A constellation of donors brings the STEM Education Center and Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium to Embry-Riddle’s Prescott Campus.
Every year in this Impact Report we share with you many of the ways in which your support is transforming our university and expanding our mission. As President, I see your generosity at work every day in the lives of our students, and I am heartened by the growing participation of alumni, friends, faculty and staff in the life and mission of this great university.

Your participation and collaboration are what make Embry-Riddle work.

Over its 90-plus-year history, Embry-Riddle has built its global reputation on this collaborative spirit. It’s in our DNA, and it will continue to propel us forward as we advance solutions to meet the challenges of our STEM-driven (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) industry.

Our engineers will be the leaders keeping the skies safe for piloted and autonomous aircraft, satellites and spacecraft; defending us from cyber-attacks; shortening manufacturing design and build time; adapting new laminates, alloys, composites and 3D printing technologies; and validating systems through simulation. In the defense world, they refer to “force multipliers” — and that’s exactly what we are and will continue to be to industry.

We are committed to delivering relevant education and specialized tools and facilities to create resourceful professionals. Your collective gifts empower us to do that.

Our STEM Education Center in Prescott, Arizona, is one example of the impact of collaborative philanthropy. Corporate and family foundations and more than 200 individuals contributed to the building project, which opened in 2017 (see page 12). Their investment will launch the contributions of future engineers, entrepreneurs and innovators, helping Embry-Riddle do its part to close the growing STEM skills gap.

Gifts to Embry-Riddle also funded more than $1.8 million in scholarships this past year, directly impacting the lives of students: tomorrow’s industry leaders.

Every time you are an ambassador for the work we do, you contribute to the success of the students we endeavor to attract and empower. Every time you join others in support of STEM education and Embry-Riddle, you make a gift that matters and propels us toward new possibilities.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

P. Barry Butler, Ph.D.
President
EMBRY-RIDDLE RISING

In fiscal year 2018, a record 3,564 donors invested in Embry-Riddle, contributing more than $5.2 million to the university. A tribute to the strength of the Eagle bond, alumni were the No. 1 source of philanthropic gifts, contributing in excess of $1.52 million. Loyal friends of the university were a close second, giving just over $1.5 million.

Donors continue to prioritize scholarship and fellowship giving, with more than 54 percent of all contributions designated to support our students’ education and academic endeavors.

Nearly $1 million in gifts was allocated toward facilities and equipment, with the majority of those dollars going toward the construction of the STEM Education Center and Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium at the Prescott Campus [See related story, Page 12]. A testimony to the power of collaborative philanthropy, 238 individuals contributed more than $3.4 million over a three-year period to install the state-of-the-art, multipurpose STEM education and community outreach facility.

Gifts of all sizes add up and make a difference. Collectively, individual contributions of $1,000 or less totaled more than $773,000 in support for student and university programs and initiatives.

A wise investment strategy coupled with a strong financial market helped raise Embry-Riddle’s Endowment to a record-breaking market value of $136,394,000.

*The total value of the university’s long-term investment portfolio includes endowed funds and other long-term investments. Factors such as investment return, contributions and distributions (i.e. scholarship awards) determine the market value.

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LIFETIME & LEGACY DONORS

THROUGH THEIR SUPPORT AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE EMBRY-RIDDLE MISSION AND THEIR PASSION FOR PHILANTHROPY TO THE UNIVERSITY, MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIP GIFT SOCIETIES CONTINUE TO BUILD THE LEGACY THAT IS EMBRY-RIDDLE.

LEADERSHIP GIFT SOCIETIES

JACK R. HUNT

Named for Embry-Riddle's first university president, the Jack R. Hunt Society honors donors whose lifetime and/or planned gifts to Embry-Riddle total $1 million or more.

JOHN PAUL RIDdle

Honoring Embry-Riddle's founder, the John Paul Riddle Society recognizes donors who make lifetime and/or planned contributions totaling at least $500,000.

T. HIGGEB EMBRY

Named for John Paul Riddle’s entrepreneurial partner and Embry-Riddle's co-founder, the T. Higbee Embry Society recognizes donors with lifetime and/or planned gifts of $100,000 or more.

LEGACY

Recognizing donors who include Embry-Riddle in their estates, the Legacy Society supports multiple generations of aerospace/aviation leaders.

DONOR RECOGNITION LIST IS ONLINE

We are grateful to all of our donors and for each contribution — large and small. In an effort to save costs and to be a more responsible steward of our natural resources, the comprehensive list of Embry-Riddle's annual donors is published online only. Please visit giving.erau.edu/donor-recognition and select “Gift Chexbox” to view and search the entire listing.

* Deceased

**Abbreviations**

- AAR: Aircraft Association
- DBF: Daytona Beach Foundation
- Day: Daytona"
It's a marvel that Deanna DeMattio has any time to fly at all. The aeronautical science student at the Daytona Beach Campus works part-time as a flight instructor, is doing undergraduate research in the aquaponics lab — an interest that germinated at her agricultural high school — and mentors younger flight students. She's also been a manager for the women's basketball team and hopes someday to be a coach.

