



CHANGE LIVES

THE CAMPAIGN FOR WORCESTER STATE & YOU

CHANGE LIVES Worcester State University transforms young women and men. We take students as they are – their raw talent, their hopes, their dreams – and push them to explore, to reach, to become more than they thought possible. They graduate changed, growing into responsible citizens, engaged community members, and contributing members of society.

That change, which started at WSU, emanates out, touching all in its path: children and families, workplaces and schools, businesses and communities. Our graduates go on to become

teachers and entrepreneurs, lawyers and public servants, nurses and artists, scientists and poets. Through their hard work, they continue to spread change throughout Central Massachusetts, New England, and increasingly, the nation and the world.

Today, you have the opportunity to be part of this transformation – to affect its future course. By supporting Change Lives: The Campaign for Worcester State & You, you will light the way for the next generation of WSU graduates. You will change lives.



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CHANGE THE CONVERSATION

Maryanna Owoc '14 wanted to be a medical doctor. That is, until she started doing research with Professor Keith Darrow, Ph.D., CCC-A, in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at his lab at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary.

"We're working on next-generation implant technology for the hearing impaired that uses light instead of electronic stimulation," Darrow explains.

Thanks to research grants funded by the Worcester State Foundation, Maryanna and another student were able to work alongside Darrow. "Research is a game changer," he notes. "Students can take what they learn in class and see it in real time in the laboratory. Then, they can see how that research changes patient care."

This research also changed Maryanna's life. "She's been accepted at the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) of the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University," Darrow says. "Research is her passion."



KEITH DARROW, Ph.D., CCC-A
Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders



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DEB DIAS '14

English Teacher, South High Community School,
Worcester, Mass.



CHANGE OF PLANS

Deb Dias '14 began college as a vocal performance major at a school in Boston, but after a semester, decided it wasn't for her. She came to Worcester State, changed her major to English and secondary education, and never looked back.

Today, she teaches high school English. "I would never be able to do this without Worcester State," she says. Dias' family emigrated from Brazil in 1999; she's the first in her family to graduate from college.

"My life was changed at Worcester State," she explains. "I was empowered through the support of professors who believed in me and through scholarships. I think all students should be able to have this experience."



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CHANGE YOUR MIND

Jacob Macomber '14 never thought college was in the cards. "I was a poor student in high school," he explains. "I earned a GED and enlisted in the Marines."

There, he progressed quickly through the ranks, realizing "I was capable of more than I thought," he reflects. To become an officer, however, he knew he'd need a college degree.

Macomber was accepted to the ultra-competitive Marine Corps Enlisted Commissioning Educational Program, which creates a pathway to college.

"I was able to come to Worcester State thanks to a series of grants and scholarships," he says. "It felt good to know people thought I could do it." And do it, he did. At graduation, Macomber was honored as the transfer student with the highest GPA.



JACOB MACOMBER '14
Second Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps



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LARRY ANTHONY LOPEZ '05
Director of Scheduling, Office of U.S. Senator Maize Hirono
Washington, D.C.

CHANGE THE STORY

Worcester State sparked a light-bulb moment for Larry Anthony Lopez '05 that led him to a career on Capitol Hill. As WSU student body president, Lopez had the opportunity to go to the Massachusetts State House to speak with legislators about investing in education. He was hooked. "How can I do this for a living?" he remembers thinking.

As a senior, Lopez interned for former U.S. Sen. John Kerry, which led to a position with former U.S. Rep. Marty Meehan. He eventually landed in Washington, D.C., where he now works for a member of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation.

"Worcester State opened my eyes, introducing me to new people and ideas and giving me the foundational skills to get started," he says. "From there, I've built my career."



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SHANNEN CURTIN '17
Nursing Major

CHANGE LIVES

Shannen Curtin '17 came to WSU with a goal. A volunteer at Camp Sunshine in Maine, where she works with terminally ill children, "I hope to become a pediatric oncology nurse," she explains.

Donor-funded scholarships from the Worcester State Foundation are helping Curtin pursue that dream. This year, she received two, which she calls "incredible." "Because of these scholarships, I'm working one less job. That means a lot when you're looking at a pile of bills and an even bigger pile of homework," she says.

"These scholarships say that someone believes in me. There are no words other than 'thank you.' Because of you, I can be a student. Because of you, I can work hard to become the successful person I dream to be."



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WHY CHANGE? WHY NOW? As a public institution, Worcester State University embraces the belief that widespread access to high-quality higher education is the cornerstone of a democratic society. Indeed, it's what changes lives.

