7

At the heart of the U of T Engineering community is our vibrant, global network of more than 50,000 alumni. Engineering alumni provide our current students with mentorship and connections that can help advance their careers, and our researchers with well-placed partners in academia, industry and government. Their generous support enables us to enhance our world-class research programs, improve our infrastructure, strengthen our support for undergraduate and graduate students, and develop new educational programs that enrich the learning environment.

The Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship is a shining example of what can be accomplished when our alumni and friends come together to support the Faculty's excellence. A cornerstone of our Boundless fundraising campaign, the Myhal Centre is home to more than 40 named spaces, including technology enhanced active learning spaces, design studios, meeting rooms, fabrication facilities, event spaces and multidisciplinary centres and institutes. The Myhal Centre will serve as a home on campus for our alumni and industry partners to meet with student teams, researchers and advisory boards.

We continue to engage our alumni in innovative ways, no matter where in the world they are located. In 2017–2018, we reached more than 3,500 of them through 163 events, including our popular BizSkule speaker series, held in Toronto, Calgary and Silicon Valley. Our online community, U of T Engineering CONNECT, has exceeded 7,000 active users in less than a year, with membership representing 66 countries around the world.

With each graduating class, our alumni network grows larger and more diverse. We will continue to strengthen relationships between all members of our community — students, faculty, staff, alumni and industry partners — to achieve our strategic goals and to build a better, more prosperous world.

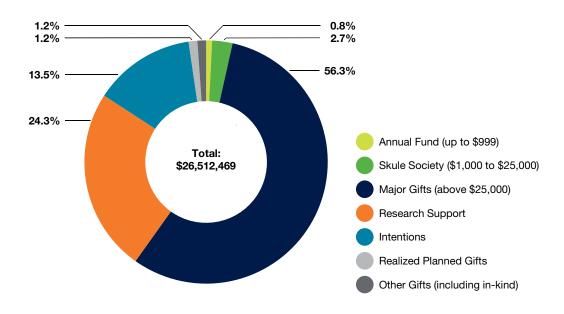
## **Philanthropic Support**

The philanthropic support we attract — from our alumni, corporate donors, students, faculty and staff — enables us to strengthen our infrastructure, expand our programs and offer enhanced financial support for students.

In 2017–2018, we achieved \$26.5 million in philanthropic support, a 20.1% increase over the previous year. This includes \$6.5 million dedicated to research and \$20 million for other projects, including teaching fellowships, student scholarships and facilities within the new Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

Our Graditude campaign offers graduating students — as well as faculty, staff, alumni and friends — an opportunity to give back to Skule<sup>TM</sup> and enhance the experience of students. In 2017–2018, Graditude engaged one in four graduating students, including 100% of those graduating from the Lassonde Mineral Engineering program.

Figure 7.1a Philanthropic Support, 2017–2018



Data in this chapter is by fiscal year, May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018. Gifts and other highlights are from July 2017 to June 2018.

Note 7.1a: Starting in 2017–2018, advancement offices across the University have adopted new practices for reporting on bequests. 
"Intentions" refers to new planned gifts that have been agreed to but not yet realized. "Realized planned gifts" includes all realized donations by bequest, excluding those previously reported as intentions.

