

CORNERSTONES

Fall 2023

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF
TOLEDO FOUNDATION
2023 ANNUAL REPORT**



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
FOUNDATION

ROCKET POINTS **OF PRIDE**



According to the latest rankings from U.S. News and World Report, The University of Toledo moved up five spots in the 2024 Best Colleges rankings after being recognized last year for the first time among ranked schools.



BRENDA S. LEE

President

The University of Toledo Foundation



JOHN HUBER '94

Chair (2021-23)

The University of Toledo Foundation

Board of Trustees

Celebrating Your Impact on The University of Toledo

It's hard to believe how quickly this year has passed, so we especially appreciate the moments when we are able to take time to reflect on all we have accomplished.

Together, we are building a legacy of excellence, education and community engagement that will endure for generations to come.

In this edition of **Cornerstones**, our twice yearly newsletter publication, you will find our annual report and discover just a few examples of how your commitment has helped shape The University of Toledo and our students – stories of success, innovation and resilience all made possible through your generosity. Your belief in the power of education and the potential of our students is inspiring, and for that, we are profoundly grateful.

We invite you to explore the inspirational stories and outstanding achievements highlighted within this report and witness the tangible impact of your philanthropy. Together, we celebrate the transformative power of our community and the collective efforts that will shape the future of our beloved institution and every Rocket still to come.

As we navigate the ever-changing landscape of higher education, your continued partnership remains the cornerstone of our success. Your dedication to The University of Toledo Foundation is not merely an investment in our institution – it is an investment in our shared future. Together, we are empowering tomorrow's leaders, healers, and innovators and equipping them with the skills that will help them shape our world.

Thank you for your ongoing and unwavering support. 🎓

BRENDA S. LEE

JOHN HUBER



CORNERSTONES

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GREGORY POSTEL, M.D.

President

The University of Toledo



FLOYD AKINS, JR.

Vice President for Advancement

The University of Toledo

Fueling the Future and UToledo's Legacy

Celebrating our sesquicentennial last year, we're grateful for the ongoing support from our alumni, donors, faculty, staff and community partners. Together, we're creating transformative change that will leave a legacy for the next 150 years.

We recently launched our new strategic plan, UToledo Reimagined, with a focus on innovation, inclusivity and academic excellence to foster an environment where our students thrive academically, personally and professionally.

For three consecutive semesters, we have recruited a larger number of new students and, most recently, welcomed one of the strongest academically prepared incoming classes, accomplishments we hope to continue. We are encouraged by these milestones as they illustrate our students' desire to be part of The University of Toledo and the community we are building.

In 2023, we built some incredible partnerships that will create a big impact on our students and the region. UToledo faculty helped secure **\$7 million** in funding to expand UToledo's Biosafety level 3 lab, the **only** one in northwest Ohio. In addition, the University recently received an award of more than **\$1 million** in State of Ohio funds for scholarships supporting students studying science, technology, engineering and math.

These initiatives, like our groundbreaking research and enhanced education experiences, showcase the collective impact of our community's support and generosity. Your contributions fuel our progress and **we could not do it without you.**

Thank you for your commitment to The University of Toledo. We eagerly anticipate the journey ahead, guided by our shared dedication to education, innovation and community. 📍

GREGORY POSTEL, M.D.

FLOYD AKINS, JR.



RIVALRY FOR GOOD

Rockets Rally to Rock Battle of I-75 on and off the Field

In a thrilling display of perseverance, The University of Toledo Rockets football team emerged victorious in the Battle of I-75, securing a dramatic 32-31 win over their rivals from the south. This triumph not only showcased the team's tenacity on the field but highlighted the power of unity and collaboration within the University community.

Just weeks before this intense clash, The University of Toledo joined forces with their I-75 rival, Bowling Green State University, in a unique and friendly giving competition aimed at supporting students and programs at both universities. The initiative helped foster camaraderie and school spirit among supporters and between the two institutions, transcending the usual athletic rivalry and emphasizing the shared commitment to making a positive impact in our region.