But the primary thrust of this high performer’s Embry-Riddle experience is flight, which is precisely why she chose the school. “I like to get things right the first time, the best I can, you know? I understood the restricted ATP (Airline Transport Pilot certificate) I could get here, so I could work for an airline quicker, if I graduated from here with a degree,” she says. “And the networking here is insanely good.”

As a flight student, DeMattio is especially grateful for the Textron Aviation Endowed Scholarship. “This scholarship, unlike any of the others that I’ve received, makes me comforted, knowing that I will be able to continue my flight training. Not every lender understands why I want to take out money for flight training. This scholarship goes directly to the flight account.”

DESTINED TO FLY
Ho Jin “David” Yun was seemingly selected to be a pilot from birth. “My mom told me after I decided to go to Embry-Riddle that she named me ‘Ho Jin’ because she wanted me to become a pilot. It means somewhere along the lines of ‘to rule the sky’ in Chinese,” Yun says.

He decided to study at the Prescott Campus on its reputation alone:

“My close high school friend took tours of Embry-Riddle and told me about this university. I heard it was the best aeronautical school in the world, so I decided to come here.”

When he began to take on student loans to continue his education, he grew concerned over interest rates. Receiving the Textron Aviation Scholarship came as a shock to him. “I first doubted myself, if I was reading the recipient of the scholarship correctly, and if this was the Textron Aviation I knew. It felt a bit weird, but it was also encouraging to see a huge company like Textron Aviation gave me a scholarship, so I can pursue my dream as a pilot. It has helped me enormously to ease my [financial] worry.”

A CORPORATE ALUMNI CONNECTION
As the Vice President of Operations and Sustainment at Textron Aviation Defense and corporate liaison to Embry-Riddle, Dan Grace (’95, ’00) firmly believes in the university’s students.

“Embry-Riddle students have that undeniable passion for aviation, to create and innovate,” he says. “We need that energy as our business and industry grows. This is an exciting time to be in general and business aviation. Showing young talent that there are many options is an important part of Textron Aviation’s involvement with ERAU.”

Each year, the company recruits a strong class of students to participate in summer internships as another way to expose them to the career options available in general and business aviation.

Nearly 200 Embry-Riddle graduates currently work at Textron Aviation.
Financing an education is often a family affair. For aspiring engineers Lesley Ngwe Neh ('18) and McKenna James ('19), that family got a little larger, thanks to help from hundreds of Embry-Riddle alumni who contributed to the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Both students received Alumni Endowed Scholarships in 2017-18. Established in 2011 to support students with financial need, the Alumni Endowed Scholarship now totals nearly half a million dollars.

Embry-Riddle alumnus and longtime donor to the university Pat McCarthy ('86) says he thought it was important to join the effort to build the scholarship. Since 2014, he’s made monthly contributions to the fund.

“I saw it as a way for our group [of alumni] to make an impact on the future,” says the director of spaceport operations at Space Florida. “I knew from reading about other schools, how big their alumni endowments and scholarships were. I thought that Riddle grads, being out there in industry and relatively gainfully employed, would be able to make a difference for generations.”

He has a selfish motive for supporting the fund, too. “I want the people who are designing and maintaining and flying the planes I’m going to be in, to be the best educated people they can be,” McCarthy says.

INSPIRATION AND DETERMINATION

Ngwe Neh says her Aunt Christine Njeuma ('01), who holds the distinction of being the first professional female pilot in Cameroon, inspired her to come to Embry-Riddle.

“She told me her story,” Ngwe Neh says. “She wanted to be a pilot from the start, but coming from a country where women don’t fly, they told her, ‘That’s for men, forget about it.’” Her aunt first got a degree in French, but her dream didn’t die. She came to Embry-Riddle, completed flight training and earned a master’s degree. Now, she is a pilot at Cameroon Airlines.

A McNair Scholar, Ngwe Neh has shown the same commitment to her dreams. She will graduate in December with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. She starts her new job as a flight test engineer at The Boeing Company in January.

AIR LEGACY

James says one of her favorite childhood memories was hearing the sound of aircraft overhead. The daughter of Embry-Riddle alumnus, Brig. Gen. Darren James ('03), she’s lived on eight different Air Force bases.

Graduating in May 2019 with a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering, she is intent on improving military aircraft safety and performance.

“I spent my childhood surrounded by the hardworking and dedicated men and women of the Air Force. I want to show my appreciation and dedicate my career to bettering the aircraft systems they fly to protect and defend this great country,” James says.

GIVING ASPIRATIONS

Ngwe Neh says becoming an engineer is just one step in her life journey. She hopes to one day bring aviation/aerospace education programs to her native country of Cameroon.

She says, “Succeeding in my career as a professional engineer will also give me the opportunity to give back to this great institution and to help other students to realize their goals in life, as I did.”

James adds, “Anything is possible with the right support and determination.”

