



EDINBORO UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION

2025
annual
REPORT



It is my privilege to share this year's Impact Report and to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of our donors. Your generosity—and your steadfast belief in our mission—enables the Foundation to support the President's priorities and provide vital financial resources that ensure our students' success. Because of you, PennWest Edinboro continues to thrive.

The Edinboro University Foundation remains deeply dedicated to growing this support. Your investment is more than a contribution; it is a powerful commitment to the potential of our students and to the future of our University. We are truly grateful.

Our Board is composed of engaged and dedicated volunteers—alumni and friends representing a broad range of professional sectors—who share a passion for advancing Edinboro's mission. Together, we are committed to building strong community relationships and expanding partnerships with local and national foundations and corporations. These collaborations not only strengthen our University but also broaden the opportunities available to our students and faculty.

Throughout the year, we also celebrate and uplift our alumni through meaningful networking opportunities and special events. Their achievements continue to inspire the next generation of Edinboro graduates.

At the core of our work is a responsibility to be strong stewards of Edinboro's endowment. We manage these resources with great care, ensuring that funds for student scholarships, faculty support, innovative curriculum, and academic programs are used wisely and effectively. In partnership with top financial management institutions, we maintain investment strategies that foster long term growth and build lasting wealth—creating a dependable, perpetual source of income for PennWest Edinboro. Your support creates opportunities, fuels innovation, and opens doors for a brighter future. On behalf of the Foundation Board, thank you for believing in our mission and for the impact you make every day.

With gratitude,

Marilyn K. Goellner '01

*Chair, Edinboro University
Foundation Board*



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a Letter from Leadership

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our Mission and Vision

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The Edinboro University Foundation was created in 1998 to support the mission of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, now PennWest Edinboro, through the cultivation and management of gifts, grants, and other resources for the benefit of students and faculty. Our work goes far beyond receiving donations, as we also strive to build relationships with the greater Edinboro community, identify areas of need on campus, and ensure that every contribution is used in a way that directly strengthens the university. By thoughtfully managing resources and directing them toward high-impact initiatives, we strive to maintain a thriving, supportive campus environment where students can pursue their goals without financial barriers. Our mission is to help PennWest Edinboro grow, evolve, and continue serving its students and the broader community with excellence.

The Edinboro University Foundation helps maintain a campus where students have access to the resources they need, where faculty are supported in their innovative teaching and research, and where traditions and community connections continue to strengthen our university's identity.

In action, this means _____

- *Providing scholarships and financial aid.*
- *Supporting academic programs and faculty.*
- *Honoring donor trust by fulfilling their requests to the fullest.*
- *Maintaining strong connections with alumni, family and friends of PennWest Edinboro.*
- *Prudently investing resources to maximize returns.*

Our work is guided by values that shape every decision we make. Our collaborative spirit ensures we work effectively with university leadership, academic departments, and community partners. Being dedicated to inclusion reminds us that every student, regardless of background, deserves access to education and support. Being accountable drives us to manage funds responsibly and transparently. These values form the base of our daily operations and long-term planning.

As higher education continues to change, facing new challenges like shifting demographics and evolving student needs, the Edinboro University Foundation is committed to supporting PennWest Edinboro. We are dedicated to investing in opportunities that help students succeed today while preparing the university for a better tomorrow. Ongoing support from alumni, donors, and the community is essential to this mission. By giving, staying involved, and continuing to support the Foundation, donors play a direct role in shaping the future of PennWest Edinboro. Together, we can help generations reach their fullest potential, ensuring that the university remains a place of possibility, growth, and opportunity for years to come.

Over the past year, the Edinboro University Foundation has continued to play an essential role in uplifting PennWest Edinboro through strategic investments, donor-supported initiatives, and meaningful contributions to faculty, the Edinboro community, and students. From student scholarships and academic support to campus enhancements and new student programs, the Edinboro University Foundation's impact is visible throughout campus life.

