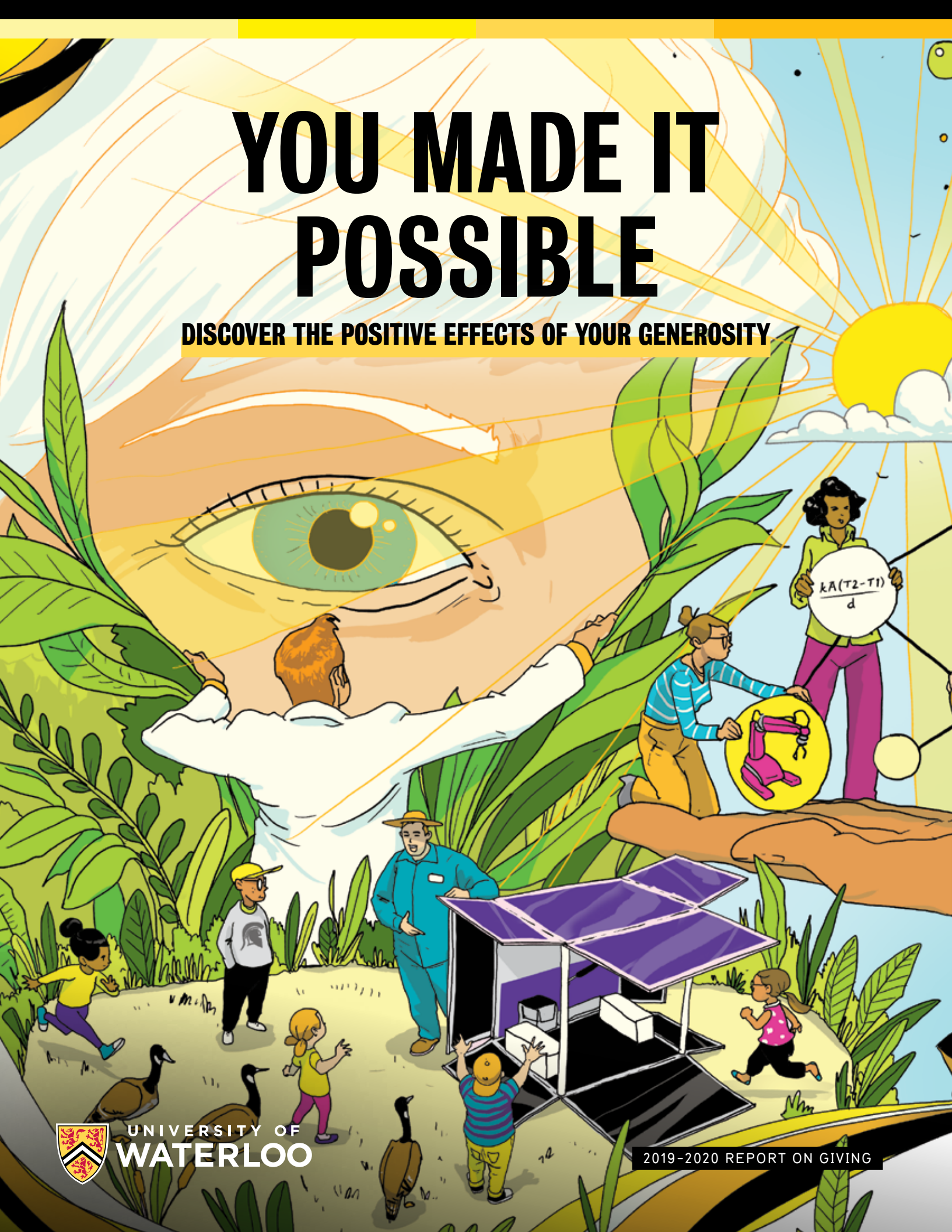


# YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE

DISCOVER THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF YOUR GENEROSITY



UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**

2019-2020 REPORT ON GIVING



*As the storm rages,*

# YOU PROVIDE HOPE

We often think of change as something productive and good. At the University of Waterloo, it is something we strive to achieve. But 2020 reminded us that change is also difficult. It can be a painful process, an inevitable part of life that uncovers our weaknesses and anxieties – but also our resilience.