Editor’s note: The Alumni Endowed Scholarship was initially created with donations to the NYC Metro Alumni and Atlanta Alumni Scholarship Endowment. The dual-region endowed fund was renamed in 2011 to establish the greater Alumni Endowed Scholarship. Gifts of all sizes from alumni and revenue from the Florida Specialty Tag have contributed to its growth.
A child raised in the civil rights era, Roger Koch isn’t afraid to talk about racial discrimination. “The two great shames of our country are how we [white Americans] treated the American Indians, and slavery. When you set people so far behind the curve, they need some help to get out from under it,” he says. “Education is key. It’s very important for people who are stuck in a cycle of poverty.”

Recognizing a lack of racial diversity in the aviation industry, especially in the engineering fields, Koch endowed a scholarship at Embry-Riddle to support African-American and other underrepresented student populations studying engineering and computer science. Today, the Ed and Dottie Stimpson Scholarship is valued at roughly $1.6 million — and since 2011, it has provided 122 students with nearly $400,000 in scholarship support.

An object lesson in long-term investment strategy, the fund is an example of how endowed funds can grow over time and provide increasingly greater impact.

LAUNCHING CAREERS

One recent scholarship recipient impacted by Koch’s investment is Steve Carreon. A student at the Prescott Campus, Carreon says the scholarship affirmed his renewed dedication to his studies.

“It timed up perfectly with when I was telling myself that I was going to commit to doing really well in my classes. I thought it was kind of a message, like, ‘You do have the right ideas, you’re doing great,’ like it was a reward for doing the right thing,” he says.

Jordan Thomas, a student at the Daytona Beach Campus, dreams of starting his own airline to serve the U.S. Virgin Islands. Born on the island of St. Croix, he was raised by his mother, a single parent who worked two jobs.

“The example she set was a message to me and my brother that we must work hard to achieve anything in life,” Thomas says. “I am beyond grateful for the scholarship that was awarded to me. Because of this scholarship and other awards, I was able to attend my top-choice school needing only small loan amounts.”

RECOGNIZING A PROBLEM

When he founded Aircraft Modular Products (AMP) in 1990, Koch made deliberate efforts to hire qualified African Americans and other non-whites.

“Having AMP in Miami, we have a diverse community here, and as CEO, I was proactive with regard to diversity,” Koch says.

The contrast was stark when AMP went to trade shows. “For a couple years, AMP had the only African-American people at its booth at the [National Business Aviation Association (NBAA)] show, out of 20-30,000 people. The show was very, very white,” he says.

Koch recalls talking at NBAA with his colleague and friend, Ed Stimpson, now deceased, a longtime president of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association and member of Embry-Riddle’s Board of Trustees. He says their discussion landed on the need for racial diversity in engineering professions.

When Koch sold AMP, he endowed the Ed and Dottie Stimpson Scholarship at Embry-Riddle.

“I’m very pleased with how Embry-Riddle has handled the endowment,” Koch says. “They’ve done such a fantastic job. They took the lead in bringing African-American kids in [to aviation].”

Impact

During academic year 2017-18, more than $1.8 million in donor-funded scholarships was awarded to 581 students across the university.
When Jim and Linda Lee walked into the new planetarium at the STEM (Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics) Education Center on Embry-Riddle’s Prescott Campus, they were awestruck.

“It’s unbelievable,” says Jim, who sits on the Prescott Campus steering committee for campus buildings and is a member of its board of visitors.

A significant investment from the Lees helped make the planetarium a reality. In recognition of their generosity, the unique theater facility was dedicated and named for the couple at its grand opening ceremony held in October 2017.

“It’s the coolest thing ever,” says Zoë Crain, an aerospace engineering and space physics major at the Prescott Campus. Crain says she’ll never forget the experience of watching a Delta II rocket launch the student-designed cube satellite (EagleSat-1) into space on Nov. 18, 2017. The planetarium showcased the live NASA broadcast to the campus community in real-time on its 360-degree screen.

“Space is so large and so massive — scientifically our brains can’t fathom the breadth of it,” Crain says. “Being in a planetarium recreates that feeling and that scale. Because of its shape and how large you can project something on the screen, it makes you realize with total awe just how gargantuan some of the projects are that we work on.”

Jim and Linda say they are thrilled to bring the only Arizona planetarium north of Phoenix to their hometown — to inspire future generations and unite the campus with the community.

To date, the Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium has welcomed more than 18,000 visitors. The “crown jewel” of the STEM Education Center, the 41-foot diameter, tilted dome that forms the planetarium’s ceiling is constructed of 220 steel members and encapsulates a state-of-the art all-digital audio, video and control system. The planetarium hosts events and programming for local schools and the general public.

“It brings Embry-Riddle into the heart of Prescott and is a source of pride in the community,” Linda says.

A COLLECTIVE EFFORT

The Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium is part of the two-story, $22 million STEM Education Center. Taking the facility from the design board to a reality was a monumental effort. Since October 2015, 238 individuals (including the Lees) and entities have contributed more than $3.4 million toward the building project.

“It is a shining example of the power of collaboration in philanthropy,” says Steve Bobinsky, executive director of philanthropy at the Prescott Campus.

