



SF STATE FOUNDATION | REPORT TO DONORS 2014-2015

# You Make a Difference



SAN FRANCISCO  
STATE UNIVERSITY



## The Responsive University

**Behind each of SF State's more than 30,000 students is a story. Some graduated at the top of their high school classes while others are struggling to make ends meet and raising a family. Some arrive from across the globe and others from down the street. All of them share a desire to succeed, and our goal is to make sure they do.**

Our pioneering, nationally recognized **Metro Academies** create small "schools within a school" for a range of departments across the University where socioeconomically challenged students are coached to proactively network, learn together and support each other while accessing customized one-on-one tutoring and advising, including in the classroom, to help them stay on track to graduation. Metro students boast a 54% higher graduation rate than their peers at SF State.

The **Educational Opportunity Program** offers historically underserved (i.e., low income, first-generation) students advising, tutoring and workshops to help them matriculate into and succeed at SF State.

Similarly, the **Guardian Scholars Program** creates a system of "wrap-around" support—year-round housing, counseling and career development

—that addresses the unique needs of students who are transitioning out of the foster care system. Guardian Scholars at SF State enjoy a 75% graduation rate, exponentially higher than the national rate of 2-3% for foster youth.

Looking beyond graduation, our **College of Business Fellows Program** prepares students for a polished and confident entry into the workforce. Fellows participate in career information sessions, professional development workshops and industry networking events that provide them with a competitive advantage as they embark on their chosen careers.

These and other programs, which make learning at SF State more personalized and responsive than ever, are possible because our generous and committed donors recognize the potential for SF State to change lives and strengthen our community, one student at a time.

*"I look back on my years in the classroom as stepping stones to my future in business. Those years not only shaped the type of businessman I would become but had a great influence on my character and the way I view my role as a citizen."*

**Allam El Qadah**

B.A., '94  
entrepreneur and  
SF State donor





## The Student Experience

**While many at SF State are local, first-generation students, a dramatic, recent increase in new students from well beyond the Bay Area demonstrates the University's far-reaching appeal as a "destination campus."**

A major factor is SF State's focus on thoughtful, socially responsible teaching and applied research in and out of the classroom. Prioritizing holistic development and success for all of our students is another.

This year we broke ground on a **new \$86.5 million recreational complex** that will provide students state-of-the-art facilities for exercise, sports, relaxation and socializing. The Mashouf Wellness Center, named for the Mashouf family in recognition of their generous \$10 million gift to support campus priorities, will join the J. Paul Leonard Library and the Cesar Chavez Student Center as leading hubs of campus life. These spaces nurture our students' physical, mental and emotional health, each of which is essential to academic success.

Meanwhile, we continue to reinvest in our athletics program, contributing greatly to the vitality of our campus. The **recent renovation of the main gym** (the first such upgrade in 50 years) provides our

athletes and Gator fans a facility they are now proud to call home. As sports events enjoy increasing prominence at SF State, school spirit is soaring.

Thanks to a **rapidly growing number of scholarships** available at SF State provided by numerous alumni and friends, many students no longer have to dash from class to multiple jobs just to pay their tuition and make ends meet. While most students at SF State work, reducing this burden improves graduation rates by helping them to stay focused on their studies.

There was a time when most SF State students spent only a few minutes on campus outside of their classes. Today, with **more than 25% living on or adjacent to campus**, students remain throughout the day, engaging their curiosity, their talents and their energy while benefiting from a more dynamic and enriching college experience.

*"My experience as a student at SF State, and now a donor, has been a beautiful odyssey that continues to this day. My husband and I are both very happy we have been able to give back."*

**Donna Kline**  
M.A., '88  
documentarian,  
author and  
SF State  
donor



*"Supporting the Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Orientation and Mobility programs at SF State was an easy decision. I love giving back to the two programs that taught me so much."*