Now, we face a moment that is like no other in our history. We are grappling with multiple and competing forces that challenge our ability to deliver this education: a state budget under pressure, rising costs — particularly with technology — and increasing global demands.

We're ready. We've refined our mission, setting ambitious goals to position WSU as an institution of value, distinction, and an academic destination of choice for students throughout the Commonwealth, across the nation, and abroad.

We're embarking on a new era of identity. As a university, we commit to scholarship, research, creative endeavors, hands-on learning, global awareness, and interdisciplinary approaches.

As a community, we're striving to develop and maintain a state-of-the-art, welcoming, and supportive campus that meets discerning student consumers' expectations.

And as a regional educational leader, we seek to uphold our traditions and legacy, while embracing the opportunities inherent in the teaching and learning of the future.

We know we can't do this alone. We need you — those who believe in Worcester State — to join with us. Your support of this campaign will help students to achieve their dreams, faculty to become exceptional educators, and our programs to grow to meet our community's evolving needs.

Together, we can change lives.

BARRY M. MALONEY
President, Worcester State University

CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

\$5 million
For Student Scholarships



\$5 million
For Academic Development



\$3 million
For Capital Projects & Equipment



\$2 million
For Areas of Greatest Need



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SHEEHAN HALL

PRIORITY 1



Scholarships At WSU

Since our founding in 1874, WSU has been known as an institution that changes lives. From our earliest years as a teacher training school to our present stature as a nationally recognized liberal arts and sciences university, WSU has worked to improve the world through the power of education. Here, our students acquire the knowledge and skills they need for rewarding careers and effective citizenship. Our graduates go on to advance the greater good at home and around the globe.

All of this is meaningless, however, if students can't come to WSU in the first place. That's why expanding scholarships in all forms is one of the major priorities of Change Lives.

A college education is an investment in the future for students, families, and society at large. Recent years, however, have witnessed growing financial pressure: the cost of a college education is increasing, while state support for public universities like Worcester State is decreasing. Families worry that college is beyond their means.

Through this campaign, we aim to increase endowment for scholarships to give more talented students the opportunity to come to WSU. We want to provide grants to help students purchase textbooks — an expense that can run nearly \$1,000 per semester. With our increasing emphasis on global education, we also want to be able to support students in their choice to study abroad. In addition, we seek to bolster emergency

funds to assist students experiencing financial crises that threaten to interrupt their education, whether it's car trouble or housing difficulties.

Our students are hard working. The majority are the first in their families to attend college. Almost all students work at least one job; many take on a second or third to make ends meet. Statistics show that more than 85 percent of these graduates will remain right here in Worcester County — as the backbone of the workforce and key contributors to the local economy.

Your gift to scholarships is one of the most direct ways of helping students achieve their dreams, and, of course, change their lives.

