The Impact of Private Support

Many of the College’s distinguished programs, particularly the professional development and networking programs, rely on alumni generosity to produce graduates who are prepared for today’s job market.

Last year, gifts:

- Funded international travel for 47 students for research, study or service projects;
- Enabled the College to support 18 outstanding and talented Social Science Scholars;
- Allowed members of student groups like the National Association for Business Economics and World Affairs Program to network with professionals in their fields; and
- Provided for five first-generation college students through the CARE program.

For the past 10 years, the College’s enrollment has grown faster than the University’s overall enrollment. Alumni support helps the College continue its commitment to provide students with high quality academics that have gained national acclaim.

Students are the primary beneficiaries of annual fund gifts to the College. Gifts from alumni and friends:

- Support first-generation college students through the CARE program;
- Fund international travel awards to enable students to pursue intensive foreign language training abroad;
- Provide leadership and professional opportunities by supporting student organizations; and
- Support the College General Development Fund, which funds programs in all departments within the College.
The Social Science Scholars Program launched in 2013 with a group of 18 outstanding undergraduate students. Funded entirely by private support, the program offers a special spring leadership seminar for juniors and provides up to three transformative experiences for the summer and remaining two semesters.

Thirty percent of current international affairs students study abroad during their FSU experience. Foreign study destinations have included China, Japan, Croatia, Ghana, Malaysia, Nepal, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic, Turkey and Panama, among many other countries.

Student groups, such as the National Association for Business Economics and World Affairs Program, allow students to network with professionals in their fields and secure job offers during these difficult economic times.

Students have the unique opportunity to learn from renowned industry, government, education and communication leaders through two distinct lecture series—The Ruth and Shepard Broad International Lecture Series and the Anderson Ashby Lecture Series.

Two of FSU’s three recent Rhodes Scholars graduated from the College of Social Sciences & Public Policy.

In the past four years, College of Social Sciences & Public Policy students have received prestigious fellowships and awards, including five Fulbright awards, two Truman Scholarships, one Marshall Scholarship, two Pickering Fellowships, two Boren awards, one National Science Foundation Fellowship and one Rotary International Scholar award. Of the more than 80 names on the University’s Office of National Fellowships Wall of Fame, 30 percent are College of Social Sciences & Public Policy students.

The College has six research centers and institutes, specializing in economic education, public policy, public health, aging and international affairs.

For the past four years, the political science department has offered a research intensive bachelor’s certificate program for its top undergraduate majors.