As the Rockets prepared for the Battle of I-75, the friendly giving competition added an extra layer of excitement during the weeks leading up to the game. The University community rallied together, not only to support

their team on the field but also to contribute to the greater good through charitable contributions. The shared effort encouraged donors from each institution to join the fight to claim victory as the most generous university.

The collaborative effort created a sense of shared purpose and community engagement. The giving competition quickly became a platform for alumni, students, faculty, staff and fans to unite in support of their team and causes that matter most to them.

The victory in the Battle of I-75 served as a fitting reminder of the power of collaboration and philanthropy. The Rockets' triumph on the football field mirrored the shared spirit of the University and alumni community which secured UToledo the win in generosity with 892 donors showing their support.

The combined effort demonstrated what is possible when Rocket Nation comes together with a shared purpose. They rise to the challenge, overcome difficulties and achieve greatness.

Floyd Akins, Jr., Vice President for Advancement, captures this sentiment, "The Battle of I-75 and the friendly giving competition exemplify the strength and unity within our University community and the region. Beyond the scoreboard, our collective efforts make a lasting impact, reinforcing our commitment to excellence, and the sustainability and growth of our regional community."

Following this dual triumph, The University of Toledo stands as a testament to the potential that lies in teamwork, innovation and a shared commitment to excellence. 📍

📅 SAVE THE DATE

Help us keep up this amazing momentum and join us for our annual Day of Giving on **March 20-21, 2024**.



IMPROVING THE HUMAN CONDITION

Grateful Patients Praise UToledo Medical Center

The University of Toledo Medical Center (UTMC) has been serving the health needs of the Toledo community since 1964. Each year, more than 300,000 people rely on UTMC to care for their health needs.

UTMC meets those needs by offering best-in-class specialties and providing better outcomes by utilizing expert physicians, nurses and medical technicians in a superior continuum of care. Focused on advanced care and healing for their patients, UTMC has received numerous recognitions from the U.S. News and World Report, American Heart Association and American College of Cardiology among others. The hospital and their team continues to create lasting relationships with patients whose lives were forever changed thanks to the quality care received at UTMC.

UTMC Emergency Surgery Saves Archbold Businessman's Leg

One grateful patient, Terry Henricks, had been suffering from poor circulation in his left leg for years, but

what was supposed to be a simple procedure to bring relief quickly spiraled into a scary situation.

"I had gone to have a stent put in, but I went home in terrible pain," Henricks, now 79, recalled. "I could see my calf was filling up with blood. I couldn't walk on it. I couldn't do anything."

Henricks was told he needed specialized care — and he needed it fast. Once referred to the UToledo Medical Center, he was rushed into surgery for acute compartment syndrome.

UTMC's relationships with various regional hospitals ensured UTMC's surgical intensive care unit was ready and waiting to start surgery immediately upon arrival.

"His condition had grown serious" said Dr. Munier Nazzal, chief of the Division of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery at UTMC. "Terry was within hours of losing his leg."

Nearly six years after the procedure, Henricks' wounds have healed.



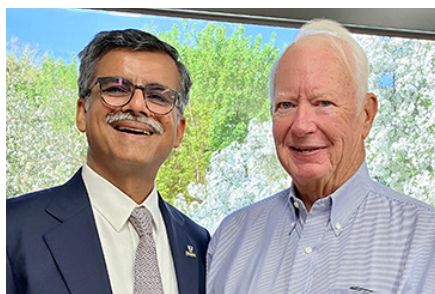
Terry Henricks and his wife, Dixie

Though he lost a lot of muscle and experiences numbness from the knee down, he was able to keep his leg and maintain a higher quality of life.

"I'm tickled to death I didn't lose my leg," said Henricks. "I was just very, very thankful. They've been so good to me and from what I can see, they've done everything right. From the staff to the doctors, everything was just done very professionally. They were absolutely supreme in taking care of me."

Patient's Search for the Best Prostate Cancer Treatment Leads to the UToledo Medical Center

When 79-year-old Edward Heinz was diagnosed with prostate cancer, radiation was suggested as his best chance for a cure. Even after speaking to well-connected physician friends and touring one of the country's most advanced facilities for radiation therapy, Heinz remained concerned about the treatment's potential side effects.



