The Impact of Private Support

Gifts support undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships that keep FSU at the forefront of Human Sciences education. Scholarships help the College support the growing number of students who enroll each year and help the College compete for the best and brightest students.

In addition to scholarships, contributions support student travel and undergraduate research faculty.

Annual support helps provide rewards for students conducting research; funds travel for students and faculty; host alumni outreach events locally, regionally and out of state; and bring industry guests and practicing professionals to speak in classes and visit with students.

The College continues to provide funding for undergraduate research projects. These projects give undergraduate students the unique opportunity to conduct research and work one-on-one with faculty members, and these experiences significantly enhance students’ educations.

Contributions help support undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships; guest lecturers and visits by practicing professionals; travel for students to attend professional meetings; faculty research and development to increase national visibility and offer research opportunities for students.
The College has new, specially designed spaces for teaching and research in the renovated and expanded William Johnston Building. The Office Depot Technology Lab; Macy’s Merchandising Lab; the product development lab; foods lab; facilities for exercise science and athletic training; and research labs for family and child sciences are all housed in the William Johnston Building.

The Department of Retail Merchandising and Product Development secured a $1 million gift from VrSoftware for its visual display program, MockShop, which allows students to build three-dimensional virtual stores.

A renovated and expanded Advising Center in the Sandels Building serves the College’s growing number of students.

The Human Performance Lab opened in fall 2013, housing equipment for testing athletes and non-athletes to optimize their performance.

The 2014 Retail Summit, sponsored by the Center for Retail Merchandising and Product Development, focused on “Information to Inspiration.” Keynote speaker and Tyner lecturer, Paco Underhill, CEO and founder of Envirosell, shared his considerable expertise on consumer behavior and motivation.

The Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences welcomed five international, visiting scholars in 2013.

Thirty-five retail merchandising and product development students studied in London and Paris during summer 2014. Additionally, RMPD students interned in Panama, Qatar and England.

In a project funded by the National Institutes of Health, FSU’s Center for Better Health and Life partnered with African-American churches in Tallahassee to provide health information and screenings to underserved populations in the area.

A unique partnership between the Big Bend Homeless Coalition’s HOPE community, which offers transitional housing for homeless families, and the Department of Family and Child Sciences is allowing College of Human Sciences students to participate in an evidence-supported program aimed at parenting education and improved family relations.

The Center for Retail Merchandising and Product Development is one of the largest programs of its kind in the nation. The Center works with industry members to network our students and gather feedback on the curriculum.

The College has the highest undergraduate enrollments in merchandising and dietetics nationally. It also has one of the nation’s oldest marriage and family therapy doctoral programs and the only comprehensive human sciences program in Florida.

The sports nutrition major moved from the nutrition degree program into the master’s program in exercise science. Following this reorganization, coursework within the sports nutrition major was fortified with exercise science theory and application as required by the exercise science degree. These steps at the master’s level will serve as the foundation for the College’s planned Ph.D. program in nutrition and exercise science.

Dr. Carla Prado, assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences, is involved in a National Institutes of Health grant that will bring $342,400 to FSU. The project will investigate the role of body composition and weight in colorectal cancer prognosis and the extent and impact of sarcopenia among colon cancer survivors.