

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

GIFT PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO | FALL 2019



In learning, a legacy

A Harris Public Policy alumna creates opportunities for future students

PHOTO BY COOPER NEILL

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LEAVE A LEGACY

In learning, a legacy

Mindful of her past, a Harris Public Policy alumna creates opportunities for future students.

It's no surprise that Cindy Castañeda, MPP'95—a community college professor who earned degrees from Harvard, the University of Chicago, and two institutions in Texas—calls herself “a big believer in education.” What's more remarkable is her path as first-generation college student whose love of learning has always propelled her forward.

One of four sisters, Castañeda grew up in El Centro, California, a small city near the US-Mexico border. Her mother and stepfather—a farmworker who labored long hours in the nearby produce fields—struggled to provide for the family. But they were resourceful; her mom knew when the dumpster behind the local Kmart was likely to hold discarded items they could use. And Castañeda, who was small, would crawl in and scavenge for valuables like clothes and books to bring home.

Castañeda's parents encouraged their daughters to work hard. An avid reader and high-achieving student, Castañeda won a scholarship to attend a private boarding school that prepared her for college. Another scholarship took her to Harvard, where she earned a bachelor's degree with honors in social studies.

Drawn to public service, Castañeda next wanted to pursue a master's in public policy. “I thought Chicago would be a fantastic fit because it has such a strong reputation for quantitative analytics and rigorous research and academics,” she says. She was also attracted by the opportunity to work closely with faculty in the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy's graduate program. Castañeda recalls class-

es with Laurence Lynn, the Sydney Stein Jr. Professor Emeritus of Public Management, as a particular highlight.

Lynn was also the first professor who encouraged Castañeda to pursue a doctorate. She did so, earning a PhD in higher education from the University of North Texas in 2004 after working as an administrator at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and other institutions. Today, Castañeda teaches US and state and local government at Eastfield College, a Dallas-area community college that primarily serves low-income, first-generation, and Latino students.

Castañeda says her students are highly motivated but typically need to work several jobs and obtain financial aid to pay for their coursework. To fund her own education at Harris Public Policy, she relied on a Harry S. Truman Scholarship and “a very healthy award” from the University. “My education has been made possible almost entirely by benefactors of the institutions that I've attended,” she says. “I've always felt that if I were ever in a financial position to give back to the institutions that have helped me, it would be important to do so.”

Last year Castañeda honored that com-

“My education has been made possible almost entirely by benefactors of the institutions that I've attended,” says Cindy Castañeda, a community college professor.

mitment by designating Harris as a beneficiary of her individual retirement account (IRA). By making a planned gift, she hopes to meet her personal financial goals while providing opportunities for future public policy students. Castañeda has two sons—one in college and one in high school—and her husband, Ray Canham, a community college administrator, has just retired. “It's important for me to take care of my family now and make sure I have the financial resources for my two children to get an education that's going to serve them well,” she says. “But I also want to take care of the institutions that I love and know that I'll be part of their legacy of service to others.”

Education and travel remain Castañeda's top priorities. She became a community college student herself in 2014, earning an associate's degree in geographic information systems that she uses in her classroom teaching. Next on the horizon, she and Canham plan to move to Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is eager to study New Mexico's Native American pueblos, as well as the region's culture, geology, and geography. “I'm a curious person,” she says. “There's always something to learn.”



It all adds up

Careful planning helps an alumnus fund his philanthropic passions.



Above: The Maroons baseball team in 1935. As College students, Joseph Kacena (pictured right) and Gerald “Red” Ratner both played baseball; later, they became University benefactors.

When the Gerald Ratner Athletics Center opened on campus in fall 2003, Joseph M. Kacena, SB’36, MBA’47, had a front row seat. Kacena—a former Maroons baseball player like Gerald “Red” Ratner, PhB’35, JD’37—had traveled from his hometown of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, along with his cousins for the special event. Although macular degeneration had limited Kacena’s capacities and he did not know Ratner well, he had said before the event, “I feel someone from his team should be there to congratulate him.”

