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## **Rob & Jennifer Pace Finance Student Fund for Experiential Learning**

**Activity From July 1 2018 - June 30 2019**

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Together, we're accomplishing extraordinary results. With your support, the College of Business has developed the right tools to propel our students to success as well as to realize impressive advancements for the college.

This past year, the College of Business showed phenomenal growth in national rankings. The MBA program saw a 44-position improvement in the U.S. News and World Report rankings, moving us to No. 57 nationally. Now, we're in the top 10% of accredited part-time MBAs in the United States.

The success of our MBA program reflects the hard work of students and faculty within the college. However, they're just some of the many who dedicated themselves to our continual growth this past year.

The commitment of our friends and alumni – who wrote letters of recommendation and support that were strong, thoughtful and heart-felt – helped us win a \$775,000 grant from the Strada Education Network. These recommendation letters greatly strengthened our grant application as a genuine reflection of the committed and supportive community of business leaders and alumni we've built. With the Strada grant, we're funding the expansion of the college's "Blueprint" series.

Blueprint is our education-to-career curricular model that supports our undergraduate students' professional and leadership development and financial literacy education, and our first class to experience all four years of this award-winning curriculum, the Class of 2020, will be on their journey to extraordinary careers in a community near you soon!

Thank you for your generosity to the College of Business. You have made possible these achievements and many more this past year, and we're grateful for your support.

***The Rob & Jennifer Pace Finance Student Experiential Learning Fund*** was established in 2008. The endowment income has been used to support student experiential learning and travel during the previous academic year. In particular, the fund has been used to support several high-profile opportunities for our students.

The Rob & Jennifer Pace Finance Student Fund for Experiential Learning supported our inaugural San Francisco networking trip. Through the Fund, the College was able to support travel for 15 Oregon State Investment Group members as they toured several Bay Area companies and met with professionals in those companies. Highlights of the trip included dinner with Steve Daniels (OSU alum and Managing Director for the Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Division), a tour and meeting with SignalFire (a venture capital firm), and a

meeting with Brian Yeh (CIO of Digital Garage Inc). In total, the trip was a highlight for many attending students, and viewed as a success.

The fund was also used to support travel for two investment competitions. Members of the Oregon State Investment Group traveled to both USC and UC-Berkeley to compete against teams from other premier universities. For the Berkeley Competition, five students from the Oregon State Investment Group submitted a report and completed a ten minute presentation on Boyd Gaming (NYSE: BYD), an American gaming and hospitality company. The competition included a keynote address from Spencer McLeod (Partner, and head of research at G-Squared, a venture capital and private equity firm). Although our team did not reach the final round, the students commented that it was a 'great experience,' and that they made 'several professional connections.' For the USC competition, the team placed second within their group, and competed overall against elite institutions such as UT Austin and NYU. Our investment group is planning to host an investment conference during the upcoming academic year, and the team commented that this competition in particular provided valuable insights with respect to the process and format. In general, both competitions, supported by the Fund, provided high-value opportunities for our students. These opportunities enhance our students' resumes and provide valuable networking opportunities. Further, since these competitions include elite universities from across the country, our participation enhances the visibility and reputation of the OSU College of Business. Finally, these opportunities are valuable as we seek to recruit further high-achieving students going forward.

Finally, the fund was used to continue to support the Pace Exchange Scholarship, which was awarded this past year to Chiara Marzi. The scholarship helped Chiara study abroad at the City University in Hong Kong where she was able to finish her international business requirements for her International Finance and Mathematical Economics double major.

Your support of these experiential learning opportunities is very much valued and appreciated. With the help of this fund, our students are able to take advantage of opportunities that might not otherwise be afforded to them and that have a direct impact on their education and preparation for their future careers. Thank you for your investment in our students!