

Benefactor

An Update on Private Support for George Mason University

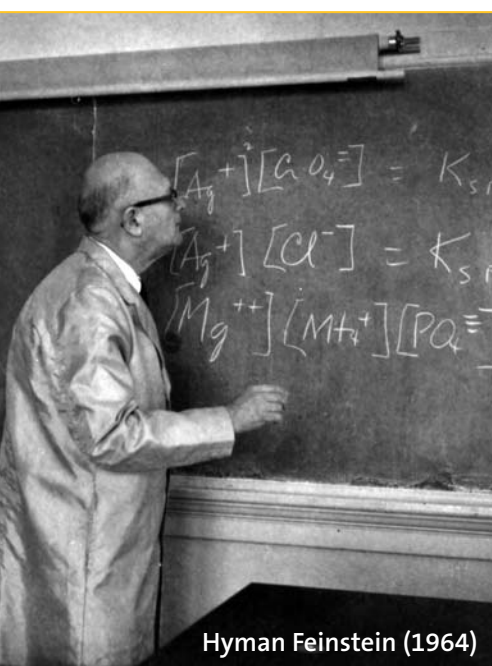
Summer 2007



\$1 Million Feinstein Bequest to Endow Scholarships

Largest Cash Gift Ever from Former Faculty

Hyman Feinstein was a respected Mason chemistry professor remembered by one of his students as an “extraordinary, larger than life” figure during the institution’s early days; Genevieve Feinstein, a Mason mathematics professor who died last year at the age of 93, was a World War II cryptanalyst whose modesty belied her significance in history. Their devotion to one another and to Mason was strong and enduring.



Hyman Feinstein (1964)

Jim Wilson

The university recently learned it is the beneficiary of a \$1 million bequest from the estate of Genevieve Feinstein, the largest cash gift ever from a former faculty member. The bequest will establish the Ellis F. Feinstein Scholarship Endowment in memory of the Feinsteins’ son.

“We are deeply appreciative of this thoughtful and generous gift from the Feinsteins—legendary members of the Mason family,” said President Alan Merten. “Students across the university will benefit from their distinctive legacy.”

One for the History Books

As a junior cryptanalyst for the Signal Intelligence Service, Genevieve was instrumental in breaking a critical Japanese code in September of 1940. Her achievement led to the decryption of key Japanese diplomatic messages throughout World

War II. She was awarded the Exceptional Civilian Service Award in 1946 for her breakthrough, considered one of the greatest moments in the history of American code-breaking.

Historians have observed that her achievements helped change the course of the war and led to the saving of thousands of lives. Before his death in 1995 at the age of 84, Hyman Feinstein established an award in cryptology within the Department of Mathematical Sciences in honor of his wife.

“Genevieve’s training in mathematics and physics has enabled her to tackle difficult problems and to carry them to successful conclusions,” wrote Hyman Feinstein at the time. “She is not easily discouraged and is not satisfied until

she has put forth her best efforts on any task she undertakes.”

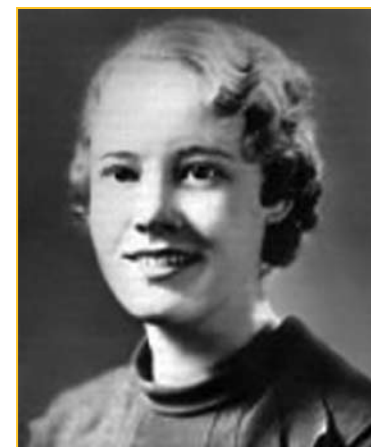
A “Great Teacher”

Genevieve Grotjan married Hyman Feinstein, then a chemist at the National Bureau of Standards, in Washington, D.C., in 1943. She later taught briefly at Mason. Hyman Feinstein came to Mason when the college was still in its infancy at Bailey’s Crossroads and retired from the Fairfax Campus in the early 1980s. The Feinsteins were enthusiastic participants in the life of the university, attending dances for decades. Hyman Feinstein played in student-faculty softball games and, well into his retirement years, regularly walked to campus from their nearby home to tutor students.

“I certainly remember Hyman Feinstein,” said Richard Sparks, MS ’73, one of his chemistry students. “One could not have gone to tiny George Mason at Bailey’s without encountering him. He was a great teacher—a nice man who was interested in his students, but a little scary in front of the room. One day, he was lecturing and there was a student named Casey who, every time Feinstein would say something, would ask, ‘Why?’ After answering five or six of Casey’s queries, Feinstein realized Casey was just stalling for time and said, ‘Mr. Casey, don’t say *why* again.’ After Feinstein’s next sentence, Casey said, ‘How come?’ Feinstein laughed—just like everyone else after their initial horror—and answered Casey’s question.”