In the 2019-2020 Report on Giving, I want to share the vibrant humanity that I've witnessed during this difficult time. Inside, you'll find stories that begin with loss and uncertainty, and end with hope for our future. You'll hear from Ayokunle Pearce, an international student who found himself stranded in Canada and struggling to cover his expenses during the pandemic – but found financial relief through the Student Emergency Support Fund. You'll read about the Brunes, a couple who left a very personal and inspirational gift in their wills, which will support optometry research and patients. And you'll meet an important figure on our campus, whose life and legacy are cherished by many – and continued by his former student, who is pursuing the same path of teaching and service. I hope you enjoy this beautiful portrait of our community, a tight-knit network of students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends.

While the storm continues around us, this community reminds me that better days are ahead. Our researchers are working tirelessly to address the world's many challenges in health care, the economy, society and technology. Our resilient students are overcoming great barriers, working toward meaningful careers and a fruitful future. And generous donors like you are providing the resources that make it all possible, bearing a light that guides us through the rain, wind and waves.

Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

**JOANNE SHOVELLER**

*Vice-President, Advancement*



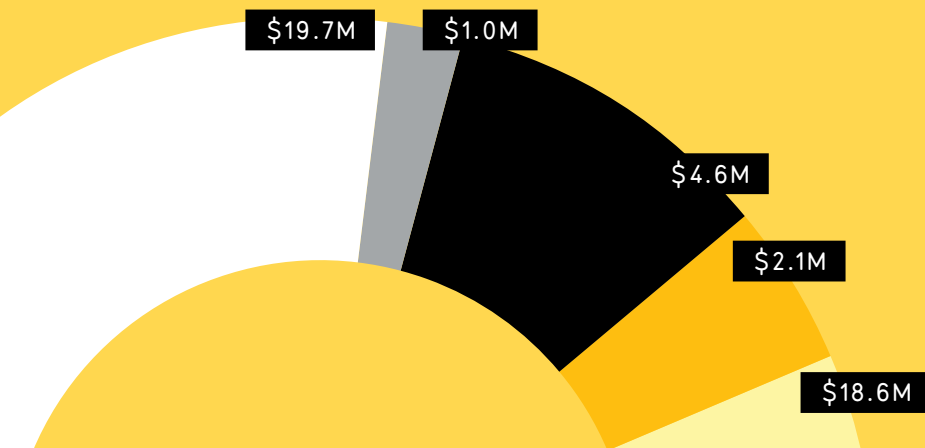
*Foundations,  
Corporations and Organizations* **\$19.7M**

*Students* **\$2.1M**

*Parents and Friends* **\$4.6M**

*Faculty, Staff and Retirees\*\** **\$1.0M**

*Honorary Alumni  
and Alumni* **\$18.6M**



*“Thanks to this financial support, I was able to focus more on the things that are important to me during university ... It has allowed me to choose co-op jobs that I am really interested in and that will advance my career.*”



