leaving a legacy of

philanthropy

student foundation: a year in review
Dr. Mark Meyer, K-State alum and founding member of Student Foundation, gave a presentation in the April 2016 Trustees meeting where he described his part in the creation of the philanthropic organization. Alongside him was his daughter, Maggie, who currently serves as President of the same organization. Both gave a description of how Student Foundation began and how it will continue to grow in the future. It was comforting to know that despite the many changes that Student Foundation will see, the core values of the organization remain the same. Dr. Meyer was gracious enough to sit down with us for some questions about the development of Student Foundation.

How does your passion for StuFo resonate in your work?

> Student Foundation was my first opportunity to be a part of building a new organization. Throughout my career in medicine and medical education, I have always been drawn toward opportunities to build or create new programs and opportunities for students.

What will you always remember about your time in this student organization?

> The people. We came together from different backgrounds, majors and living groups, yet together we were able to build a new student organization that has not only survived, but is in fact thriving. The success of the organization is undoubtedly due in part to ongoing support by the KSU Foundation, but also from students willing to step forward, be involved, and to take risks in keeping the organization relevant and valued by the entire campus community.

How have you seen StuFo grow since its beginning?

> The growth of Student Foundation has been simply amazing. Early in its existence, no one would have imagined the impact and influence the group currently has on the broader campus community, and most importantly, in assisting fellow students.
2016-2017 Exec Board

President
Maggie Meyer

Vice President of Membership
Nate Starcev

Vice President of Campaigns
Anna Meissbach

Vice President of Outreach
Carolina Mach

Vice President of SOAs
Noah Trapp

Vice President of Communications
Gaby Riggs

Secretary
Baylee Heitchsmidt

Campaign Planning Team

K-State Proud Co-Chairs
Maddy McClellan
Davis Millard
Matt Zemanick

Vice President of Campaigns
Anna Meissbach

Vice President of Communications
Gaby Riggs

President
Maggie Meyer
Innovation and Inspiration is the campaign to help ignite the strategic vision of K-State’s 2025 Top 50 Public Research Universities. This university-wide campaign helps K-State to invest more in students and faculty and to pursue greater research. As members of Student Foundation, our students were able to volunteer to work and attend events like the Innovation and Inspiration kick off and other events outside of Kansas.

During the campaign kick-off, each building at K-State was illuminated with purple lights as packs of Wildcat students and alumni walked to the social on Anderson Lawn. For many Student Fondation members, it was the event where they first began to understand the meaning of philanthropy. Hunter Post explained, “Their impact will continue to affect thousands beyond me, and someday I will hopefully have the chance to pay it forward as well.” The philanthropic culture on our campus was not created over night. It started from small acts of kindness, friendships, passion, and has slowly built toward this one billion dollar campaign. It does not matter whether someone is a past, present, or future Wildcat, Innovation and Inspiration is a dream come true for all of us. Nothing excited Student Foundation members more than seeing future generations on their very first campus visit because they are about to stumble into four years that will impact them for the rest of their lives.

“Their impact will continue to affect thousands beyond me, and someday I will hopefully have the chance to pay it forward as well.” - Hunter Post

“It is a privilege to be able to attend these events, a privilege to not only be in the presence of these people that do incredible things at K-State, but to be interacting with them, to be sharing our story,” describes a StuFo member.

This semester, we continue the Innovation and Inspiration campaign by traveling around Kansas for more events. Our students have the opportunity to attend prestigious gatherings in Salina, Wichita, Kansas City and more. Each event boasts of purple pride, filled to the brim with K-State alumni, donors, and friends. Our administration is adamant about the attendance of Student Foundation to represent the importance of philanthropy throughout the campaign and our members are happy to oblige. The individual events are customized to the experience received by each region of K-State students. “The donors at the Polytechnic campus are so passionate about what they’ve learned in their time there that the event was held in an airplane hanger,” says President Maggie Meyer. Student Foundation members share their stories by mingling with the attendees, listening to awesome K-State Speakers such as K-State President Richard Myers and KSU Foundation President Greg Willems.