Ratner and Kacena shared another tie: they were both longtime supporters of their alma mater. Before he died at age 94, Kacena established a trust that funded many of his philanthropic passions with the interest earned from principal. During his lifetime, he was a loyal giver to the University for a half century.

A businessman who was well versed in finance and the tax codes, Kacena knew how to maximize the value of planned gifts to his favorite causes. He chose to funnel his estate gifts through the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation, directing percentage distributions in perpetuity to a dozen Iowa- and Illinois-area institutions, including the College, UChicago Athletics, and Chicago Booth.

TIP Designate your gift directly to the University’s endowment as a percentage of your estate.

Kacena strongly believed in general education and praised UChicago’s balance of athletics and academics as key contributors to student success. He had fond memories of his time on the baseball team and was proud of his affiliation with the Order of the C, yet he referred to himself as “a poor player who was added to the team as a ‘project.’”

While Kacena may have lacked athletic skill, he possessed a keen aptitude for numbers. He excelled at mathematics from a young age and majored in mathematics in the College.

Music also inspired him. He played the violin as a youth, frequently took part in the Interfraternity Sing with his Phi Delta Theta brothers, and became a loyal patron of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Lyric Opera.

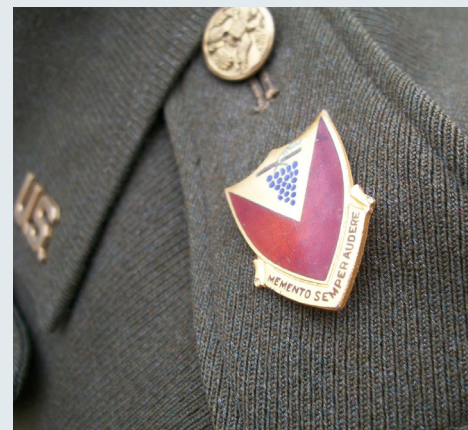
Kacena, who never married, was devoted to his extended family, becoming especially close to his cousins, who, like him, were only children. For many years, he traveled every other weekend between Oak Park, Illinois, and Iowa, maintaining

residences in both states. He also took on the role of advising and managing some of his family’s trusts.

After graduating from the College, Kacena taught in the Chicago school system until he was drafted into the US Army. During the Second World War, he served with the 76th Infantry Division in Europe. In 1945 he was wounded in Germany and discharged as a major. He received the Purple Heart.

After the war, Kacena’s love of learning brought him back to the University of Chicago to pursue his MBA. He entered the private sector and enjoyed a lengthy career as an auditor for the Liquid Carbonic Corporation, a global supplier of industrial gases.

Friends and family describe Kacena as a humble man who empathized with those who were less fortunate. Kacena insisted that the beneficiaries of his generosity not learn about the details of his plans until after his death, so when he passed away in 2009, his gifts took some institutions by surprise. Kacena’s estate gift was certainly not his first to the University. But his skillful preparation provides annual support that is almost double the amount of his lifetime giving to the University—proof that careful planning adds up.



Kacena’s uniform from the 355th Field Artillery Battalion bears a crest with his unit’s motto: *Memento audere semper* (Remember always to dare).

Managing your digital legacy

BY BRENDA LEE JOHNSON,
OFFICE OF GIFT PLANNING



Over the last several decades, many of us have quietly accumulated a collection of digital materials ranging from email and social media accounts to photos, videos, and music. Much of our personal data has sentimental value, but some, like domain names and intellectual property, has real value. What will happen to your digital assets if you become incapacitated or die?

State laws and regulations in this area are growing, but it's a mistake to assume that the management and transfer of your digital assets will parallel that of traditional assets like real estate or personal property. Companies that store your information may hold the keys to some or all of your digital assets. Without deliberate action, access to some or all of these assets may be left in limbo, even if your wishes are spelled out in a will.

