

ENDOWMENT REPORT 2022

Northern Kentucky University's purpose is to cultivate and prepare future leaders to make a real impact, enhancing our region and world. We transform bold ambition into success and establish the foundation for all students to obtain fulfilling careers and meaningful lives.

A thriving endowment provides the resources necessary to propel our university forward, bringing us one step closer to accomplishing our goals each year. By establishing an endowed fund at Northern Kentucky University, you have directly invested in the lives of our students and have forever strengthened the future of our community. Adding to the impact of your gift is its longevity and enduring support. One of the most rewarding aspects of an endowed gift is the knowledge that it will live on in perpetuity, enriching the lives of our students, faculty, staff and programs long into the future.

Thank you for entrusting the NKU Foundation with the stewarding of your philanthropy. Please know that we are committed to ensuring your investment positively impacts NKU for generations to come.



384
INDIVIDUAL FUNDS
MAKE UP THE NKU FOUNDATION
ENDOWMENT
AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

\$4,771,490
PROVIDED BY THE
NKU FOUNDATION
ENDOWMENT
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

IMPACT STORIES

Behind every gift is a meaningful and inspiring story. The annual NKU Foundation endowment report spotlights hand-selected features of students and donors fueled by NKU's tradition of giving. The generosity of our donors has a lasting and direct impact on the lives of students and the prosperity of NKU's campus. Thank you for your dedication to NKU's mission, community and the region beyond.

STUDENT IMPACT: KATELYN CLOUGH 2021-2022 NKU FOUNDATION STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER

After Katie Clough applied to NKU, she received a welcome letter from the chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, the same one that many students who have been accepted into the program receive. But Katie didn't just tuck the letter away for safekeeping. She emailed the chair at the time, asked for a meeting and was pleasantly surprised when he did not hesitate to schedule an appointment with her, a move she looks back on and is still shocked by her boldness. Katie didn't realize how that meeting would become the catalyst that shaped the trajectory of her next four years.



KATELYN CLOUGH

As a Neuroscience major and Honors student, Katie had her hands full with schoolwork. Despite this hefty workload, she still managed to be a highly involved student. Wasting no time, Katie joined a sorority, became a tour guide and worked as a Residential Assistant (RA) right from the start of her college career. "I've always been very driven and the type to get involved," Katie says. "While scientific research and my classes were very important to me, the opportunities outside of the classroom helped me grow as a person. They are what made the hard work all worth it in the end."

This early engagement in leadership positions didn't taper off as she settled into life at a university. Instead, it ramped up. Katie took on many leadership roles within the organizations she loved. Katie shares, "I believe taking on those leadership positions is what helped me feel like I mattered here, and it made NKU feel like home."

Katie's ambition landed her a job as a Research Assistant working in a lab under Dr. Chris Curran, the head of the Neuroscience Program at NKU. What began as an opportunity to earn extra credit hours over the summer became a job that would span the remainder of Katie's college career and prepare her to pursue a

\$3,020,000
**PAID FOR STUDENT
FINANCIAL AID**
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Ph.D. "My experience in this lab has shaped me more than anything else at NKU, and it's why I am committed to the neuroscience and toxicology fields," Katie says.

Although her research has received much praise, Katie is most proud of what she has accomplished outside of the lab. She reflects affectionately on the impact she has had on students during her time at NKU, particularly younger students and female students in the sciences. She also expressed how thankful she is to have been able to pilot and serve as the first diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) chair within her sorority.

It's no wonder a student as involved and dedicated as Katie received the NKU Foundation Student Leadership Award, an award recognizing students who provide outstanding service. When discussing how it felt to receive such a prestigious award, Katie shared, "There are so many talented students in the senior class that will go on to do great things. I'm honored to be counted among them and the students who have received this award in the past."

Katie is grateful for the support of NKU donors and feels strongly about how their giving can influence the lives of students. She shares this appreciation, saying, "By contributing to NKU, you're not impacting one or even four years of a student's life. You are allowing them freedom, mobility and happiness for their entire life."

\$609,660
FACULTY SUPPORT
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**DONOR IMPACT:
BARRY AND MARY JO KIENZLE**

As an alumnus of Northern Kentucky University's first graduating class in 1973, Barry Kienzle's admiration for NKU reaffirms the lasting effects of a meaningful educational experience. His love for NKU has grown even more prominent over the years, becoming a pillar in his family's lives. Mr. Kienzle's two daughters and both of their husbands are all NKU alumni, and he shares that even some of his grandchildren already aspire to attend NKU one day. It comes as no surprise that Mr. Kienzle and his wife, Mary Jo, choose to give back to an institution that they say provides their family with a collective cause to root for and stand behind.