Hyman Feinstein’s humor, keen intellect, and dedication to Mason have not been forgotten over the years. A student award is given annually by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in his honor.

The Feinsteins’ generosity will benefit generations of students and remain a testament to their enduring loyalty to George Mason University.



Genevieve Grotjan Feinstein (1935)

Students across the university will benefit from their distinctive legacy.

—President Alan Merten

The Bernard Osher Foundation— Champion of Lifelong Learning

This is the first article in an occasional series spotlighting foundation and corporate giving, which has become an increasingly significant source of private support for George Mason University.



Evan Cartmell

Bernard Osher, a patron of education and the arts, is sometimes referred to as “the quiet philanthropist.” A respected businessman and community leader, he founded the San Francisco-based Bernard Osher Foundation in 1977 to improve quality of life through support for higher education and the arts. Among the beneficiaries of the Osher Foundation’s

generosity is a growing national network of lifelong learning institutes for “seasoned” adults. These institutes now operate on 112 college and university campuses from Maine to Hawaii, including one at George Mason.

OLLI at Mason

Those who attend the classes, forums, and field trips of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Mason are motivated by one common factor: the desire to enrich their lives through continued education. There’s no homework, no exams, and no academic credit; however, a willingness to explore intellectual and cultural topics and to share talents and experiences is greatly encouraged.

The Bernard Osher Foundation has provided gifts totaling more than \$1.2 million since 2004 to endow and grow the institute,

continued on next page

Tallwood: OLLI’s “home” on Mason’s Fairfax Campus

The Gift of Music

Bravo! From Steinways to strings to scholarships, Sid Dewberry, Robert Keating, and the Peterson Family Foundation are among a number of donors providing the gift of music to Mason students.

Steinway, All the Way

With the goal of making Mason an “all Steinway” university, Rector Sid Dewberry recently led a fundraising initiative to purchase 16

Steinway pianos.

To date, private support totaling nearly \$400,000 has been committed, with a promise of additional matching funds. Dewberry was recognized for his efforts during a reception preceding the 2007 music scholarship benefit concert at the Center for the Arts.



John Nash

“Maestro” Sid Dewberry, honorary conductor, and students acknowledge applause during the recent music scholarship benefit concert.



Laura Sikes

Carolyn and Milt Peterson with two of their four children, Jon, left, and Rick.

Strings of Elegance

The descriptions alone are music to the ears: a German violin, circa 1880, made of curly maple and spruce; an early 20th-century bow of French origin with an ivory tip shaft, silver-mounted ebony frog, and pearl dots to the sides. These are two of the 11 elegantly crafted pieces recently donated to the Department of Music by Ambassador Robert Keating. The violins, violas, and bows are valued at nearly \$50,000. In appreciation, a special ensemble has been named the Keating String Ensemble.

Advocates of the Arts

Encouraging musical aspiration and achievement has been central to the philanthropy of Carolyn and Milt Peterson and their family, who most recently provided \$1 million for music scholarships. In recognition, they were honored at a recent reception and musicale hosted by President Alan Merten and his wife, Sally, at Mathy House. William Reeder, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, presented the Petersons with a commemorative print. Carolyn Peterson is a Mason Foundation trustee.

Bernard Osher Foundation, *continued*

an independent nonprofit organization affiliated with the university. Formerly known as the Learning in Retirement Institute, founded in 1991, its name was changed in 2004 in recognition of the Osher Foundation’s generosity.

According to OLLI Executive Director Richard Chobot, the institute now boasts a membership of more than 750 members, most of whom are retired residents of Northern Virginia. Volunteer instructors and speakers, including Mason faculty and OLLI members, contribute their knowledge and skills to more than 250 educational programs a year. Classes meet at Tallwood on Mason’s Fairfax Campus and at satellite locations at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston and the Mason facility in Loudoun County. An annual fee of \$350 covers all four terms.

Lilyan Spero, a former president of the Learning in Retirement Institute and OLLI lifetime board member, noted that the organization has become an invaluable resource over the years for those who are looking for a stimulating environment during what can be a very isolating time.



Red Zumbo

Lilyan Spero

“The kids are grown, the job has ended, and a spouse or friend may have recently died,” she explained. “OLLI is filling a void, providing not only an opportunity for intellectual growth, but also a chance to interact with others of similar circumstances and create new social ties.”