Perhaps the greatest impact from the Foundation comes through our scholarship opportunities. The **Student Hardship Fund**, for example, is a discretionary fund offered to students affected by circumstances unrelated to school, such as car payments, rent costs, medical bills, and other expenses that can make it difficult for a student to remain enrolled and earn their degree. Similarly, the **Alumni Student Retention Fund** was created by the Edinboro Alumni Association to help students cover costs after all other financial assistance options have been utilized. This scholarship primarily helps students with tuition, books, and other college-related expenses, which keeps them enrolled and on track to earn their degree.

These opportunities would not be possible without the continued growth of the Foundation's investment portfolios and donor gifts. These portfolios, which hold endowed scholarship funds designed to support students in need, have delivered strong performance, driven by improved investment strategies, high re-enrollment rates, and consistent oversight by the investment committee. This growth is not simply a financial achievement, but it directly translates into more scholarships, greater stability for future funding, and enhanced access for students who depend on financial support to pursue their education. As the portfolios strengthen, so does the university's capacity to support its students year after year, regardless of fluctuations in state funding or economic conditions.

Another core element of the Foundation's work remains its annual commitment to Faculty Research Grants. Each year, the Foundation allocates \$10,000, allowing faculty to apply for individual \$1,000 grants that support academic research, conference participation, creative projects, and student collaboration. These awards provide faculty members with opportunities to innovate, pursue new research, and enhance the university's scholarly reputation. The Foundation's ongoing dedication to these grants underscores its belief that strong, supported faculty leads to stronger classrooms, deeper mentorship, and a more vibrant academic environment.

our Achievement and Impact





our Achievement and Impact

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The Foundation has also directed support to improvements that make the campus safer, more attractive, and more welcoming. We recently provided funding to the campus police department to refurbish their practice range, restoring a key training facility for this department as well as local law enforcement departments.

We also helped establish an advertising wrap on the side of the Sox Harrison Stadium utility building (at the corner of Scott Rd. and Scotland Rd.). What was once a purely functional structure has become a visually appealing feature that brightens up and modernizes a prominent corner of campus. These aesthetic improvements also help shape first impressions for visiting students and parents.

A highlight of 2025 was our investment in new student-centered programs. The Foundation contributed \$25,000 to support PennWest University President Dr. Jon Anderson's new student initiatives, which provided essential funding for resources and activities designed to strengthen student engagement, wellness and retention. These initiatives reflect the university's evolving understanding of student needs and its commitment to offering a well-rounded, supportive college experience.

The Foundation also supported two brand new athletic squads in 2025, awarding \$5,000 directly to each member of the women's golf and women's wrestling programs. These funds assist with equipment, travel, training, resources, and early program development, ensuring these teams launch with the tools they need to succeed. Supporting these emerging programs also promotes gender equality in athletics and broadens students' opportunities to compete proudly for the university.

The Edinboro University Foundation's commitment to community extends beyond academics and athletics. As a funding and administrative partner in the university's Highland Games and Homecoming events, the Foundation helps sustain traditions that honor Edinboro's identity and culture. The Foundation's support ensures these events remain vibrant and impactful, offering experiences that students carry with them long after graduation.

In 2025, the Foundation also facilitated historical and artistic donations to our campus. For example, the Foundation received a significant donation of vintage postcards from the Pavlisin family, which were placed in the care of the University Archive. According to Nathan Fralick, Research Services Librarian and Edinboro Archivist at PennWest Edinboro: “The art of these postcards will be valuable to our students and faculty who are doing research in typography, illustration, material culture, and color palettes to understand design sensibilities. Additionally, these postcards contain handwritten notes that provide insights into the Pavlisins' everyday travel schedules, aiding historians in reconstructing individual and collective experiences throughout significant historical periods or events.” The total value of the donation is approximately \$120,000.

In addition, a print of “Alphabetman” by John Silk Deckard was donated to the Edinboro University Foundation by his widow, Joan Matta Deckard. The piece was on display as part of “WORD: Text-based Art and Design,” a new show curated by graphic design professor Derek Witucki. Since the 1970s, the Bruce Gallery has received approximately 600 donated pieces with the assistance of the Edinboro University Foundation. This work has come from local artists, galleries, and families and communities that wish to share their collections to support the gallery and students at PennWest Edinboro.