Edward Heinz, right, with Dr. Puneet Sindhvani, chair of the UTMC Department of Urology

His exhaustive search for an alternative option led to a treatment called high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) — and to the UToledo Medical Center, which was among the first hospitals in the United States to embrace the cutting-edge prostate cancer treatment.

When Heinz met Dr. Puneet Sindhvani, chair of the UTMC Department of Urology and Kenneth Kropp Endowed Professor of Urology at The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences, he was impressed by the urologist's expertise and his ability to connect with patients about complex medical ideas.

"He's a wonderful doctor and he's without question the best in the country," Heinz said.



Dr. Puneet Sindhvani

"I would trust him with any of my family and I would recommend him to anyone."

Similarly, Richard Dooley, a patient with UTMC for more than 25 years, was diagnosed with the disease in 2021 at the age of 79.

Dooley immediately sought out Sindhvani, who had previously treated his late wife, Bonnie Lea, for bladder cancer and who he had a positive experience with and trusted.

HIFU appealed to Dooley because it was less invasive than other treatment options available to him and had a shorter recovery time. His experience with the procedure was "straightforward," and the surgery center at UTMC, "a first-class outfit."

Heinz and Dooley have both returned to their respective careers and activities, grateful for a clean bill of health.



Richard Dooley holding a photo of his wife

Sisters Receive Lifesaving Care at UTMC for Hereditary Kidney Disease

Bethany Liedel and Tracy Pakulski both suffer from a hereditary polycystic kidney disease that causes cysts to grow throughout the kidneys. As the cysts multiply, kidney function is reduced to the point of failure.

Liedel and Pakulski reached that point in 2019. They received their transplants within two weeks of each other in November of that year, Liedel from a living donor and Pakulski from a deceased donor.

"When I come to work every day and I look at that hospital," said Pakulski, who has now worked at UTMC for more than two decades, "all I can think

about is the great things it's done for my family. It's almost like coming home. My family spent so much time here and it made so much difference in our lives."



Sisters Bethany Liedel, left, and Tracy Pakulski

As they reflect on the care UTMC has provided their family, and the hospital's celebration of its 3,000th transplant, Liedel is struck not by that number, but by the lives that have been changed.

"We are deeply moved by the stories of gratitude from our patients," said Richard Swaine, chief executive officer at UTMC. "Their unwavering support fuels our commitment to providing exceptional, patient-centered care."

"Our Grateful Patient Program is a testament to the profound impact of the care received and how our healthcare leaders turn moments of vulnerability into moments of strength. Together, we are building a community of care and healing, and we are honored to serve the region by providing accessible, quality services and cutting-edge healthcare solutions." 📍

EXPLORE OUR SERVICES

The University of Toledo Medical Center offers more than 40 services in primary care, behavioral health, surgery and specialty care.

Visit our website or call 833.687.8862 to find the compassionate care you deserve.



utmc.utoledo.edu



EMPOWERING ASPIRING ENGINEERS

Powering the Future: Engineering Receives Transformative Philanthropic Support

The UToledo College of Engineering recently received two transformative gifts, marking a significant milestone.

“The world of engineering needs more diversity to be stronger and to meet the challenges of the next century,” said UToledo alumnus Vince DiPofi ‘85.

This sentiment is what lead DiPofi, his wife Sandra and SSOE Group, the internationally ranked architecture and engineering firm headquartered in Toledo, to setup a multi-year gift that is directed towards a more diverse and strategic future. “That’s a legacy I’ll be proud to leave behind at my alma mater,” he added.



Vince DiPofi ‘85 with his wife Sandra

The commitment aims to enhance inclusivity and representation in the

engineering community, fostering an environment where individuals from all backgrounds can thrive. DiPofi emphasized the need for diversity in engineering to meet future challenges. By investing in a more diverse future, the college not only enriches the academic experience for all students but ensures that the engineering workforce reflects the broader tapestry of society and builds a strategic advantage.