The STEM Education Center contains faculty offices, classrooms and more than 20 laboratories that support degrees ranging from aerospace engineering to forensic biology.

“To be part of Embry-Riddle and to work with other donors who truly care about our young people and their future is wonderful,” says Kurt Robinson, president and CEO of Robinson Helicopter. He and his sister, Terry Hane, director of sales and marketing at Robinson Helicopter, made a significant investment in the facility.

“What may not be possible with one small contribution becomes a reality when people of similar beliefs all work together,” he says.
CAMPUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT

As the campus boomed and the number of students grew, Chancellor Frank Ayers (’87) says he knew he needed more classroom and lab space.

“The campus had expanded more than 56 percent in five years, so we needed a new facility, and our campus had become a STEM campus,” Ayers recalls. “Then there was an idea that it would be more than that — it would be a STEM Center for the community. We added the planetarium to include that community outreach component.”

Ayers and his wife, Debbie, were among the 162 university faculty and staff members who personally donated to the project.

“I’ve worked for the university for 18 years,” he says. “I believe in the university, its young people and the faculty and staff, and we want to be part of their success.”

Barbara Munderloh, also a longtime employee and the director of facility management at the Prescott Campus, says she and her husband, Marty, contributed to the STEM Education Center — because it was a necessity.

“It was evident to us that the other laboratory facilities were either archaic, outdated or at capacity. For our students to be relevant hiring prospects, they need to learn and work in current, state-of-the-art facilities with up-to-date equipment,” she says.

Crain, who is the sitting Student Government Association (SGA) president, agrees. That’s one reason, she says, the Student Campus Enhancement Fund (SCEF), a subsection of SGA that funds large projects and improvements, supported the building’s construction with $80,000 in collected student fees.

The STEM Education Center consolidated the university’s various labs into one new building, she says. Before, the labs were housed in individual modular buildings or older buildings in need of repair.

“The chemistry lab was Prescott College’s lab, back from when we bought the campus from them [in 1978],” Crain says. “I think that [the building] was definitely a necessary use of our funds.”

“We wanted to optimize the impact of the STEM Center for students,” adds Farjam Ashrafzadeh, chair of SCEF. “With the increasing number of students on campus, the accessibility to on-site computers with school-related software was decreasing. The SCEF committee decided to support a classroom with more computers, to help assure students were able to get their studies and assignments completed.”

The STEM Education Center has had a positive impact on student morale, Crain says. “Prescott is a very humble campus — which is what I love. But it’s really, really cool to have a building that makes you feel like, ‘Hey, I’m part of a big research university.’ It makes the research you’re doing feel more real, more important.”

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Two of the STEM Education Center’s first donors were James and Sherry Raisbeck of the Raisbeck Foundation. Named in honor of their gift, the Raisbeck Engineering Design Studio offers hands-on, team-based capstone engineering and multi-disciplinary design experiences for students. The Seattle philanthropists also donated the Raisbeck Engineer-designed swept blade turbofan propeller from Hartzell Propeller, which is displayed in the center, and an endowed chair, which supports the Raisbeck Engineering Design, Build, Test faculty member for the College of Engineering.

“Project-based learning tends to lend itself to teamwork,” James says. “Part of education is learning how to communicate at all levels, and these kinds of programs, such as those that go on in the lab, are indicative of that kind of teamwork.”

Another named space in the facility is the Robinson Helicopter Atrium. The atrium features an actual Robinson R-22 helicopter hanging from its ceiling (an engineering feat in itself — see page 17) and displays artifacts and images that highlight the history of Robinson Helicopter and its founder, Frank Robinson.

“(Our father) Frank Robinson has always been first and foremost an engineer. He loved to tackle difficult problems and always encouraged Robinson engineers to be creative and look at problems from many different perspectives,” says Terry Hane. “He would be very pleased to know that his R-22 is used to motivate and inspire other young creative minds.”

The Prescott-based Harold James Family Trust also contributed to the STEM Education Center. The foundation’s investment helped fund the installation of the James Family Space Robotics Laboratory.

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“Allowing ERAU students to be on the cutting edge of this technology will allow them the opportunity to shape the future of space exploration and work on solving problems that many companies and agencies are facing as they try to advance space travel and exploration,” says Jenna James, a spokesperson for the Harold James Family Trust.
EAGLE GIVING

“From business to engineering, STEM is the core of Embry-Riddle,” says Mark LaPole (’84), a Prescott Campus graduate and member of the board of visitors. Also a major donor to the project, he says investing in the STEM Center was an opportunity to refresh the campus’s teaching and student research capability.

“Together with the Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium, the STEM Center is not only an enhancement to the student experience, but a lighthouse for community and prospective student outreach,” says LaPole, who is the director of programs at Ball Aerospace.

Another member of the Prescott Campus Board of Visitors and stalwart supporter of the project, Gabe Navarrete (’88), says he looked forward to supporting the university that built his educational foundation.

