrollable tremors, impaired balance, the loss of fine motor function – there is no cure. Yet as they learned, it’s now known that defective genes do indeed play a role in Parkinson’s. Yet as they learned, it’s now known that defective genes do indeed play a role in Parkinson’s.

What’s different about the university’s mission in the 21st century is the infrastructure being built – physical, organizational and cultural – that paves the way for Iowa State’s people to translate new knowledge and discovery into solutions more comprehensively than ever before.

causing them to degenerate, what makes them more vulnerable to attacks. Is PKC-delta the only factor? This kind of problem requires a long-term, highly interdisciplinary approach. I have about 15 graduate students from several interdepartmental graduate programs – toxicology, neuroscience, genetics, and molecular, cellular and developmental biology – coming at the problem from various aspects, looking beyond this one target and into the detailed disease processes. We’re like crime scene investigators, constantly looking at other leads for candidate targets – perhaps one more efficient or easier to manipulate – that may provide another way to stop Parkinson’s.

“It’s taken a lot of time and effort to lay the groundwork for Iowa State to do this kind of work, but we’re realizing the fruits of it now.”

Good news, indeed, not just for the Parkinson’s victims of tomorrow, but also for the people of Iowa and beyond, who stand to benefit greatly from the robust research being accomplished at Iowa State. For more than 150 years, Iowa State has built its reputation through research and experimentation that comprise the problem requires a long-term, highly interdisciplinary approach. I have about 15 graduate students from several interdepartmental graduate programs – toxicology, neuroscience, genetics, and molecular, cellular and developmental biology – coming at the problem from various aspects, looking beyond this one target and into the detailed disease processes. We’re like crime scene investigators, constantly looking at other leads for candidate targets – perhaps one more efficient or easier to manipulate – that may provide another way to stop Parkinson’s.

Research that’s practical – and personal

All politics is local, the saying goes. It could also be said, to coin a corollary, that all research is personal. To the farmer who can count on a pest- and disease-resistant soybean crop even as he plants seed. To the airplane passengers whose safe travel depends on sensing equipment capable of detecting the tiniest structural flaw. To the mother who wants to be assured that the food she gives her baby is safe and nutritious. For more than 150 years, Iowa State has built its reputation through research and outreach, in these areas and scores of others, that makes this sort of personal impact in people’s lives.

Research that Matters

Bitten by the discovery bug

Along with researching the molecular interactions between mosquitoes and pathogens, associate professor of entomology Lyric Bartholomay leads the statewide mosquito surveillance program at Iowa State University – an ideal combination for making science real to students. “A mosquito in a cage or a lab doesn’t provide the real context for a vector-borne disease,” she said. “At Iowa State I’m able to train my students in real-world scenarios for how vectors interact with the environment. There is great synergy between applied and basic research and teaching. My applied research program inspires basic research questions, and both fuel the message I take into the classroom. Some of these students join my lab and bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to these projects, then go on to study or practice in public health, mosquito control or tropical medicine.”

“It’s about instilling in students a passion for discovery, because there is still much to be discovered, just around the corner.”

Learn more online about Iowa State’s research enterprise at www.foundation.iastate.edu/forwardmag.

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“Iowa State has always served Iowa by addressing genuine problems and putting practical solutions in the public’s hands,” said Sharron Quisenberry, vice president for research and economic development at Iowa State. “That focus comes directly from our land-grant mission.”

What’s different about the university’s mission in the 21st century is the infrastructure being built – physical, organizational and cultural – that reinforces research continuity in several fields. This paves the way for Iowa State’s people to work across disciplines to translate new knowledge and discovery into solutions more comprehensively than ever before.

Quisenberry’s role is to foster new research initiatives at the university, as well as to promote economic development through opening the doors of Iowa State’s laboratories to the public, including industry partners.

“This is enabling Iowa State not only to continue making an impact in areas historically important to Iowa, such as the plant and animal sciences, public health and food safety,” she said. “We’re also at the forefront of fast-developing fields like bioenergy, biomedical engineering and nanomaterials, all with the potential to lead to whole new industry sectors in the state.”

