Butler Trustee Albert Chen established the Endowed Fund for Asian Studies in 2005 to promote and support Asian studies at Butler and to enhance understanding of Asian influences on American economic, political, technological and cultural arenas. The fund, supported by Chen and several other donors, is used to provide scholarships, to host speakers or performers, or to provide resource material to further enhance Asian studies at Butler University.

Chen has dedicated considerable time, energy and personal resources to building stronger ties between Asian and Indiana communities and to supporting programs that teach understanding and appreciation of other cultures.

Over the years, Asian studies has held increasing prominence at Butler, and the establishment of the Change and Tradition Program in the early 1980s marked the University’s formalized commitment to China studies. Recent growth in Asian studies at Butler has included new faculty positions in Asian studies, student-faculty collaborative efforts in Asian countries, study abroad scholarships to encourage Butler students to study in Asian countries, enhancement of the Chinese language program, library acquisitions and Asia-related community outreach programs.
Carolynne and Jesse “Lee” Bobbitt’s dedication to the arts started more than 50 years ago during their college years in Kentucky. It was 1956, and Lee was lighting director for an outdoor theatre where he and his future wife honed their artistic talents and nurtured what was to become a lifelong love of the arts. Although Lee’s career led him to become a research scientist with Eli Lilly and Company, his and Carolynne’s love of the arts never waned.

Lee’s involvement with Butler began through the American Chemical Society and its association with the chemistry department at Butler. His interest quickly turned to the Jordan College of Fine Arts, where he and Carolynne became involved with helping plan the Romantic Festival in the late 1960s. They were quite pleased with the quality of the performances and the students in JCFA, which encouraged them to increase and broaden their support of the college. Lee has served as a member of the JCFA Board of Visitors since 1996.

The Bobbitts established the Bobbitt Endowed Fund for JCFA Student/Faculty Development to enhance and expand programs in the Jordan College of Fine Arts with special emphasis placed on fostering greater community access to performances of JCFA students and faculty on campus or in other locations in Indiana, North America or in other countries.

Dr. Bobbitt is a retired genetics research scientist; Mrs. Bobbitt is a retired school librarian.
Keller T. Brock was born on a farm near Owenton, Kentucky. After a brief time teaching in the county schools there, he attended the Valparaiso University School of Pharmacy. Brock entered the drugstore business in Indianapolis in 1907, working in the first Hook Drug Store and then opening his own drugstore at the corner of 38th and Illinois Streets. In 1929, he purchased the Haag Drug chain, which he served as president and owner until 1951. Under his leadership, the company expanded to include 34 stores.

His Indianapolis residence was on a 100-acre farm at West 56th Street and Guion Road, where he raised produce that was sold in his drugstores in Indianapolis and in other Indiana cities.

In 1945 Brock played an important role in the merger that established the Indianapolis College of Pharmacy as the College of Pharmacy of Butler University. He served as a member of the board of trustees for 14 years and in 1964 was named trustee emeritus. Brock was among leading pharmacists in Indianapolis who helped raise nearly $700,000 to build the College of Pharmacy building in 1950. His devotion and distinguished service to Butler University will be long remembered.

Brock and his wife Fay left a generous estate gift to Butler University’s endowment for the purpose of advancing and developing pharmaceutical education.
James A. Gloin served Butler University as a trustee and trustee emeritus for 27 years, joining the board in 1958. He served as chairman of the board, vice chairman and chairman of the executive committee during his tenure.

A 1923 graduate of Butler who majored in English, Gloin served on the *Collegian* staff and played tennis as a student. He next received a master’s degree in business from Harvard in 1925. He began his career in a clerical position with the Indianapolis retail firm L.S. Ayres & Co., and he retired 41 years later as its president.

Gloin also was active with the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, the National Retail Dry Goods Association and Butler University’s Alumni Association. His alma mater conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws and awarded him the coveted Butler Medal.

Gloin and his wife Martha raised two daughters, Nancy and Kathryn. Today, Kathryn (Gloin) Betley serves as a Butler trustee.