Figure 7.1b Philanthropic Support, 2008–2009 to 2017–2018

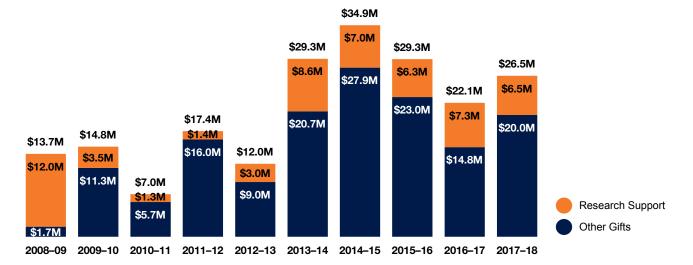


Figure 7.1c Gift Designation, 2017–2018

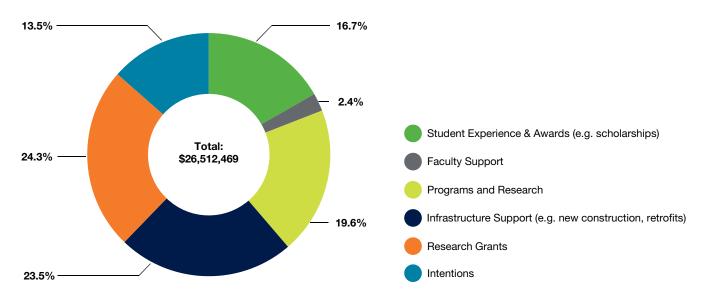
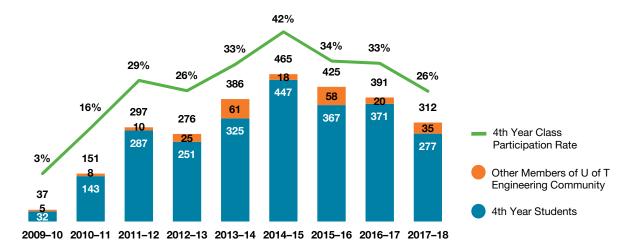


Figure 7.1d Graditude Participation, 2009–2010 to 2017–2018



### **Gift Highlights**

#### George and Rayla Myhal — Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship

George Myhal (IndE 7T8) and his wife, Rayla, bolstered their long-standing commitment to U of T Engineering with a generous gift to name the Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship. The Myhals are passionate volunteers and advocates for Engineering and the University of Toronto: George Myhal served for more than a decade on the University's Governing Council, and continues to advise the Faculty through the Dean's Strategic Council. George and Rayla have championed Dean Amon's vision for the new building from its inception. In June 2017, George Myhal was named a member of the Order of Canada for his achievements as an investment and finance leader, and for his philanthropic contributions, notably in support of innovation in engineering. In fall 2018, he will be recognized with an honorary degree from the University of Toronto. (For more information, please see page 7.)

# Bill and Kathleen Troost —Troost Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering

The Troost Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering (Troost ILead) enables engineering students in all years and disciplines to maximize their leadership potential through workshops and experiential learning activities, many of which are integrated into the core curriculum. Troost ILead is one of the many multidisciplinary institutes and centres that now have a new home in the Myhal Centre. Bill Troost (ChemE 6T7) and his wife, Kathleen, are long-standing supporters of the Faculty and student leadership education, having made a foundational donation to the Department of Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry's Unit Ops Lab, created the J. Edgar McAllister Foundation-Troost Family Award for Engineering for undergraduate students and supported ILead since 2012.

## Gerald and Geraldine Heffernan — Heffernan Hatchery Suite

Strengthening engineering entrepreneurship has been a major theme of Gerald Heffernan (MMS 4T3) and his wife Geraldine's support for our Faculty for more than 20 years. The Heffernan Commercialization Fellowships, which they established in 1995, focus on enabling graduate students to translate their leading-edge research into commercial opportunities. To date there have been more than 100 Heffernan Fellows and many successful startups, including Cast Connex Corp, an industry leader in the structural design and construction of buildings and bridges. Another startup success is SensOr Medical, which has developed a force-sensing film to enhance minimally invasive surgery.

Many times over the years, the Heffernans have expanded their support with additional gifts, including to the Gerald R. Heffernan Chair in Materials Processing. Their latest gift of \$3 million expands post-graduate fellowships and brings the Heffernans' giving to the Faculty to a remarkable \$9.6 million. Their generosity also provides space for The Entrepreneurship Hatchery within the Myhal Centre.

#### **Ajax Alumni Attractor**

Alumni of the Faculty's former Ajax campus contributed toward the Ajax Alumni Attractor, a space within the Myhal Centre that provides a home base for alumni visiting campus to deliver guest lectures, work with student teams or meet with faculty members to design new initiatives. Established to accommodate a surge in enrolment after the Second World War, U of T Engineering's Ajax campus was created by converting an abandoned munitions plant. Between 1946 and 1949, more than 5,500 students took courses at the Ajax campus, and the experience has knit these alumni into an extraordinarily dedicated group of Faculty supporters. Under the leadership of Don King (ChemE 5T0) the group has made many significant contributions to U of T Engineering.

