
Donor Groups and Recognition Societies

Columbus State relies on the generosity of private donors and recognizes supporters through the following recognition societies:

Tower Society

The Tower Society recognizes those supporters who faithfully make annual gifts to Columbus State University at the minimum leadership level of \$1,000. Starting in 2016, the Tower Society established the Distinguished Service Award honoring an extraordinary volunteer who encourages philanthropic support and advocates on behalf of the university. The inaugural award was given to James. D. Yancey, A.S. '64 at the annual Tower Society Gala.

1958 Society

The 1958 Society recognizes individuals who have made annual gifts to Columbus State University at the minimum level of \$10,000. This dedicated group of individuals plays a crucial role in the continued success of the institution.

Lifetime Giving: The President's Society

The President's Society is comprised of a special group of benefactors whose cumulative lifetime gifts to Columbus State University exceed \$100,000. These gifts provide scholarships to support gifted and deserving students; endowed professorships to recruit and retain distinguished faculty; capital donations to build and upgrade facilities; funds for excellence to undertake new and innovative initiatives; and unrestricted support that provides opportunities for university programs, students and faculty.

Endowed Funds: The Shannon Society

The Shannon Society recognizes individuals, foundations, and other entities who have established endowed funds for scholarships, faculty chairs, academic units, and programs or initiatives that enhance and support excellence at Columbus State University. In 1958, Columbus College opened its doors to 265 students in a building that originally housed the Shannon Hosiery Mill. The Shannon Society honors the leaders whose vision and generosity established the university and ushered in a new era for education.

Planned Gifts: The Legacy Society

The Legacy Society is comprised of a select group of alumni and friends who have notified the University of specific provisions in their estate, retirement, or life insurance plans or have named the University as a beneficiary of a charitable trust or life income gift such as an annuity.