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Our Faculty has a dynamic and engaged global engineering community – alumni, friends, faculty, staff, students and industry partners – that plays an important role in our position as the top-ranked engineering school in Canada and one of the world’s best.

Our alumni are more engaged than ever before. Many volunteer as mentors, contribute to advisory boards or deliver guest lectures, sharing their knowledge and experience with current students. Others support research, student activities or new infrastructure through philanthropic giving. Their generosity enables us to advance our research enterprise, strengthen our program offerings, enhance the student experience, improve facilities, and prepare the next generation of engineering innovators, leaders and entrepreneurs – technically deep, globally adept and business savvy – to address the most pressing global challenges.

More than 3,500 alumni around the world joined us in 2016–2017 for events and activities, such as the BizSkule speaker series and the Alumni Mentorship Program, which drew a record number of alumni mentors and student mentees. We also expanded our CONNECT social media platform across all departments in spring 2017, facilitating more enriched alumni engagement.

This year, gifts from generous alumni enabled us to create new scholarships for our undergraduate and graduate students, and to enhance our entrepreneurship initiatives. The Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship (CEIE) continues to be a cornerstone of our Boundless campaign and we are working with prospects to fundraise for key elements of the building, including the fabrication facility, the Robotics & Mechatronics Lab and several of the multidisciplinary research hubs located on the upper floors.

With continued support we will enable our community – today’s scholars and tomorrow’s engineering leaders – to build a global society of boundless innovation, creativity and economic prosperity.

# Philanthropic Support

Our Faculty’s fundraising efforts play a significant role in U of T’s historic \$2.4-billion Boundless fundraising campaign. In 2016–2017, we raised a total of \$22-million, including \$14.7-million in philanthropic gifts and \$7.3-million in research support. This enabled us to surpass our \$200-million Boundless fundraising goal in March 2017 — six months ahead of schedule. We have expanded our Boundless fundraising goal to \$230-million, with the resounding support of our dedicated alumni community and senior academic leadership.

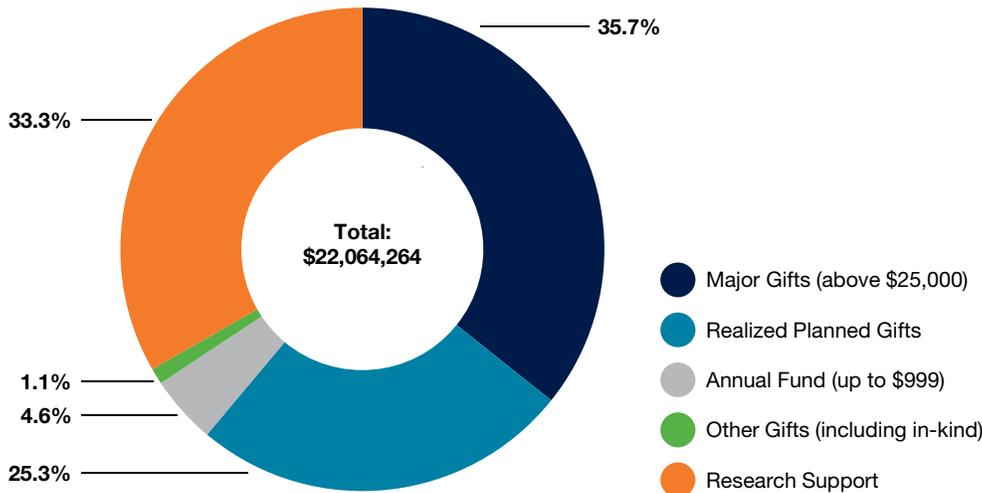
Increased engagement by our department chairs and Faculty leadership has resulted in a number of new gift discussions in support of Faculty-wide research, and our multidisciplinary centres and institutes.

Legacy gifts continue to be an important part of our overall fundraising efforts. This year we received more than \$5-million in philanthropic support in the form of bequest intentions.

Our engagement with the Gratitude senior-class giving program to support student clubs continued to be strong. Gratitude offers graduating students, as well as faculty, staff, alumni and friends, an opportunity to give back to Skule™ and enhance the experiences of students. More than 33% of graduating students took part, with MinE achieving a 95% participation rate.

