

Scholarships and professorships: endowed gifts with impact

November 09, 2012 5:30 AM Christina Carr
ccarr4@tulane.edu

A senior majoring in psychology, April Hartman had dreamed of attending Tulane University since childhood. The Zide Chalker Cole Benedict and Beatrice and Harold Forgotston scholarships turned her dream into reality.



Senior April Hartman, center, meets donors to the School of Science and Engineering at an event honoring the school's philanthropists. (Photo by Tracie Morris Schaefer)

"It is because of these scholarships that I was able to attend Tulane and stay at Tulane," Hartman said at the Tulane [School of Science and Engineering Distinguished Leadership Circle](#) reception on Nov. 1.

As co-president of the Psychology Club and a research assistant in a social psychology lab, Hartman said her Tulane experiences helped earn her a coveted internship with the [Mary Amelia Women's Center](#) at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

“I'm able to do this internship partly because I have financial aid, and I don't have to spend all of my time working to support myself through college,” said Hartman.

Addressing his school's leading supporters, dean Nick Altiero said the school asks a major donor, a faculty member with an endowed position and a scholarship student to speak at the annual event. “I think by listening to them you can understand much more about the benefits of your generosity than I can say.”

While endowed faculty positions encourage top scholars to bring their research to Tulane, endowed scholarships attract the most promising science and engineering students. Endowed funds build enthusiasm for the school, strengthen departments and further distinguish the contributions of Tulane scientists and engineers, said Altiero.

That kind of momentum caught the attention of supporters like Bill and Marta Marko, who established the Francis William and Douglas J. [Marko Engineering Scholarship](#) after hearing a scholarship recipient speak at the same event two years ago.

Another speaker at the reception was Tulane alumna [Laura Schrader](#), who holds the Stepping Stone Foundation Early Career Professorship and was recently named associate professor of cell and molecular biology.

Christina Carr is assistant director of writing in the Office of Development.