The parts of the research engine

When Costas Soukoulis came to Iowa State in 1984, it was to conduct basic research in the new field of photonic crystals at the nationally renowned U.S. Department of Energy Ames Laboratory.

Today, Soukoulis, Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences and senior physicist at Ames Laboratory, is again on the leading edge, working in metamaterials – artificial materials created on the order of billions of a meter to provide electromagnetic properties not found in natural materials. Harnessing these properties could one day lead to such revolutionary technology as a “super” less able to focus on features smaller than the wavelength of light itself, allowing scientists to study molecular structures at a level of detail and clarity impossible today.

That’s what excites Soukoulis, who also is the Frances C. Craig Professor of Physics and Astronomy, about the metamaterials field. “There’s no shortage of new ideas, and every day we’re making progress in understanding metamaterials’ basic physics and possible applications.”

Indeed, Quisenberry says, the unbiased, curiosity-driven research going on in Soukoulis’ group and tens of others on campus is an essential component of the country’s innovation engine.

“Since World War II, America has funded basic research at our nation’s universities through agencies such as the departments of Energy, Agriculture and Defense,” as well as the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation.

“We carry out this kind of research not with a specific goal in mind but to learn about basic properties, processes and mechanisms – discoveries we then share with the scientific community and the public to be built upon to address our national priorities. This allows for new knowledge to cross through more than one lab at more than one university, and drives the inquiry that moves innovation forward.”

Iowa State again distinguishes itself, she says, in its ability to conduct research across the spectrum, from basic discovery to real applications that affect people’s lives. “For instance, we’re doing very fundamental research in structural biology; looking at the structure of proteins. That’s allowing us to do such things as understand the mechanism of disease at the molecular level and develop the medicines to treat it.”

If we can continue to keep Iowa State on this trajectory, build the environment here for innovation, attract the people we need to move research forward in our niche areas, and provide them the flexibility to pursue the big ideas, the impact on lives and society will be immeasurable.”

Sharron Quisenberry
Vice President for Research and Economic Development

Thanks to a $7.5 million commitment by the Muscatine, Iowa-based Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust, Iowa State University is poised to make a transformative leap in biomolecular structure research that will contribute to the platform for making revolutionary advances in areas ranging from medical and pharmaceutical science, to plant and animal health, insect control, food and nutrition, bioenergy, and biomaterials.

The Carver Trust’s gift launches the Initiative in Biomolecular Structure in the department of biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology. The initiative will build the research focus in two niche areas in which Iowa State is establishing a national reputation: membrane-associated proteins integral to cellular and physiological processes, and protein complexes that play key roles in signaling these processes.

Carver Trust funds will be used strategically to assemble the faculty expertise and attract the best graduate students in structural biology to Iowa State, and to build the instrumentation capabilities and environment to empower the department to carry out its work and share important findings.

This gift brings the Carver Trust’s support of BBMB to Iowa State to more than $12.3 million. In recognition of this transformational gift and the longstanding partnership with the Carver Trust, the department has been named the Roy J. Carver Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology.

“The Carver Trust’s support will give us the ability to push our understanding of membrane systems and more complex protein assemblies at the atomic level,” said professor of BBMB Amy Andreetti, director of the initiative. “This is an incredible opportunity for Iowa State to lead research that has the potential to open new paradigms in scientific discovery.”

The field of structural biology aims to understand the structures of biological molecules – DNA, RNA, proteins, carbohydrates and lipids – in order to learn more about how they function and interact. Since the field focuses on biological molecules that are present in all living things, structural biology ties together researchers who study a range of systems: from human health and disease to plant microbe interactions to the use of plant systems for producing biofuels.

Structural biologists are particularly interested in proteins because they do so much of the work in the cell. Each new protein structure researchers are able to describe adds a new piece of the puzzle for how life works – knowledge that will advance our ability to manipulate and mimic biological functions. For example, Iowa State researchers have already delineated the structure of a protein pump that bacteria use to resist the effects of heavy metals and antibiotics.

This insight will allow researchers to create inhibitors to clog up these pumps and overcome antibiotic resistance.

STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY 101

The Carver Trust’s gift launches the Initiative in Biomolecular Structure in the department of biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology.
A key element: philanthropy

Keeping the research enterprise at Iowa State growing and productive requires the same essential elements for completing the aims of a research project, Quisenberry says, and here is where philanthropy can play a key role.

