ENDOWED DEPARTMENT CHAIRS give our engineering departments the flexibility to pursue opportunities in an ever-changing scientific, academic and funding environment. Stanford Engineering seeks to endow a Department Chair Fund for each of its nine departments.

The chairs of each department, as leaders, provide management and oversight for the full range of scholarly endeavors within their departments and collectively work with the dean to develop a vision for the school.

The discretionary income made available by the endowment can be used by each chair to advance the strategic goals of his or her department. For example, income can be used to recruit outstanding faculty, develop new curriculum, seed academic entrepreneurship, or purchase critical equipment. These endowments also strengthen each department’s ability to leverage support from outside funding sources.

Donors who endow Department Chair Funds give the departments a competitive edge to innovate in teaching and research.

“We faced a challenge of recruiting faculty into new and established areas, with 12 hires in five years. The Bosch Chair Fund covered critical startup costs. In the future, it will support growth of our hands-on teaching activities.”

Kenneth Goodson
Bosch Chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department
Endowed Department Chairs

GIVING AND RECOGNITION

• A named endowed Department Chair is established with a $5 million gift.

• The Endowed Chair rotates among faculty within the department every five to 10 years.

• The annual payout from the endowed fund provides an unrestricted source of funding, to be used at the discretion of the department chair.

• Donors are encouraged to develop a close relationship with the recipient of their chair and will be kept informed of the research, teaching, course development, and other scholarly endeavors of the department.

• Donors are invited to participate in department seminars and functions.

• Donors receive an annual financial report detailing the fund and the endowment performance.

• Donors are recognized on Stanford’s Honor Rolls website.

• Donors become lifetime members of the Dean’s Circle and are invited to an annual event for the school’s most engaged and generous alumni and friends. Attendees have the opportunity to interact and network with peers, faculty, and students while learning about the school’s latest achievements and challenges.

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