Endowed PROFESSORSHIPs and CHAIRS
As a faculty member in the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and a beneficiary of a donor’s generosity, I know firsthand the many ways that endowed professorships can be transformative. Receiving the John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Endowed Professorship in Pediatrics has provided me with prestige and resources that I would not otherwise have had and given me the freedom to be more creative in both research and clinical care.

As head of the Department of Pediatrics Division of Growth and Nutrition in the School of Medicine, for example, I direct an interdisciplinary clinic that offers comprehensive services to families of infants and toddlers with growth and/or feeding difficulties. With resources from the endowment, we provide services to more families, including recording each family having a meal. We use the videos for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, which gives us an edge and extends what we do beyond normal care. With the extra funding, we are able to think creatively and do a better job in helping families adopt healthier mealtime habits.

I am extremely grateful for the generosity that the Scholl family extended to the School of Medicine, and, by extension, to me. Receiving this gift has also enhanced my research contributions. We established Children’s HealthWatch among Growth and Nutrition directors from urban medical centers around the country, to monitor how food insecurity and other hardships affect the health and development of young children. We publish our findings in peer-reviewed journals and use the evidence to advocate nationally for better services and policies. The Scholl Professorship serves as a reminder that I have an important role to play. I have the honor to represent the work that the Scholls started and to carry out their contributions to improve the health and development of young children.

The Scholl Professorship is unique because it has created a legacy that extends beyond me. Just as there will always be a Scholl Professor working to improve children’s health and development, other endowed professors focus their work on specific topics that lead to long-term solutions to major health concerns. In the following pages, you can learn more about establishing your legacy and supporting an endowed professorship.

Maureen M. Black, Ph.D.
John A. Scholl, MD and Mary Louise Scholl, MD Professor in Pediatrics
Supporting the Growth of Endowed Chairs and Professorships

As one of America’s leading medical schools, the University of Maryland School of Medicine has been forging pathways into countless new fields of research, consistently ranking in the top tier of medical schools nationwide, and producing generations of medical pioneers.

For the University of Maryland to continue its leadership role in academic and scientific circles, and to be counted among the premier institutions of medical education and research in the world, it must sustain an outstanding faculty. There is no better incentive to attract and retain the best scholars, researchers, and teachers than the endowed professorship.

Highest Tribute

The honor associated with being appointed to an endowed professor or chair, which pre-dates the School of Medicine by more than 300 years, is recognized around the world as one of the highest tributes that an institution can bestow upon its most distinguished faculty. In fact, endowed chairs and professorships are universally recognized accolades coveted by the most accomplished faculty members in academia.

More than just conferring honor, endowed professorships serve to reward and preserve our outstanding faculty by providing each member with critical resources needed to sustain and expand promising research and launch innovative clinical initiatives. Moreover, these talented faculty attract and inspire the finest students, training them to become future physicians and medical professionals who will transcend the boundaries of medicine on their own.

Recognition in Perpetuity

The University of Maryland School of Medicine has more than 70 endowed chairs and professorships. These highly desired positions are the hallmark of academic naming opportunities because they immortalize the individual who is linked to the position, serving as a mark of distinction for the generous donors who establish them and for the sharpest minds in medicine who are awarded them. This results in a highly visible form of recognition, both for the donor and the faculty member, that exists from generation to generation and in perpetuity. Through philanthropy, we can continue to provide additional opportunities for honoring and funding the work of current and future faculty leaders.

“Creating a Legacy

The University of Maryland School of Medicine is regarded as one of the nation’s leading medical schools. Our success is driven largely by professors who are distinguished scholars, investigators, and educators. Our School has approximately 3,000 faculty who inspire students, advance the frontiers of knowledge, and make discoveries that transform people’s lives. It is critical that we have the financial resources to continue to recruit and retain eminent experts to teach our students, and ensure that their research efforts are not impeded.”

E. Albert Reece, MD, PhD, MBA
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, University of Maryland, Baltimore
John Z. and Akiko K. Bowers Distinguished Professor and
Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine
Powerful ATTRACTION

Because income generated by endowments is used to support the activities of the named chair or professor, the presence of these endowments empowers the School of Medicine to attract and retain leading physicians and investigators who are seeking to further advance cutting-edge research and clinical care, and to train future generations of medical students. Funding generated by these endowments furnishes salary support and can also be used to subsidize the research, educational, and administrative activities of the named chair or professor.

More broadly, income from these endowments can help drive medical education and research advancements that transcend the University of Maryland. Ultimately, the discoveries made by these brilliant faculty members may lead to healthier populations worldwide. For example, endowments supporting individuals pursuing new lines of inquiry at the School of Medicine can lead to new discoveries and federal funding from agencies such as the National Institutes of Health. These grants have the potential to lead to historic breakthroughs in medical research, with the promise of saving millions of lives.

No Greater Mission

There can be no greater mission, and no more worthy association, than to support our ability to attract, reward, and retain the world’s leading faculty members who inspire, educate, and train the best and brightest students. By supporting an endowed professorship, you will receive recognition as a major contributor to a fund that will exist in perpetuity at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Through your gift, you can ensure a bright future in medicine, a gesture that could make an incalculable difference to many people. What’s more, your gift offers an extraordinary opportunity to have your generosity remembered for decades, and even centuries, to come.

It is all within reach. Please join us as we work together to build a better future for the School of Medicine and Maryland.

GIVING Opportunities

Name an Endowed Chair* $2,500,000
To support the work of a department chair

Name an Endowed Distinguished Professorship $2,500,000
To support the work of a distinguished faculty member

Name an Endowed Professorship $1,500,000
To support the work of a prominent faculty member

* For a list of departments that do not have an endowed chair, please contact the School of Medicine’s Office of Development at 410-706-8503.

As part of the investiture ceremony, the School of Medicine has designed a special medal to recognize the faculty members who hold endowed professorships. The front of the medal features the image of the founder and first dean, Dr. John Beale Davidge, and the historic Davidge Hall. The back of the medal lists the four tenets of our mission: education, research, patient care, and service, as well as the official name of the endowed professorship.