The Foundation’s impact is undeniable. Every investment, whether large or small, contributes to building a stronger, more dynamic university. Donor generosity supports student success, enhances academic programs, enriches campus life, and ensures that scholarships and initiatives continue to benefit future generations.

The Foundation’s achievements this year demonstrate what is possible when donors, university leadership, and the community work together toward a shared vision. With every contribution, whether financial, artistic, historical, or programmatic, the Edinboro University Foundation continues to uplift the university and strengthen its mission.

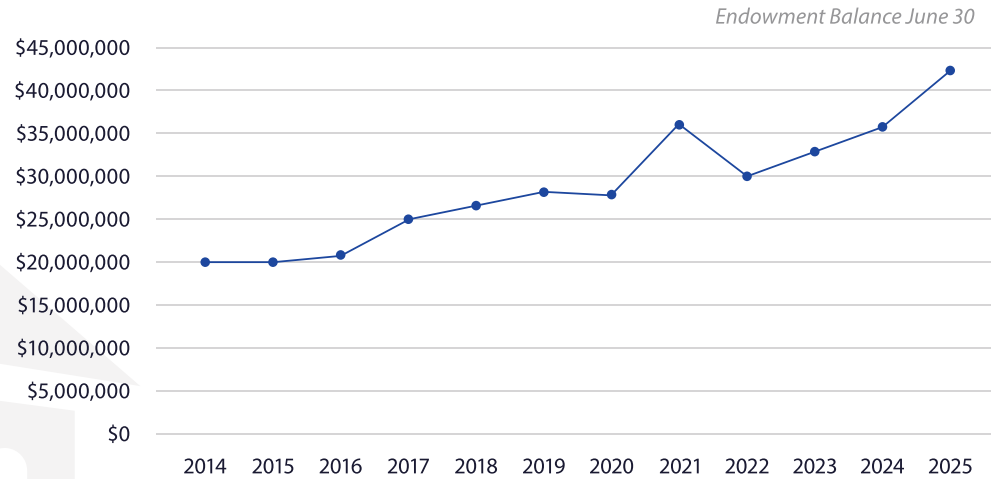
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our Achievement and Impact

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Momentum that Matters

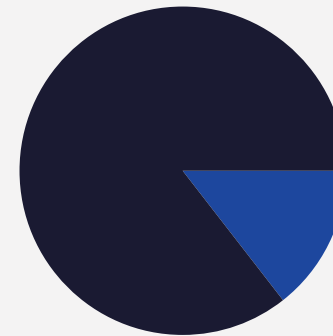
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This chart highlights the steady upward trajectory of the Foundation's endowment, reflecting smart investments, sustained growth, and long-term support for students, programs, and institutional excellence.

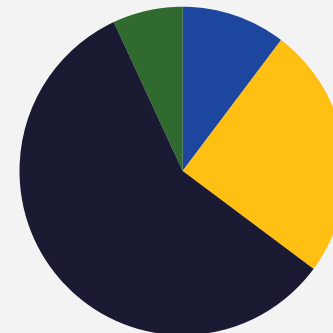
June 30th	Endowment Balance
2014	\$20,029,784
2015	\$19,872,907
2016	\$21,017,320
2017	\$25,202,634
2018	\$26,776,064
2019	\$28,437,290
2020	\$28,230,299
2021	\$35,853,339
2022	\$29,988,871
2023	\$33,034,830
2024	\$35,555,125
2025	\$42,040,485

Foundation Operating Revenues & Expenses



Revenue Breakdown

- Grant & Management Fee Revenue
\$483,276.00 (85.4%)
- Interest Revenue
\$82,552.67 (14.6%)



Expense Breakdown

- Personnel Expense
\$299,904.45 (57.8%)
- General Office Costs Expense
\$129,600.59 (25%)
- University Support
\$52,996.51 (10.2%)
- Financial Expenses
\$36,325.77 (7%)

Pavlisin family establishes scholarship fund, donates antique postcard collection

Edinboro alumni Steve (class of 1957) and Alice (class of 1956) Pavlisin have established a new \$100,000 scholarship fund to support students pursuing degrees in English and art education. The scholarship fund will support two PennWest Edinboro students each academic year, focused on full-time students with a “determined financial need.” Students who apply must also have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.



