College Priorities

The college is committed to addressing the many obstacles our students from disadvantaged communities face. Their learning experiences are as individualized as their coursework, and the support each student needs is unique as well. With access to programs that enrich and enhance what they gain through their classes, LSA undergraduates can take their education to the next level—planning for their careers and moving toward their goals. Funding is needed so that LSA has resources available to meet the diverse needs of all students. Whether scholarship support or program support, gifts make it possible to prepare all of our students for success. By contributing to the dean’s priority funds, you are helping students to purposefully engage in a dynamic liberal arts education.

LSA FUND FOR NEED-BASED STUDENT SUPPORT

Students face mounting challenges as they pursue their college education, with those in the most difficult financial situations profoundly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The LSA Fund for Need-based Student Support has benefited thousands of students, and right now, the need is greater than ever. Expendable gifts to the LSA Fund for Need-based Student Support make it possible for engaged, high-achieving students to continue to pursue their higher education goals.

These students help form the character of our institution, strengthening LSA’s contribution to the world. They will educate future generations, shape public policy, make new discoveries in every field, and continue the important work of building society. The value of supporting their education is not only what they accomplish during their time at Michigan, but also what they contribute to their communities and the world over the course of their lifetimes.

The LSA Fund for Need-based Student Support is a top priority because it provides access to all facets of an LSA education, including tuition and room and board, as well as opportunities for engaged-learning experiences. This is more critical than ever so that all of our students leave here with all the advantages of a degree from the University of Michigan.

LSA STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

Because of the global COVID-19 pandemic, many students face unanticipated financial hardship. Students may apply for LSA Student Emergency Funds when they are in extraordinary circumstances to help with rent, utilities, food, emergency travel, or emergency medical assistance. The fund also provides resources for laptops and laptop repairs, as well as high-speed internet access, so that all students are able to fully access online learning to engage in their studies and focus on their education. Expendable gifts of any size enable the college to meet these needs and ensure that our most vulnerable students are prepared and equipped with the resources they need to succeed in this challenging environment.
LSA FUND FOR PROGRAM SUPPORT

The LSA Fund for Program Support provides resources for curriculum innovation that is a hallmark of an LSA education. It also funds interdisciplinary courses, technology upgrades, and enhances experiences in the arts to enable the college to lead and respond to change. The Fund for Program Support is helping the college adapt to the needs of hybrid and remote education as well as ensuring access to different modes of learning for LSA students, including people with disabilities. It also supports the development of college-wide initiatives such as those that address racial justice and equity. Gifts have supported the optiMize program, Semester in Detroit, Opportunity Hub programs, and more. Your expendable gift to this pooled fund will support the mission of the college while maintaining our deeply held values of exploration, common good, and inclusion.

THE OPPORTUNITY HUB STRATEGIC FUND

LSA is committed to transforming the way our students translate their world-class liberal arts education into success in today’s competitive marketplace. The LSA Opportunity Hub encourages students to explore and develop the connection between their liberal arts education and their aspirations and goals. The Hub provides access for all students through mentoring, coaching, employer engagement, internships, networking with alumni, workshops, and other programs that empower undergraduates to make the choices that lead to satisfying careers. From their first days on campus, students can engage in forward-looking classroom learning paired with hands-on career exploration and preparation at the LSA Opportunity Hub.

Expendable gifts to the Opportunity Hub Strategic Fund make it possible for Hub staff to respond to ever-changing world circumstances, such as moving internships online and building a virtual mentorship network, enabling students to meet and learn from alumni working in a variety of organizations and in all parts of the globe. The Opportunity Hub Strategic Fund is flexible funding that is used to continue creating ways for the Hub to enrich students’ experiences, form their professional identity, and prepare them for success after graduation.

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