Here are a few tips on how to organize your digital assets and plan for a smooth transition:

MAKE A LIST AND KEEP IT UPDATED. Take inventory of the computer hardware you own and important digital files, log-in details, and passwords, so authorized individuals can easily access them. If you decide to grant explicit permission to others,

provide complete instructions for accounts or programs, and include answers to security questions where required. Explain how you would like each asset to be managed or distributed. For example, you may prefer that treasured photos be shared with family and that your personal blog be downloaded and preserved, but that your Twitter and Facebook accounts be disabled and deleted.

UNDERSTAND THE TERMS OF SERVICE AND OWNERSHIP RIGHTS WITH EACH DIGITAL SERVICE PROVIDER. Most of us skim over the fine print when signing up for an online account or service. But federal and state privacy laws and terms-of-service agreements may delay or completely restrict others' access to your accounts after your death. For media you created, like photos, some providers have tools that allow you to designate an individual who can access accounts, but most do not. And if your personal files exist only in cloud storage, they risk being lost forever due to restrictions on unauthorized use by another party.

TALK TO AN ATTORNEY. Some states have enacted laws to bridge access to these possessions for named fiduciaries carrying out their duties. But governance in this area may vary, so consult a professional for help with legal issues that may arise. Your attorney can craft deliberate consent in your estate documents to allow an executor or legacy contact to handle your data. If you prefer, you can restrict some or all of your assets to remain private.

FIND A SAFE, ACCESSIBLE PLACE TO STORE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS. Keep digital records alongside other important documents, such as your will, powers of attorney, and insurance. Make sure your executor and/or attorney knows where you keep key papers.

If you have a traditional estate plan in place, now is the time to consider an update to address the final settlement of your digital assets. Be aware of policy changes, and understand your role in facilitating or preventing the transfer of your property to others.

Creating income for your loved ones

A gift annuity is an arrangement that enables a donor to make a contribution to the University in exchange for fixed payments during one's lifetime, with any remaining value passing to the University. Donors typically establish a gift annuity that makes payments to the donor and the donor's spouse—a wonderful way to provide financial security for a surviving spouse.

Gift annuities can also provide income and financial security to other individuals who are important to you, such as children, nieces and nephews, friends, or caregivers. (A gift annuity is not well suited to provide for minor grandchildren.) Unlike an outright bequest, which a recipient could spend all at once and which could be subject to creditors, a gift annuity guarantees a steady source of income for the rest of the recipient's life in a manner that minimizes financial abuse or risk.

If you want to leave a legacy to the University and ensure that someone you care about is supported financially after you are gone, a gift annuity could be the answer.

YOU CAN ESTABLISH A GIFT ANNUITY TO BENEFIT PEOPLE SUCH AS

- a **trusted caregiver** or friend whom you support financially now,
- a **relative** who could benefit from a fixed source of income, or
- a **longtime employee** whom you wish to recognize for many years of loyal service.

A FINAL POINT: Unless you make valid written arrangements for these special individuals, your desire to help them, even if you've spoken about it to them or others, will not be realized. As a nonprofit organization subject to state and federal laws, the University cannot create a gift annuity for another individual from a charitable bequest unless it is legally authorized to do so in your estate plan documents.

In recognition

The Office of Gift Planning recognizes the following individuals whose planned gifts have been received by the University. Their legacies of generosity and commitment to academic excellence live on through the programs they have supported through their estates.

Eleanora Baird, mother of Law School professor Douglas Baird, bequeathed a rare book and map related to Dutch navigator Willem Barentsz to Special Collections at the Library.

Russell E. Baker, MBA'42, provided unrestricted support for Chicago Booth.

Henry L. Hill, AB'36, JD'38, **J. Douglass Ruff**, JD'67, and **Alice E. Wells**, spouse of the late **Joe R. Wells**, LLB'32, all provided unrestricted support for the Law School.

Lynn M. Larsen, MBA'76, supported Chicago Booth.