**KARYN SUN**

*scholarship recipient*

# Total raised

# \$46 MILLION

GIFT CATEGORY

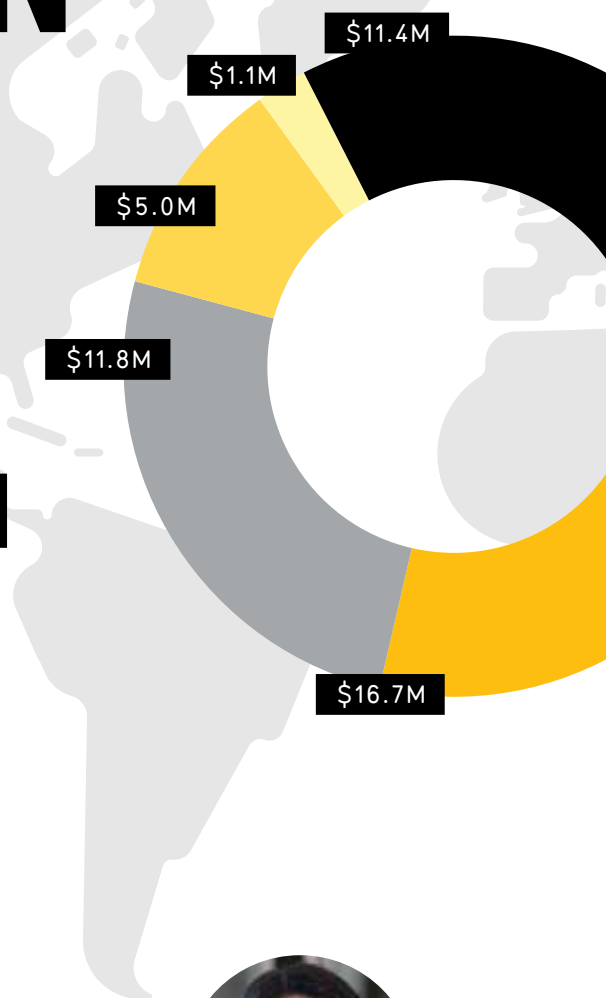
Scholarships **\$11.4M**

Research **\$11.8M**

Chairs/Professorships **\$5.0M**

Buildings **\$1.1M**

Programs **\$16.7M**



*“I do hope that you are able to realize, even in the slightest, what this award means to me both financially and emotionally. Your generosity will undoubtedly go a long way in contributing to the funding of my education, but perhaps more importantly, it serves as a reminder to me that hard work reaps great reward.”*



**DANIEL RODRIGUEZ**

scholarship recipient

These figures represent dollars RAISED and include cash, pledges, gifts-in-kind and other revenue promised or given May 1, 2019, to April 30, 2020. Figures exclude payments on pledges made prior to the current year. All figures are unaudited.

\*Figure does not include the thousands of students each year who make voluntary contributions.

\*\* Overall, the Keystone Campaign, Waterloo's family campaign, raised in excess of \$ 2.2 million. This figure comprises gifts from all sources, including the Board of Governors, faculty, staff and retirees, and alumni who work for Waterloo.



2019-2020\*

# 10,067\* DONORS

*in 39 countries donated*

# \$46M

*to Waterloo*

## 2,260

*first-time donors contributed over*

## \$5.5M



## 1,584

*monthly donors*

## 29

*new endowments established*

## 51

*bequest gifts confirmed*



## \$8.2M

*toward endowments*



*“As a graduate student, I feel incredibly privileged to have the freedom to pursue the advancement of research in a field of study that I am truly passionate about. Neither myself nor any other scholar could have undertaken these aspirations if it weren’t for donors like yourselves who believed that the work we do here is important.”*



**TRUZAAR DORDI**

*scholarship recipient*

*Waterloo donors prove we really are*

# IN THIS TOGETHER



**AYOKUNLE PEARCE**

*international graduate student*

*“It felt like pouring water on a burning fire. I was overwhelmed by the number of people who responded to my cry for help...”*

*The African proverb ‘It takes a village to raise a child’ calls on an entire community to support a child as they learn and grow. When Ayokunle Pearce talks about his challenges as an international graduate student at Waterloo, it’s this detail that comes to mind.*

“When I came to Canada in the fall of last year, I had never been out of my country for an extended time,” he says. “In Nigeria, people live communally, within a network of a nuclear family, an extended family and neighbours. We gather to cook, eat and share stories. Before coming to Waterloo, this was the only way of life I had ever known.”

He had a difficult time adjusting to Canadian culture and the harsh winter climate: “I was always cold!”

In spite of the challenges, Ayokunle enjoyed going to lectures where he was surrounded by people. He even made a few friends.

Then the pandemic hit, and everything changed.

“All of a sudden I had to learn a new way of life: one of avoiding people and not being able to hug or even see my new friends,” he explains. “I couldn’t fly home. I felt trapped and alone. The money I had could no longer cover my expenses here in Canada.”

Not knowing where else to turn, he sent an email to university administrators explaining his situation. Right away, he received a response inviting him to apply to the Student Emergency Support Fund. A week after applying, Ayokunle received word that his application had been approved.

“It felt like pouring water on a burning fire,” he explains. “I was overwhelmed by the number of people who responded to my cry for help – Waterloo faculty, staff and donors – they all came together to fill the role of ‘village’ in my time of need. They gave me the opportunity to continue my degree.”