Adding to the excitement, a generous \$1 million endowed professorship in power systems, aimed at advancing research and education in this critical field, was created.

This landmark endowment comes from a visionary donor who recognizes the pivotal role power systems play in our modern world. Two-time alumnus, Gary Leidich ‘72, ‘74, and his family (many of whom are also Rockets) are helping to make this a reality through The Leidich Family Professorship in Power Systems, which will provide funds that empower the College to attract and retain top-tier faculty dedicated to advancing knowledge and innovation in power systems.



Gary Leidich ‘72, ‘74 and his wife Marla ‘78

The endowed professorship will serve as a catalyst for cutting-edge research, foster collaboration, and provide students with invaluable insights into the dynamic field.

“That’s why we’ve made this gift. To help make a difference with students so they can go on to make a difference in the lives of others,” shared Leidich.

Both initiatives underscore a shared vision for the future of engineering education, embracing excellence and cultivating an inclusive community. The generosity of supporters like the DiPofi and Leidich families set a powerful example for philanthropy’s role in shaping higher education. 🚀

Rockets Rise Together: 2022-23 Highlights



Dr. Gregory Postel, president of UToledo, pictured with Dr. Mike Toole, dean of the College of Engineering along with other faculty, staff and students at the ceremony recognizing the renovated North Engineering Building, one of the many UToledo completed campus improvement projects



UToledo launched **new degree programs in high-demand fields** including cosmetic science and formulation design, cybersecurity, neuroscience, health science and radiation therapy



Rocket student-athletes finished out the 2022-23 academic year earning the **highest GPA in the Mid-American Conference** while **claiming six championships** in women's and men's basketball, football, men's and women's tennis, and women's cross country



UToledo graduates have an average salary of **more than \$60k** when starting their careers



27% of Rockets are the first in their family to attend college



UToledo provides a **\$2.8 billion economic impact** on our region

These accomplishments and highlights, among others, are driven by your generosity. Your contributions help create opportunities for Rockets to excel in their educational endeavors, gain valuable life experiences and be part of something more than themselves. Rockets rise together and your support is the foundation that makes it all possible.



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

TOTAL FOUNDATION ASSETS

\$711.9M

ENDOWMENT

\$579.1M

INVESTMENTS UNDER MANAGEMENT

\$648.6M

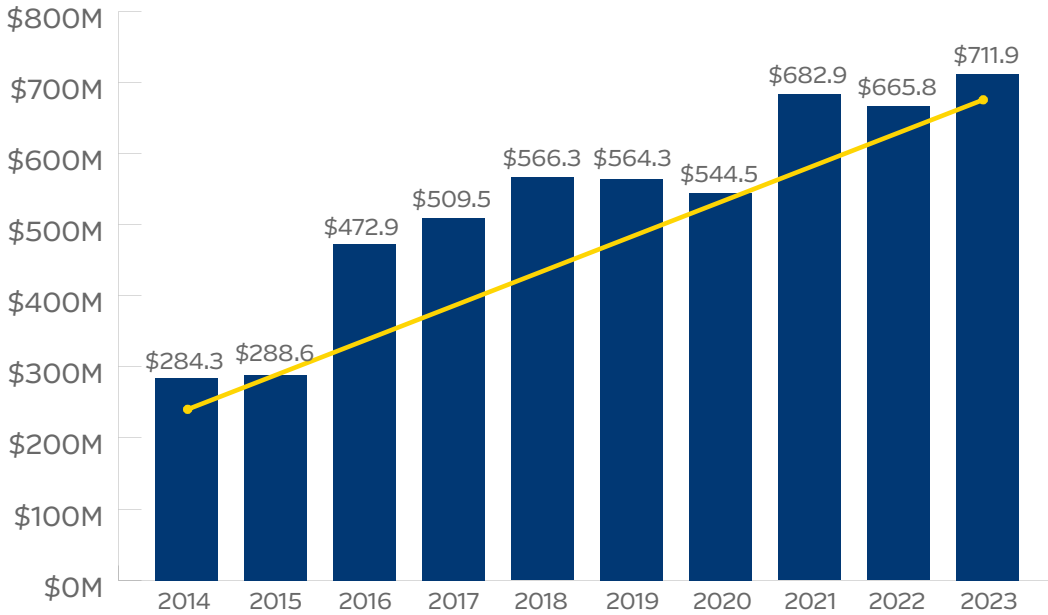
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

