

LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

SU
LEGACY
GUILD



Stellenbosch
UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT

forward together
sonke siya phambili
saam vorentoe

A photograph of three medical students in a clinical setting, overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter. The students are wearing maroon scrubs. The student on the left is a woman with glasses and her hair in a ponytail, looking down at a patient's arm. The student in the middle is a woman with glasses, also looking down. The student on the right is a man, partially visible, looking towards the camera. They are all focused on a task, likely a medical procedure or examination. The background shows a clinical environment with shelves and equipment.

ALASTING IMPACT THROUGH EDUCATION

At Stellenbosch University (SU), our vision is to be a leading, inclusive institution in service of society – shaping a future that reaches far beyond our own generation. This is possible because of forward-thinking individuals who choose to invest in tomorrow by leaving a gift in their will.

Legacy giving is an act of deep trust and belief in the transformative power of higher education. It helps us to drive pioneering research, support talented students, and ensure that the knowledge SU creates will make a real difference in people's lives. The seeds planted today through these generous commitments will grow into discoveries and opportunities that will shape our communities and our country for decades to come.

To all those who have already chosen to build such a legacy with us: Many thanks! Your vision and generosity are helping us create a university that not only pursues excellence but also contributes meaningfully to the world we share.

***Together, we are building
a legacy of knowledge,
innovation, and hope.***



PROF DERESH RAMJUGERNATH
*Rector and Vice-Chancellor
Stellenbosch University*



A group of people, including men and women in academic regalia (red and black gowns with gold stoles), are walking at night on a cobblestone path. They are carrying a flag with a red and white design. The background shows large trees and a street lamp under a dark sky.

A legacy is more than a gift – it's a promise to the future

By choosing to include Stellenbosch University in your will, you are giving hope. Your generosity creates access to higher education, nurtures potential, and fuels research that changes communities. It is a powerful way to say, I believe in what the next generation can achieve. The SU Legacy Guild is a community of caring individuals who understand that even the smallest gift can lead to unequalled change.



HUGO STEYN

*Deputy Director: Principal Giving
Stellenbosch University*

A photograph of a Stellenbosch University campus. In the foreground, a person with a backpack walks away on a paved path. Several vertical signs are visible: a large red one on the left with the university logo and 'Welcome', a white one in the middle with 'Wamkelekile', and a red one on the right with 'Welkom'. The background shows university buildings and trees under a clear sky.

INVESTING IN GENERATIONS TO COME

SU Legacy Guild members share what inspires their giving and the future they hope to help build.



A desire to invest in the next generation, confidence in the ability of Stellenbosch University to develop young people who have proven themselves at school level, and positive memories of her days as a Matie student encouraged **Renette Rheeder** to leave a bequest to SU.

This will be used for bursaries for students who want to study accounting.

In this way Renette, who obtained her BAcc degree in 1994 and her BAcc Honours degree at SU in 1995, wants to contribute to finding a solution for the shortage of qualified accountants in South Africa.

"Our country has wonderfully talented young people who might – due to circumstances – not have the financial ability to realise their ideals and potential. I would love to help a person like that to follow their dreams."

Renette is familiar with the path a student must follow to qualify as a chartered accountant. She successfully passed the professional examinations to earn her

CA(SA) qualification in 1996 and completed her articles at Deloitte & Touche (now Deloitte).

"In those years it was popular to live and work in the United Kingdom (UK) for two years, which I also did. After my return from the UK, I was employed by Old Mutual and had 22 wonderful years there in various roles until I left the group in 2022. Currently, I'm self-employed and I do consultation work in the field of business and financial strategy, as well as non-executive directorship."

Renette who does not have children of her own, is grateful for this opportunity to invest in the next generation. She plans to leave the remainder of her estate to Stellenbosch University after bequests to family members. She believes this investment will pay dividends for generations to come if the students who benefit from it make a positive contribution to society.

Her message to bursary recipients is: "Embrace this opportunity and make the best of it. Go flat out to realise your potential and keep your eyes open for opportunities to help someone else in future."

She would encourage other potential donors to consider making a bequest to SU.

"The gift of education is invaluable and will continue to deliver a return on investment long after we're not here anymore."



Driven by her commitment to the environment, **Clarissa Hughes** has chosen to leave a gift in her will to support climate studies at Stellenbosch University. Sharing her motivation, she says:

"I want to empower Africans to lead the world as guardians of biodiversity and mitigate the effects of climate change. The human race depends on this."

SU Legacy Guild member Louis Simon believes in the transformative power of education. By including Stellenbosch University in his will, he hopes to make a lasting contribution. He shares: "I hope that my gift will help empower more people through education, contributing to a stronger and more united South Africa."





As proud BSc graduates and long-time supporters of Stellenbosch University, **Andrew and Mercia Le Roux**, have chosen to invest in the future through both their regular giving and a bequest in their will. They explain why they have focused their support on one initiative in particular:

“Stellenbosch has many impactful initiatives one can support, but as BSc Matie graduates, we fell in love with SciMathUS and this is where most of our contributions over the years have gone. SciMathUS is a bridging course helping matriculants to improve their marks (drastically) to get into more technical degree programmes, and to learn a range of personal and life skills along the way as well. So, we know that our gifts have allowed talented young people to rise above the challenging start they may have had and to pursue an impactful and fulfilling life.”



TRANSFORMING LIVES

For recipients, bequests mean more than financial support – they bring a sense of motivation, gratitude, and the hope to one day pay it forward.



