The Impact of Private Support

The College of Arts & Sciences is the largest college at Florida State. Many general education courses that all students take are provided by the College. As a result, the College of Arts & Sciences teaches more students than any other college on campus.

Private support helps fund fellowships, ensuring that the best and brightest students are able to attend Florida State regardless of their financial background.

Among all state universities in Florida, the College has the highest percentage of alumni giving. For rankings such as this one, each gift is important.

Gifts have a huge impact on our departments, faculty and students. For example, FSU-Teach, a teacher development program co-administered by Florida State University’s College of Arts & Sciences and College of Education, received a $1 million endowment from the National Math and Science Initiative.

Since state funding has declined in recent years, private funding has become more important than ever. High quality faculty, students and facilities require a certain level of funding. With the support of our alumni and friends, we are able to compete with high ranking universities across the country.
FSU and University of Florida researchers are teaming up as part of a five-year project to digitize biological specimens, field notes, photos, 3-D images, vocalizations and other scientific and geographic information. The project, called Integrated Digitized Biocollections, or iDigBio, will be valuable to scientists, policymakers and the general public.

The Department of Biological Science hosts one of only four facilities in the world for advanced cryogenic electron microscopy, a method for seeing protein molecules.

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry’s researchers from the Dudley Laboratory have invented a reagent that will allow scientists to perform complex experiments involving chemical synthesis more easily and precisely.

Through a joint effort between the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Biology, FSU is now one of only a few universities in the country offering a bachelor’s degree in computational biology.

FSU’s Department of English is widely recognized as one of the best in the nation. Adam Johnson, an alumnus of the department’s creative writing program, won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in fiction for his novel “The Orphan Master’s Son.”

Psychology professor Jon Maner won a prestigious early-career award from the American Psychological Association. His research explores ways in which social motives and emotions influence a range of social processes.

A new, state-of-the-art sail buoy has been launched by members of the Deep Sea to Coast Connectivity in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico Consortium from the R/V Apalachee, the new research vessel of Florida State University’s Coastal and Marine Laboratory.

New undergraduate degrees in environmental science, scientific computing, editing/writing/media in the English department, and FSU-Teach make FSU a leader in providing innovative new opportunities for students.

The Department of English has two computer writing classrooms, which feature a variety of cutting-edge visual, audio and text editing programs. Additionally, both rooms house a smartstation for instructors, complete with a touch-screen command station, overhead projector, document camera and DVD player.