“For Iowa State to be able to carry research through to transferring the technology needed to advance the state of Iowa and the country, it’s extremely important we continue to build our funding from external governmental agencies. Philanthropy can help Iowa State put the pieces in place for the university to be much more successful in competing for this funding,” he said.

And those pieces? “Hiring and retaining excellent faculty. Augmenting research space and equipment. Recruiting quality graduate students and postdoctoral researchers. Increasing undergraduate experiences in the research arena. Investing in emerging research programs.”

Together, these provide researchers not only the ability to establish the feasibility of a concept, but also the flexibility to follow lines of inquiry not yet fundable by an external grant program.

Bartholomay is an apt example. In 2007 she received a grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust to support basic research on the Eastern treehole mosquito in Iowa.

“We found that by suppressing one gene in the mosquito, it dies,” she said.

“The next step was to ask, how do we exploit this to suppress populations of mosquitoes in other parts of the world?”

The Carver Trust-funded project allowed her to secure a Foundation for the National Institutes of Health grant to determine how to shut down certain mosquito genes. Such findings could lead to species-specific insecticides to kill the mosquitoes transmitting the parasites that cause malaria, a disease that kills a million people a year.

“The Carver Trust does a phenomenal job of supporting new investigators with the type of research grants that can really launch a program to be competitive for external funding,” she said. (See “Transformational philanthropy,” Page 7.)

“I can’t imagine doing some of the research we’ve been able to do in Parkinson’s disease without philanthropic support,” Kanthasamy added. “Working in neurological disease alleviation is very high risk. There’s a lot of failure, but we must be able to explore multiple avenues through interdisciplinary neurotoxicology research.”

Quisenberry couldn’t agree more. “If we can continue to keep Iowa State on this trajectory, build the environment here for innovation, attract the people we need to move research forward in our niche areas, and provide them the flexibility to pursue the big ideas, the impact on lives and society will be immeasurable.”

As for Tom McCarville, “I don’t look for there to be a cure for Parkinson’s disease in my lifetime,” But, he said, “for the sake of my children and their children, I hope a cure can be found.”

What you can do

On the road to innovation, philanthropy provides the fuel to make the research engine run, enabling Iowa State to bring groundbreaking discoveries and practical solutions to Iowans and the rest of the world.

Support for Iowa State’s people unleashes their curiosity and creativity, which drives the inquiry that moves innovation forward. This includes endowed faculty positions, graduate student fellowships, and scholarships for undergraduates.

Support for facilities and equipment enhances Iowa State’s capabilities for conducting leading-edge research, allowing the university to attract the best people to campus to work and study, and to garner greater levels of external funding.

Support for research moves innovation, fueling Iowa State’s research engine through philanthropic giving.

Contact us

515.294.4607
toll-free: 866.419.6768
questions@foundation.iastate.edu

Net gains

Upping the game of the Iowa State men’s and women’s basketball teams, both of which snagged 2012 NCAA Tournament berths, is the Sukup Basketball Complex, constructed in 2009 with charitable giving led by the Sukup family of Sheffield, Iowa.

Photo: Paul Gates
INSPIRING POTENTIAL
CHANGING YOUNG PEOPLE’S LIVES CAN BE INFECTIOUS

As Iowa State alumna Kendra Kavan strives to inspire her students to reach their potential, the private scholarship she received figures largely in her story.

By Jodi Andersen | Photo: Chris Landabeger

“Knowing there are people in the world who want success for you and are willing to help you even though they don’t know you changes your future and makes anything seem achievable.”

Kendra Kavan ’10 English

“I will never forget opening the email saying I would receive the scholarship. I didn’t know if it was real or not. It was such a blessing and so unexpected,” Kavan said.

Like many Iowa State benefactors, the Lawsons established their scholarship to help undergraduate students such as Kavan who are determined to better themselves through their Iowa State education but face challenges paying for college. For many of these young people, even more than easing the financial burden of college, such scholarships provide them with invaluable encouragement and inspiration along the way to earning their degree.

