The education our students receive on campus gives them the knowledge and skills they’ll need to work in their chosen careers after graduation. But working as interns gives them the hands-on, real-world experience and initial contacts for networking that help them find jobs and excel at their work. A required part of a Stockbridge education, an internship is an individualized learning and living experience that often is the foundation of the intern’s professional life. When students come back to campus after working as interns, they not only have a better grasp of the duties and responsibilities of their future careers but also a greater insight into the merit of their education.

Not usually funded by the state monies, tuition, gifts, and grants that help to pay for the cost of providing a quality education at a public research university, internships are so important to our students’ preparation for their futures that we want to fund them.

To provide a way to pay for the costs of internships, the Stockbridge School of Agriculture is seeking to endow The Geoffrey and Carol Cornish Fund for Enhanced Learning Opportunities (ELO). By making a contribution to this Fund, alumni and friends will be partners in education, providing our students with important experiences that link what they learn in the classroom to today’s industry needs and practices.

Once-in-a-Lifetime Opportunities

A key purpose of the Cornish ELO Fund would be to bring together sponsors and Turfgrass Management students. With the financial support of a generous sponsor in the industry, an exceptional student could be given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to intern at a world-renowned golf course. For example, a sponsored internship could place a Stockbridge student at one of the classic links courses on the coast of Scotland or at a landmark American course. Sponsoring a student for such a life-changing experience would benefit the donor as well as the student (and, of course, the golf course). Each donor would share in the experience: An internship would be named for its donor, the donor would be encouraged to visit the golf course while the student was serving the internship, and the student would report on the progress of the internship to the donor. By giving a worthy student the internship of his or her dreams, a donor would be establishing or strengthening a connection with one of the most famous golfing places in the world and promoting an affiliation with our own respected and well-known turf program. Upon return to campus, each sponsored student would give a presentation about the internship experience, so all students in the Turfgrass Management Program would benefit from the sponsorship.

Make a Difference

The Cornish ELO Fund will provide internships to many students over time. To ensure that we will always be able to provide these unique opportunities that so enrich our deserving students’ overall educational experiences, the Stockbridge School of Agriculture is seeking initial funding of $250,000 for The Geoffrey and Carol Cornish Fund for Enhanced Learning Opportunities. Such an endowment would generate an annual income of $10,000, thereby ensuring that both current and future Turf Management students will be able to participate in internships that best prepare them for their future careers.

Help our great students make the most of their Stockbridge education. There are a variety of ways to make a contribution to the Cornish ELO Fund. A gift of $25,000 (which may be pledged over a period of five years) sponsors a named internship in one academic year—and a lifetime of memories for the donor and the intern!
CONTRIBUTE TO THE GEOFFREY AND CAROL CORNISH FUND FOR ENHANCED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Gifts may be made at any level and may be an outright donation or a pledge made for a period of up to five years. For information about other giving opportunities, such as bequests and similar planned giving options, please contact Rick Robar in the development office at 413-577-1692 or rrobar@nre.umass.edu. Thank you for your generosity!

My/our gift to The Geoffrey and Carol Cornish Fund for Enhanced Learning Opportunities is:

☐ A one-time gift of $__________________

☐ A multi-year gift of $__________________ per year for (number of) ________ years with the first payment made by the date of _________________, 200__.

Please remind me/us of this pledge: _____ Annually _____ Quarterly

I/we plan to make this gift in the form of:

_____ Check _____ Securities _____ Other (please specify): ___________________________

☐ I/we reserve the right to alter this commitment in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

Please make checks payable to the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. Or use your ☐ VISA, ☐ MasterCard, or ☐ Discover card:

Account Number:_____________________________  Expiration Date: ________

3-Digit Verification Number: _______  Signature: ________________________________

☐ My gift will be matched!

Many employers will match charitable contributions. If your employer does, ask for a matching gift form and enclose it with your payment.

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