In 2016–2017, we identified three transformational research areas — water innovation, robotics and sustainability — in which we have a critical mass of expertise. Significant investment in the form of philanthropic gifts, industry partnerships and government funding will enable us to create visionary programming and initiatives, and establish U of T Engineering as a world leader in these areas.

Figure 7.1a Advancement Results, 2016–2017



Data in this chapter are presented by fiscal year (May to April).

Figure 7.1b Philanthropic Support, 2007–2008 to 2016–2017

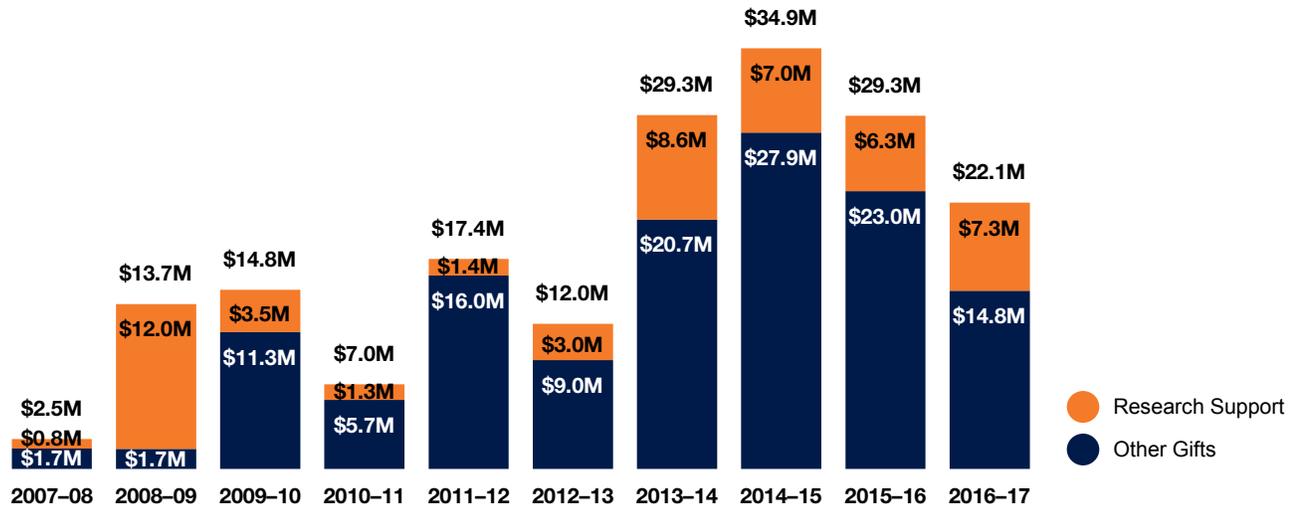


Figure 7.1c Gift Designation, 2016–2017

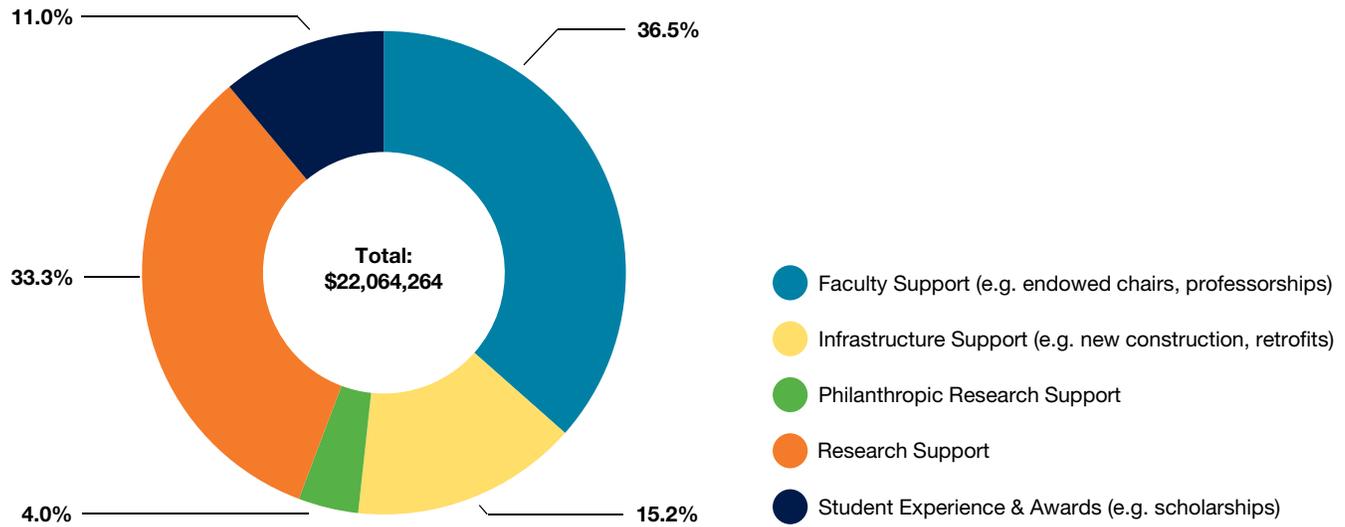
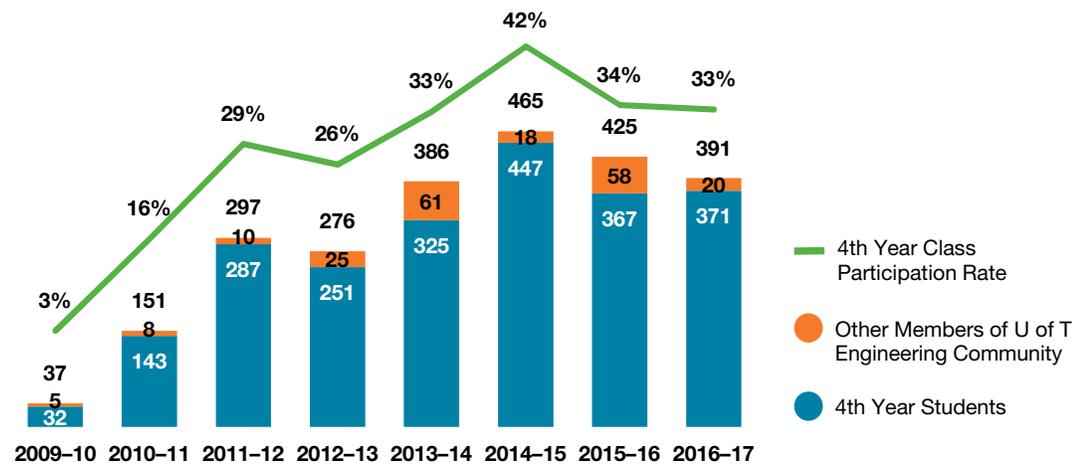


Figure 7.1d Gratitude Participation, 2009–2010 to 2016–2017



## Gift Highlights

### Richard Clarke – \$1 million

The Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering (ILead) was the beneficiary of a \$1-million gift from Richard Clarke (ChemE 5T4), a generous combination of an outright gift and a bequest intention. This gift establishes the Richard M. Clarke Fund for Leadership in Engineering Design for the Improvement of the Environment, which supports the development and delivery of learning platforms for leadership in the application of engineering technologies.

### Havelaar EV – \$2.5 million

Havelaar EV made a philanthropic investment of \$2.5 million to establish the U of T Havelaar Electric Vehicle Research Centre. The gift will provide seed funding for lab space, equipment and administrative needs. Combined with additional support for a robust research collaborative partnership, U of T Engineering and Havelaar are taking a holistic approach to a corporate/university partnership, which includes supporting talented engineering students, addressing global technical challenges and building a commercialization pipeline for academic research outcomes.

### Lorne Heuckroth – \$500,000

Lorne Heuckroth (UTIAS MASc 6T0) increased his philanthropic giving to U of T Engineering with a \$500,000 donation to graduate student scholarships at the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies (UTIAS). The scholarship will be awarded each year to five international students entering their MASc studies at UTIAS. Preference will be given to students from developing nations.