“There was a time after I graduated, I got mailings from Embry-Riddle that asked for support and I was not in a position to give back,” says Navarrete, who serves as chief security officer for Falcon Global Strategies. “But later, I was able to help and I felt this was one way I could give back.”

Navarrete’s gift helped fund the John Holley Advanced Computing and Simulations Laboratory.

“John Holley was our meteorology professor and adviser for the Golden Eagles Flight team. We used his expertise for every flight practice,” Navarrete says. “Later, I did an internship for FedEx in Memphis and after I returned, Holley hired me at the meteorology lab and was very supportive.”

Navarrete’s son, Emilio (’18), is an alumus of the Prescott Campus and his daughter, Gabriana, is slated to graduate in 2021.

“What I see in the STEM Education Center is a lot of technology and room for growth,” says Navarrete. “I am extremely honored to be a part of it.”

FUTURE FOCUS

As the Prescott Campus celebrates its 40th anniversary (1978-2018), faculty, staff, alumni and supporters remember the past, but are focused on what’s next.

The STEM Education Center is designed to take the university into its next 40 years to educate and inspire future generations, while serving as an example of what is possible when people unite, says Chancellor Ayers.

Jenna James agrees. “There is something so inspirational about an entire community coming together for a common cause. Being a part of this effort speaks to our community’s investment in the future of technology and the importance of STEM outreach to the next generation of students.”

If it took a village to raise the funds to build the STEM Education Center on Embry-Riddle’s Prescott Campus, it also took a lot of collaboration to construct such a unique and complex facility.

One of the biggest construction challenges was placing a 127,000-pound dome atop the planetarium, says Josh Anderson, project manager at Sundt Construction in Tempe, Arizona.

It took four months of planning and coordination, which included more than two months spent assembling the 220-piece steel dome, Anderson says. Another two and a half months was consumed installing the finished product, including insulation and roofing material. A 250,000-pound Manitowoc 2250 crane hoisted the dome atop the building.

The team had to build a road for the crane through the site, just inches away from existing buildings, plus cover existing utilities to avoid damaging them under the massive weight of the machinery.

“With all of the welding and small parts attached to it, the actual weight was tough to pin-point until the dome structure was hoisted to the crane,” says Anderson. “Getting the crane into position was a huge challenge.”

It took three hours to lift the dome, set it and weld it into place, while university students, faculty and staff observed.

Indianapolis-based Bowen Technovation constructed the inner workings of the Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium.

“The sound system was specially designed for the dome environment with specialized features for education,” says Jeff Bowen, president and creative director of Bowen Technovation. The system exhibits minimal out-of-phase reflections, which compromise clarity of speech and music, he says.

Another unique construction challenge was the installation of a full-size helicopter in the lobby atrium. The donation from Robinson Helicopter required some structural adjustments to the ceiling. In just a couple of days, the helicopter was dismantled, reassembled in the already finished lobby and hoisted into place.

“It involved great teamwork by all,” says Anderson.

BUILDING THE FUTURE

EAGLE GIVING

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Navarrete’s gift helped fund the John Holley Advanced Computing and Simulations Laboratory.

“John Holley was our meteorology professor and adviser for the Golden Eagles Flight team. We used his expertise for every flight practice,” Navarrete says. “Later, I did an internship for FedEx in Memphis and after I returned, Holley hired me at the meteorology lab and was very supportive.”

Navarrete’s son, Emilio (’18), is an alumus of the Prescott Campus and his daughter, Gabriana, is slated to graduate in 2021.

“What I see in the STEM Education Center is a lot of technology and room for growth,” says Navarrete. “I am extremely honored to be a part of it.”

FUTURE FOCUS

As the Prescott Campus celebrates its 40th anniversary (1978-2018), faculty, staff, alumni and supporters remember the past, but are focused on what’s next.

The STEM Education Center is designed to take the university into its next 40 years to educate and inspire future generations, while serving as an example of what is possible when people unite, says Chancellor Ayers.

Jenna James agrees. “There is something so inspirational about an entire community coming together for a common cause. Being a part of this effort speaks to our community’s investment in the future of technology and the importance of STEM outreach to the next generation of students.”

If it took a village to raise the funds to build the STEM Education Center on Embry-Riddle’s Prescott Campus, it also took a lot of collaboration to construct such a unique and complex facility.

One of the biggest construction challenges was placing a 127,000-pound dome atop the planetarium, says Josh Anderson, project manager at Sundt Construction in Tempe, Arizona.

It took four months of planning and coordination, which included more than two months spent assembling the 220-piece steel dome, Anderson says. Another two and a half months was consumed installing the finished product, including insulation and roofing material. A 250,000-pound Manitowoc 2250 crane hoisted the dome atop the building.

The team had to build a road for the crane through the site, just inches away from existing buildings, plus cover existing utilities to avoid damaging them under the massive weight of the machinery.

“With all of the welding and small parts attached to it, the actual weight was tough to pin-point until the dome structure was hoisted to the crane,” says Anderson. “Getting the crane into position was a huge challenge.”

It took three hours to lift the dome, set it and weld it into place, while university students, faculty and staff observed.

