

ANNUAL **SCHOLARSHIP REPORT** 2021–22

YOUR ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP MATTERS

Private gifts from alumni, friends and organizations for annual scholarships help make an MSOE education possible by removing financial barriers for students and opening doors for talented students to pursue their academic aspirations. Students who earn an MSOE degree go on to become leaders in their industry, value creators, and experiential learners who are driven to solve the complex challenges of today and tomorrow.

Your investment in our students' futures will empower generations of engineers, nurses, and business entrepreneurs with the confidence that they can succeed.

The financial commitment of organizations, foundations and individuals changes lives and directly impacts hundreds of MSOE students each year. These scholarship recipients have more time to focus on their studies, gain real-world experience through internships, and most importantly are instilled with the importance of private philanthropy.

This past year, we are proud of the \$3.4 million in financial support we were able to provide to over 500 students on this campus. Thank you for your continued support of MSOE and for helping pave the way for these students to reach their fullest potential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Snow", is displayed within a light gray rectangular box.

Jeff Snow

Vice President of University Advancement
Milwaukee School of Engineering

ON THE ROAD TO A
HIGH-TECH
FUTURE



“I remember taking a very simple computer programming course in 8th grade and realizing the endless possibilities it entailed.”

Bilal Syed '23 has been working toward his dream of becoming a software engineer for years. “In high school I took as many computer programming classes as I could. When that wasn’t enough, I started working on personal programming projects at home including creating my own video games,” said Syed.

Born in Karachi, Pakistan, the first-generation college student moved to the states at a young age. The first in his family to be raised in America, he said the road to his senior year at MSOE hasn’t been easy, but he’s proud of what he has been able to accomplish thanks to support from his family and an annual scholarship from Northwestern Mutual.

“Being the oldest of four siblings I have had a lot of mental, physical and financial strain over the years,” said Syed. “Receiving a scholarship from Northwestern Mutual helped relieve some of that stress and allowed me to better take care of myself and my family while also focusing on my academic career.”

Northwestern Mutual has supported MSOE scholarships since 2005. Their scholarships focus on helping fund women and underrepresented student populations pursuing a degree in the computer technology field. So far, 16 students including Syed have benefited from the company’s support.

“At Northwestern Mutual, we value the importance of supporting aspiring students in their educational journeys to pursue a career in technology. We are committed to investing in the MSOE scholarship for students like Bilal who continue to demonstrate their commitment to success,” said Stacy Zaja, lead program manager, technology community outreach at Northwestern Mutual.

Syed values the financial liberties the scholarship provided him, as well as the life lessons that fueled his journey and empowered his independence. “My parents taught me general knowledge but when it came to schooling, I was pretty much on my own. It ended up working in my favor as it forced me to learn how to adapt to change and become more independent at an early age,” he said.

In high school one of Syed’s teachers took note of his passion for computers and perseverance to succeed and suggested he apply for an internship at SourceTech, an

innovative manufacturing company in Milwaukee. Syed was hired his junior year of high school and today still works at the company each summer to help support his family. He said they have already offered him a full-time engineering position once he graduates from MSOE in May.

Until then, Syed plans to enjoy his last year at MSOE soaking up as much learning and knowledge before he leaves campus, including the completion of his senior design project.

“We are working on creating a prototype for a modem activated warning system to allow state-of-the-art road signs to communicate with one another over long distances and in urban infrastructures.”

And of course, some fun, too. “I enjoy playing volleyball and weightlifting. I’ve also recently began teaching myself Japanese. This will be my fourth language.”

None of which would have been possible without support from Northwestern Mutual.

“Thank you, Northwestern Mutual, from the bottom of my heart. Your gift is allowing me to pursue my academic dreams to its fullest.”



Bilal Syed (left) with his parents and three siblings. Syed is the first in his family to attend college.

**\$1.86
Million**

**in annual scholarships
from**

60

**different funds
were awarded to**

309

**deserving students
from**

21

states and

20

different majors



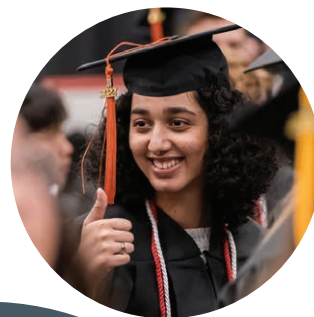
507

unique MSOE students
received scholarship
awards based on
criteria ranging from
area of study, GPA,
financial need and
community involvement.

8

NEW

named annual
scholarships
were created
this fiscal year



22.1%

of MSOE
undergraduate
students receive
donor funded
scholarships

KEEPING THE CYCLE GOING

Biking is just one of the many activities MSOE soccer player Sarah Cianciola '23 enjoys doing to increase her stamina in the off season.

“Outside of classes, playing soccer for MSOE has been a highlight of my time on campus,” said Cianciola. “I get to play the sport that I love and have met lots of great friends.”

This past September Cianciola’s motivation to go biking went beyond exercise. The senior UX major wanted to pay tribute to a fellow UX major, MSOE alumnus Matt Stachelski.

A researcher, writer, leader and collaborator in the classroom, Stachelski was one of the brightest students to graduate from the technical communications (UXCD) program in 2011. His bright future, however, was cut short after he passed away in a house fire in 2015.

The following year, two of Stachelski’s former MSOE professors, Dr. David Howell and Dr. Nadya Shalamova, met with his family to establish the annual Matt Stachelski Bike Ride, an event to honor his legacy and raise support for an annual MSOE scholarship bearing his name.

Just like Cianciola, cycling was one of Stachelski’s favorite sports.

“Matt was an avid cyclist. He built his own bikes, raced in local road and cyclocross events, and biked with friends. It was his lifestyle,” said Howell. “Cycling meant more to Matt; it was entwined in other aspects of his life. It’s one of the reasons why we chose to honor his memory with this ride.”

Each fall the bike ride brings students, faculty, staff and friends of the Stachelski family together to enjoy an afternoon of



Sarah Cianciola (middle) with the Stachelski family at the memorial bike ride in September.

“I was so honored to have been chosen for this scholarship. It has allowed me to focus on my future career in the UX field and continue to play soccer. Meeting his welcoming family and participating in the ride is an MSOE experience I’ll never forget.”

—SARAH CIANCIOLA '23

cycling and sharing memories of the impact Stachelski made in the MSOE campus community.

Cianciola was a recipient of the Matt Stachelski Memorial Scholarship in 2021. This was the first year she participated in the ride and in doing so was able to connect with the Stachelski family and thank them for supporting her future.

“I was so honored to have been chosen for this scholarship. It has allowed me to focus on my future career in the UX field and continue to play soccer. Meeting his welcoming family and participating in the ride is an MSOE experience I’ll never forget.”



Alumnus Matt Stachelski cycling. It was one of his favorite sports.



Milwaukee School of Engineering
Office of University Advancement
(414) 277-7148
development@msoe.edu