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Conway Family Gift Benefits Scholarship Fund to Support Small Business Owners, Entrepreneurs

Columbus, OH – Ohio Dominican University (ODU) has received an additional \$25,000 gift from the Conway Family Lead Annuity Trust to benefit The Conway Endowed Family Business Scholarship Fund. Created in 2014, the fund was created to support and encourage growth and succession of family businesses in Central Ohio.

<DRAFT QUOTE>

“Ohio Dominican University is extremely grateful to the Conway family for their continued support of our students who aspire to use their talents and skills to run a family business or pursue their own entrepreneurial ventures,” said ODU President Peter Cimboric, Ph.D. “The Conway family’s investment is critically important to the future success of our students and university as well as the overall economic health of our community.”

Starting this fall, ODU will award the Conway Scholarship to one first-year student every four years as long as the student meets the requirements of the scholarship. These requirements include being a member of a family who owns a business or wishes to start a family business, maintaining a 3.0 GPA, exhibiting a record of charitable work or community involvement, and demonstrating financial need as determined by the University. The scholarship can be renewed annually for a total of four years.

The Conway Scholarship is made possible by a generous gift to ODU from the Conway Family Lead Annuity Trust. Jim Conway is the former owner of the Marion Steel Company. He and his wife, Linda, and sons, Steve and Scott, have been ardent supporters of the Conway Center for Family Business, which was founded in 1998 to provide educational programs and resources for family-owned businesses in Central Ohio.

The [Conway Center for Family Business](#) is Central Ohio’s resource for educational programs, resources and networking opportunities to support the growth and success of family-owned businesses. The Center celebrates the successes of family-owned businesses at its annual awards program and offers peer group opportunities for next-generation leaders, family business leaders and women family business owners. The organization includes more than 175 family-owned businesses that collectively employ more than 17,000 individuals in Central Ohio.

The Conway Center has partnered with ODU since 2000. In 2004, the organization moved onto ODU’s main campus. As a partner, the Conway Center offers a variety of valuable resources to family businesses, including nine educational programs on the ODU campus annually. It also conducts five of its eight peer groups on campus. The Conway Center also employs interns from ODU’s work-study program.

[Ohio Dominican University](#) is a comprehensive, four-year, private, liberal arts and master's institution, founded in 1911 in the Catholic and Dominican tradition. The University has approximately 2,700 students and offers undergraduate degrees in 45 majors and nine graduate degree programs. At ODU, students connect their passion with a purpose.

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