SCHOLARSHIPS: **\$5 MILLION**

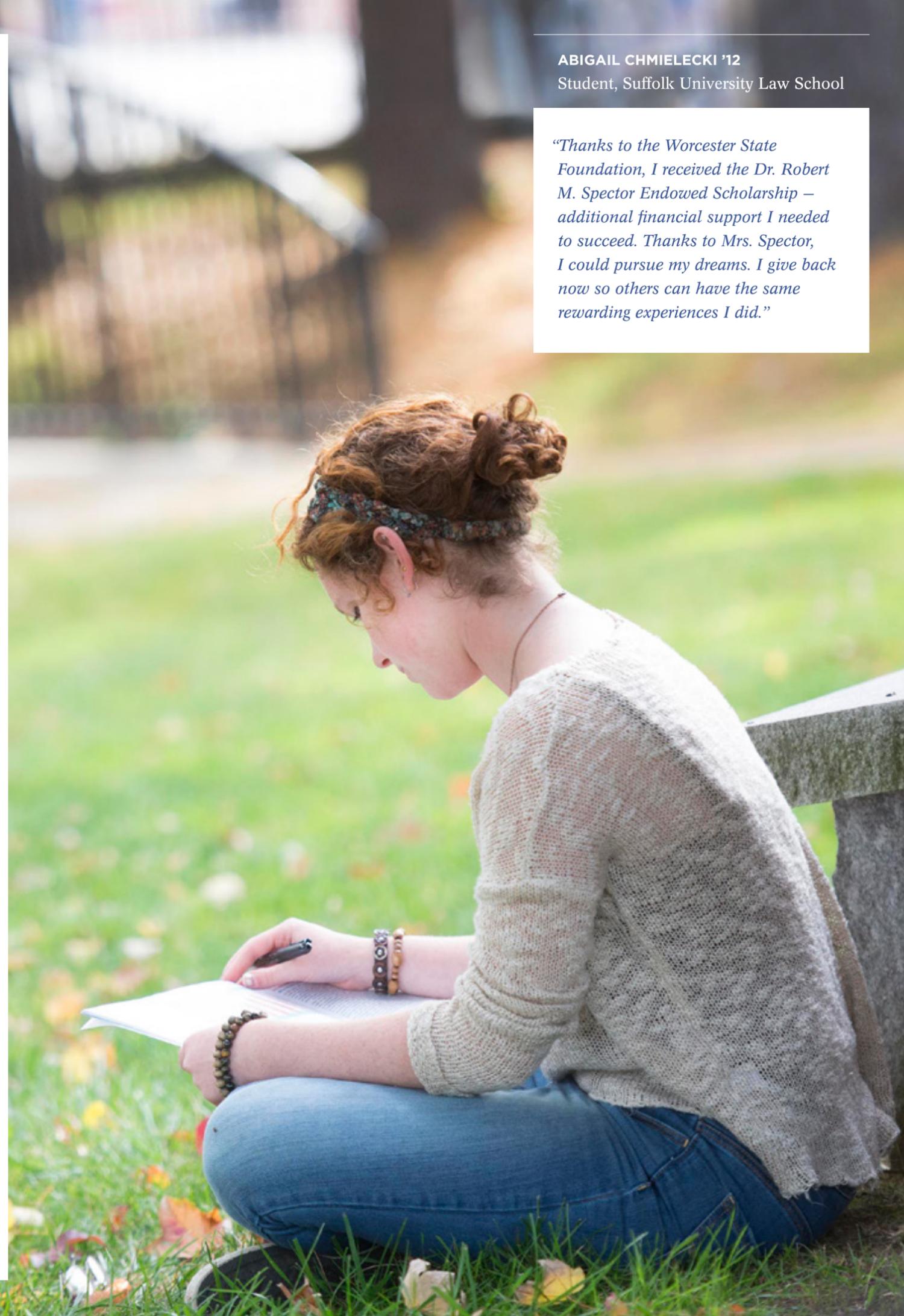
Increase financial support for hardworking students through:

- SCHOLARSHIPS
- BOOK FUNDS
- STUDY ABROAD GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS
- EMERGENCY FUNDS



ABIGAIL CHMIELECKI '12
Student, Suffolk University Law School

"Thanks to the Worcester State Foundation, I received the Dr. Robert M. Spector Endowed Scholarship — additional financial support I needed to succeed. Thanks to Mrs. Spector, I could pursue my dreams. I give back now so others can have the same rewarding experiences I did."





SEBASTIÁN VÉLEZ, Ph.D.
Professor, Biology

“A Foundation grant allowed me to travel to Tasmania to collect specimens for my research on arachnids. Now, three students are working with me on sequencing their DNA and in identifying new species.”



Academic Development

Worcester State University's *Strategic Plan 2015-2019* sets some ambitious academic goals. By the year 2020, the plan envisions WSU will be more widely recognized as an educational innovator. Academic programs will creatively integrate classroom learning with real-world experiential learning, and these programs will be responsive to the identified priorities of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the evolving needs of a complex global community. As a public university grounded in the liberal arts tradition, WSU will prepare well-rounded, culturally sensitive, and socially conscious critical thinkers and problem solvers who are well prepared for their chosen professions or advanced study.

Change Lives will advance these lofty ambitions in two concrete ways: by investing in student academic programs and faculty professional development.

CHANGE STUDENTS

Our charge from the Commonwealth is to produce work-force-ready graduates. Through this campaign, we seek like-minded alumni and friends to support two high-impact learning experiences that do just that: internships and research. Internships are invaluable because they expose students to different work settings and jobs. Because the majority of WSU students already work, many are unable to fit in unpaid internships. Through this campaign, we will provide stipends that will allow more students to take advantage of these learning opportunities.

We also want to increase funds for student research. As WSU attracts more faculty with research interests in everything from anthropology to zoology, more opportunity exists to involve students in independent and related scholarship. Research stipends can provide the support that young scholars need to pursue these projects.

CHANGE FACULTY

WSU boasts a large number of new faculty members who have come to Worcester State specifically because they want to teach undergraduates and engage in research. Through this campaign, we aim to bolster these efforts by endowing funds faculty will use to strengthen teaching and learning. Faculty could apply for grants, for example, to develop new interdisciplinary courses, advance their research, or participate in international programs to increase their global literacy. This investment, of course, will come back to benefit students through enriched coursework and additional research opportunities.

