NEWS & NOTES

Giving to JMU tops \$20 million for the first time

olstered by an estate gift from Betty Coe Cinquegrana ('64) as well as a record year of annual giving, James Madison

University received a record \$21.4 million from private donors during fiscal year 2018. The total represents the largest fundraising year in the university's history, surpassing the previous mark set in 2016 by \$2.7 million.

In the four years since the introduction of the university's strategic plan, the Madison Plan, JMU has averaged \$19.1 million, a significant uptick from the \$10.1 million average amount received from donors from 2012 to 2014.

"Our donors' generosity and belief in

JMU are the force behind reaching this philanthropic achievement," said Nick Langridge ('00, '07M, '14Ph.D.), vice president for university advancement.

The \$3.49 million Cinquegrana gift established an endowed chair for Ethics and Leadership in Business and a Presidential Chair for Teaching Excellence, and provided additional funding for College of Education scholarships as well

as entrepreneurship, ethics and leadership scholarships.

Annual giving to the university grew to more than \$6.3 million during the fiscal year. A successful third-annual JMU Giving Day, which generated more than 5,000 gifts totaling nearly \$650,000 in a 24-hour period, contributed signifi-

cantly to the increase.

The \$21.4 million total also included \$4.5 million in major gifts from individuals and \$4.4 million from corporations and foundations. Giving to intercollegiate



athletics programs also showed a strong increase of more than \$1 million over last fiscal year.

For a third consecutive year, more than 20,000 total donors invested in James Madison University, including just under 9,000 alumni of the university.

"Many have told us that they are so excited about the vision for JMU's future that they are actively looking for ways to optimize their investment. They are making annual gifts, strategic gifts and estate gifts, and sometimes all three," Langridge said. "When we consider the impact this level of support makes on our students and faculty, the future looks very bright."

