Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope this issue of the Tower Society newsletter finds you and your family healthy and well.

We were very much looking forward to gathering in person for Reunion 2021. However, as you know by now, Reunion 2021 has been postponed until June 9-12, 2022. There is no sugar-coating it—this past year has been challenging and we are looking forward to getting back to normal as soon as we can.

Based on feedback from many in the reunion classes, the Alumni Relations team is working on the plans for Reunion 2022, which will include combined class dinners. This means you will celebrate not only with your classmates but also with friends from other classes that are celebrating the same milestone reunion year. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Reunion 2022.

This issue of the Tower Society newsletter highlights ways that you can make a gift in honor of your milestone reunion. I hope the information contained herein is useful to you and your planning needs. There are many tax-wise ways to make a gift to Lehigh and the planned giving team would be glad to help you.

I hope you have an enjoyable summer with family and friends. All of us at Lehigh look forward to welcoming you back to campus soon. In the meantime, thank you for all that you do to support the success of Lehigh students and faculty. See you at Reunion 2022, if not sooner!

With warmest wishes,

Lorraine Wiedorn ’84G ’13P ’17P
Assistant Vice President
Planned Giving and Family Philanthropy

BECOME A TOWER SOCIETY MEMBER ❤

Lehigh University’s Tower Society recognizes those alumni and friends whose generous gifts* support the endowment program.

The Tower Society stands as a lasting thank you to all of those who have contributed to Lehigh University’s endowment or who have made plans to do so in the future. Membership in the Tower Society is available to individuals who have provided for Lehigh’s endowment by:

• Making a current gift of cash or property.
• Giving to the life-income program by creating a charitable gift annuity.
• Establishing a charitable remainder trust or a charitable lead trust.
• Naming Lehigh University as a beneficiary in a will or trust agreement. (Contingent provisions are not counted unless reciprocal wills are involved.)
• Naming Lehigh University as a beneficiary or owner of a life insurance policy.

*The minimum gift for membership is $10,000, and Tower Society membership is in perpetuity.
Your will is your legacy. It dictates how you will be remembered and can be created to reflect your values. That’s why, no matter your age or wealth status, you should be sure to take time to consider this important document this year.

For example, there’s an easy way for you to continue supporting our students without giving anything today: by including a gift to Lehigh University in your will.

Advantages of a Gift in Your Will

• **Simplicity.** As little as one sentence in your will or living trust is all that is needed to complete your gift.

• **Flexibility.** Until your will or trust goes into effect, you are free to alter your plans as needed to reflect life’s changes.

• **Versatility.** You can give a specific item, an amount of money, a gift contingent upon certain events or a percentage of your estate.

Here’s How It Works

Your estate planning attorney can help you structure a gift so your loved ones will be taken care of first after you’re gone. They will include special language in the will or living trust you create, or add it to existing documents through an amendment called a codicil.

A Gift in Your Estate Plan Is Right for You If...

• You want to make sure your support of our students continues after your lifetime.

• You want to balance your generosity to us with an assurance that loved ones are taken care of first.

• You want to maintain the flexibility to change your mind about your gift at any time.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

We are happy to help you get started and can provide sample language your attorney can use to make your gift. Please contact the Office of Planned Giving at (610) 758-4749 or intower@lehigh.edu for more information.
MAKE AN IMPACT (TAX-FREE!) THROUGH YOUR IRA

Bonus: Satisfy Your RMD

Your individual retirement account (IRA) is an excellent tool for saving for your retirement years. Even better, it's an extremely easy way to support the causes that matter most to you.

If you’re 70½ or older, you can use the IRA charitable rollover (sometimes referred to as a qualified charitable distribution) to make a tax-free gift to Lehigh University. You can transfer any amount up to $100,000 per year. Beginning the year you turn 72, you can use your gift to satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.

When you use your IRA to make a gift to Lehigh:

• Your gift will be put to use today, allowing you to see the difference you’re making.
• You pay no income taxes on the gift. The transfer doesn’t generate taxable income or a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your tax deductions.

TIP: You can name Lehigh University as a beneficiary of your IRA account. This costs you nothing today, and you retain complete control over your account during your lifetime. As a nonprofit institution, we do not have to pay any taxes on the gift and can put 100% of your gift toward our future.

LET US HELP

Let us walk you through your options and share all the ways your gift makes a difference at Lehigh. Contact the Office of Planned Giving at (610) 758-4749 or intower@lehigh.edu to get started today.
ENJOY INCOME
FOR LIFE

And Provide for a Secure
Future for Lehigh University

Do you worry about whether you’ll have enough money to last through retirement? There’s a way to calm this concern and support charitable causes you care about. It’s called a charitable gift annuity (CGA).

Here’s how it works: You make a donation to Lehigh University, and in return, we pay you or your loved one a fixed amount each year for the rest of his or her life. This payment never changes, not even with fluctuations in the stock market, interest rates or inflation. After your or a loved one’s lifetime, we use the remaining balance of your gift to continue preparing students to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

Benefits
• Receive lifetime payments for yourself and possibly another person.
• Qualify for a charitable deduction for a portion of the value of the gift.
• Secure partially income-tax-free payments.
• Save on capital gains taxes when you contribute appreciated securities.
• Know that you’re making a difference at Lehigh.

AN EXAMPLE
Mary, 76, wants to support Lehigh, so she establishes a charitable gift annuity using a $25,000 gift of appreciated stock. Based on her age, Mary will receive $1,400 each year for the remainder of her life. She is also eligible for a charitable deduction of $11,453* when she itemizes on her taxes this year.

*Based on a 1.2% charitable midterm federal rate. Deductions and calculations will vary depending on your personal circumstances.

What will my lifetime payments be?
When you give through a CGA, you can have peace of mind knowing the amount you’ll receive each year will not change, regardless of the state of the economy. Based on your age at the time of your gift, your annuity amount will not fluctuate based on market values.

See How You Can Benefit
We would be happy to run a personalized calculation showing you the benefits you and your loved one can enjoy. Simply contact the Office of Planned Giving to learn more.

Office of Planned Giving
306 S. New Street, Suite 500
Bethlehem, PA 18015
(610) 758-4749
intower@lehigh.edu
plannedgiving.lehigh.edu

© The Stelter Company/Lehigh University. Information contained herein was accurate at the time of printing. The information in this publication is not intended as legal or tax advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor. Figures cited in any examples are for illustrative purposes only. References to tax rates include federal taxes only and are subject to change. State law may further impact your individual results.

California residents: Annuities are subject to regulation by the State of California. Payments under such agreements, however, are not protected or otherwise guaranteed by any government agency or the California Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association. Oklahoma residents: A charitable gift annuity is not regulated by the Oklahoma Insurance Department and is not protected by a guaranty association affiliated with the Oklahoma Insurance Department. South Dakota residents: Charitable gift annuities are not regulated by and are not under the jurisdiction of the South Dakota Division of Insurance.