Indianapolis-based Bowen Technovation constructed the inner workings of the Jim and Linda Lee Planetarium.

“The sound system was specially designed for the dome environment with specialized features for education,” says Jeff Bowen, president and creative director of Bowen Technovation. The system exhibits minimal out-of-phase reflections, which compromise clarity of speech and music, he says.

Another unique construction challenge was the installation of a full-size helicopter in the lobby atrium. The donation from Robinson Helicopter required some structural adjustments to the ceiling. In just a couple of days, the helicopter was dismantled, reassembled in the already finished lobby and hoisted into place.

“It involved great teamwork by all,” says Anderson.
It was an honor to meet young people filled with aspirations and motivation for their future, Barbara says.

"Making a difference in the life of just one young individual is the premise of our scholarship," Barbara says. "We want to help that student fulfill their dreams and goals.

Barbara and Carl Martens Established the Martens Family Endowed Scholarship

Photo by Connor McShane

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GIVING BACK

BARBARA AND CARL MARTENS GIVE THE GIFT OF EDUCATION TO FUTURE GENERATIONS OF EAGLES

Barbara Martens has fond memories of working at Embry-Riddle’s Prescott Campus, including the many outstanding students she met over the years.

“I’ve always had a great respect and admiration for the young people that attend Embry-Riddle,” she says.

Before retiring in 2014, Barbara spent 11 years working in the office of philanthropy and alumni engagement, and for Chancellor Frank Ayers (’87).

Barbara and her husband, Carl Martens, are strong advocates of education. They recently established the Martens Family Endowed Scholarship through a planned bequest.

“Barbara and Carl have such a heart for our students. Through their scholarship they will help so many,” says Ayers.

“As a longtime member of our staff, Barbara knows the value of the Embry-Riddle family and remains a vital part of it through her giving.”

A FOCUS ON EDUCATION

The oldest of nine children, Barbara says education was extremely important in her family, but when she was young, there were fewer educational opportunities for women than men.

Barbara’s personal experience inspired her to create the Martens Family Endowed Scholarship with a preference for women, especially first generation college attendees.

“Working at Embry-Riddle and looking at the low enrollment rate of women, I wanted to ensure that women had an opportunity to attend and succeed in their quest for educational excellence,” she says.

Born and raised in Denmark, Carl earned a master’s degree in electrical engineering and served in the Royal Danish Air Force as a first lieutenant.

In 1966, he immigrated to the United States as an electrical engineer for General Dynamics in Rochester, New York, to work on the F-111 aircraft program.

“In Denmark, it is possible for qualified students to achieve university degrees at minimal or no costs. Carl realized that was not the case in the United States. He wants our scholarship to assist deserving Prescott Campus students struggling to fund their education,” Barbara says.

MAKING PRESCOTT HOME

The couple, who have two grown daughters, met in California and had rewarding careers in Silicon Valley prior to moving to Prescott, Arizona, in 2003.

“Barbara thoroughly enjoyed her time working at the campus,” Carl says. She referred to so many students as ‘her kids.’”

It was an honor to meet young people filled with aspirations and motivation for their future, Barbara says.

She and Carl wanted to do something enduring for the campus and its “inspirational” students.

“Making a difference in the life of just one young individual is the premise of our scholarship,” Barbara says. “We want to help that student fulfill their dreams and goals.
Leah Murphy
Aspiring helicopter air ambulance pilot
Photo by Connor McShane

Chris Steppe
Aspiring information systems security professional (with his daughters)

Prescott Campus student. “I know it’s a tough job, but there is nothing I want to do more.”

That determination has pushed Murphy in her quest. She’s already earned her commercial pilot’s certificate and instrument rating, while working two part-time jobs. She’s also job shadowed the chief pilot at Boston Med Flight in Massachusetts.

“I’ve had people question me about being a female pilot. To receive a James Hagedorn EmpowerEd Endowed Scholarship and Graham Multhauf Memorial Scholarship in Helicopter Flight lets me know there are people here that do support me, and I’m not alone in this long, expensive journey,” she says.

STEPPING UP
An aircraft fuel systems mechanic in the U.S. Air Force, Chris Steppe knew he wanted to further his education, but the 31-year-old father of four had limited time and money.

His supervisors at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona encouraged him to pursue a bachelor’s degree through Embry-Riddle’s Worldwide Campus. Steppe went even further and enrolled in the 4+1 Program, which will allow him to earn a Master of Science in Information Systems Security and Assurance after completing his bachelor’s degree.

Steppe says his educational goals would have been hard to attain without scholarship support. When his tuition assistance from the Air Force was completely maxed out for the year, he received a Worldwide Campus Patron’s Scholarship from Embry-Riddle that helped him cover his educational expenses.

“Being selected for this scholarship was an indicator that I was on the right track in pursuit of my education and future,” Steppe says. “And it shows my children that if you work hard at something, you can succeed.”

TURNING DREAMS INTO REALITY
Fascinated with engineering and math since elementary school, Butler-Craig’s dream is to earn a doctorate in aerospace engineering and become an astronaut.