As the eldest of three siblings at university, final-year law student **Wilmaré Rose Pedro** was immensely grateful to receive the GA Kuhn bursary, made possible through a bequest to Stellenbosch University.

Wilmaré, who matriculated from York High in George in 2018, obtained a BA degree in 2021 and embarked on her LLB degree in 2022.

She describes herself as an inquisitive child whose curiosity extended beyond just understanding the world around her. She also wondered about why systems fail and people break laws, especially people in power. The collapse of Steinhoff in 2018, which exposed how deeply negligence runs in institutions, and the rape and murder of UCT student Uyinene Mrwetyana in 2019 strengthened her resolve to study law after completing her undergraduate degree.

Wilmaré believes enabling access to justice is one way of addressing societal ills and that strong corporate governance leads to the broader wellbeing of society.

"In my opinion, law can really change things. It can protect people but also hold people and organisations accountable and shape policy for the better."

Her immediate goal is to complete her articles, while she is also considering a master's degree, preferably abroad.

"I'm interested in property, corporate, health and maritime law, and my ideal is to make a difference regardless of the field."

Wilmaré's undergraduate years at SU were paid for by study policies taken out by her parents, both teachers. They currently support three children at university, with both Wilmaré's brothers studying medicine.

"Now that I'm older I'm aware of the sacrifices my parents made. My brothers and I are all studying professions that weren't offered to them. This awareness has made me more conscious of my own privilege and the responsibilities that come with it."

The GA Kuhn bursary lifted the financial burden in her penultimate and final study years and serves as a safety net that enables her to focus fully on her studies.

She appreciates the fact that there are initiatives and bursaries that change people's lives and ultimately enable them to change the lives of others. Wilmaré believes that society at large will also benefit if beneficiaries use the skills they gain through their degree to give back to the community.

"I think it's great that there are people who are willing to assist you on your journey," she adds.



'It feels as if there is one more person who notices you and believes in you ...'

Access to education is one of the greatest gifts one person can give another. **Madelein Barnard**, a medical student in her sixth and final year at Stellenbosch University and recipient of the Sheila Brand Educational Trust bursary, can attest to that.

The bursary took the financial burden of her last two years of study off her and the family's shoulders.

Madelein, who grew up in a single-parent household and matriculated from Bellville High School, knew from a young age that she wanted to study medicine.

"My mother is a physiotherapist at a school for children with physical disabilities and two of my aunts are nurses. I've always wanted to help people in this way," she says.

To be able to afford their studies, Madelein and her sister – who also studies at SU – had to apply for student loans. The first four years of student debt will need to be repaid once she begins receiving a salary. However, the bursary means that the debt burden is much smaller than it would have been had she signed on for two additional years of student loans.

Madelein is most grateful to people who decide to invest in the next generation by making a bequest to SU.

"It's a great privilege to receive one of these bursaries. It feels as if there is one more person who notices you and believes in you, and this gives extra motivation to be successful."

Madelein believes bursaries like these have a huge impact on South African society, especially if the beneficiaries apply their knowledge to the benefit of their communities.

Still unsure whether she wants to specialise, Madelein says she will decide that after her community service and internship years, although she has a keen interest in paediatrics. One thing is certain though, she is in the right field.

"You see people when they're suffering – at the most difficult time for them and their families. People are very vulnerable when they're in hospital, and they entrust you with very personal information, because they believe you will use this knowledge to help them get better. It's a lot to process, especially when you're still young, but it makes you a better person to help the next patient."



Your tax break

Currently, estate duty is levied at a rate of 20% on assets exceeding R3.5 million in your estate at the time of your death.

One way of minimising your estate duty liability is by making a bequest to your alma mater. Charitable gifts of this nature are deducted from the value of the estate before estate duty is calculated.

Please remember to update your will regularly to keep pace with changes in your personal life and in legislation.



Ready to make a lasting impact?



1. Decide how you would like SU to benefit from your will or trust.



2. Contact SU (Hugo Steyn, hugos@sun.ac.za) to discuss how best to honour your wishes.



3. Finalise your bequest: Request suggested wording for your will (or ask us to review your existing clause).



4. Include the clause in your will.

5. Sign your will in line with legal requirements.

6. Confirm your bequest by email or share a copy of the clause from your signed will.

Once confirmed, you are recognised as a member of the SU Legacy Guild, a visionary group of alumni and friends who, like you, have made the far-sighted and well-considered decision to make a difference to Stellenbosch University.



Your legacy, your choice

Your membership places you under no obligation, and all information shared with us will be treated in the strictest confidence. Knowing about your intention simply helps us plan more effectively for the future – so we can honour your legacy in the best possible way.

Examples of Gift Opportunities in Your Will

A gift in your will to the University may be formulated without restriction or with specific stipulations.

You have the option of bequeathing, for example, a specified percentage of your estate, a stated amount of capital, or particular items of real estate, stocks, paintings, other works of art, or books.

You could also choose to bequeath the proceeds of a life insurance policy. To accommodate inflationary changes, your bequest can be made a percentage of your estate rather than specifying a predetermined figure.

Please find below some examples of gift opportunities that you could use when drawing up a new will or when adding a codicil to your existing will.

UNRESTRICTED

CANCER RESEARCH

RESEARCH

SCHOLARSHIPS

CHAIR

BOOKS / WORKS OF ART / STOCK / SHARES

LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

CODICIL

DOWNLOAD TEXT EXAMPLES TO ADD TO YOUR WILL >>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON FORMULATING A DEDICATED BEQUEST, PLEASE CONTACT:

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