\$35.9M

TOTAL SUPPORT PROVIDED TO UTOLEDO

\$28.1M

ASSETS

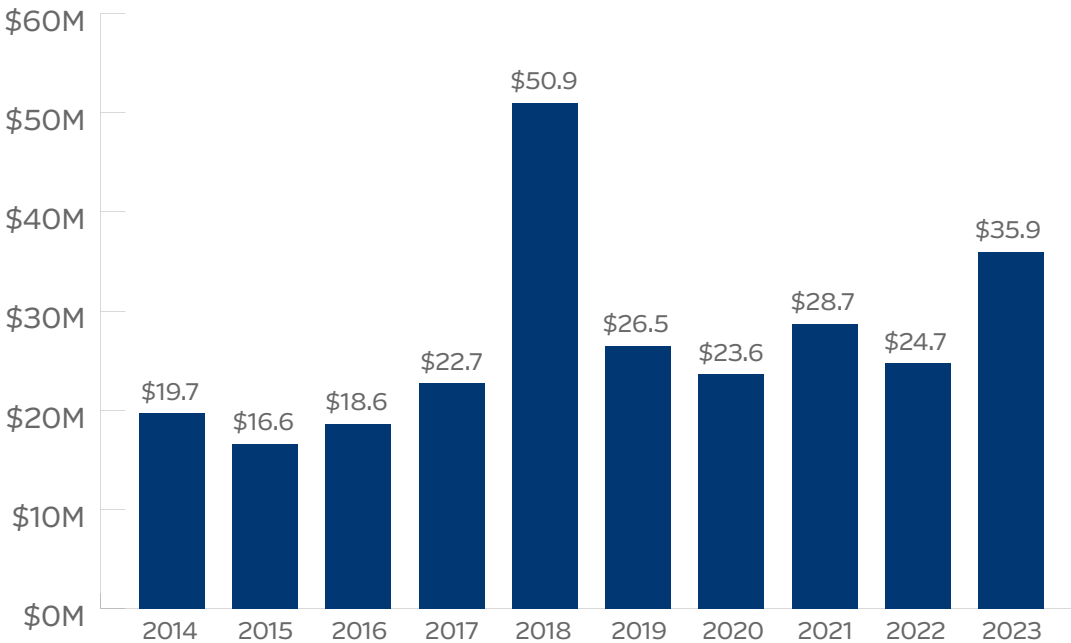


A STRONG FUTURE

The overall market performed favorably in fiscal year 2023. In addition, the Foundation’s investment portfolio outperformed its benchmark by 40 basis points. These two facts combined with the support of our generous donors helped the organization reach \$711.9M in assets, an all-time high.

A larger asset base leads to more support for the vital programs and initiatives of the University, which ultimately provides a strategic advantage in recruiting and retaining students, and top-tier faculty and leaders.