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*more than*  
**2,000 DONORS**

*contributed to the Student Emergency Support Fund, established to help students in need during the COVID-19 pandemic.*



## **\$1M GIFT ADDS MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES FOR CO-OP STUDENTS**

Two new resources are helping co-op students prepare for the challenges they face during work terms – including complications arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

New one-on-one counselling positions and a virtual care tool expand the mental health and wellness services available to co-op education students.

The counsellor positions are made possible by a generous \$1 million gift from Neil and Gisele Murdoch, parents of Waterloo alumni. The University’s Student Services Advisory Committee contributed \$200,000 for the virtual health care tool and an additional counsellor position.

“The co-operative education program is an essential part of Waterloo’s unique student experience, and it’s important that we meet the health and well-being needs of our co-op students,” says Chris Read, associate provost, students. “These new resources help our students make a supportive transition into co-op terms and embrace the challenges of their work placement during this uncertain time.”



# THE GIFT

*of sight*

## *Anne-Marie and Heinz Brune's legacy gift will help fight devastating eye and brain diseases*

Macular degeneration robbed Anne-Marie Brune of her sight. But because of a bequest made in her and her husband's wills, other people with the same condition may recover their vision.

The Brunos believed in the power of science to transform lives touched by disease, and they dedicated their entire estate to research that will "advance the human condition." Their gift to Waterloo's School of Optometry & Vision Science will further that goal by supporting research in eye and brain diseases that afflict thousands of people around the world.

Anne-Marie and Heinz were hard-working German immigrants who came to Canada in the mid-1950s. In time, thanks to Heinz's engineering talents and Anne-Marie's skills in accounting, they built a thriving business, Hamilton Thermal Specialties, which designed and manufactured industrial heat-treating equipment. The Brunos never had children, but they developed a wide circle of friends and travelled extensively.



In the last years of their lives, the couple struggled with health issues. Heinz developed Alzheimer's disease and passed away in 2018. Anne-Marie battled age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a debilitating disease that would eventually steal her sight.

Seeking treatment, Anne-Marie became a patient at the School's Centre for Sight Enhancement, where she received support to help her cope with her diminishing vision.

Anne-Marie died in June 2019 at the age of 95, but the couple's wills show that they never forgot the care she received at Waterloo. And now, through their bequest, Anne-Marie and Heinz are caring for others who suffer from the conditions that affected them both.

The Bruness' gift will help to develop the School's Ocular Imaging Research Centre. Here, using the eye as a window to the brain, scientists will work to better understand, detect and treat age-related diseases like Alzheimer's and AMD.

Our eyes and brain are linked by the optic nerve and problems in one organ are often reflected in the other. For example, Waterloo researchers have found that some neurodegenerative diseases create changes in the retina, a discovery that could allow us to identify conditions like Alzheimer's far earlier than we can now.

As the global population ages, the potential impact of this kind of research is enormous. It's estimated that age-related macular degeneration, the leading cause of legal blindness in the developed world, will affect 288 million people by 2040. And in Canada alone, 30,000 new cases of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's appear every year.

Despite the sadness of their final years, Anne-Marie and Heinz Brune lived long, abundant lives. Thanks to their generosity, thousands of other people may now have the chance to do the same.



## HEINZ AND ANNE-MARIE BRUNE

*planned gift donors*

**DISCOVER THE IMPACT  
THIS PLANNED GIFT HAS ON  
RESEARCHERS AND PATIENTS.  
READ THE FULL STORY IN THE  
DIGITAL REPORT.**

[uwaterloo.ca/report-on-giving](http://uwaterloo.ca/report-on-giving)





*Gifts of*

# INSPIRATION, EDUCATION AND HOPE

*The generosity of the Lyle S. Hallman*

*Foundation can be felt beyond our campus*

For more than 20 years, the University of Waterloo community has been buoyed by the compassionate support of Lyle Hallman and the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation. But the impact can be felt beyond the boundaries of our campus, in a mobile STEM makerspace that travels to underserved communities, an entrepreneurship program for Indigenous business, and multi-layered support for our healthcare system.