While each speaker might come from a different background, or found K-State in their own unique way - the story is always the same: K-State Pride and K-State family. Our members are more than happy to pass along the message. “Thinking back on the evening, I can only describe it as nothing short of magical,” said Hunter Post.
Campus Hosts

An opportunity for students to experience the suite life at a Wildcat football game, the members of Student Foundation (clad in purple polos, khakis and name tags) interact with alumni and friends in the skybox. Student Foundation shares this opportunity with SAB members, and other campus organizations, and are lucky to engage with alumni in a casual, football setting. The impact this university leaves on those who attend is impressive. “Everyone in the room was a Wildcat for life, meaning they all high-fived when we scored a touchdown, but they also shared the same favorite study spots and a love for Call Hall ice cream,” exec member Baylee Heitschmidt.

Student Foundation members have the opportunity to ask alumni about their stories, as alumni were eager to hear their’s in return. While at first, the experience is nerve racking, our members insist that it’s one of the coolest (and warmest) ways to experience a K-State football game. Sophomore Emily Zwick struggled at first, until she began to entertain a dare from a former Student Foundation member. “Adam Wilkerson, a former K-Stater, was there, and as I started talking to him he told me that I had to talk to someone before I left,” she giggled as she recalled the memory. As it neared the end of the game, she had yet to achieve the goal that Adam set for her. Then, General Myers walked by. “I awkwardly blurted out some greeting,” she covered her face in her hands as she re-told her story. “Thank goodness though. It turned into a conversation about two movies he made guest appearances in.” There Emily stood speaking to General Richard B. Myers, a man who once served our country, our president, and now serves our university. “It was funny, it was genuine. I will always have Student Foundation to thank for that.”
Members of Student Foundation had the opportunity to travel to Atlanta and participate in the CASE ASAP conference. Four members of StuFo, as well as members from SAB were encouraged to participate in lectures and seminars in an effort to enhance their own leadership ability, and bring what they learned back to K-State and the rest of Student Foundation. Activities included meeting with Atlanta donors, a 360-degree rooftop dinner, touring the football stadium and the Coca Cola factory, and more.

“CASE ASAP was an opportunity to meet other student leaders and see what they were doing to engage their student body nationwide. Representing K-State StuFo and K-State Proud was a huge honor, as we met people who were attempting to re-create similar programs at their own university. The success of #StudentsHelpingStudents is specific to Kansas State University, and I took home the inspiration to dedicate time to Proud with a servant heart, and a love for my school.”

Students also submit awards at the District Level to compete once again at CASE ASAP. Our incredible advisor, Jenna Brown, had won the Outstanding Advising Award at Districts and was honored again at CASE ASAP. In addition to awards, students submit presentations in hopes of being selected to give a seminar at CASE ASAP. 2015-2016 executive board had submitted presentations, and K-State Proud was selected to be one of the presenters. StuFo President, Maggie Meyer, as well as Proud Co-chair, Maddy McClellan gave an amazing presentation.
An initiative focused on raising awareness and educating the student body about philanthropy.

Why I Give Week
Established by Student Foundation four years ago, WIGW encourages giving back in any capacity.

Miology
Treasure
600 flags decorated the Quad to represent the 6,000 students who have received scholarships and the 14,000,000+ dollars donated for these scholarships. Additionally, gift tags decorated the campus buildings made possible by K-State donors. Students saw the impact of donation dollars at K-State.

TThanks
Students wrote thank you notes to faculty and staff that had given to the All University Campaign in exchange for a cookie. They also had the chance to sign a Thank You banner to be hung at future donor events. It was inspiring to see students benefitting and acknowledging philanthropy.

W Talent
Faculty and Staff were hand delivered buttons to wear with the motto, “Because of Philanthropy...” Faculty and staff shared how their experience had been affected by philanthropy, and students were able to thank professors and campus employees for dedicating their talent to K-State.