CONTRIBUTIONS

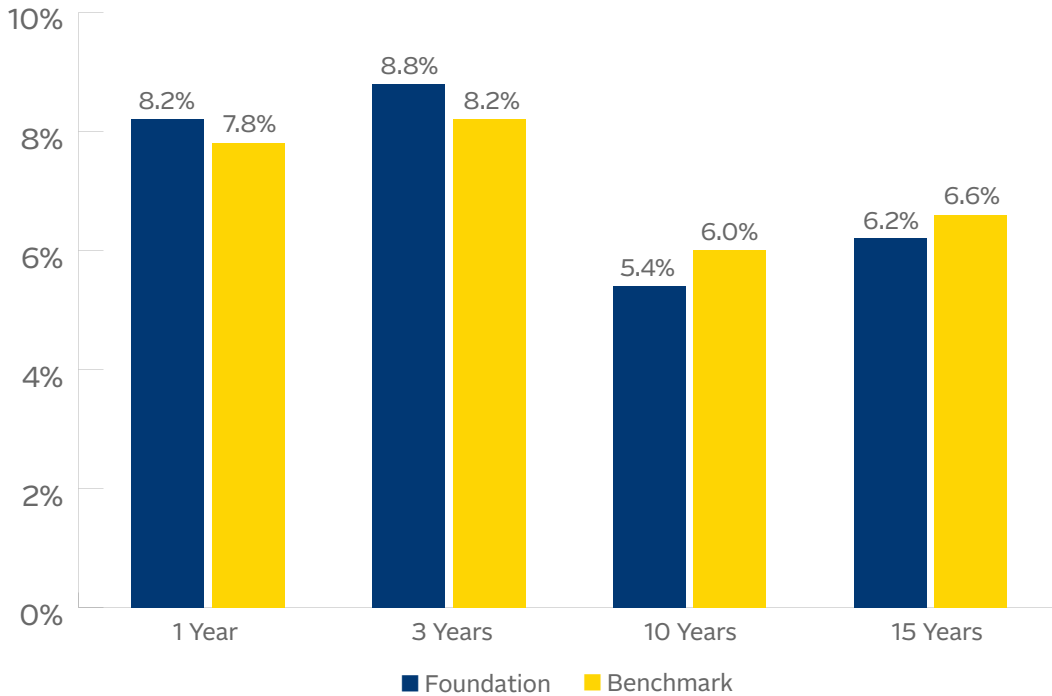


A RECORD YEAR

University of Toledo supporters continue to demonstrate their generosity and belief in the institution.

Donations in FY23 reached an all-time high, after taking into account the largest single gift ever received by the Foundation. In 2018 Welltower donated its campus, now known as the Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement, to The University of Toledo Foundation. This represents the largest gift ever received by the Foundation.

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

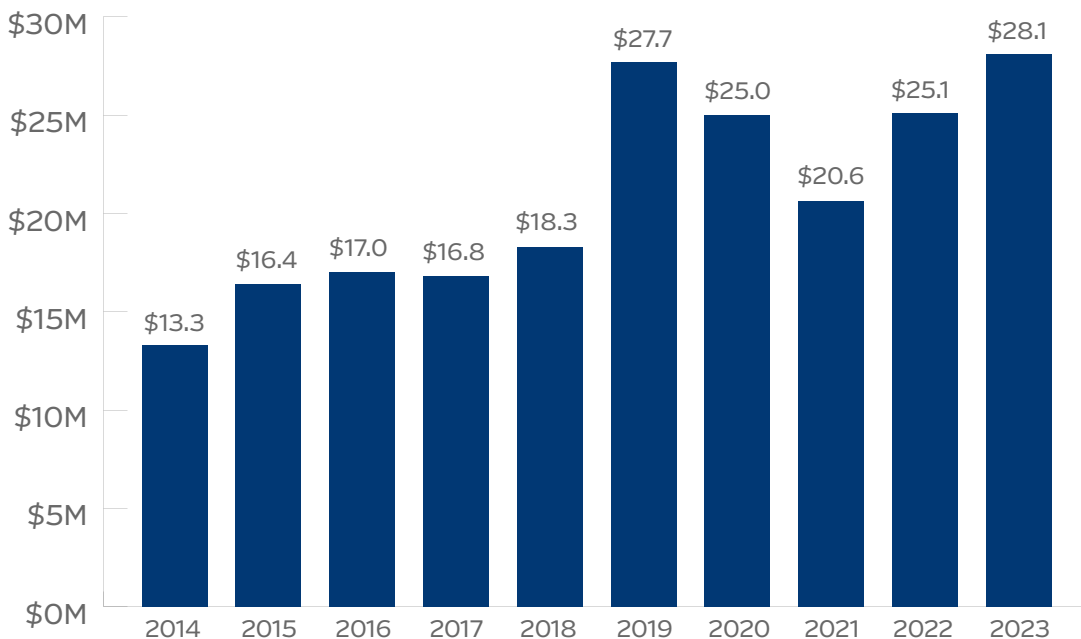


LONG-TERM GROWTH

The Foundation’s portfolio has a perpetual time horizon, which allows us to manage for long term growth over short term results.