Pictured from left to right are Diane Black (Niece of the Pavlisins, Estate Executor), her husband Dale, and Tony McMullen (Library Director).

The fund is partially inspired by Steve’s time at Edinboro, in which his tuition was complemented by the Scholarship Legacy Fund. The fund also honors Steve and Alice’s loving partnership, a relationship that began right on the Edinboro campus in the 1950s. The couple met while rehearsing for the Shakespearean plays and Gilbert and Sullivan operettas produced by the campus Drama Club. They would later marry after graduation, on Christmas Day in 1957, while Steve was on leave from the U.S. Army.

In addition to the scholarship fund, Alice Pavlisin has donated an extensive antique postcard collection to the University’s Archive. She collected nearly 6,000 postcards over her lifetime, with the collection valued at over \$120,000. Purchased from dealers around the world, the pristine collection can be viewed in the special collections room at the Baron-Forness Library (by supervised appointment only).

“Postcards like these are rich sources for both art and historical research, offering insights into personal expression, cultural trends, and world events,” said Nathan Fralick, Research Services Librarian and Edinboro Archivist at PennWest Edinboro.

Foundation Stories

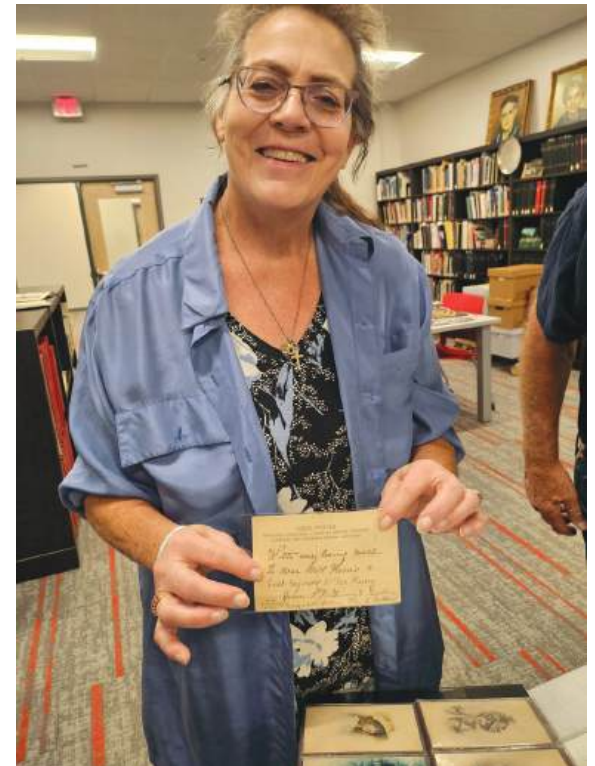
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“The art of these postcards will be valuable to our students and faculty who are doing research in typography, illustration, material culture, and color palettes to understand design sensibilities. Additionally, these postcards contain handwritten notes that provide insights into the Pavlisins' everyday travel schedules, aiding historians in reconstructing individual and collective experiences throughout significant historical periods or events. We are incredibly fortunate to be able to preserve and share these works as part of our holdings.”

The pristine collection arrived in binders and mylar sleeves. To maintain its integrity, Fralick will maintain the original order and will house them in a lockable glass display case in order “to protect the materials from environmental damage.” The \$100,000 scholarship fund will also defray some of these maintenance and security costs.

“I didn’t know what to expect, but I am amazed by the details and styles of the artwork,” added Chuck Scalise, Executive Director of the Edinboro University Foundation. “I look forward to visiting the collection to read the messages that are contained on some of them.”