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT: **\$5 MILLION**

- INTERNSHIPS
- RESEARCH
- FACULTY DEVELOPMENT
- DEPARTMENTAL FUNDS
- ACADEMIC INITIATIVES





Capital Projects & Equipment

Care for the “place” of WSU figures prominently in the *Strategic Plan 2015-2019*. Initiatives in this priority include:

GHOSH SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BUILDING

Interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is growing and a key driver in the region’s economy. To keep WSU’s STEM programs competitive, we must invest in new laboratories for biology and chemistry, providing the latest equipment and technology. The campaign will also furnish an upgraded simulation lab for nursing, allowing students to train on high-tech mannequins programmed to respond to their interventions.

WELLNESS CENTER

Already under construction, this 101,000-square-foot space will become WSU’s headquarters for health and wellness. The University’s athletic programs will gain regulation competition and practice courts in addition to spacious locker rooms. Faculty, staff, and students will enjoy the workout and fitness facilities, including a suspended track and multipurpose rooms for group classes. Studies show that wellness centers contribute to vibrant campus life and improve retention and graduation rates.

TEMPLE EMANUEL BUILDING

WSU is in the process of purchasing the former Temple Emanuel building on May Street – adjacent space that is crucial for our land-locked campus. Campaign support will help fund the property’s purchase, a feasibility study for its optimal use, and the necessary renovations.

STUDENT CENTER

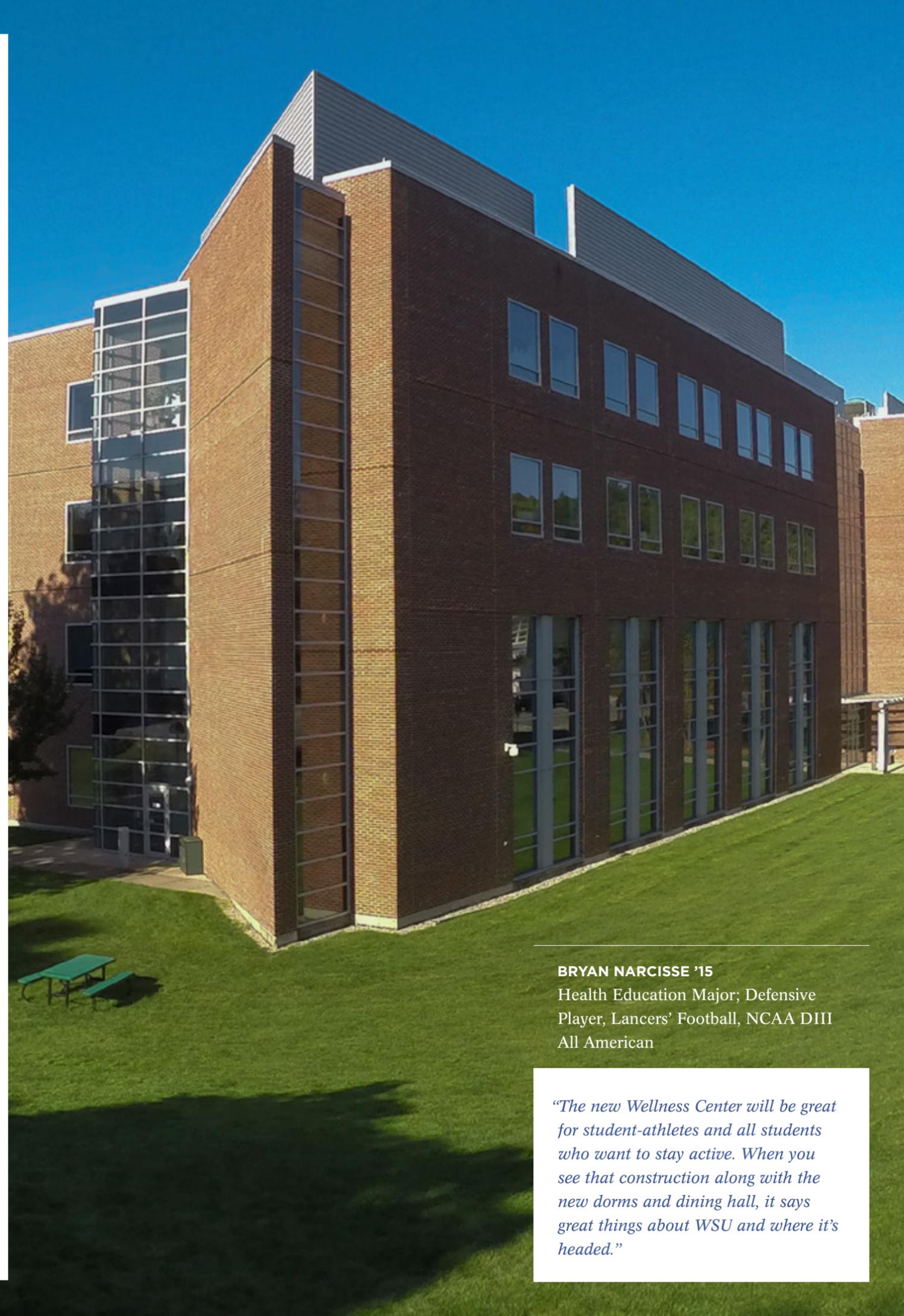
Campaign support will help transform the existing Student Center into a vibrant hub of student life. The renovated facility will include offices and meeting space for student clubs along with University offices, from the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development to the Honorable John J. Binienda Center for Civic Engagement. A late-night café, commuter café, and multiple informal gathering spots will make this an ideal spot to meet up, hang out, or study.