The Foundation has seen positive growth when compared to the previous year and continues to leverage advice and strategies that **mitigate risk** and provide downside protection in turbulent markets.

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO UTOLEDO

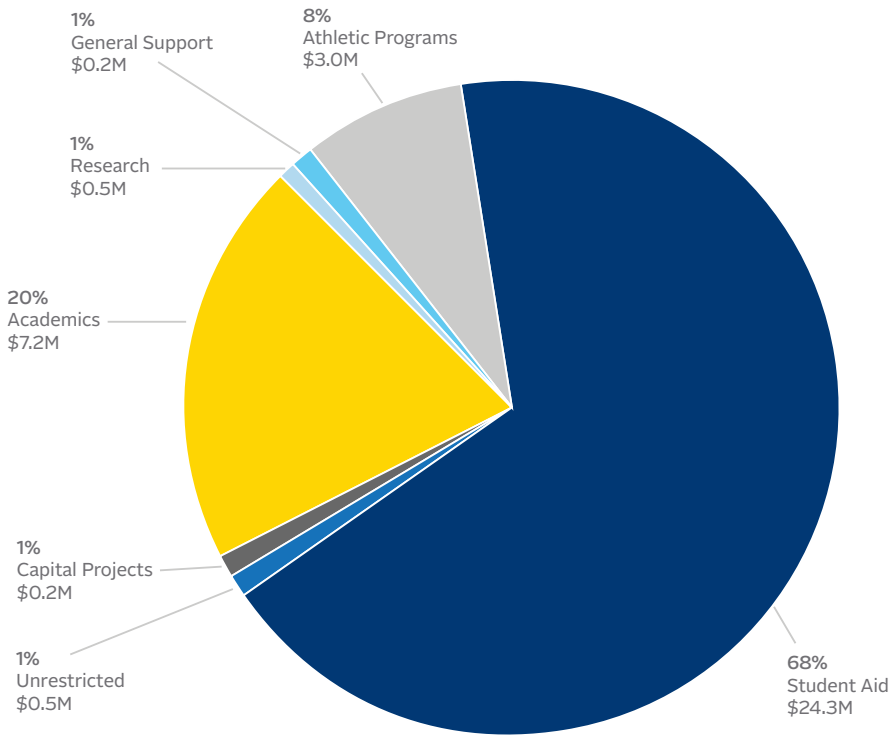


FUELING TOMORROWS

The Foundation **provided more than \$28 million** in funding to the University in FY23, another all-time high.

The graphs on the following page provide a breakdown of overall giving and show which areas are being supported and how funds are being used to support UToledo and our students.