“The Edinboro University Foundation has the responsibility of attracting wealth and other assets to the university,” added Scalise. “As the university’s partner, we receive all types of gifts, including this unique postcard collection. With this newly added collection, Edinboro will attract students and the public from our region to enjoy the art and history it provides — setting Edinboro apart from other institutions.” Alice was born in Cambridge Springs and graduated from Meadville High School in 1951. She then started her collegiate journey at Edinboro State Teachers College in 1952. After graduating with her Bachelor’s of Science in Art Education in 1955, Alice taught art at Meadville Elementary and Commodore Perry High School from 1955-1957.



Steve was born in McDowell County, West Virginia and moved with his family to Pennsylvania after the start of World War II. He graduated from Butler High School in 1952 and began his time at Edinboro two years later. During Steve's time at Edinboro, he participated in music and drama activities throughout all four years, meeting Alice through the Drama Club. Along with his extracurricular activities, Steve served as the freshman class president at Edinboro.

After graduating from Edinboro with a Bachelor of Science in Art Education, Steve was drafted into the Army where he served for two years in the Medical Corp at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas.

The Pavlisins time at Edinboro was marked by a close personal "assistance and guidance" from Mildred Forness, one of two women the campus library takes its name from. These gifts also aim to honor that relationship.



The gifts were designated through the wills and testaments of Steve and Alice Pavlisin.

Students interested in the scholarship should visit the PennWest Edinboro website.

October 7, 2025

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY
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Foundation Stories

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Foundation contributes 'Alphabetman' to newest Bruce Gallery show

The Edinboro University Foundation has contributed to the newest show at Bruce Gallery, facilitating a donation from alumnus and artist John Silk Deckard. The piece from Deckard, titled "Alphabetman," is part of "WORD: Text-based Art and Design," a new show curated by graphic design professor Derek Witucki. The show "brings together contemporary and historical works that blur the line between reading and seeing, revealing how language can clarify or conceal, persuade or play." "WORD" will be on display at the Baron-Forness Library art gallery until March 15, 2026.



Artist Joan Matta Deckard (commonly known as Matta D.) donated the piece to the Foundation. Joan was married to John Silk Deckard for 35 years. John passed away in 1994.

According to Bruce Gallery Director Maria Ferguson, "Alphabetman" is a poster that reproduces a series of John's prints showing human figures in the shape of letters. The original prints were etchings, in which an artist exposes metal plates by scratching their surface and dipping the sketch into an acid bath to create grooves that will hold ink. John's work typically covered political and religious themes, but this piece is more whimsical and lighthearted.

Since the 1970s, the Bruce Gallery has received approximately 600 donated pieces with the assistance of the Edinboro University Foundation. This work has come from local artists, galleries, and families/communities that wish to share their collections to support the gallery and students at PennWest Edinboro. Donations are just a piece of the Foundation's support though. "The most direct benefit is that they (the Edinboro University Foundation) actually bring alumni to the gallery," said Ferguson. Since the alumni are encouraged to visit the gallery, they have also been known to support current students by buying works.

“I was so happy to help facilitate the gift of the ‘Alphabetman’ poster to the Bruce Gallery,” said Chuck Scalise, Edinboro University Foundation executive director. “The poster was a gift to me from Joan Matta Deckard, better known as Matta D., who was the widow of the artist.” According to Scalise, the poster had actually been in his closet for 25 years, and it included a note from John to Joan. The Foundation had the poster matted and framed by local small business, Parker’s Framing Gallery.

“Donating this piece to the university’s permanent collection is one more way the Foundation helps support the university and our students in financial and non-financial means,” said Scalise.



*Next up at the Bruce Gallery:
In April 2026, the gallery will honor
alumni from the Master of Fine Arts
program with a 50th anniversary
exhibition featuring pieces donated
by former Fighting Scots.*

November 6, 2025

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Foundation Stories

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our Staff and Board

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The Edinboro University Foundation remains dedicated to, and its directors willingly assume the challenge of, developing private financial support and volunteer leadership sufficient to meet PennWest Edinboro's needs and secure its future in the coming decades.





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