Legacy

ESTATE PLANNING IDEAS FOR SEATTLE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

CREATING FUTURE LEADERS
The Sullivan Leadership Endowment

William Sullivan, S.J., Chancellor, speaks with students in front of the reflection pool at the Chapel of St. Ignatius.

The creation of future leaders was Father Bill Sullivan's brainchild, and the program bears his name. It was conceived in 1989. The aim was to advance the university's image. The university had sound academic programs, and students were required to have a reasonably good grade point average, but the president dreamed of more. What if we had a program to attract students who not only had a good grade point average, but also looked beyond themselves, showed promise of leadership and manifested a desire to serve their communities? What if we had a scholarship program for student leaders? Might these students attract other top students? In time, this program would transform Seattle University, and its role in the community. Father Sullivan planted this seed and let it grow.

And it grew. Today at Seattle University there is a lot of talk, especially among faculty, about the outstanding students in their classes. They are called the Sullivan Scholars, who now number 28, seven in each year of college.

SCHOLARSHIP

Back in the exciting basketball days of the 1960s, Len Beil attended Seattle University on a basketball scholarship. After a career in the telecommunications industry, he returned to Seattle University to complete his Ed.D. in Education and become the executive assistant to the president. He glows when he discusses the Sullivan Scholarship program. "It brings in dynamic student leaders. They not only have good grades, but also are service-oriented. They understand that happiness comes not from having money, but from a full and balanced life. They care about people and realize that you get more from giving than receiving. They attract their friends to the university because they are such good role models."

Over these 15 years, the Sullivan Scholarship program has grown and been shaped principally by the attention and oversight of Father Jerry Cobb. As its primary administrator and student counselor, he describes the foundation of the program as based on five pillars. The first is leadership and service: high school applicants "must have manifested some leadership qualities among their peers." The second pillar is academic excellence: while they need not be the very best students academically, "they must have maintained at least a 3.5 grade point average in high school." Then community mindedness is a key factor: students "must have participated in community activities, such

> " HOW GENEROUS THESE PEOPLE ARE. WHAT A DIFFERENCE THEY ARE MAKING IN MY LIFE. I LOOK BACK ON THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS WITH A LOT OF GRATITUDE. MY DESIRE TO SERVE OTHERS HAS DEEPENED IN MY SOUL. GRATITUDE? YES, I WOULD SAY I HAVE A LOT OF GRATITUDE."
>
> —LUCAS MCINTYRE
> SULLIVAN SCHOLAR

as childhood recreation and development, tutoring, care for the aged, or neighborhood and church activities." Next is spirituality: "recognizing the importance of faith in one's own life and in the community." The fifth pillar is international awareness: in today's global world, "we want our students to look beyond their own national and cultural

Lucas McIntyre, '06, volunteered at Prem Dan, a long-term care facility and clinic run by Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta.

backyard and develop an appreciation and respect of other cultures and nationalities."

Acceptance into the Sullivan Scholarship program is highly competitive. Out of a pool of applicants, nearly 350 students are invited each year to compete. They are required to study a selected essay and write a commentary on the reading. Then they visit campus for an entire day and participate in a panel discussion with faculty and community leaders. At the end of the day, after vigorous inquiries, 35 students are selected and invited to return two months later. During this second round of competition, students are required to give a speech on an assigned subject and are interviewed by a panel of faculty and staff. Father Cobb describes the process as "the equivalent of a Rhodes Scholarship program for high school students." From this elite group of 35, seven students are awarded the four-year scholarship.

International experiences abroad are planned and encouraged for Sullivan Scholars. Last fall, two students in the program worked with Mother Teresa's community in Calcutta, India; one student lived in Cochabamba, Bolivia, studying language and doing volunteer work; another student studied Arabic in Cairo, Egypt. Again, Father Cobb: "We have had students all over the world, such as in Nicaragua, China, France, Mexico, Spain, Bolivia and Zambia."

Lucas McIntyre is a Sullivan Scholar majoring in economics in his senior year. He's from Everett, Washington, where he attended Mariner High School. After his junior year at Seattle University, he spent six months in India working with Mother Teresa's sisters in Calcutta. "It was a powerful experience," Lucas says. "All of this has

implications for so many different aspects of my life.” He continues to profess profound gratitude for this unique opportunity. “What a gift I have received. It’s really amazing, extremely generous. Somebody has invested heavily in me; I hope I can share that investment and enrich society, whether locally, nationally or on an international level. This scholarship has shaped my thinking in so many ways.”