DESIGNATION OF GIFTS

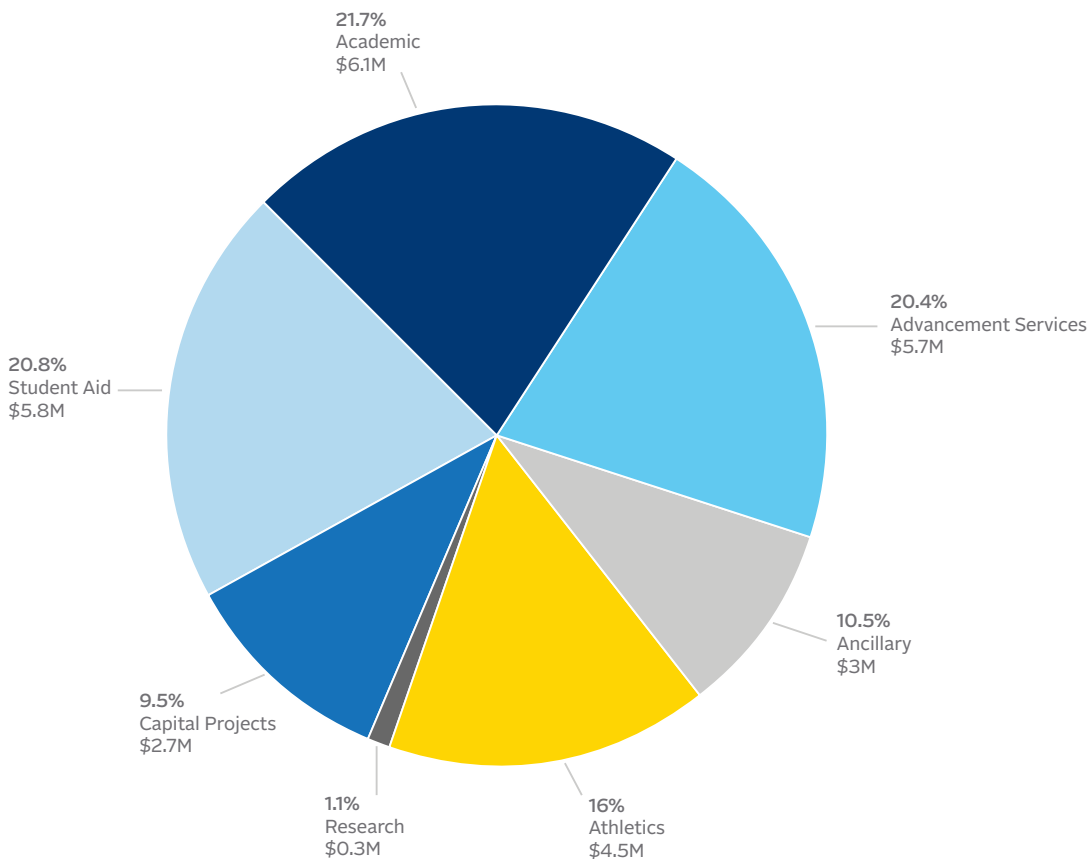


PAYING IT FORWARD

UToledo donors are **passionate** and often contribute directly to the initiatives and programs that are meaningful to them, helping pay it forward to the next generation of innovators, healers and leaders.

The majority of donor gifts provide direct aid for students. This makes a big impact, as **94% of new undergraduates receive scholarships or some other form of financial aid.**

DESIGNATION OF SUPPORT



BUILDING BETTER

Foundation support remained steady compared to the previous fiscal year. The biggest change was an increase in support for capital projects, a result of campus improvement projects completed including the renovation of North Engineering Building, a new, dedicated Career Services space on main campus, upgrades to the Ritter Planetarium and Observatory and the addition of a new campus-wide security system.



ABOUT US

We're here to help you make a difference.

Since 1872, The University of Toledo has been empowering and preparing driven individuals to make an impact on the world. The University of Toledo Foundation and The University of Toledo Alumni Association are committed to supporting the global Rocket alumni network and ensuring the University's future through prudent asset management and philanthropy.

We provide financial and strategic support for The University of Toledo's vision to improve the human condition.



ABOUT CORNERSTONES

Your support and generosity are fueling tomorrows for UToledo students, educators, researchers and caregivers.

As stewards of that generosity, **Cornerstones** is how we demonstrate the returns on the investments made in us by stakeholders in the state of Ohio and beyond — including parents, taxpayers and neighbors in surrounding communities.

In addition to this twice yearly publication, we share stories each day about how your support is empowering Rockets to enact change as the coming generation of leaders, critical thinkers and problem solvers. Read more at:

utfoundation.org | toledoalumni.org

JOIN THE **ROCKET ADVOCATES**



Joining the **Rocket Advocates** is a great way to get involved with UToledo and make a positive impact. Find new ways to share your Rocket pride through volunteering, advocacy and engagement.

- 📌 Share on social
- 📌 Support a fundraising campaign
- 📌 Mentor a recent graduate
- 📌 Speak to students in the classroom
- 📌 Volunteer at an event

LEARN MORE OR SIGN UP TODAY



utevents.org/volunteer



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