

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gifts from Cargill, Capitol Federal add \$1.75 million to business building campaign

Two companies, Cargill and Capitol Federal®, have contributed a total of \$1.75 million to the campaign to build a new home for the W. Frank Barton School of Business, taking the amount raised so far to \$28.5 million.

Cargill pledged \$1 million to the WSU Foundation for the project and Capitol Federal Foundation® committed \$750,000.

WSU Foundation President and CEO Elizabeth King announced the gifts Thursday night, Oct. 25, at the President's Club celebration, held each year to recognize some of Wichita State's most generous supporters.

“These donors recognize the tremendous value a new facility for the Barton School has for our regional economy,” King said of Cargill and Capitol Federal. “Students will be educated in a setting that reflects today's business environment and prepares them to enter the workforce with real-world skills.”

King also told the nearly 400 President's Club guests that, thanks to the generosity of WSU alumni and friends, the **Shock the World Campaign** has surpassed its \$250 million goal, with about 20 months remaining in the seven-year campaign. So far, \$254 million has been raised.

“While this is an incredible achievement, we also recognize that much work still needs to happen to fully accomplish the important goals we set for ourselves when we began this campaign,” King told the gathering.

Those goals are to increase scholarships for students with financial need, provide additional funds for faculty support and complete fundraising for three capital projects: a new home for the W. Frank Barton School of Business, the final phase of development for Eck Stadium, and construction of a new Student Athlete Success Center/renovation of Charles Koch Arena.

The Foundation staff, with its campus and community partners, will focus fundraising efforts on these goals in the next 20 months, King said. The Shock the World Campaign will end in June 2020.

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Cargill's contribution to the new business school building reflects its commitment to investing in education to help foster community growth, said Brian Sikes, president of Cargill Protein.

"With this donation, we hope to help provide future generations with a facility built to empower career advancement and aspiration," Sikes said. "Wichita State is an essential partner in our community, working to inspire future thought leaders who will move Wichita forward for many years to come."

Cargill's gift is the latest in its ongoing commitment to the WSU community. In recent years, Cargill has donated \$120,000 to WSU to help launch the Koch Global Trading Center in the Barton School. It also contributed \$350,000 to the new YMCA being built on the WSU campus.

John B. Dicus, Capitol Federal CEO, said the institution's support for the business school building is an investment in the state's economy.

"This gift will give students the opportunities they need to be successful in the business world, which will, in turn, grow the work force and economy in Kansas," he said. "This learning environment will help Wichita State recruit top talent to the university."

He noted that the new building will be located in the heart of the WSU Innovation Campus. "Collaboration, applied learning and research, the three main components driving the concept of the Innovation Campus, are also key components in the business world," Dicus said.

The gift reflects Capitol Federal's commitment to supporting the communities it serves, Dicus said. He noted that Capitol Federal has been a longstanding supporter of the Barton School, providing substantial scholarships for business students since 2002.

The WSU Foundation has committed to raising private funds for at least \$30 million of the building's projected \$50 million cost.

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