#### Jean and Lauri Hiivala

Lauri (ElecE 6T5) and Jean Hiivala, annual supporters since 1981, made their largest gift to date in 2017–2018. Their generous gift supports students, capital projects and research in electrical and computer engineering. It establishes the creation of the Jean & Lauri Hiivala ECE Undergraduate Award to support talented students, the DC Microgrid Fund, which will be used to purchase a large advanced battery for ECE's Energy Systems Laboratory, and the Jean & Laurie Hiivala Research Fund for Heart Health to support research combining electrical engineering and health care — honouring Jean's career as a nurse.

#### **Chris and Anne Twigge-Molecey**

In honour of Chris Twigge-Molecey's (MIE MASc 6T9, PhD 7T2) 65th birthday, his wife, Anne, established a scholarship in his name to be awarded to talented mechanical engineering students with an interest in sustainable energy. They aim to inspire the next generation of engineers to advance renewable energy technologies and work toward more sustainable practices in industry, where Chris spent his long and successful career at Hatch Ltd. This year, the couple extended their gift, enabling the scholarship to be continued for another five years. To date, six students have received the Dr. Chris Twigge-Molecey Scholarship in Mechanical Engineering, and Anne and Chris have met each of them personally.

### **Initiatives and Projects**

#### **U** of T Engineering CONNECT

Our Faculty's dedicated social media platform, U of T Engineering CONNECT, is a powerful tool for engaging with our global community of alumni. Following an initial pilot project in Engineering Science, CONNECT was rolled out across all departments on June 1, 2017. As of April 30, 2018, we had more than 7,000 active members, of whom approximately 66% are alumni, 30% students and 4% other designations (such as faculty, staff and emeritus professors).

By keeping the barriers to entry low — the platform is free and pulls data from LinkedIn, so creating a profile takes very little time — and by providing useful, relevant content, we have been able to grow our membership by approximately 40% over the past year. CONNECT users live in 66 different countries and include more than 1,300 (28%) who are alumni in industry leadership positions. More than 550 jobs have been posted on the platform since inception, and 74% of alumni have indicated they are willing to help current students or alumni launch their careers, either

through mentorship or by opening doors at their workplace. The platform also provides more accurate and up-to-date information about our alumni, including contact information and employment status, than our existing channels.

#### **Annual Giving and Leadership Giving**

Annual gifts of between \$1,000 and \$25,000 enhance our research and educational programs in many ways, providing support for improvements to laboratory facilities, scholarships, and extracurricular activities for students.

In 2017–2018, 318 Leadership Annual Giving donors made contributions amounting to \$721,619, which represents 78% of all annual giving to the Faculty.

In spring 2018, we launched the Faculty & Staff Giving Campaign, a month-long fundraising initiative. We achieved 108 donations, and 30% of donors chose to give regularly on a monthly basis.

## **Alumni Events and Engagement**

Our many alumni events enhance engagement by creating an open atmosphere that enables both new and seasoned alumni to meet and exchange ideas, sparking new partnerships and initiatives. Reunions, receptions and learning events also showcase our Faculty's commitment to excellence and leadership in key areas, inspiring further support from attendees.

In 2017–2018, we engaged more than 3,500 alumni around the world through 163 events and activities, ranging from academic lectures to networking and professional development events. These included:

 Official Opening, Myhal Centre for Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship: On April 27, 2018, more than 300 donors, alumni, faculty, staff and students joined us to celebrate the official opening of the Myhal Centre with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The event was an opportunity to thank the Myhal family for their contribution to the campaign and their commitment to the Faculty.

- BizSkule: This popular lecture series continued in 2017-2018 with five events: one in Calgary, one in Silicon Valley and three in Toronto. Topics included cybersecurity, blockchain technology and the future of work. Total attendance for all five lectures was 306, with an additional 485 joining via live-streams and online viewing of the recorded events.
- From Engineer to Aliebn: A Chat with Pop Culture Phenom Jonny Sun: Jonathan Sun (EngSci 1T1 + PEY) is an interdisciplinary architect, visual artist, writer, performer and comedian. Following the launch of his latest book, Everyone's a Aliebn When Ur a Aliebn Too, Sun came to campus in September to give a reading and talk with 75 current students and alumni about how his engineering training influenced his career.
- Alumni Reunion: Our signature event, held May 30 -June 3, 2018, engaged more than 280 alumni from all disciplines who graduated in a year ending in 3 or 8. They attended stress-free degree lectures, department lunches, receptions and a celebration of the CONNECT platform's first anniversary, at which more than 110 new members joined.