WORCESTER CENTER FOR CRAFTS

The Worcester Center for Crafts (WCC) became part of the University through an alliance with the Worcester State Foundation six years ago. This unique partnership ensures this vital and historic cultural center remains vibrant and community oriented while providing crucial studio space for WSU’s Visual and Performing Arts Department. Campaign support for WCC will construct a glass-blowing studio at the Sagamore Road facility, bringing all of the WCC’s community programs under one roof.

CAPITAL PROJECTS AND EQUIPMENT: **\$3 MILLION**

- GHOSH SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BUILDING
- WELLNESS CENTER
- STUDENT CENTER
- WORCESTER CENTER FOR CRAFTS



BRYAN NARCISSE '15

Health Education Major; Defensive Player, Lancers’ Football, NCAA DIII All American

“The new Wellness Center will be great for student-athletes and all students who want to stay active. When you see that construction along with the new dorms and dining hall, it says great things about WSU and where it’s headed.”



Mission Support

The Worcester State Fund — indeed, the whole Worcester State Foundation — exists for one reason: to support the mission of WSU. The Worcester State Fund is comprised of money raised annually through generous gifts from alumni, parents, and friends and goes from the Foundation straight to work to enhance teaching and learning.

What difference do annual gifts make? It's hard to overstate. The Worcester State Fund allows the Foundation to be nimble in responding to unexpected opportunities, unforeseen needs, and changing circumstances for the University. This flexibility is particularly critical at public institutions, where state support fluctuates year to year.

Consider that last year, gifts to the Worcester State Fund:

- Provided stipends for students to pursue independent scholarly projects through our Student Research and Creativity Grant Program.
- Assisted dozens of students in attending and presenting their work at national scholarly and professional conferences, augmenting their academic and professional resumes.
- Helped to meet the University's physical plant, property, and equipment needs. For example, the Worcester State Fund secured a lease for much-needed additional classroom, office, and auditorium space at the Temple Emanuel building prior to the property's purchase.

- Furthered the innovative work of WSU programs such as the Latino Education Institute, which works to narrow the achievement gap among Latino students in area public schools.
- Enabled faculty to partake in international professional development in countries from Botswana to Ireland.

The Worcester Fund does all of this and much more — supporting high-profile initiatives, such as the ones outlined above, as well as helping to deliver everyday needs like computers, technology, and scientific equipment. Through the campaign, we want to build this annual form of support to strengthen our commitment to students and faculty as well as their innovative teaching and learning.

BRITTANY RHEAULT '07
Sports Coordinator, United Social Sports, Washington, D.C.

“By immersing myself in everything Worcester State offered, I was able to challenge myself in many different respects. I absolutely wouldn't be where I am today without my Worcester State experience and all it gave to me.”





CHANGE LIVES NOW

Worcester State University is ready. There's an excitement on campus with buildings under construction, strong enrollment, and new interdisciplinary programs. The time is right to launch the projects outlined here and secure WSU's position as a state university on the move.

To do this, we need you. We need people who understand the transformative power of this experience to step up and support this campaign by making a gift. In doing so, you will change lives.

JILL C. DAGILIS '78
Vice Chair

MARY C. RITTER
Chair, Worcester State Foundation

CRAIG A. BOVAIRD '77
Vice Chair

VISIT

worcester.edu/changelives

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