Long before creating the Foundation, Lyle made several inspirational personal gifts to Waterloo, especially to the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences. His gifts resulted in decades of important research, community exercise programs, Waterloo's graduate program in Health Informatics and dozens of scholarships to support passionate future healthcare workers. Today, this philanthropic tradition continues through the independent Foundation.

In 2020, the Foundation will fund the MakerCube, an extension of the award-winning Engineering Science

Quest programs. The mobile MakerCube will target underserved areas to ensure equal access to education in STEM, design and entrepreneurial skills. Thanks to the Foundation's investment, this experience will be free to all users and reach kids where they are – their neighbourhoods, community centres and local events.

The Foundation will also fund the creation of Indigenous business case studies and experiential courses in preparation for the first Indigenous entrepreneurship undergraduate program at St. Paul's University College.

“Indigenous people need to see themselves reflected in successful business cases and see how their impact is reflected in the national economy,” says JP Gladu, St. Paul's former chancellor, a national Indigenous leader and advisor for the program. “This program will also help people build their knowledge of Indigenous enterprises and enhance reconciliation efforts.”





# SHE BELONGS *in STEM*

*A new scholarship supports five women every year, offering financial assistance and programming as they enter the technology sector*

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE GIFTS AND THE PEOPLE THEY HELP AT**

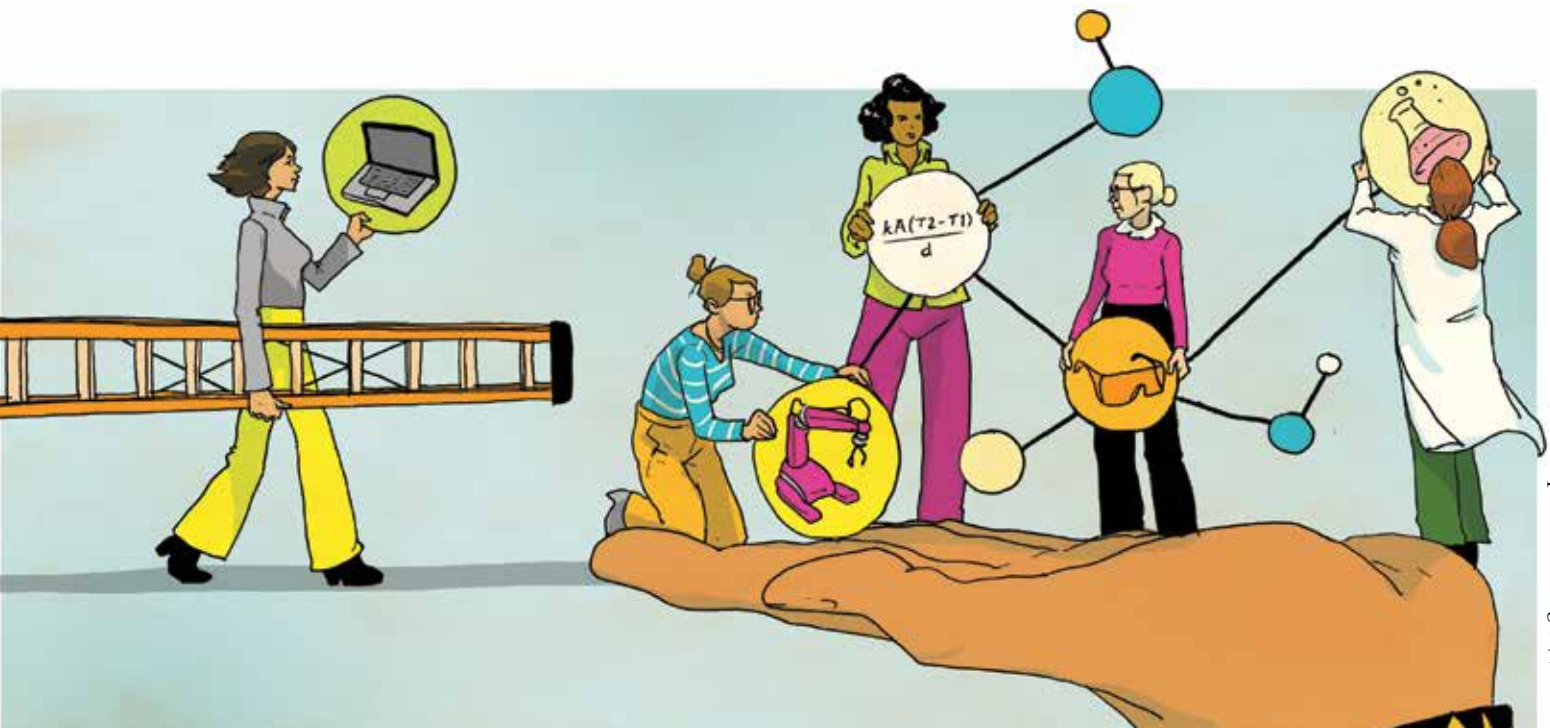
[uwaterloo.ca/report-on-giving](http://uwaterloo.ca/report-on-giving)