### John Peri – \$250,000

John Peri (IndE 8T4) and his family made a generous donation of \$250,000, which will go toward supporting industrial engineering undergraduate and graduate students. The Peri Family Industrial Engineering Design Award (endowed \$50,000) will be awarded to the Industrial Engineering Capstone Design Course team that demonstrates exceptional design capabilities. The Peri Family Graduate Scholarship in Health-Care Engineering (endowed \$200,000) will be awarded to one or more MIE graduate students who are undertaking advanced research in the field of health-care engineering.

## Initiatives and Projects

### Social Media Engagement

We continue to leverage the latest online tools, including social media, to enhance our engagement with our vibrant global engineering community. In 2016–2017, we expanded the U of T Engineering CONNECT online community network ([uoftengineeringCONNECT.ca](http://uoftengineeringCONNECT.ca)), which began as a pilot project in a few select departments, across the entire Faculty. CONNECT strengthens our ability to engage with our global community of alumni with timely updates on U of T Engineering news, mentorship and volunteer opportunities. It also improves our ability to maintain up-to-date information on our community members. In addition, CONNECT enables direct communication between students and alumni, enhancing the student experience through mentorship. As of June 28, 2017, CONNECT had 5,112 members, including 3,221 alumni, 1,636 students and 255 faculty and staff, and 96% of alumni members have stated they are willing to be volunteers.

We also enriched our engagement with alumni via Facebook ([/UofTskulealumni](https://www.facebook.com/UofTskulealumni)) and Twitter ([@skulealumni](https://twitter.com/skulealumni)). We increased the number of Twitter followers by more than 33% and Facebook fans by more than 28% over the previous year.

### Annual Giving and Leadership Annual Giving

Annual gifts of between \$1,000 and \$25,000 enhance our research and educational programs in many ways, from improvements to laboratory facilities to scholarships and funds for student co-curricular activities. In 2016–2017, 257 Leadership Annual Giving donors made contributions amounting to \$644,186, which represents 60% of all annual giving to the Faculty. In the fall 2016 issue of *Skulematters*, which was distributed to 36,605 alumni, we included a solicitation insert for the first time. This inspired 89 gifts amounting to \$27,042.

In spring 2017, the Advancement Office launched the Inspire Faculty & Staff Giving Campaign, a month-long fundraising initiative that saw more than 20% of donors make their first gift to the Faculty. More than 500 ChemE alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends made a donation in support of the ChemE 500 for 50K Challenge, which unlocked a \$50,000 gift from alumnus Bill Dowkes (ChemE 6T2) to establish the William J. Dowkes Undergraduate Summer Research Grant. In total, our generous annual giving supporters contributed more than \$1.07 million to help fund our innovative programs, student scholarships, co-curricular programs and other priorities.

## Alumni Events and Engagement

We invite our alumni to see Skule™ not only as a place where they earned their degrees, but also as an ongoing resource for ideas, networking and partnerships. To nurture this engagement, we create boundless opportunities to connect with faculty members, students, fellow alumni and industry partners, including learning events and volunteer opportunities. These activities strengthen our alumni network, cultivate new collaborations, highlight our commitment to excellence and encourage alumni to support our vision.

In 2016–2017, we engaged more than 3,500 alumni around the world through 133 events and activities, ranging from academic lectures to networking and professional development events. These included:

- **The Engineering Society Heritage Awards Celebration**, which included alumni who had held leadership roles in the Engineering Society and current Engineering Society leaders. Approximately 100 people attended the event, including 45 alumni.
- Five **BizSkule** events — one in Calgary, one in California's Silicon Valley and three in Toronto — on topics such as big data, artificial intelligence and electric vehicles. BizSkule showcases engineering leadership in business through keynote speakers and industry panellists ranging from startup founders to global executives. Total attendance for all five events was 374. We also engaged more than 200 people via live-streaming of the Toronto events.

We grew our Alumni Mentorship Program in 2016–2017, with 182 mentors and 357 mentees taking part — increases of 13% and 27.5%, respectively, over the previous year. This program, which is open to third- and fourth-year students (including PEY participants), fosters valuable relationships between Skule™ alumni and students. It also allows alumni to give back in a unique and rewarding way by sharing their knowledge and experience with students who are making important decisions about their engineering careers.