Julius Lewis,* AB'50, AM'54, left artwork to the Smart Museum and provided support for the Humanities Division, Library, Oriental Institute, Smart Museum, UChicago Medicine, and University of Chicago Press.

Dell Loyless, AM'49, provided support for International House and the School of Social Service Administration.

Virginia Robey, whose bequest was inspired by her aunt, **Grace Lucile Robey**, SM'26, MD'32, provided support for macular degeneration research in the Biological Sciences Division.

Grace Elizabeth Williams, widow of the late **John Norton Williams**, DB'50, supported the Divinity School.

Ting-Wa Wong, MD'57, PhD'70, supported the Dr. Ting Wa Wong Scholarship Fund to benefit students in the Pritzker School of Medicine.

Jean S. Zoerheide, AB'42, supported the College.

The following individuals left unrestricted bequests to the University:

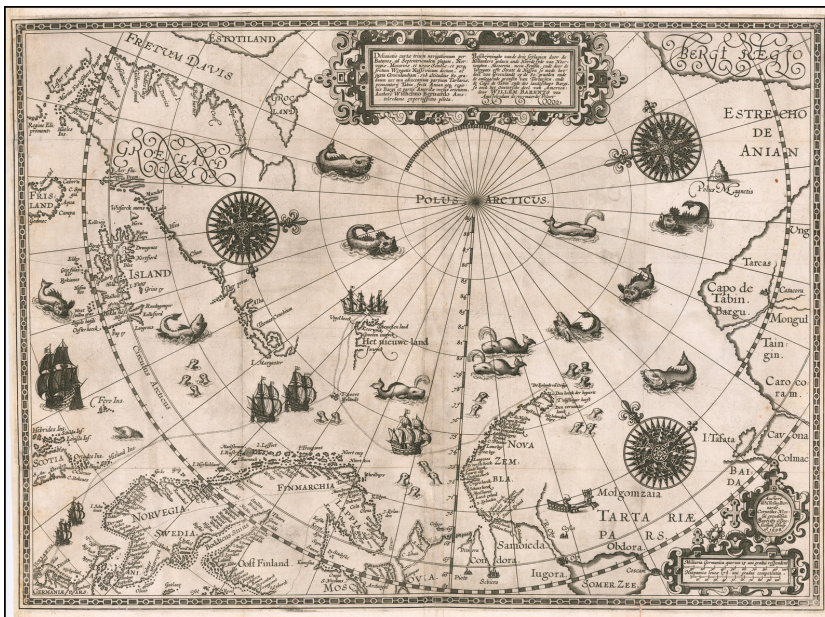
Philip S. Cauchard, AM'57

Harry H. Hagey, PhB'29

Frances A. Keen,* AB'47

Carolyn L. Westerdahl, AB'55, SB'57

** Phoenix Society member. The Phoenix Society recognizes donors who reveal planned gifts to support UChicago during their lifetime. For more information, visit phoenixsociety.uchicago.edu.*



Barentsz's 16th-century map of the Arctic, a gift to Special Collections.

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This newsletter is intended to provide general information that we hope will be helpful to you in your tax, estate, and charitable planning. It is not intended as legal advice and should not be relied upon as legal advice. Figures, calculations, and tax information are based on federal tax laws, regulations, rulings, and rates applicable at the time such information was prepared and are for illustration purposes only. Individual state laws may have an impact on the availability of gift annuities. For advice or assistance with your particular situation, you should consult an attorney or other professional adviser.



Let's get real

- ***Do you own a property that has significantly appreciated?***
- ***Is your property a burden to manage or no longer in use?***
- ***Do you wish to make a significant gift to the University?***

If you answered “**yes**” to any of these questions, consider the benefits of gifting all or a portion of your property to the University.

A gift of real estate can be a convenient way for you to leverage an illiquid asset, reduce the size and complexity of your estate, and enjoy a charitable deduction based on the current fair market value of your property.

To learn more and discover creative and tax-advantageous options for a gift of real estate, visit giftplanning.uchicago.edu/realestate or contact the Office of Gift Planning.

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