The *James A. Gloin Memorial Fund for Faculty Excellence* was established by the Ayres Foundation Inc. and the family and friends of James A. Gloin. It supports faculty development in Butler University’s College of Business Administration.
The Lynn LeMay Fund is permanently endowed by friends and family in memory of Lynn LeMay, who was a member of Butler’s Youth Symphony when she was killed in an automobile accident in the summer of 1984. She was the principal flutist with the Youth Symphony, and making music was very important in her life. Income from the fund is used to help recruit promising talented students to the music department in Butler University’s Jordan College of Fine Arts.
Dorothy Black Lynn, a 1923 graduate of Butler University, was a social leader and philanthropist who supported several causes in Indianapolis and Indiana — among them Butler University, Purdue University, Hanover College, the Visiting Nurses Association and the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. At Butler, she majored in English, served as senior class vice president and was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. After graduating, she worked briefly for International Harvester before joining Eli Lilly and Company as a secretary.

The wife of Lilly executive Charles Lynn, Dorothy Lynn made her mark in the community as founder and president of the Indianapolis chapter of the English-Speaking Union, a trustee of Hanover College, a member of the President’s Council at Purdue, and a board member for the Indianapolis Museum of Art. She managed the Lynns’ large home and worked closely with her husband to carry out his broad civic, educational and charitable interests.

Mrs. Lynn was awarded the Butler Medal in 1975. The presenter, friend and Indianapolis businessman James A. Gloin, said of her, “Notably evident are her traits of dignity, graciousness and wit. Those who know Dorothy Lynn realize that her life and philosophy are laid upon the concept that ‘the basis of all wit is truth.’”

Dorothy Lynn’s lifetime of giving culminated with a gift from a trust created by her estate. It provides scholarships for students in the liberal arts as well as funds for faculty support and library acquisitions. One of the buildings in Butler’s Apartment Village is named in her honor.
Miss Florence Morrison taught Spanish at Butler University from 1924 to 1951. A native of Indianapolis, she graduated from Shortridge High School and the University of Chicago. She taught briefly at Shortridge before joining the faculty at Butler. Upon her death in 1954, an endowed memorial fund was established to benefit the teaching of languages at Butler.
Lester and Phyllis North, their son Steven and his wife Melonia established the North Family Marching Band/Information Resources Fund to provide assistance to the Butler University Marching Band and the information resources department. Income from this fund is distributed annually, alternating between information resources and the marching band, to support the needs of these areas. Steven and Melonia are not Butler alumni but became involved with the University because they were impressed with the friendliness and helpfulness of faculty, students and administration. During campus visits with their son, who was enrolled in the engineering dual degree program, they experienced first-hand all the support programs available to address the needs of student life and the genuine interest and enthusiasm expressed by faculty and staff.
Peter Celestine Reilly, a native of Rhode Island, founded Republic Creosoting in Indianapolis in 1896. Through his 56 years of leadership, the company grew into industry leader Reilly Tar & Chemical Corp., and then international chemical manufacturer Reilly Industries. In July 2006, Reilly Industries merged with Rutherford Chemicals to form Vertellus Specialties, Inc.

The son of Irish immigrants, Reilly came to Indianapolis from the East Coast in the late 1800s to run a tar-distilling plant. When the company announced plans to close the Indianapolis plant, Reilly chose to buy it himself.

Reilly was responsible for inventing or perfecting numerous chemical processes, including the complete distillation of tar and a formula for synthetic pyridine. Throughout his career, Reilly was involved in numerous Indiana charitable, civic and business organizations. He served as a trustee for both Butler and Notre Dame, and he made education financially possible for many Butler students.

In 1903, Reilly married his “great and good friend” Ineva T. Gash of Brevard, N.C. Mrs. Reilly gave generously of her time to the Riley Hospital Cheer Guild, the Campfire Girls and the American Red Cross. The couple had five children — Ineva Frances, Peter C. Jr., George A., Thomas E. and Sarah Ann, who died as a child.