**Connie Loarie**  
M.A., '74  
founder, Friends of  
TVI and O&M and  
SF State donor





### A Message from the SF State Foundation Board President

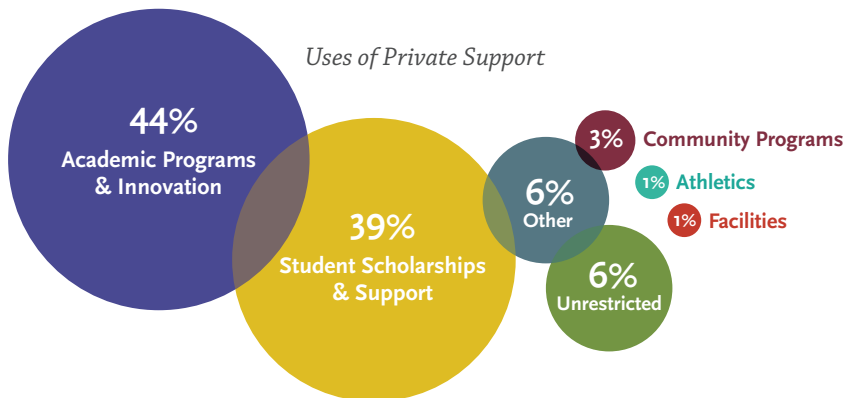
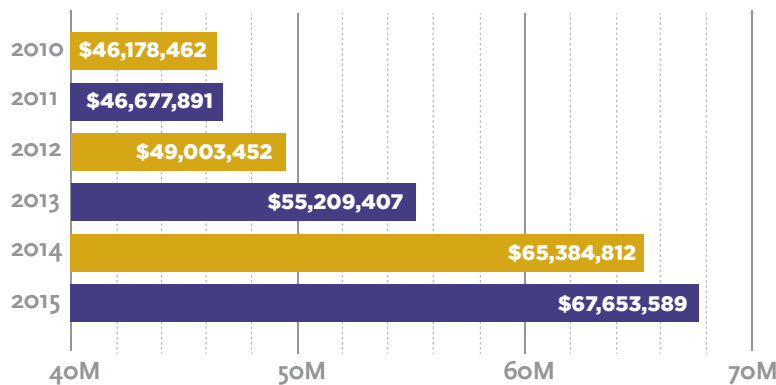
**E**stablished in 2008, the SF State Foundation is a nonprofit corporation that raises and manages gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations for the benefit of San Francisco State. The Foundation is comprised of business and civic leaders who care about SF State and who advance its mission by seeking and securing private support for all its programs. Overseen by the Board of Directors, the Foundation administers and records all gifts in accordance with donor's wishes supporting students, faculty and University priorities.

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, our students thrive in programs like the Guardian Scholars, Project Rebound and Metro Academies and rely on an array of scholarships and fellowships to help them stay on course and earn their degrees. These exemplary programs would not exist without the generous support of our alumni and friends, who last year donated more than \$14.6 million to SF State. We thank everyone who recognizes the tremendous value that this great University brings to our students, the Bay Area and beyond.

I extend special thanks to the members of the SF State Foundation Board of Directors for their commitment and exceptional service to the University. With our collective efforts, we can transform lives, advance social justice and make positive changes in our world.

With sincere thanks,  
Robert J. Nava

Endowment Values June 2010 - June 2015



### SF State Foundation Board

#### Officers

**Robert J. Nava**  
Foundation President

**David Serrano Sewell** (B.A., '99)  
Chair

**John Gumas** (B.S., '84)  
Immediate Past Chair

**Taylor Safford** (B.A., '84; M.B.A., '95)  
Vice Chair

**Venesia M. Thompson-Ramsay**  
Secretary and Treasurer

#### Directors

**Vince Anicetti** (B.A., '77; M.S., '87)

**Kimberly Brandon** (B.A., '84)

**Leona Bridges** (B.A., '79)

**Ron Cortez** (ex-officio)

**Dana Corvin** (M.A., '73)

**Greg Cosko**

**Val Dolcini** (B.A., '85)

**Nancy Fudem**

**Ted Griggs** (B.A., '84)

**Mary Huss**

**Phil King, Ph.D.**

**Rogelio Manaois**

**Judy Marcus** (B.A., '65)

**Herb Myers**

**Don Nasser** (B.A., '63)

**Neda Nobari** (B.S., '84)

**Dennis O'Donnell** (B.A., '82)

**Laurie Pitman**

**Wade Rose**

**Marsha Rosenbaum** (M.A., '72)

**Sue Rosser** (ex-officio)

**Dottie Simmons** (B.A., '94)

**Jerry Simmons**

**David Lucien Simon** (B.A., '72)

**Camilla Smith**

**Russ Stanley** (B.S., '88)

**Brent Stranathan** (B.A., '75)

**Leslie E. Wong** (ex-officio)

#### Directors Emeriti

**Lee Blicht**

**Don Scoble** (B.A., '61; M.A., '71)