University is about discovering your potential – gaining new knowledge, mining your abilities and finding a way to share them with the world. For young women entering the technology sector, this journey can be daunting. While they pursue their passions and interests, they are less likely than their male counterparts to meet mentors who look like them, or see themselves represented in industry leaders.

Our friends at Avanade Inc. were all too familiar with the issue. Dedicated to making a human impact, Avanade firmly believes that people are at the core of all their innovations.

Those people should properly represent the society they serve.

In 2019, the company established the Avanade Inc. Women in Technology Scholarships, to support five female students in engineering and computer science programs every year. The scholarships provide each student with \$14,000, which can be a life-changing amount for many students. Recipients are also invited to join mentorship programs, events and more to gain new skills and inspiration for their future careers.



# *A Waterloo* **LEGACY**

*Carey Bissonnette was a beloved teacher at Waterloo. A former student looks back on his compassion, and aims to continue his legacy.*

“I’ve never met a lecturer who was as thorough and concerned about his students understanding the material,” explains Brooke McNeil, a recent graduate from Waterloo’s biochemistry program. “Professor Bissonnette had no problem with spending an extra class on a concept if students didn’t understand it – even if it was just one person. He was so kind.”

Carey Bissonnette was the first lecturer in Waterloo’s Faculty of Science. He had a deep knowledge of chemistry and a firm understanding of how to pass that knowledge on to young scientists. Outside the classroom, he worked as an enthusiastic advisor and cheerleader for students.

In 2019, Carey lost his battle with cancer, and Waterloo lost one of its most dedicated teachers. His wife Kim created the Carey Bissonnette Memorial Scholarship to honour his work and continue his legacy.



*Brooke McNeil*

“I had heard from students that they cherished his ways,” she says. “I think that he remembered how it was to be a student and he kept that in mind when he was teaching. It was very important to him and his door was always open for advising and questions from his students and colleagues.”

The scholarship is awarded to a graduating undergraduate student who demonstrates a commitment to teaching or research.

When Brooke learned that she was the first recipient of the Carey Bissonnette Memorial Scholarship, she was extremely honoured. Carey’s compassionate nature had stuck with her and inspired her to get involved as a teaching assistant, student



## **CAREY BISSONNETTE**

researcher and volunteer. In September 2020, she began her doctorate degree at Simon Fraser University. She hopes to spend her career in academia, dedicating her life to research and teaching – just as Carey did.

“I feel a personal responsibility to do my best research and provide the best teaching for my future students – to show the same passion that Professor Bissonnette had,” she says. “I want to make him proud.”

## **FERIDUN HAMDULLAHPUR**

*President and Vice-Chancellor*

*“The key to Waterloo lies in its people – smart, resilient and always ready to tackle a challenge. This powerful group includes you. Thank you for seeing the positive effect that our community can have on the world.”*



# THANK YOU

*Your generosity is felt across  
Waterloo campuses, and enhances  
our impact on the world.*

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**WANT TO SEE MORE? READ EXTENDED AND  
EXCLUSIVE STORIES IN THE DIGITAL REPORT**

[uwaterloo.ca/report-on-giving](http://uwaterloo.ca/report-on-giving)



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