Father Sullivan possessed a vision: the Sullivan Scholars would attract other top students. Both Len Biel and his wife, Stella Ley, have been instrumental in continuing the vision of this vital program. Over the years that Len worked at the university, he developed a deep respect for Father Sullivan. “What a great humanitarian he is, a man of faith, integrity, and deep

The Sullivan Leadership Endowment Committee (back row): Helen Jolly, ’60; Rhoady Lee, ’50, chairman*; Sr. Kathleen Sullivan; Stella Ley*; Jerry Cobb, S.J.; Ruth Walsh McIntyre; ’95, ’99*; (front row): Len Beil, ’67, ’96*; John Durbin*; Virgil Fassio; William Sullivan, S.J. *Indicates Legacy Society members.*

spirituality. He has done so much for the development and prestige of Seattle University." Len is also passionate when he expresses his admiration for the quality of the scholarship program. "I've seen these Sullivan scholars over the years; not only good students academically, but eager to serve others; interested in politics and student government, but not in any selfish way, assuming leadership positions with a sense of modesty. And others who were not selected for a Sullivan scholarship have followed in the wake of these student leaders; the program is a tremendous recruiting tool for high caliber kids. I've been deeply impressed over the years."

Len and Stella help spearhead the march of alumni and friends supporting the Sullivan Leadership Endowment program. Stella, too, values the promise of future leaders, "having Father Sullivan's legacy live on through these students just couldn't be better." Alongside Len and Stella are a growing number of Seattle University benefactors who, while planning their estates, are looking at our outstanding scholarship program. They realize it supports the best of the best. They know an endowment goes on forever. They continue to support Seattle University students year after year. And they help build and shape our future leaders. We greatly appreciate their thoughtfulness and generosity.

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To better serve you and your financial advisors, Seattle University has created a new planned giving website that is interactive and easy to use. Come visit us at:

www.seattleu.edu/plannedgiving

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

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BEQUEST

1

Include a bequest in your will for Seattle University.

2

A bequest can be:

- A specific dollar amount.
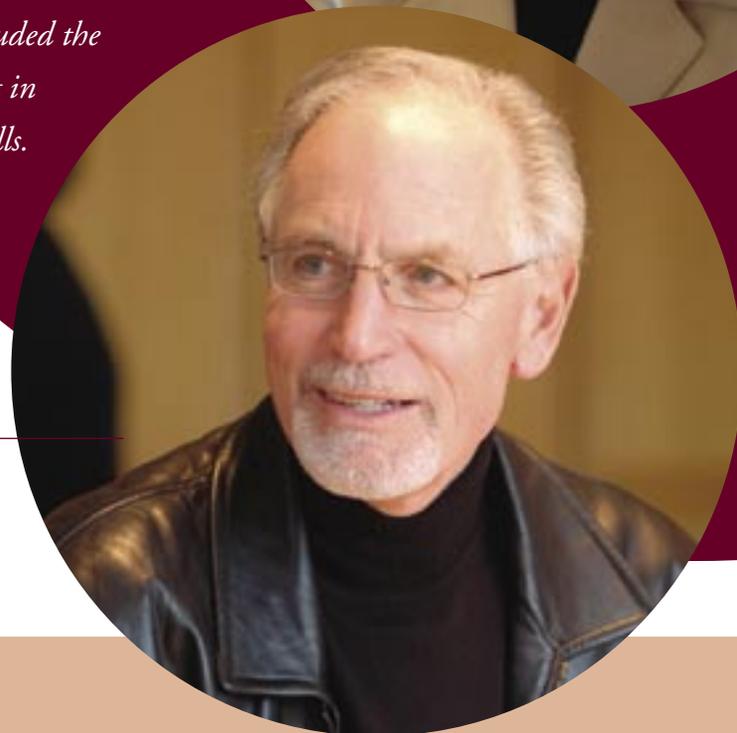- A percentage of the estate.
- A specific asset.

3

A bequest can be added to the SU endowment or for the purpose you designate.

4

Retain control of your assets during your lifetime.

5

Enjoy the satisfaction of knowing you are helping future SU students.

A BEQUEST THROUGH YOUR WILL IS A MEANINGFUL WAY TO SUPPORT SEATTLE UNIVERSITY AND OUR FUTURE STUDENTS

Len Beil, '67,'96, and his wife Stella Ley are members of the Sullivan Leadership Endowment Committee and have included the endowment in their wills.

SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

I give to Seattle University, a Washington non-profit corporation, headquartered in Seattle, Washington, the sum of $_____ (or _____% of my estate; or the property described herein) to be used for _____ (specify purpose).