Randall Scholarship encourages students to be environmental stewards

Frank Randall ’56 (business administration) has always had a deep affection for the environment, particularly the area surrounding Lake Tahoe. He grew up in Southern California, but as a young adult spent five summers working odd jobs around the Sierra Nevada to be close to nature. The proximity to Lake Tahoe is what brought Frank to the University.

A decade ago, Frank and his wife, Joan, established the Randall Scholarship to benefit University students who share in their desire to see open land preserved and enhanced. The Randalls also hope to aid young students who may need financial assistance to attend college.

“My personal idea of scholarships is to help those who actually need it, who would not be able to attend school otherwise without it,” says Frank, who was named University Alumnus of the Year in 2005. After graduation from Nevada, Frank worked at Dean Witter & Co. in Reno from 1956 to 1959, before moving to Southern California. He has worked as a bank director and as director of an international medical corporation. He is retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve as lieutenant commander. The Randalls’ generosity served as a lead gift in building the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center.

Each year, the Randalls receive letters of gratitude from their scholarship recipients. “We enjoy reading those,” Frank says.

Wildlife ecology and conservation major Giovana Armendariz wrote of her family’s financial challenges, which forced them to move around the country in order to find work:

“This made it hard for me to stay focused in school. But my parents have motivated me to work hard in school with stories of how they weren’t able to finish high school because of the need for money in their families. Thank you for giving my family hope for a better future. Life will reward you for your kindness.”

—Roseann Keegan

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