While at Embry-Riddle she has earned several scholarships supporting that dream, including the Ed and Dottie Stimpson Endowed Scholarship (see related story, page 10).

Butler-Craig is already working in her field. This past summer, she interned as a systems engineer at NASA’s Glenn Research Center.

“If there’s a will, there’s a way,” she says. “And scholarships are one of the ways to help make my dreams more tangible.”

Watch Student scholarship recipients express their gratitude: giving.erau.edu/videos

Without scholarships, Naia Butler-Craig doubts she would be a student at Embry-Riddle. “Scholarships are the reason that I am in school,” says Butler-Craig, a first-generation college student at the Daytona Beach Campus.

From aspiring astronauts and pilots to engineers and entrepreneurs, scholarships — fueled by the generosity of donors — support the next generation of leaders and innovators studying at Embry-Riddle.

“Scholarships play a key role in the success of our students,” says Steve Bobinsky, executive director of philanthropy at the Prescott Campus. “Sometimes, the money students receive from scholarships can make the difference between just having a dream and making it come true.”

IN-FLIGHT SERVICE
For Leah Murphy, becoming a helicopter air ambulance pilot perfectly unites her love of flight and her desire to help others as a first responder.

“I want to be that person who is there for the worst day of people’s lives, to help contribute to making it better,” says the Prescott Campus student. “I know it’s a tough job, but there is nothing I want to do more.”
“I hope the scholarship goes to someone who really loves flying as much as my brother did,” Prijatel says.

AN AVIATION FAMILY
Magie learned to fly from his father, first flying solo at age 16. He grew up in Minnesota, where his dad, who later moved to Alaska, owned an air transport business that flew clients to remote locations for canoeing and other wilderness excursions.

Magie was chief pilot at a few operations in Alaska; then he started flight instructing and ferrying aircraft to clients worldwide. He had plenty of close calls, Prijatel says, including more than a dozen occasions when the engine went out on the plane he was flying.

Prijatel credits Embry-Riddle for teaching her brother about the business side of aviation, which allowed him to work globally as a chief pilot and instructor. He became the go-to person to get customers all over the world flying and acquainted with their airplanes, she says.

HONORING HIS MEMORY
Magie met and became friends with Canadian philanthropists John and Marcy McCall MacBain, co-founders of the McCall MacBain Foundation, who helped Prijatel establish the scholarship.

“When John found out about Pat’s death, he called me and told me we needed to do something,” says Prijatel.

The McCall MacBain Foundation is a grant-making organization established in Geneva, Switzerland, by the couple, who are both former flight students of Magie. One of the foundation’s key focus areas is education and scholarships.

“We wanted to honor his legacy through this endowed scholarship at Embry-Riddle to support an aviation student each year,” says John McCall MacBain. “Scholarships have the potential to change a young person’s life for the better, and if we invest in students with high potential, they will go on to pay it forward by having a positive impact on their communities and beyond.”