In fact, Kavan says that even now the scholarship support she received at Iowa State continues to make a difference in her life by giving her another story to share – of reaching for your dreams, the value of education, and the support available for those who work hard – that is enabling her to make a strong impression on the middle school students she teaches.

“When I tell them the story of how the Lawson Scholarship helped me attend Iowa State, you can see the light bulb go on above their heads, and their future suddenly becomes much bigger than they had imagined it could be,” she said. “Knowing there are people in the world who want success for you and are willing to help you even though they don’t know you changes your future and makes anything seem achievable.”

To support students with financial need, contact us: 515.294.4607 toll-free 866.419.6768 questions@foundation.iastate.edu
HANSEN LECTURERS:
SPARKING LEARNABLE MOMENTS

Students, faculty and community members alike benefit from national experts in their midst.

By Debra Gibson | Photo: Brent Isenberger

WHO SAYS GRAVITY IS TOO complex a concept for preschoolers to grasp?

Certainly not Iowa State University senior Melissa Clucas, as she learned while attending last year’s Barbara E. (Mound) Hansen Early Childhood Lecture. The speaker, Karen Worth, an educator at Wheelock College in Boston who is widely recognized for her development work in science education, encouraged the audience of students, faculty and professionals to draw on children’s natural curiosity to introduce them to science at an early age.

In the space of minutes, Clucas experienced a shift in thinking not unlike the eureka moments she hopes to kindle in her future students.

“You can study best practices in class, but when you’re shown in photos and videos how ideas work, that’s when you get it,” the Rochelle, Ill., native said. She soaked up the examples Worth provided, such as helping preschoolers build block towers, then leading the children through basic concepts of gravity by asking them to speculate about why a tower toppled or how to build stronger ones.

“She (Worth) introduced me to the importance of young children learning science – they are so curious and innately interested in the world around them,” said Clucas, who plans to work in child development research.

Such moments of understanding are exactly what Barbara Hansen hoped to spark when she established the lecture series in early childhood development 10 years ago. Each year’s lecturer not only speaks at a public event but also visits individual classes and meets with faculty in the department of human development and family studies. Often, these experts’ topics are relevant to students in many other programs in the College of Human Sciences, such as childhood obesity prevention.

2012’s Hansen Lecturer, Colorado State University faculty member Laura Bellows, who spoke about childhood obesity prevention.

“It’s so important that we’re able to bring these experts to both our students and faculty,” said Gayle Luze, associate professor of human development and family studies. “For those of us on faculty, these experts get us discussing a particular topic, and perhaps even to change how we teach that topic.”

Moreover, she added, “Beyond the lecture itself, when students see our lab school instructors incorporate new concepts into how they teach their classes, that’s how students experience an even greater impact.”

A similar connection clicked for Kara Fisher two years ago when she heard 2010 Hansen Lecturer Juanita Copley speak about early childhood math education. Fisher, then a sophomore, attended the lecture to earn extra credit and left with a cache of future classroom ideas.

For example, when student teaching next fall, the senior from Cedar Falls, Iowa, intends to introduce her preschoolers to the simple routine of placing their nametags on boards at individual learning centers, with the number of spaces available in each group posted nearby. Others wanting to join a group will be prompted to count the nametags and calculate whether there are spaces left.

Not surprisingly, Fisher didn’t need the lure of extra points to attend both the 2011 and 2012 Hansen Lectures. “I’ll be able to build on the ideas I’ve learned from these experts in my own classroom many times over,” she said.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

“Along with the wonderful education I received at Iowa State, I also learned how to find needed information to solve problems as they arose,” said Barbara Hansen (’55). She established the Barbara E. (Mound) Hansen Early Childhood Lecture Series because of the opportunity she had as an Iowa State student to study at the innovative Merrill-Palmer Institute in Detroit. “I wanted all students to have an opportunity beyond the curriculum that could excite them or enhance what they’re already learning. Having these national experts come to campus is a way for them to share their work and ideas with students, faculty and community members.”

In fact, husband Dick Hansen (’55) created the Richard F. Hansen Lectures in Architecture for similar reasons.

“If just one student is inspired and finds his or her particular passion through these lectures,” Barb said, “we’ll have accomplished what we wanted.”

