

Informational Report

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Wayne State University will build upon its long-standing commitment to providing opportunity and access to higher education through a new partnership with Raise.me, a platform that offers high school students the opportunity to earn scholarships on their path to college. The exciting new program allows prospective students to earn scholarships from Wayne State ranging from \$150 to \$3,000, based on their progress and accomplishments throughout high school. Eligible students can start earning micro-scholarships as early as ninth grade for various achievements such as maintaining a GPA above 3.5, completing an AP course, scoring well on the SAT or ACT, visiting WSU's campus, volunteering in their community, and participating in an extracurricular activity or sport. Nearly 3,000 students, including many within Detroit Public Schools, have already connected with WSU and begun earning scholarships through the Raise.me program. "Making an early connection allows Wayne State to develop a meaningful relationship with prospective students to celebrate and reward their successes," said Dawn Medley, Wayne State's associate vice president for enrollment management. "This program lets us play a role in supporting the student's development as they start thinking about college."

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

The Wayne State University College of Nursing's Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs have again ranked among the top in the nation, and have risen significantly in these national rankings in a one-year period. *U.S. News & World Report* released its 2018 Best Graduate Schools rankings today, naming the college's M.S.N. program No. 48 in the country, up from No. 70 the previous year, and its D.N.P. program No. 38 in the country, up from No. 62. These rankings recognize Wayne State's graduate nursing programs as the second highest in Michigan. "This honor recognizes the outstanding work of our faculty in both research and education, preparing a diverse student body for practice and improving urban health," said Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo. "Because of our commitment to student and faculty success and our distinctive focus on issues of urban health and health equity, the college has built a nationwide reputation as a premier graduate school."

FACULTY

Wayne State University professor emeritus Robert P. Holley has pledged a record-setting \$500,000 gift to the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS). Expanding a commitment he began 17 years ago, Holley becomes the most generous single-gift donor in the school's 50-year history. The gift has dual

purposes: to expand the Robert P. Holley Endowed Scholarship Fund and to establish the Robert P. Holley Endowed Support Fund. The Holley Endowed Scholarship supports SLIS students who plan to work in urban areas and serve underrepresented communities, while the Holley Support Fund will provide ongoing funding to support the SLIS mission.

STUDENTS

Wayne State University has been named to Phi Theta Kappa's 2017 Transfer Honor Roll, which recognizes excellence in community college transfer pathways. Wayne State is one of only 65 institutions selected. Winners were chosen based on engagement, collaboration, impact and achievements related to the transfer of community college students as well as partnerships, support, admissions outreach, scholarships and financial aid, student engagement opportunities, and institutional priorities. "We are pleased and honored that Wayne State University was recognized by Phi Theta Kappa for our endeavors in supporting transfer students and their success," said Ahmad Ezzeddine, associate vice president for educational outreach and international programs. "We are committed to building on these efforts and our partnerships with community colleges to ensure transfer students continue to have smooth and streamlined pathways to a timely and successful attainment of their college degrees."

Wayne State University students are always on the hunt for their next — or their first — job or internship. The College of Engineering Career Resource Center helps many high-performing, career-ready engineers and computer scientists navigate their professional pathway. One particular resource recently introduced to students that has been particularly helpful is Handshake, a virtual job board that the College of Engineering began a working relationship with in August 2016. This relationship in many ways served as a pilot program that opened the door for Handshake to be made available university-wide. "Engineering brought Handshake to campus in order to better assist students with finding jobs and internships, as well as make it easier for employers to connect with our students," said Erin Rook, Program Coordinator for the Career Resource Center. According to Rook, the College of Engineering began utilizing Handshake to provide students a more modern and accessible platform. Feedback has been very positive, as engineering students have noted that Handshake is easy to use, especially when it comes to responding quickly to job or internship opportunities and keeping track of their applications. There is also a free app for phones and tablets.