Recruiting and retaining top-tier faculty through endowed chairs or professorships is a key objective of the IUPUI IMPACT Campaign.

Last month, during the State of the University address, IU President Michael McRobbie announced that IUPUI has surpassed the $1 billion mark on our way to a $1.25 billion goal. More than 86,000 donors have made contributions to the campaign thus far.

Let me tell you some of the stories behind those dollars raised and what it means for the campus.

It means that we were able to recruit internationally recognized cancer researcher Murray Korc, M.D., as the first Myles Brand Professor of Cancer Research. He will join the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center, after having served as the scientific leader of the Pancreatic Cancer Group at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center in New Hampshire.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest. Its most recent, high-profile victim was Apple founder Steve Jobs, but it also claimed the life of Myles Brand—NCAA president, who championed academic reform, and the 16th president of Indiana University. Local entrepreneur Melvin Simon, shopping mall developer and philanthropist, also died of pancreatic cancer. He and his wife, Bren, gave $50 million to name the IU Simon Cancer Center—one of the largest gifts to the IUPUI IMPACT Campaign thus far.

To further this area of research, IUPUI has also funded the new Center for Pancreatic Cancer Research under our Signature Centers initiative, a three-year grant intended to jump-start the work of interdisciplinary centers that hold promise to attract future funding.

The new Indiana University Center for Global Health has received its first endowed faculty position, the Donald E. Brown Professorship in Global Health. Dr. Brown graduated from the IU School of Medicine in 1985. He cofounded his third software company, Interactive Intelligence, in 1994. In 2007, Dr. Brown made a gift of $1 million to AMPATH, the Indiana-Kenya Partnership. A gift of $1.5 million created the new professorship, which will be held by AMPATH pioneer, Robert Einterz, M.D., associate dean for global health, director of the IU Center for Global Health, and professor of clinical medicine at the IU School of Medicine.

An anonymous donor established the Karen Lake Buttrey Directorship in the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving. William Enright will be the first institute director to hold the newly endowed directorship. The institute was created by the late Karen Lake Buttrey, in honor of her parents, Thomas H. and Marjorie Lytle Lake. She memorialized her parents’ example of quiet faith and generosity by launching our nationally respected, academic institute that builds knowledge and provides invaluable resources. Karen once said that creating the Lake Institute was "the philanthropic gift that transformed me."

Another transformational gift to establish an endowed chair comes from the Tom and Julie Wood Family Foundation to support the work of a senior lung cancer researcher. Lung cancer is the primary cause of cancer death today. It is the current focus of the work of Lance Armstrong.
Foundation Professor of Oncology Lawrence Einhorn. In the mid-1970s, Dr. Einhorn developed a cure for testicular cancer, saving the life of Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong and hundreds of thousands of others. He is now the co-leader of a research team seeking to accomplish the same feat for lung cancer. Dr. Einhorn treated Mr. Wood, who sadly died of the disease, but the family's gift will make an impact well into the future on lung cancer research done by the future chair-holder, who is yet to be named.

Faculty endowments recruit and retain distinguished faculty, and fund their salaries, but they also provide support for libraries, laboratories, and technology.

They make the campus more appealing to talented students in undergraduate, graduate, and professional school programs—the future leaders in their fields. With an endowment, the original gift is invested and carefully managed to generate income for generations to come. Endowed faculty can pursue scholarly breakthroughs and discoveries without funding constraints and attract greater levels of external funding, such as from federal agencies.

As an incentive for IUPUI IMPACT Campaign donors interested in making transformational gifts like those I've described, the campus will provide a fixed match for each newly endowed chair.

For more information on how to endow a chair and increase the impact of your donation, visit the campaign web site.

CHANCELLOR CHARLES R. BANTZ

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