In turn, members of OLLI also have become actively involved and engaged in campus activities and events, according to OLLI President Deborah Halverson. And, a number of members have made gifts in support of student scholarships and faculty programs in gratitude for the services that the university offers the institute.

Assisting the Nontraditional Student

At Mason, the Osher Foundation has not only provided significant funds to OLLI, it has also contributed \$100,000 to establish the Osher Reentry Scholarship Program. The program addresses the unique needs of adults returning to college to complete an undergraduate degree. These reentry, or nontraditional, students may have had their college careers interrupted by family responsibilities or financial concerns and the demands of a full-time job.

Since the program’s inception in 2005, twenty individuals from varied backgrounds and between the ages of 25 and 50 have benefited from the scholarships. Among them are

- a first-generation Hispanic American woman and a single parent of a child with multiple special needs who is pursuing a degree in social work to help other children who face similar challenges;
- a father and coffee shop employee who is sharpening his artistic skills at Mason with the hope of becoming a professional working artist and a college art professor;
- a woman who, after 22 years of working with the elderly, is continuing her education so that she can better serve the burgeoning population of senior citizens as a geriatric nurse;
- an aspiring novelist and father of two who is working toward a degree in historical creative writing; and
- a mother and part-time substitute teacher who is back in school so that she can one day walk into a classroom as a fully credited biology/science teacher.

“Returning to college to continue my education as an adult has been quite a challenge,” noted a 40-year-old reentry scholarship recipient. “When foundations such as the Bernard Osher Foundation generously donate finances to returning students, it makes our challenge a little less painful.”

Improving Quality of Life

Through both OLLI and the reentry scholarship program, the Bernard Osher Foundation is improving the quality of life for those who seek a continued learning experience. At Mason, the foundation’s ongoing support is proving to be life-changing, providing adults a second chance to learn, grow, and enhance the world around them.

Recognizing Generosity

Mason's donors are helping to change lives. Through their generosity, doors are opening to new opportunities for students to think, learn, and succeed; for faculty to explore new frontiers in teaching and research; and for the extended community to experience the benefits of a vibrant university.

One way Mason can say "thank you" to its donors is through recognition in one of its five university-wide giving societies for individuals. Since 1998, membership in the George Mason Society, the Legacy Society, and the President's Circle has doubled or tripled. Membership in Mason's newer giving societies—the GOLD Circle and the Proud Patriot Society—is also on the rise. Such support has resulted in a significant increase in the amount of assistance the university can provide its schools, students, faculty, and programs.

Donor Recognition Societies

Donor recognition is based on the level or type of support. Gifts may be directed to the university as a whole or to a specific school or initiative. The criteria for each of the giving societies is as follows:

George Mason Society

Based on cumulative giving, membership is tiered at five levels:

- *Distinguished Laureate*: \$3 million+
- *Laureate*: \$1 million–\$2.9 million
- *Distinguished Patriot*: \$500,000–\$999,999
- *Patriot*: \$250,000–\$499,999
- *Member*: \$100,000–\$249,999

President's Circle

Based on giving during a fiscal year,* membership is tiered at eight levels:

- *Senior Benefactor*: \$100,000+
- *Benefactor*: \$50,000–\$99,999
- *Patron*: \$25,000–\$49,999
- *Sponsor*: \$10,000–\$24,999
- *Colleague*: \$5,000–\$9,999
- *Associate*: \$2,500–\$4,999
- *Member*: \$1,000–\$2,499
- *GOLD*: \$500–\$999 (see below)

GOLD Circle

Part of the President's Circle, membership is based on giving of \$500 to \$999 during a fiscal year* by undergraduate alumni of the last decade.

Legacy Society

Membership recognizes provisions for deferred or planned gifts, such as bequests or life income arrangements.

Proud Patriot Society

Membership recognizes alumni who have demonstrated exceptional loyalty by donating \$10+ consecutively for the past five or more fiscal years.*

Attention, Proud Patriots!

Members of the Proud Patriot Society are now recognized in a new online honor roll at <http://annualgiving.gmu.edu/proudpatriots.html>. Donors are listed by schools or units, with their Mason degrees and graduation years indicated.

Naming opportunities are available for gifts of \$10,000 and above. For more information, visit www.gmu.edu/development or call 703-993-8850.

*The fiscal year for the university and the Mason Foundation is July 1–June 30.

Luncheon of Appreciation

It is my great pleasure to be here today to thank those who have been instrumental in my support, growth, and development as a mid-career doctoral student.