LEARN MORE

about the Hansen Lecture at www.foundation.iastate.edu/forwardmag
How much wood could a Cyclone chop?

For most Iowa State University students, their idea of a friendly little competition is a game of hoops. Justin Edwards prefers to swing an ax.

Two years ago, the 2012 graduate in forestry discovered timbersports, which he says is “like lumberjacking on steroids” – a pentathlon of ax throwing, wood sawing and chopping, pole climbing, and log rolling.

Since then, Edwards has competed in collegiate contests around the Midwest, including the regional STIHL TIMBERSPORTS Collegiate Championship in Stevens Point, Wis., in April.

He honed his skills at the Iowa State tree farm, the college team’s practice area, which looks as though giant beavers have run amok, with massive piles of wood chips the size of bricks. Edwards uses a prized competition ax, a gift from his parents, to practice chopping at least a few times a week.

A recipient of the John (Jack) Nicholas and Ada Elizabeth Gordon Award, which supports outstanding students in forestry, Edwards brings the same focus to the sport as he has to his studies. “It takes time and dedication to really comprehend the discipline required for correctly using the equipment,” he said. “It has to be just you and the log. That’s all you can think about. Anything else and you’re done.”

By women, for women

An estate gift of nearly $2.1 million from Diane Brandt (’61) will support future generations of women who want to study in engineering, mathematics and the sciences – fields in which they have been historically underrepresented – at Iowa State University.

Those who knew Brandt say the gift is in keeping with the role she played furthering women’s voices in Iowa politics: Brandt, who lived in Cedar Falls, Iowa, was involved for many years in the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women, and served in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1975 to 1982.

Beverly Madden (’60, ’70 M.S.), a sister Alpha Delta Pi Sorority member, recalls Brandt as “a strong, conscientious student involved in sorority and campus activities. Her leadership in community and state service attests to the value of a land-grant education and will serve as a role model for the women who are able to study at Iowa State thanks to the scholarships she’s provided.”

Jane Teaford chose to memorialize her late friend with a brick in the Plaza of Heroines. “We [Diane’s friends] felt that this would be the perfect tribute to Diane, honoring her enduring connection to Iowa State as well as her life achievements” – achievements that will continue paving the way for women at Iowa State.
In keeping with the long-standing tradition of giving to Iowa State, the 50th Reunion Scholarship program, established with gifts from anniversary year classes, has awarded more than $30,000 in scholarships to 29 students in the past two years alone.

Of Students Who Complete Iowa State University’s Science Bound program go on to post-secondary education. For more than 20 years, the program has been addressing the need for a strong, diverse technical workforce.

Supported at the community level by corporations, foundations and individuals, Science Bound prepares young people from underrepresented ethnic populations to pursue degrees in agriculture, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. Since 1989, 1,800 students in Des Moines, Marshalltown and Denison have participated in Science Bound.

**An Act of Significance**

The Morrill Act of 1862 is to Iowa State University’s beginning what the Declaration of Independence is to our nation’s birth. Signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln, the act mandated establishing much-needed practical colleges across the country to educate America’s labor force in the “agriculture and mechanic arts.”

Iowa was the first state to embrace this concept and assign the state’s land grant to its fledgling agricultural college in Ames. Now, 150 years later, University Museums is marking this historic event by publishing “The Land-Grant Act and the People’s College: Iowa State University.” Like the similarly titled exhibit at Iowa State University, the 178-page book was made possible in part by private support. Its pages are chock-full of early photos punctuating essays on Iowa State’s history by campus leaders and experts.

Allison Sheridan, University Museums collections manager and the book’s editor, says it was important to set down this account of the act’s purpose and impact on Iowa State. “It’s that early history that often gets overlooked,” she said. “We want to document and celebrate that.”

**Learn more at www.museums.iastate.edu.**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

When the original, hand-written Morrill Act came to campus for Iowa State’s sesquicentennial in 2008, it was the first time and only time the document has been exhibited outside of Washington, D.C.