The Peter C. and Ineva T. Reilly Chemistry Fund was established by Reilly Industries in 1972 and named to honor its founder and his wife. The fund provides money to Butler University’s Department of Chemistry for the purchase of special equipment and operating supplies, as well as equipment upkeep.
Bernice Billman Rice, a member of the Butler class of 1926, and her husband James William Rice established the James W. & Bernice Billman Rice Fund in Botany because of their lifelong love of science, horticulture and Butler University. The fund supports curricular advancement in the Department of Biological Sciences, the purchase of laboratory and field equipment that enhances undergraduate education in botany, collaborative research between faculty and students, and honoraria and travel costs for visiting scholars. A bio-computing laboratory in Gallahue Science Hall was underwritten with Rice funds.

Bernice graduated from Butler with a B.A. in English and history; she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and was an avid gardener. James Rice was a Purdue University graduate and administrator for the Delco-Remy Division of General Motors Corporation in Anderson, Ind. Before their deaths, the donors generously contributed to the campaign to build the Holcomb Science Building in the 1960s and later helped fund the landscaping of Butler’s central mall.
To help Butler students address critical science and technology issues, Frank Levinson, Ph.D. established the Sciences Opportunity Endowed Fund. Income provides for equipment replacement and repair, faculty and student travel, undergraduate research and scholarships to recruit high-quality science students.

Levinson, founder chief of Finisar Corporation, a technology leader in fiber optic subsystems and network performance test systems, has worked on more than 35 fiber optics and technology patents, with more pending. He founded Small World Group (with offices in Singapore and Syracuse, Ind.) to promote the commercialization of ideas and finished products that advance world awareness of scientific issues and new technologies that may help improve the quality of life for all humans and other sentient beings on the earth (and beyond?).

A graduate of Lawrence Central High School in Indianapolis, Levinson earned a B.S. in mathematics and physics from Butler in 1975, and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of Virginia. In 2006 he received an honorary LL.D. degree from Butler.

Levinson’s mother Winifred B. Levinson, the first person in her family to attend college, received her B.A. in French from Butler in 1951. When his father Alan C. Levinson (M.S. education, 1953) was a graduate student at Butler, he helped install and align the telescope at Holcomb Observatory. Alan frequently brought young Frank along, helping kindle the boy’s interest in science and optics. Frank’s brother Carl A. Levinson is also a Butler alumnus, receiving his B.S. in physics and mathematics in 1978.

Frank’s fondness for Holcomb Observatory led him to make an additional gift to the University for planetarium improvements. Levinson is a member of the Butler Business Accelerator Advisory Board.
Ernest Thompson received his bachelor of divinity degree in 1949 and his master’s degree in religious studies in 1950, both from Butler. He then entered the ministry and also earned a doctor of ministry degree from Christian Theological Seminary in 1978. He served student ministries and churches in Georgia and Indiana, and from 1962 to 1981, was pastor of Third Christian Church in Indianapolis. The journey of Ernest and his wife Sarah is chronicled in Ernest’s memoirs, *The Fork in the Road*, written for the celebration of his 80th birthday in October 1999.

Butler meant a great deal to the Thompsons, and they chose to give back by endowing a fund for religious studies, believing that the religion department is an important part of the curriculum and should have regular annual support. This fund supports speaker honoraria, expenses related to hosting outstanding speakers on campus, student awards or other student activities outside of the classroom that enhance the learning experience of religion students. Particular focus is given to activities that foster interfaith dialogue and that welcome community involvement in on-campus events.

Ernest and Sarah have four children, including Butler alumni Sarah Jo Norwood, class of 1970, and E. Edward Thompson, Jr., class of 1979. Ed’s wife Diane Matthias Thompson is also a Butler alumna, class of 1979, and a member of the Butler Alumni Board. The Thompsons’ grandson Matt Duch graduated from Butler in 1998. Ernest passed away in February 2007.