Marcy McCall McBain adds, “Many of the contributors were students of Pat’s, and we felt that giving Embry-Riddle students an opportunity to learn in his memory would be a fitting tribute to our great friend and teacher.”
MEMORIAL ENDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Frank and Novia Adams Scholarship
Dr. Shiv Aggarwal Memorial Endowed Scholarship
William Aush Endowed Scholarship
Robert W. Baker Endowed Memorial Scholarship
James H. Baslin Endowed Scholarship
Maj. Andrew C. Becker, USAF AFROTC Det. 157 Leadership and Service Endowed Scholarship
Carlos Alejandro Bellagamba Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Stephanie Belegamipag Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Col. and Mrs. Warren A. Bennett ROTC Endowed Scholarship
Matthew Birk Endowed Scholarship
Berlin Airlift Veterans Endowed Memorial Scholarship
Blanchette Scholarship for Excellence in the Computing Sciences at Prescott
Dr. Hyman L. Bloom Memorial Phi Kappa Phi Endowed Scholarship for Women
Diedre Lynn Braith Endowed Scholarship
Seani M. Brooks Endowed Scholarship
Brumson Memorial Endowed Scholarship
AAEF - Eugene Bullard Scholarship Award
Central Florida Alumni Chapter - Elizabeth P. Coley Endowed Scholarship
David M. Charlebois Endowed Memorial Fund
Bill Cody Scholarship Endowment
AAEFS - Bocia Coleman Freshman Endowed Scholarship Award
David Countm Memorial Endowed Basketball Scholarship
Elizabeth (Lisa) W. Crescenzo Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Crosby Army ROTC Endowed Scholarship
Col. David R. Cummock Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Shrinivas Dalal Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Daytona Beach Campus
Tom Davis/Piedmont Airlines Endowed Scholarship
Kathleen P. Diggin Memorial Endowed Scholarship
John and Audrey Eberle Endowed Scholarship
AAR Inc. A. Eichner Endowed Scholarship
Douglas Alan Eshleman Memorial Scholarship
John A. Fidel-Aviation Scholarship Endowment
Herbert O. Fisher Endowed Scholarship
Timothy P. P. Forta Memorial Scholarship
Gary F. Fountain Memorial Scholarship in Air Traffic Management
James David Frost Memorial Scholarship
R. Ginger/S. Budlauskas Memorial Endowment
Gherard Endowment
Robert A. Goldfinger Jr. Endowment
Samuel M. Goldfarb and Jack H. Hunt Scholarship
David J. Gommon Memorial Scholarship
Mark V. Haas Endowed Scholarship
Benjamin T. Hall Scholarship
Joey Max Hansley Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Daytona Beach Campus
Aurum Harney Memorial Basketball Scholarship
William L. Harrison Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Richard Harvey Endowed Scholarship
William B. Henderson Endowed Scholarship
Hillsdale Endowed Scholarship
Louis V. and Dave Z. Hoffman Aerospace Engineering Scholarship Endowment
James Holahan Aviation Communication Endowment
Russell F. Holdeman Scholarship Endowment Fund
Holleyhawk Memorial Scholarship
Frank W. Holte Endowed Scholarship
Jack Hunt Aviator Scholarship Endowment
The Constance D. Hunter Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Paul Bunwood Hunter Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Cafe M. Kastanek Memorial Endowed Presidential Scholarship
Petar V. Kinkade Memorial Scholarship
Irma Kirk Endowed Scholarship
Robert John Klerso Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Ron Klotz Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Krystal Koch Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Leonard Kohn Memorial Scholarship
Todd Krasa Memorial Scholarship
Elton Kugman-Kadi Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Moira and Bill Lear Endowed Scholarship
The American Airlines Duwane (Duke) Ludbetter Endowed Scholarship
Mark E. Lammer Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Arnold M. Lewis Jr. Endowed Scholarship
Robert E. Machal Endowed Scholarship
Pat Magia Endowed Scholarship
Gianni Manganeli Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Edwin Marchetti Memorial Endowed Scholarship
William B. Masson Endowed Scholarship
Bob and Barbara McCom Endowed Memorial Scholarship
John O. and Isabel Moretti Endowed Scholarship
Mary (Beaz) & John McMahon Endowed Scholarship
Stefan P. Meister Endowed Scholarship
Richard H. Merlin Endowed Scholarship
Charles O. Miller Endowed Memorial Scholarship
Alison Mills Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Jim Morin Memorial Endowed Fund
The Elizabeth Lee Morris Memorial Endowed Scholarship for Flight
Frank H. Mosley Jr. Endowed Scholarship
Gregory Muff Memorial Scholarship in Space Physics Endowed Fund
Laurence A. Myers Memorial Scholarship
Nackaadi Family Endowed Scholarship
Nicolai Endowed Scholarship Fund at the Prescott Campus
Lawrence E. Nix Presidential Endowed Memorial Scholarship
Linda Lu Notapole Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Josephine O’Connor Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Deborah Osborne Memorial Endowed Scholarship
David Robert Overby Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Patrick B. Owens Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Amelia Peabody Aviation Fellowship
Dr. Norval P. Pehl Memorial Scholarship
Michael Poop Memorial Endowed Flight Endowment Fund
Prescott Golden Eagles - Gehrtt Endowed Scholarship
Kai Seashaidh Purushothamas Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Mike Reynolds Menendez Endowed Scholarship
Paul E. Richter Jr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund
Robert W. Ridder Mill Memorial Scholarship
John Paul Riddle Memorial Endowed Scholarship
George A. Ruck Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Charlie B. Ryan Endowed Scholarship
Paul E. Sanderson Scholarship
Gary Eugene Savoye Scholarship Endowment
Johan Schwartz Memorial Endowment
Kimball Scribner Endowed Scholarship
Christopher Seferiaidis Scholarship Endowment
James Shapiro Endowed Scholarship
Kenneth J. and Shirley Shira Memorial Endowed Fund
Philip Dalton (Flip) Smith Endowed Scholarship
Alice A. Spano Endowed Scholarship for Women of Excellence
R. Dixon Speas Endowed Scholarship
Ralph H. Spence Endowed Scholarship
Captain Bill Stephens Memorial Scholarship
Swegbinis-Contadi Memorial Scholarships
Druria L. Sylvester Endowed Scholarship
Charles R. Tennant Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Jason E. Thomas Endowed Scholarship
John R. Thomas Endowed Scholarship
Donald Tupiniski Memorial Scholarship
Arthur F. Tweedie Memorial Scholarship
Richard Vagnosci Memorial Endowed Scholarship
David M. Vinson Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Kyle R. Vredenburg Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Lisa Wagner Memoriial Endowed Scholarship
Christopher J. Walker Memorial Scholarship
Ronald Weaver Endowed Scholarship
Frederic E. Weick Endowed Scholarship
Dudley A. Whitman Endowed Presidential Scholarship
John Winant Endowed Scholarship
Parsh Wiff Avionics Contest Scholarship Award Endowment
Parsh Wiff Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Jason Wasker Memorial Scholarship Endowment
Jack Wong Endowed Memorial Scholarship
The Edward P. and Mary A. Yekel Endowed Scholarship in Aeronautical Science

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