**Presidential Installation**

Steven Leath will be officially installed as Iowa State University’s 15th president in a public ceremony on Friday, Sept. 14 at 10 a.m. in C.Y. Stephens Auditorium. Other public events to celebrate Leath’s installation include a lecture by Erskine Bowles, former president of the University of North Carolina system and White House chief of staff for Bill Clinton, on Thursday, Sept. 13 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union.

Further information can be found closer to the installation date at www.iastate.edu.

**A Showplace for Showing and Judging**

Once completed, the Jeff and Deb Hansen Agriculture Student Learning Center will provide a dynamic hands-on learning facility for students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, as well as youth from around the region, to practice their animal interaction and evaluation skills. The center is made possible entirely through philanthropic support, including lead gifts by the Hansens, and Jan and the late Marv (’62, ’64 M.S.) Walter.

**98% of Students Who Complete**

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Design, like philanthropy, can be a powerful force. Together, the two work wonders.

By Betsy Nickok | Photo: Nadia Anderson

WHEN NATURAL disasters hit, they create in their wake a need for practical, affordable housing. Nadia Anderson, assistant professor of architecture in Iowa State University’s College of Design, sees this need as being particularly relevant in preparing architecture students to use their education to achieve broad-reaching impact. “By engaging in urgent, real-world issues such as disaster relief and poverty alleviation, students learn how design can be a tool for progressive change and empowerment,” she said.

The 2010 Haiti earthquake provided a catalyst. Anderson used a Miller Faculty Fellowship to support a project in the town of La Croix, Haiti. With fellow professors Tom Fraser, Kristen O’Brien, and Michael Vander Ploeg, she visited the site in the spring of 2011 to determine how to best assist the community in its recovery efforts.

Together, the group designed a community center and a house for a woman whose sits were destroyed in the earthquake. “These experiences have completely altered how I view the world,” said recent College of Design graduate Jason Kruse. “I never really thought about creating social change through design. We’ve learned so much, and we want future students to have these same eye-opening experiences at Iowa State.”

The Iowa State University Foundation can help you to give a gift that moves lives forward.

WHAT INSPIRES AREND AND Verna Sandbulte?

It’s a desire to give today’s students the opportunities at Iowa State that were so instrumental to them.

HHow they Gave:

Arend “Sandy” (’59) and Verna Sandbulte chose to support faculty at Iowa State in electric energy, an area near to their hearts since Sandy spent his career in the energy industry, retiring as CEO and chair of ALLETE, Inc., formerly Minnesota Power. A U.S. Army veteran who came to Iowa State in 1956 on the GI Bill to study electrical engineering as a non-traditional student already married with one child, Sandy has always appreciated the education he received. “Iowa State has made such a difference in our lives,” he said.

Helping to keep the grid turned on

A gift of land enabled the couple to establish the Arend J. and Verna V. Sandbulte Professorship in Engineering to support an elite faculty member in the field of electric energy. The Sandbultes had been struck by something retired Iowa State President Gregory L. Geoffroy once said: “You can’t have a great university without great faculty!” Sandy recalled. The position they created recently allowed the College of Engineering to recruit Ian Dobson, a power networks expert whose research focuses on avoiding large-scale power blackouts, to Iowa State.

Forgive for tomorrow, give for today

While the Sandbultes had named Iowa State in their estate plan, in talking with gift planning staff at the Iowa State University Foundation, the couple became intrigued by the concept of blended giving—current giving for which they could see the impact at Iowa State today, along with a planned gift to continue making an impact long after they are gone.

The Duluth, Minn., couple worked with the ISU Foundation to donate Iowa farmland purchased in the 1980s to benefit Iowa State. This allowed the foundation to sell the land at its appraised value to the farmer who had worked it the past 25 years, and reduced the Sandbultes’ tax burden on its appreciated value.

To learn more about gifts of land and other ways to support Iowa State, contact the ISU Foundation at 866.419.6768 or questions@foundation.iastate.edu.

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What you make possible

From trash to treasure

Who knew old bottles, sheet metal and plastic tubes could become striking works of art? Yet that’s exactly what Iowa State freshmen in biology and design learning communities created with trash they collected during the Skunk River Navy’s annual cleanup, with private gifts supporting the collaboration.

giveforward

Untitled
Bone, metal, wire, wood, paint
Rachael Whitehair, biology