From the Desk of the Chancellor

Honoring Gene Tempel



Sept. 2, 2014

"Philanthropy is being engaged, not only with your resources but getting people and yourself involved in doing things that haven't been done before." -- Eli Broad

Gene Tempel raised philanthropy to an art form -- transforming the concept from isolated acts of kindness to becoming part of a holistic continuum for change. Tempel implemented layers of the process in his amazing fundraising capacity and vision for new, engaging study in the field.

After dedicating himself to IU and its students since 1980 – Gene leaves an indelible imprint at IUPUI. While he will continue to serve as faculty in the Lilly Family School, he is moving on to the next phase of his life. There will be a celebration of leadership honoring Gene Tempel on Thursday, Sept. 4.

In addition to being the founding dean of the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI, Gene served as IUPUI's vice chancellor for external affairs. Gene has been a priceless asset to the campus and community, tirelessly offering expertise to non-profit organizations as well as major corporations. In 2003, he was recognized with the prestigious Maynard K. Hine Medal.

In service to his alma mater, Gene was executive director of the Center on Philanthropy; the seventh president and CEO of the IU Foundation; professor of philanthropic studies and higher education; adjunct professor of public administration, and director of external affairs for the College of Arts and Sciences.

IU recorded its second and third highest total voluntary support numbers during his IU Foundation tenure. Under his leadership of the IU Foundation, IU Bloomington exceeded the Matching the Promise Goal by more than \$40 million. Gene was also at the IU Foundation when IUPUI launched the IMPACT campaign and helped initiate fundraising campaigns on three of IU's regional campuses

Gene Tempel enjoys national renown in his field while exemplifying the consummate spirit of community engagement -- giving his all to IUPUI, the city, the state and beyond.

Well-earned superlatives and accolades will flow during his local tribute. I believe the legacy of his brilliant career will center on Gene's contribution to the unprecedented establishment of discipline of Philanthropic Studies, including the first school and the first traditional Ph.D. Establishing a foundation for study and growth in an area with perpetual impact on society, Gene has truly had an impact!

On behalf of IUPUI faculty, staff and students as well as the broader community -- past and present -- we honor and appreciate everything Gene Tempel has done for and meant to so many for so long.

Read more From the Desk of the Chancellor stories »