Butler President Dr. Bobby Fong once commented to Thompson how it is important for the University to sustain religious diversity by creating a campus community that is tolerant and welcoming of religious belief and practice. Thompson replied, “I feel Butler is in good hands.”
Dr. John Raymond Thrasher’s family history is woven with many threads from Butler’s past. Although Dr. Thrasher (1881–1962) did not attend Butler, he was deeply connected to the University through his father William Merritt Thrasher, who came to teach at Butler (then known as North Western Christian University) in 1864. The elder Thrasher was elected chair of the mathematics department in 1865, a position he held until 1899. He died in 1900 and is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery near the campus. He was a close friend of university founder Ovid Butler, whose portrait hangs next to Thrasher’s in Robertson Hall.

John’s grandfather Woodson Walker Thrasher served on the Butler College Board of Directors from 1855 to 1876 and from 1879 to 1885. Demia Thayer Thrasher, John’s mother, was a niece of Ovid Butler and a cousin of Demia Butler, for whom the Demia Butler Chair of English Literature is named.

John Thrasher’s wife Winifred Natalie Siever Thrasher came to Butler in 1918 to head the newly established home economics department. She was president of the University Women’s Club and taught home economics at Butler until 1921, when she and John married. Dr. Thrasher practiced medicine in Indianapolis for 50 years, retiring in the 1950s. He died in December 1962 and left all of his assets in trust to provide for his wife, daughter and grandchildren. The trust was dissolved in 2003, 41 years after Dr. Thrasher’s death, and Butler University received the balance as an endowment to benefit Butler’s Department of Mathematics. According to Dr. Thrasher’s will, “It [the endowment gift] is to be shown as given in memory of William Merritt Thrasher (my father), John Raymond Thrasher (this testator) and Winifred Seiver Thrasher (my wife).”
Helen Johnston Van Arendonk established the Van Arendonk Science Fund in 1982 to improve the quality of Butler’s science program. Annual income from the fund is used to purchase, replace or repair instructional scientific and laboratory equipment used by Butler’s natural science department. Mrs. Van Arendonk graduated from Butler in 1933 with a double major in economics and mathematics. When she died in 1999, she left a generous bequest to enhance the principal of the Van Arendonk Science Fund.
Georgia Watkins Fund for Classical Language

Georgia M. Watkins made a generous gift to Butler University to establish a fund to benefit the Department of Classical Greek. Annual distributions benefit the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to support Greek or Latin instructor salaries, and to purchase departmental supplies and books.
A nna Corey Mitchell Zumpfe came from a family long associated philanthropically with Butler University. A longtime member of the University’s Board of Trustees, she was related to Andrew Jackson, former president of the United States.

Her husband William A. Zumpfe (1864-1940) was widely known in Indianapolis’ business and musical circles. His family came to Indiana in 1871, and he was educated in the Indianapolis Public Schools. After 15 years with Indiana National Bank, Zumpfe established his own company from which he retired in 1930. An accomplished violinist, he conducted the Lyra Orchestra and led musical ensembles that performed at prominent Indianapolis events. Zumpfe’s civic involvement included the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, First Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis Athletic Club, Columbia Club and the Athanaeum. In 1942, Anna created the William A. Zumpfe Memorial Fund, stipulating that “the gift shall always bear the name of William A. Zumpfe” and that “the principal of the gift will be used … as an endowment fund for the School of Business Administration.”

She wrote: “Ever since Butler University moved to its location in lovely Fairview, Mr. Zumpfe and I became more and more impressed with its influence not only upon our home life … but upon the cultural spirit of Indianapolis and the State of Indiana as well. We numbered among its students, its teachers and professors and its Board of Trustees many of our closest friends. Through them we caught the glow of their enthusiasm for its future … I feel, therefore, that this gift will … serve as a memento of the inspiration the university has been to Mr. Zumpfe and me.”

She died in 1953 at age 86, and through their estate, they left additional funds to Butler along with their home at 5330 North Meridian and most of its contents to become part of the William A. Zumpfe Memorial Fund.