TTime
StuFo partnered with Fort Riley USO to create care packages for soldiers returning home. Students were asked to donate a minute of their time to assemble packages, and write notes thanking veterans for their service. Later that evening, Student Foundation hosted a Donor Panel where Mary Ice, President Myers, and Shirley Jacobsen were able to share their philanthropic journey and take questions from K-State students.

FTestimony
On Friday, StuFo launched our #WhyIGive social media campaign. Students were invited to share their reasons for giving on whiteboards at our booth, or to join the conversation via social media!
Meet The Co-Chairs
Matt Zemanick, Maddy McClellan, and Davis Millard

Matt “I want to reconnect the campaign to its true meaning, and allow students to see the personal impact they can have.”

After being extremely involved in Proud his first year on Student Foundation, Matt developed a passion for Proud’s values and decided he wanted to dedicate his senior year to further developing the campaign. Every year, he looks forward to the K-State Proud Basketball Game where he can see students’ passion for K-State Proud manifest itself in such a high energy atmosphere. Matt hopes that this kind of energy translates into a greater legacy of hard work and passion for the Proud campaign. With his previous involvement in the residence halls, Matt has allowed the K-State Proud campaign to reach areas of campus that it never has before.

His fellow Co-Chairs admire his dedication to the meaning of K-State Proud and his unfailing positive attitude. Matt keeps the campaign moving in a positive direction no matter the circumstances. Matt has inspired members and volunteers in his time.

Maddy “This campaign can grow larger if we take time to invest deeply in the next generation of students.”

From the beginning of her time at K-State, Maddy has been in love with the mission of K-State Proud. From being a volunteer her freshman year, to serving behind the scenes her sophomore year, she decided to take ownership and invest in a campaign she saw so much purpose in. This year, Maddy wanted to solidify an outline for the campaign so future co-chairs could build on ideas and basics rather than starting from scratch. Her end goal was to spend time innovating new techniques to reach more of our student body with Proud’s mission. She wants to leave a legacy of relational investment and encourage StuFo to take ownership in the K-State Proud campaign. Her fellow co-chairs admire her intense work ethic. No matter how busy she is, Maddy makes time to help the people around her. She always follows through with high quality production.
As this is Davis’ first year involved with the K-State Proud campaign, he brings an outside perspective to its planning and execution. Davis applied in order to help the students that benefit from the Student Opportunity Awards that K-State Proud is able to allocate. This year, Davis wanted to see the campaign take a few risks and try new things, which they were able to do with their new K-State Proud tumblers. Though he admits that not having experience with Proud has been challenging, it’s been twice as rewarding. Davis’ favorite event is the kick-off event at the beginning of the year. He loves welcoming students back to campus and getting freshman involved in the campaign. His co-chairs admire his ability to represent the campaign with eloquence and class, he brings an outside perspective to decision making, and he’s a master negotiator.

in other news...

K-State Proud partnered with Audacity, Cadence, and On The Spot for an awesome Battle of the Sexes concert featuring the two a Capella groups. All proceeds benefitted K-State Proud.

K-State Proud began taking donations for K-State Proud tumblers, which we filled with Student Opportunity Award stories in order to keep the meaning of K-State Proud alive and to connect donors with the values of Proud.

We’re partnering with UPC for the K-State Proud concert featuring Jon Bellion! Come help us celebrate another successful year of Proud on April 27th!

We hung out with Varsity Donuts to promote our new Proud tumblers and get our voices to the student body through donuts and coffee.

Proud had another year of #StudentsHelpingStudents thanks to our awesome sponsors and partners!

K-State Proud partnered with Just Salad and Qdoba in the Union for awesome campaign week promotions for our donors!
future dates
K-State Proud Baseball Game - April 11th
K-State Proud Concert - April 27th

haven’t had the chance to donate? visit k-stateproud.org
interested in attending an event or speaking to Student Foundation? Email us at stufdn@found.ksu.edu

What will StuFo be up to until Summer?

Hosting various Proud events (concert, baseball game), selecting our new Executive Officers and K-State Proud leaders, hosting our parents and families at the 2nd annual Parent social, and always intricately involved in various facets of Student Foundation!