As a student I was impressed by UBC and its faculty, and as a practicing pharmacist, by the clients and the trust they put in us,” says Fred Wiley, a graduate of the Pharmacy class of ’53. “Pharmacists bring tremendous value to communities.”

Fred has been a loyal annual donor to UBC for many years. Together with his twin daughters Karen van der Hoop and Karol Elliott, both Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Medicine ’79 graduates, these three family members have left bequests to the university. These types of gifts are deeply appreciated and help develop important advances in practice. Fred’s wish is to help expand pharmacists’ health care expertise and outreach, while Karen and Karol’s gifts are earmarked for alumni scholarships in the School of Rehabilitation Sciences.

“There has always been a value of charitable giving in our family,” explains Karen. “Our mother was a Registered Nurse and she donated to and volunteered for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Dad supported UBC and Pharmacy by his involvement and donations.” Fred maintains that contributing to universities is important because they help people to attain their potential. His bequest is undesignated and will be directed to an area of need as determined by the Faculty.

Karen and Karol chose to direct their contributions toward the Jane Hudson Scholarship (PT) and Margaret Hood Scholarships (OT), as well as the Rehabilitation Sciences Alumni Bursary. These assist graduate students pursuing a career in Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy.

“Jane Hudson and Margaret Hood were founding members of the School of Rehabilitation Sciences and heads of the departments of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy respectively, when Karen and I were in university. They were our instructors and we admired them. That’s why we wanted to contribute to these funds,” explains Karol, adding that she hopes the awards result in less stress and debt for students.

“We greatly value the education we received at UBC,” says Fred. “We chose this way to support UBC for the benefit of future graduates and their potential to impact health care services.”
Renowned Economist Funds Awards for Aboriginal Students

Dr. Peter Pearse, the internationally recognized resource economist, is giving back to the university that set him on his way so many years ago. As part of his estate planning, Dr. Pearse recently provided for a gift in his will to students in UBC’s Faculty of Forestry, to fund awards for aboriginal students.

“I feel very indebted to UBC for giving me my start, and I also feel very much indebted to Canada. I don’t think there are many countries where a kid from the hinterlands — I grew up on a farm near Vernon — can end up with a world-class education. I want to give others in our society the kind of opportunities I had.”

A professor emeritus of Economics and Forestry, Dr. Pearse has educated generations of forestry students at UBC. Over the years, he has conducted several public enquiries, including Royal Commissions on British Columbia’s forest resources and Canada’s Pacific fisheries. His gift will support awards for aboriginal students in the Faculty of Forestry.

In 1976, the provincial government called on Dr. Pearse to investigate complexities relating to BC’s forest policy. His sweeping recommendations resulted in new legislation including a new Forest Act, Range Act, Ministry of Forests Act and a revised forest tenure system.

He later investigated Canada’s Pacific fisheries where salmon and other fish stocks were rapidly being depleted due to overfishing. Drawing inspiration from his forestry background, Dr. Pearse came up with the quota system, now integral to Canadian fisheries management.

Born in Vernon, he attended high school in Kamloops where an insightful school councilor and timely scholarship propelled him to explore the possibilities of secondary education. Dr. Pearse enrolled at UBC where he studied Forestry.

“I enjoyed learning about our forests and how they can be managed,” he recalls. He won a gold medal for his efforts. A scholarship took him to the University of Edinburgh where he earned master’s and doctorate degrees in Economics. Eventually, Dr. Pearse was offered a position at his old alma mater, where he helped to develop UBC’s innovative program on the economics of natural resources.

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Judith Jardine was a triple alumnus of UBC, earning a B.A. and M.A. in French, and a Bachelor of Library Science. While she might not have had any obvious connection to UBC’s Faculty of Medicine, a hefty bequest by Ms Jardine certainly demonstrated she felt that the work going on at the university was important.

The shy philanthropist, who passed away in 2006 at the age of 81, left a $6.4 million estate gift to the Faculty of Medicine—the largest in its 63-year history.

“The funds received by the Faculty will grow the Willard Kitchen Memorial Fund, named for Ms Jardine’s maternal grandfather,” explains Dr. Howard Feldman, a Professor of Neurology and Executive Associate Dean of Research at UBC.

Ms Jardine desired that at least half the income from the fund should be put towards medical research and the remainder towards student bursaries. Within the research allocation there is no specific designation, allowing the Faculty to determine how the funds are applied.

“We often face critical unmet needs in developing research within the Faculty, and having funds available can make a remarkable difference,” says Dr. Feldman. “For example, earlier this year we had two researchers within a competition that had fundable grants, but the granting agency required a matching contribution from the university to fulfill the funding obligations. Having resources like this enables us to address this type of need.”

In an era where resources are increasingly constrained, students and researchers often have more good ideas than can be funded through traditional sources. Gifts like Ms Jardine’s facilitate the exploration of new ideas and could provide the seed funds necessary to gather preliminary data and be successful in larger grant competitions.

For students, Ms Jardine’s gift will provide relief from education costs. It will provide learning opportunities and help build a culture that integrates research and clinical care, a key to providing better service to patients.

“The support of the donor community is integral to building a robust research platform that ultimately benefits the health of British Columbians,” says Dr. Feldman. “We aim for the research to be translated from the lab and
Renowned Economist Funds Awards for Aboriginal Students

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Now retired, Dr. Pearse is an occasional consultant on natural resource and environmental issues. His expertise has been recognized through numerous distinctions including the Canadian Forestry Achievement Award, the Distinguished Forester Award, the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal, and the Order of Canada. The Vancouver Sun called him one of the province’s leading intellectuals.

Looking back on his career today, Dr. Pearse feels indebted to UBC and hopes others may share in his good fortune: “Call it a legacy of sorts. But I am determined that others, especially Aboriginal students, have a chance to study here at UBC. It just might change their lives. It certainly changed mine.”

Faculty of Medicine Receives Largest Bequest in UBC History

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from the clinic to the community, so that there is benefit to health. Ms Jardine’s gift will have a considerable impact in terms of benefits for our students, for our faculty and for our leadership.”

Judith Jardine was the last descendent of William Kitchen, a railway tycoon from New Brunswick who moved to BC where he became a director of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, later BC Rail.

Although Ms Jardine lived a quiet, unassuming life, her generosity will impact all British Columbians through the training of future doctors and advancement of life-saving research.