Having earned his bachelor's degree in accounting, Mr. Kienzle is excited to help students in a similar position through the Barry G. Kienzle Scholarship in Accounting. This scholarship supports an undergraduate student majoring in accounting and is part of the LIFT Scholars Program. "I was a first-generation student, so I know what it's like for these students when it comes to making your way, especially financially," says Mr. Kienzle. "When I learned the LIFT scholarship would match our gift, it was hard to pass up.

In the future, we hope to contribute even more."

Mr. Kienzle's commitment to philanthropy at NKU is only part of his exceptional leadership and service to this institution. He has served on the NKU Foundation Board since 2001 and was president from 2015 to 2018. He was a member of the 2018 Presidential Transition Committee and also served on the Campaign Leadership Committee for *Further, Faster: The Campaign for NKU*. Most recently, he was awarded the 2019 Distinguished Service Award. Beyond his devotion to NKU, his professional and regional commitment is equally remarkable. "My personal philosophy is one of giving back," says Mr. Kienzle. "Mary Jo and I hope to set an example for our children and grandchildren. We want to show them the importance of supporting causes that you believe in."

Investing in the same university for nearly 30 years is an impressive vote of confidence in NKU's mission and important work. "Once you start giving, it's hard to stop. When you spend as much time around a university as I have with NKU, you can see the beneficial effects of your giving, and the decision to continue giving is an easy one," says Mr. Kienzle.

Endowed gifts like the Barry G. Kienzle Scholarship in Accounting are instrumental to ensuring NKU

**NKU
FOUNDATION
ENDOWMENTS
PROVIDE
FUNDING FOR:**

**ACADEMIC
SUPPORT**

INSTRUCTION

**PUBLIC
SERVICE**

RESEARCH

**STUDENT
FINANCIAL AID**

**UNIVERSITY
FACILITIES
AND
EQUIPMENT**



BARRY AND MARY JO KIENZLE

students today and far into the future have access to support while on their path to degree completion, empowering them to influence the region through their careers. "Choosing to endow this scholarship meant that someday after I'm long gone, somebody will still benefit from our gift," says Mr. Kienzle. "It's nice to know we started something that will always be there." Mr. Kienzle encourages everyone to reframe giving back, sharing that it is something anyone can do. "Anyone can give their time, talent and treasure. It's just a matter of to what degree. Giving any or all of those is a rewarding experience that grows upon itself," he says.

DONOR IMPACT: BETSY MITCHELL

After her first year working at the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History, Betsy Mitchell sought to advance her education by pursuing a master's degree in the natural sciences. She was set on attending Northern Kentucky University. However, NKU didn't offer the particular program she needed—but this didn't deter her. The faculty and advisors were convinced by her determination, so they curated a class schedule matching the requirements for a degree in Environmental Education. "My unique experience and the course flexibility are what sold me on supporting NKU," says Ms. Mitchell.

After graduating from NKU, Ms. Mitchell went on to pursue a Ph.D. in Physics Education, completing all but her dissertation. She left the program after landing a position with the Human Genome Project, a job she couldn't refuse and which kicked off her long academic career. No matter where Ms. Mitchell has found herself working or studying, NKU has always held a special place in her heart. "The faculty and atmosphere on this campus are invaluable. I've been involved with both larger and smaller universities and found that NKU is like the tale of Goldilocks, just the right size," she says.



BETSY MITCHELL

Recognizing her appreciation for NKU and her desire to see her giving in action, Ms. Mitchell chose to jumpstart the endowed Betsy Mitchell Diversity Scholarship for the Sciences, a scholarship for students majoring in the natural sciences, with preference given to those who identify as Latin or Hispanic. By donating a portion of the gift now and leaving the remainder of the gift through her estate plans, she ensured that students could benefit from her philanthropy immediately while also impacting students long into the future.

While working at a university near the Mexico border, Ms. Mitchell got a glimpse into the educational struggles that Latin and Hispanic students often faced. With many hailing from high schools and homes where English was not the primary language, they encountered more

obstacles on their path to academic opportunities. Working with those students greatly influenced Ms. Mitchell's charitable goals. "I wanted to assist the Latin and Hispanic community back home," she says. "In order to receive a well-rounded education in the sciences, there needs to be a diverse group of people meeting and participating in these discussions."

Gifts from donors and alumni like Ms. Mitchell encourage students to persist, meet each challenge with confidence and seek the help of others as they strive to advance themselves and their communities. "NKU needs alumni and donor support, especially those who are excited about education and willing to contribute to the areas where they think their commitment would best serve students," says Ms. Mitchell.

\$119,273,571
ENDOWMENT POOL
MARKET VALUE
AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

\$145,852,000
IN TOTAL ASSETS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

ABOUT THE NKU FOUNDATION

Our Mission

Our mission is to secure, invest, steward and distribute private resources in support of Northern Kentucky University, to advocate for the University's best interests and to build lasting relationships with alumni and friends.

Our Vision

The NKU Foundation will be the most impactful foundation of all regional public university foundations.