—Nancy Falk

Nancy Falk, who is pursuing a PhD in nursing at Mason thanks to the generosity of scholarship donors Camille Barry, MSN '86, PhD '92, and the Dominion Guild, was among the scholarship recipient representatives attending the recent luncheon of appreciation at the Center for the Arts. The event was held to honor benefactors of scholarship and library endowments, as well as members of the Legacy Society and the George Mason Society. Jimmy Hazel, JD '84, volunteer chair of *The Campaign for Mason Students*, recognized donors for helping to advance the fundraising initiative, which has raised \$10 million to date.



Bonita Pennino and Kenneth Garnes



Coach Jim Larranaga



Jim Beers and Ed Offerdinger



Sally Merten and Jimmy Hazel, JD '84



Bertha and Joe Braddock, and Earle Williams

Left to right, Governor Timothy Kaine, LHD (Hon.) '07, Hortensia Cadenas, '80, MA '93, William Hazel



Photos by Ginny A. Roth

Commencement 2007: A Sea of Green

A festive sea of green-robed graduates and their friends and families greeted Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine as he delivered the Commencement address May 19 at the Patriot Center. He was presented an honorary doctoral degree in humane letters. Degrees were awarded to 6,793 students.

William Hazel and Hortensia Cadenas, '80, MA '93, received George Mason medals in recognition of their long and distinguished records of public service. Hazel, chairman of the board of William A. Hazel Inc., is a former trustee of the George Mason University Foundation. Cadenas is the director of Mason's Early Identification Program. The medal, which was instituted in 1987, is the university's highest honorary award.

Hazel and Cadenas join the following roll of previous honorees, listed in chronological order:

- John Hazel Jr.
- John Wood
- Omer Hirst
- Dorothy McDiarmid
- Carrington Williams
- Helen Hill Miller
- Edwin Lynch
- Edgar Prichard
- Joanne Johnson
- Sidney Dewberry
- Richard Ernst
- James Buchanan, LLD (Hon.) '87
- Dwight Schar
- George Johnson
- Edwin Meese III
- Sally Merten
- Earle Williams
- John Toups

Thank you!

Editor's note: In March, Judith Marshall Jobbitt announced her resignation as president of the George Mason University Foundation and vice president for University Development and Alumni Affairs, effective June 30. She will continue her career in the field of advancement as a consultant.

In the eight years since I arrived at Mason, the university has grown and thrived under the leadership of President Alan Merten and the significant support and engagement of board members, alumni, friends of the university, and colleagues.

So much has happened. Through the dedicated commitment of Campaign Chair Sid Dewberry, *The Campaign for George Mason University* was a success, not only for the \$142 million raised, but also for the relationships built. And, the Mason Foundation—currently chaired by Albert Dwoskin—has grown in stature, surpassing the benchmark of \$50 million for endowment, and financing and managing the construction of the recently completed \$70 million Arlington Campus building. As well, our alumni activity and donor base continue to grow under the leadership of Peter Farrell, '79, MBA '85, president of the Alumni Association; Tammy McBride, '99, MS '06, chair of the Annual Giving Committee; Jimmy Hazel, JD '84, chair of the foundation's Development Committee; and other key alumni volunteers.

It has been an honor and privilege to be a part of such an exciting chapter in Mason's history. With much enthusiasm, I look forward to watching this outstanding university continue on its upward trajectory. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Judy Jobbitt with Professor Vernon Smith, DSc (Hon.) '04, at a reception marking his recruitment in 2001. Smith, now a Nobel Laureate, came to Mason with six other distinguished economists through the help of private support.

Judy's impact on and contribution to George Mason can best be measured by the success of our first major campaign and the professional development, fundraising, and alumni organizations that now exist at Mason. The entire Mason community and I are very grateful for her leadership in these vital areas.

—President Alan Merten

On behalf of my colleagues on the board, I thank Judy for helping to create a solid fundraising base for the future. She has served Mason well and leaves behind a terrific legacy.

—Mason Foundation Chair Albert Dwoskin

A key legacy of Judy's tenure will be the increased stature of the Alumni Association. Judy's insight and advice in growing a dynamic association has been a critical component to the enhanced stature and involvement of alumni.

—Alumni Association President Peter Farrell, '79, MBA '85



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Mission

The Mason Foundation, University Development, and Alumni Affairs support the university's advancement by

- building relationships
- developing resources
- managing assets
- engaging communities

Benefactor is published by the George Mason University Foundation.

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